



National Children's
Advocacy Center

HOPE
starts here!



Community Impact Report 2021

A Message from Executive Director, Chris Newlin



Hope. It’s the word that embodies the work of the NCAC. Hope is what children and families feel the moment our staff greets them. Hope is the driving force in everything we do.

After two years of challenges that come with living in a pandemic, hope has become a basic need for everyone. Our NCAC staff and multidisciplinary team partners are driven by the hope of healing abused children and ending child abuse. They share a journey with our clients, providing hope along the way, which ultimately leads to healing and hope for a better tomorrow.

Hope starts with you.

Your generosity has enabled the continuation of our diverse services, including forensic interviews, family advocacy, medical exams, therapy, and home visits during the height of the Delta surge. Because of you, tele-mental health services are available to any child who needs therapy but cannot come to our campus. In addition, your gifts supported a record number of families through parenting classes, and more adults than ever in our community attended our Stewards of Children training to prevent child abuse.

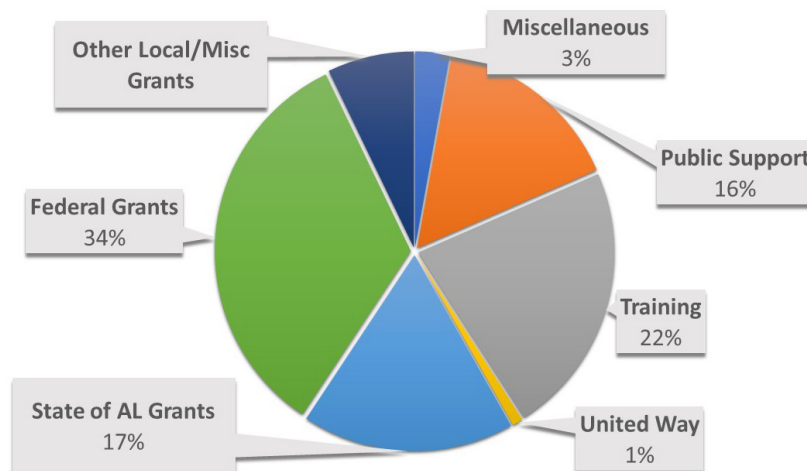
You turned out in record numbers this year. Aim for Advocacy shattered records for attendance and giving, and the inaugural Young Professionals Advisory Council Aim for Advocacy Preparty will be hard to top!

Speaking of firsts, the first all-virtual International Symposium on Child Abuse was a spectacular success - more than 1,800 child abuse response professionals from across the globe participated, breaking previous attendance records. At the same time, our professional services team reworked and refined trainings to reach even more child abuse response professionals who aim to protect children worldwide.

Your support made all of this happen.

Your support gives the children and families in our community **hope** for a brighter future.

Chris Newlin, MS LPC
Executive Director



REVENUE	
Federal Grants	\$1,988,409
State of Alabama Grants.....	1,037,701
Other Local and Miscellaneous Grants.....	423,433
United Way	51,119
Training Fees	1,332,883
Public Support and Contributions	924,936
Miscellaneous/Interest Income	168,948
Total Support and Revenue	\$5,927,429

EXPENSES	
Personnel.....	\$3,553,910
Travel	101,366
Supplies	194,775
Consultants/Contracts.....	1,295,278
Facility Usage /Depreciation.....	389,158
Other	201,982
Total Expenditures.....	\$5,736,469

2021

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In early 2021, we introduced you to Benji. The 7-year-old was well-mannered, self-sufficient, and quiet. We quickly learned the child was trying to disappear in an effort to avoid the abuse he suffered at home. His parents struggled with drug addiction, and Benji often became the object of a drug induced rage.

One night, his grandmother dropped by the home and found Benji unconscious. He was rushed to the hospital. The exam showed broken fingers, a broken rib, countless bruises, and old bone breaks that healed poorly. Doctors also determined he was sexual abused at some point in his young life.

That night, Benji left the hospital with his foster mom, Julie. The next morning, he arrived at the NCAC. In the following weeks, Julie noted that Benji often shied away from other children. He seemed most content playing gently with the family's new kitten. Julie now reports Benji has made tremendous strides. Not only is he still bonded with the kitten, now a full-grown cat, he is starting to play with other children. He is even starting to trust Julie.

Benji's therapist says he's showing more confidence and is beginning to trust adults again. He will likely graduate from therapy in a few short months. Benji has hope now, because of your support. You are the critical piece in his healing journey.

The Young Professionals Advisory Committee, known as the YPAC, comprises 30 young adults from a wide array of professional backgrounds. This committee serves as ambassadors for the NCAC while engaging emerging community leaders. The YPAC organized the inaugural Aim for Advocacy Pre-Party in 2021, bringing in thousands of dollars to help children and families who experience abuse.

Community Services

In 2021, our multidisciplinary team (MDT) reviewed

1,229

child abuse cases



469
child forensic
interviews
conducted

Children
received over
1,388 hours
of therapy
71 children
graduated therapy
programs



450 children
interacted
with Wilson.

62 Partnership in Parenting Families served with 155 children

326
Parents
in
Parenting
Classes

406
SCAN
(Stop Child Abuse and Neglect)
Prevention Programs with
7,632
students
(7 students disclosed abuse)

194 children received a medical exam

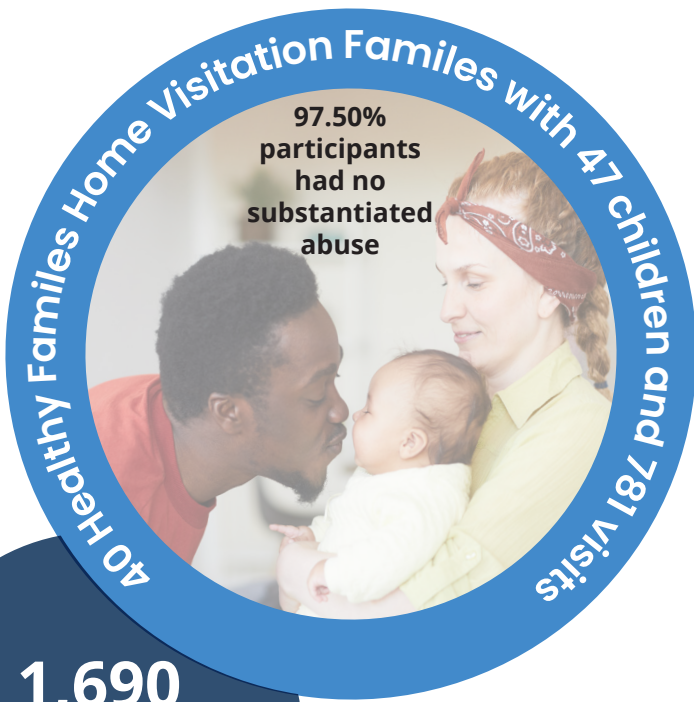


Sherilyn arrived at the NCAC in April with nothing but the clothes she was wearing and her school backpack. During her medical examination, the doctor confirmed what her school nurse suspected. Twelve-year-old Sherilyn was pregnant and due in a matter of weeks.

Sherilyn's mom and grandparents claimed the child was "up to no good" with a neighbor and washed their hands of her. Sherilyn was too afraid to share any details during her Forensic Interview. Sherilyn was 12 years old, pregnant, and alone in the world. That's when Family Advocate Josie got to work. With the help of the DHR social worker, Josie found clothes, personal items, and a foster family who welcomed young moms in crisis.

The supportive environment gave Sherilyn the courage to finally reveal to her therapist that her stepfather had sexually abused her for more than a year. With her stepfather in jail, Sherilyn could focus on healing and providing a healthy home for her new baby.

Late this fall, the DNA results confirmed what Sherilyn told her therapist. Her stepfather pleaded guilty to sexual abuse and will spend the rest of his life in prison. Sherilyn didn't even have to testify, but she told her therapist she was ready if she needed to take the stand. *Sherilyn and her baby girl are healthy and safe because of you. Two children have a brighter future thanks to your support.*





Cissy's homelife was chaotic even before the pandemic. Her mother suffered from mental illness. Her dad worked two jobs to pay the bills. He didn't really care who looked after 11-year-old Cissy, as long as he kept DHR off his back. When her dad's boss said he was happy to watch Cissy, her dad knew what was implied.

Over the next four months, Cissy experienced significant sexual abuse. Her abuser told her regularly that no one would believe her. Like many victims of sexual abuse, Cissy began to shut down. A school nurse noticed bruising on Cissy's arms. The bruises looked like they were made by an adult gripping her arms. The nurse notified DHR and Cissy was brought to the NCAC for a forensic interview.

Cissy had no intention of telling. She believed her abuser would come back and hurt her if she uttered a word. She sat on the couch in the interview room, next to NCAC'S Facility Dog Wilson, and answered questions as vaguely as possible. But when the interviewer left the room briefly, the investigators watching from the room next door saw Cissy lean into Wilson's ear and sob out her heartbreaking story.

Wilson absorbed her tears and gave her an encouraging nudge. When the forensic interviewer returned, Cissy told her story. That evening she slept in a new bed, in the home of a foster family who gave her the love and support she needed. Cissy visited with Wilson every week for two years during therapy at the NCAC. The two developed an unbreakable bond and Cissy knew she could face anything with Wilson by her side, including her abuser.

In late 2021, Cissy testified against her dad's boss - with Wilson tucked into the witness stand by her feet. Cissy also received the best possible news after her testimony. Her foster family wanted her to join their family - forever. And to mark the occasion, they introduced Cissy to a tiny black lab, golden retriever puppy. Cissy and her new puppy would join the family together. ***Your generosity and support led Cissy to her new family. Because of you, Cissy and children like her in our community have loving, supportive, and safe homes.***

Professional Services

The NCAC was the world's first Children's Advocacy Center and has served as a model for the 1,000+ CACs operating throughout the United States which served more than 400,000 children in 2021. The CAC model is also being implemented in more than 36 countries worldwide and growing, and the NCAC is a leading training center of excellence for these programs which are revolutionizing the world's response to child abuse.



30,017
professionals trained in

50
states, District of Columbia,
U.S. Armed Forces and

32
countries



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National Children's Advocacy Center

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