



Empowering children
to tell their truth

A Message from Leadership

To say that 2020 was a roller coaster year would be an understatement. Through it all though, we were able to continue our work, assisting child victims and their families, at our facilities in Covina and Los Alamitos.



Here is a recap of some of what the Board and our amazing and talented staff were able to accomplish:

- Hired a new Executive Director who is providing the requisite leadership to achieve our mission.
- Worked with our multi-disciplinary team and staff to revise our Operational Protocol to align it with the National Children's Alliance (NCA) accreditation standards that guide our efforts.
- We added a new recording system in the downstairs waiting room, which can now be used to interview victims with mobility or physical disabilities, and who are unable to use the stairs.
- We transitioned to a new case tracking system, accessible from any Internet-enabled location. The system provides enhanced grant and accreditation reporting, and visibility to other CAC case listings across the State on a shared database. This enables us to easily identify if a victim has already been interviewed at another CAC location.
- We also reviewed and updated our Strategic Plan. You can view the CAC Strategic Plan [here](#).

None of this work could have been done without the leadership of the Board and the dedication and hard work of our staff. We are grateful to our multi-disciplinary partners, donors and community supporters who help ensure our children have a voice. We are only able to continue to do our important work because of your commitment to helping child victims of crime.

With sincere gratitude,

Kathy Cady, JD
President of the Board

Don Olender
Executive Director



COVID-19 Response



We have continued to help our children and their families during the pandemic. Although child abuse reports were down by as much as 50% during COVID-19 'stay at home' orders, it was primarily because many mandated reporters from schools and youth organizations were not available to detect the red flags of abuse. Sadly, many of the sexual and physical abuse disclosures we have heard from our victims, have been significantly worse than pre-COVID times. We have been able to implement policies and protocols to conduct interviews during the pandemic, including a tele-forensic platform that has permitted remote viewing by team members. We also outfitted our patio as an outdoor waiting area in compliance with CDC guidelines. We have implemented weekly testing of staff, temperature checks, survey questions, hand-washing, mandatory mask-wearing, as well as additional cleaning measures to keep our staff, and our children and families, safe. As of today most staff have been fully vaccinated.



CAC's First Ever Virtual "Be a Hero for Children" Gala

THANK YOU to so many of you who joined and supported our first-ever "Be a Hero for Children" Virtual Celebration on October 15th! The event was a huge success – increasing awareness, honoring superheroes, and generating financial support for our mission. Our virtual event was hosted by Leslie Lopez, Morning Meteorologist at ABC 7 Eyewitness News. We honored the Masonic Homes of California and the Masonic Center for Youth and Families for their dedication to helping children and families, prosecutor Kelsey McKeever-Unger for her commitment to holding offenders accountable and giving victims justice, and Dr. Tom Lyon for his research and training in empowering children to find their voices.

We are especially grateful for the generosity of our sponsors; The Barthold Family Foundation, Association of Los Angeles Deputy Sheriffs, Malinda & Bruce Wheeler, Kathy Cady & John Pomroy, L.A. County Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas, Danielle Morrell, Los Angeles County Professional Peace Officers' Association, L.A. County Supervisor Janice Hahn, Taylor & Ring, Athens Services, L.A. Financial Credit Union, Pomona Valley Hospital Medical Center, California Assemblywoman Blanca Rubio, L.A. County Supervisor Hilda L. Solis, L.A. County Supervisor Kathryn Barger, The Gold Family Trust, Nelson & Fraenkel and Curt & Barbara Cady.

Thank you to the many businesses who donated auction items for our on-line auction, especially during this difficult time.

We also thank our dedicated law enforcement partners for their financial support: Alhambra Police Officers' Association, Claremont Police Officers' Association, Glendora Police Officers' Association, Los Angeles County District Attorney's Investigator's Association, Monrovia Police Officers' Association, San Marino Police Officers' Association, South Pasadena Police Officers' Association and the Covina Police Officers' Association.

DON'T FORGET TO SAVE THE DATE!

THIS YEAR'S GALA WILL BE HELD ON
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 7TH

at the beautiful Glendora Country Club!



By the Numbers

Our children say the CAC staff are...



In 2019-2020, 85 cents of each dollar donated to the CAC went directly to supporting our mission of serving child victims of abuse.*

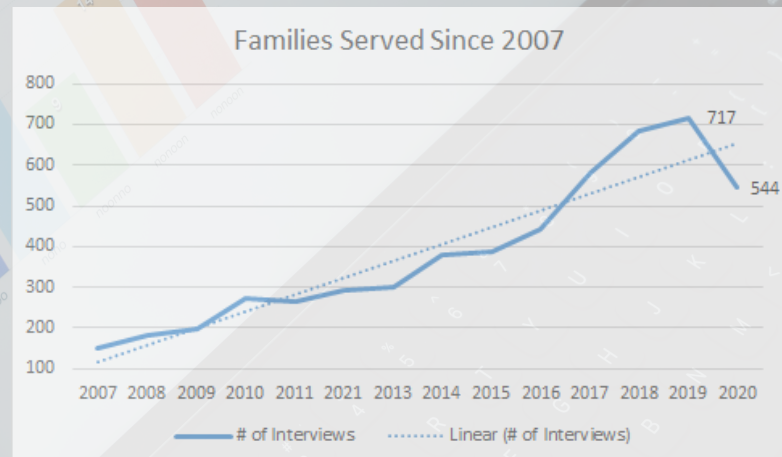
*Source: 2020 Form 990, Statement of Functional Expenses



Our caregivers say we have a...



Although the pandemic resulted in a 24% decrease in forensic interviews in 2020, we continued to serve many families -- 5,394 since 2007!



Thank you to all of our generous donors who help us empower children!

The CAC receives Accreditation for the 14th straight year!



NATIONAL
CHILDREN'S
ALLIANCE®

The National Children's Alliance (NCA) is the national accrediting body for Children's Advocacy Centers (CACs).

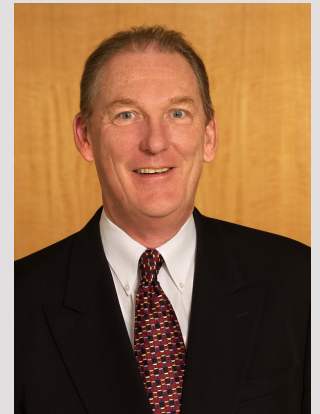
Our Children's Advocacy Center has once again retained its NCA accreditation status. Since receiving its first accreditation in 2007, the CAC has continually provided a high-standard of service to law enforcement and social service investigations across greater Los Angeles County, while steadily increasing its capacity. Between 2007 and 2020, we interviewed 5,394 children and increased the number of forensic interviews by almost 375% over that same period, while continuing to maintain our high standards.

Accredited CACs must meet the following minimum standards:

1. Provide focal point support for the multidisciplinary team of investigators and family and victim advocates.
2. Incorporate cultural competency into our operations and development, and ensure our staff, our board and our teams reflect the diversity of the communities and families we serve
3. Provide 'state-of-the-art' interviews conducted by interview specialists educated in mental health and trained in nationally-recognized forensic interview best practices
4. Provide victim and family support through advocates educated in mental health and victim services
5. Provide medical evaluation services through trusted referral sources
6. Provide 'best-in-class' trauma-based mental health assessment and treatment services through trusted referral sources
7. Conduct case reviews each month with assigned investigative teams and representatives across multiple MDT disciplines
8. Have a system for case tracking and reporting that provides accurate data for accreditation and grant reporting
9. The agency must have sustainable organizational capacity
10. The location of the CAC must provide a child-focused setting, in which child victims feel safe and protected

Our New Executive Director

The CAC is pleased to announce the hiring of a new Executive Director in 2020, Don Olender. Don has spent his career in various technical management roles. Prior to joining the CAC, Don served as the Executive Director of Innovate@UCLA, a UCLA-sponsored educational and networking organization for technology executives and their staffs. Before retiring in 2015, Don served as the Chief Information Officer and Executive Vice President of Wells Fargo Capital Finance for 19 years.



2020 Technology Upgrades

collaborate

The CAC converted to a new case tracking platform called 'Collaborate'. The Collaborate application includes enhanced reporting for VOCA and NCA, a database shared across multiple CACs across the State of California for greater visibility to victims and offenders and because it is web-based, it can be accessed from any internet connection, providing support for mobile users.

CASECRACKER

The CAC upgraded to the newest version of CaseCracker (Onyx), the interview recording system. The new version provides high-definition cameras for greater picture clarity, improved sound quality, remote start/stop, picture-in-picture and status lights at each interview room.



We were able to replace our outdated copper wire internet service with a fiber-optic solution that guarantees faster speed and reliability. This connection also delivers enhanced wi-fi reliability and speed.

Contact us to learn more, to volunteer, or to donate:

(626) 331-6700

or

www.childrensadvocacyctr.org.



**1650 E. Old Badillo St. #C3
Covina, CA 91724**