

Annual Report 2016-2017

Child Advocacy Center of the Ninth Judicial District

1. Summary of services offered at the Child Advocacy Center:

a. Type of Services offered at CAC:

Forensic Interviews, Victim Services, Therapy, Forensic Medical Examinations, Services for the drug-endangered child, School-based intervention/prevention program, Education Group for Teen Moms (school-based), Adult Survivor Group and Resource Library Provider (school-based) and provider of community education.

Forensic Interviews – Forensic Interviewer has received specialized training enabling her to interview victims and obtain information in a non-threatening or leading manner while remaining true to the Forensic Interviewer Protocol adopted by the CAC of the Ninth Judicial District and approved by the District Attorney General of the Ninth Judicial District.

Sexual Assault Advocate – This position works with the non-offending caregivers by educating them on the role of the CAC, the process of disclosure, the judicial system and the role of a CPIT. The S.A.A. may offer home visits, can accompany clients and non-offending caregivers to court, to file for legal services and protection, to obtain safe housing or to a victim's compensation hearing. The S.A.A. provides support through services at the community-based level and is a member of community based CABs (Community Based Advisory Boards) as well as other support groups designed to meet the needs of this population. She may assist the client and non-offending caregiver through intervention with an academic institution, in the purchasing of clothes, turning on electricity or paying a bill necessary to keep the family in a safe setting. The S.A.A. offers parenting classes and a group support group. and the legal system.

Family Advocate – This position works with non-offending caregivers as their children receive services from the CAC. She educates the family on the role of the CAC and the legal system. The Family Advocate serves drug-endangered children, priority given to children having been impacted by the use and/or manufacturing of methamphetamines, too. She provides in-home services that include: parenting, budgeting, sobriety, managing stress and other areas of need that may be demonstrated by the drug-endangered child. The Family Advocate works with the caregivers as to reduce out-of-home placements, irrational behavior displayed by the caregivers due to active addiction, and to instigate positive change based on tools for successful parenting, time management, budgeting, and treatment for drug/alcohol dependence

Therapist (2) – This position works with the client and the client's caregivers. She offers support, education and coping skills for the client as well as the non-offending caregivers and adult survivors. Also, one of the Therapists provides community education related to child abuse, community support groups, school education/training and inter-agency collaboration and coordinates our school-based curriculum, Stop Child Abuse and Neglect (SCAN) and our Outreach Program. Our Outreach Program is made up of both our school-based SCAN Program and our Teen Mom Education Program. SCAN seeks to educate children between the ages of 5-13 on safe and unsafe touches, bullying, internet safety (age-appropriate) and to tell someone if a child experiences unsafe touches or is asked to keep secrets from caregivers that involve unsafe touches or pictures. Our Teen Mom Education Program is also school-based and is offered in two (2) of our counties. It is a 12-14 week curriculum and educates young mothers on well-baby check-ups, child development, appropriate discipline, potty-training, selecting a caregiver, utilizing community resources and taking care of themselves as they feel very isolated and over-whelmed.

The program encourages these moms to continue school and graduate with their diploma, refrain from additional unplanned pregnancies while seeking and securing prenatal care. The statistics are better than 80% that these moms will graduate, not have a second pregnancy before their 18th birthday and their infants tend not to come into state's custody at least while we are working with them.

Administrative Assistant – Provides support to the Executive Director, staff and board of directors. This position assumes typical administrative duties and interacts with all clients as they become acquainted with the CAC, coordinates volunteer services and provides in-service training to volunteers, is the creator of the quarterly newsletter and participates in school-based activities.

Executive Director – The Executive Director is responsible for: day-to-day operations, fiscal management, quality assurance, seeking, securing and implementation of grants, grant reporting, community education/support groups, program changes that will expedite services and improve service delivery, ensuring annual training needs for our Child Protective Investigative Team members are met by providing trainings applicable to each team member's role and area of responsibility. The Executive Director directly reports to the board of directors and is a member of the Child Protective Investigative Team.

Forensic Medical Services- 12 Forensic Medical Examinations are performed by a SANE/FMNP and registered nurse that has both undergone specialized training for this type of evaluation.

2. CPIT trainings offered during fiscal year (including details regarding: training topic, number of participants and disciplines that attended):

Connecting for Children's Justice Conference- Workshops which address all aspects of child maltreatment including: prevention, assessment, intervention and treatment with victims, perpetrators and families affected by physical, sexual and psychological abuse and neglect.

Attended by 13 CPIT members representing: CAC, L.E., DCS, DAG and Medical disciplines

East Tennessee's "Everyday Heroes Unite" – 2 days of team-building activities and information which meet the needs of the MDT.

Attended by 17 CPIT members representing: CAC, L.E., DCS, Medical, DAG and DCS Legal disciplines

Lunch and Learn – "Forensic Interviewing- Is THAT Really Necessary"? Workshop to help CPIT members understand the value of the forensic interview and why protocol must be followed, presented by Kari Watkins, F.I.

Attended by 17 CPIT members

Minimal Facts Interviewing – Workshop for all members of a CPIT so they may gain a better understanding of how a child's safety can be assessed without forensically interviewing the child abuse victim, presented by Kari Watkins, FI.

Attended by 29 CPIT members

3. Victims Served:

- 352 children (213 female and 139 male)
 - 306 Child Sexual Assault
 - 22 Child Physical Assault
 - 24 Other crimes (Neglect, Witness to Violence, Drug-endangered)
- 270 children were between 3-12 years of age
- 82 children were between 13-17 years of age
- 22 children reported a disability
- 1181 therapy sessions were offered to 94 victims
- 133 or offenders of children were either a parent, stepparent, other relative or paren'ts boyfriend/girlfriend
- 71 offenders were a known person and 52 were unknown by the child
- 300 offenders of children were known by the child

b. Outreach Number of children served: Our SCAN (Stop Child Abuse and Neglect) school-based intervention/prevention program served 24 schools and 3,864 students in kindergarten, first, third, fifth and seventh grades. Our Teen Mom Education/Support Program, also school-based, is a 14 week program and served 8 teen moms

c. Number of CPIT cases reviewed: 443 cases were reviewed during CPIT meetings.