



## Protecting Children. Reducing Trauma.

### Washington State CACs

#### Accredited Centers

- Arthur D. Curtis Children's Justice Center
- Children's Advocacy Center of Pierce County
- Children's Justice Center of King County
- Children's Justice & Advocacy Center
- Connections
- Dawson Place Child Advocacy Center
- Healthy Families of Clallam County
- Kids Hope
- Kitsap S.A.I.V.S.
- Monarch Children's Justice & Advocacy Center
- NCW Child & Family Advocacy Center
- Partners with Families & Children
- Rural Resources: Kids First Children's Advocacy Center
- Skagit County Children's Advocacy Center
- Kids Haven
- Tulalip Tribes Children's Advocacy Center
- Whatcom County Children's Advocacy Center

#### Developing Centers

- Children of the River Child Advocacy Center
- Crisis Support Network
- Family Crisis Network
- Walla Walla Children's Advocacy Center
- Yakima County Children's Advocacy Center
- Youth Advocacy Center of Lewis County

State Chapter:

Children's Advocacy Centers of  
Washington (CACWA)  
360-753-3703

[www.cacwa.org](http://www.cacwa.org)

**Children's Advocacy Centers (CACs)** are the most efficient and cost-effective way to meet the justice needs of children impacted by abuse or neglect in our communities.

**Children's Advocacy Centers** are a nationally recognized model for providing a comprehensive, multidisciplinary, community response to child abuse and neglect. These centers coordinate the prevention, investigation, prosecution, and treatment of child abuse and neglect at the local level.

Working with law enforcement, CPS, prosecutors, medical personnel, therapists, and advocates, Children's Advocacy Centers coordinate a wide range of services including forensic interviews, medical evaluations, advocacy, and evidence based therapeutic intervention.

**Research<sup>i</sup> has found that children who receive services from a CAC are:**

- More likely to have access to medical evaluations and other forms of medical care.
- More likely to have a referral to therapeutic services.
- Have greater access to community resources needed to help them recover from the abuse.
- In addition, parents are more likely to report a high rate of satisfaction with the process.

**For cases of child sexual abuse coordinated through CACs, research<sup>ii</sup> has found:**

- Greater police involvement in CPS cases and joint investigations.
- Greater involvement by multidisciplinary team members in observing forensic interviews.
- Greater involvement by multidisciplinary team members in case review.
- CACs increase training to professionals, consultation with other agencies, child abuse prevention and community education on maltreatment and mandated reporting.

<sup>i</sup>Cross, T., Jones, L., Walsh, W. et al., (2008) Evaluating Children's Advocacy Centers' Response to Child Sexual Abuse, Juvenile Justice Bulletin, U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs. (NCJ218530)

<sup>ii</sup>Cross, T., Jones, L., Walsh, W.; et al, (2007) Child forensic interviewing in Children's Advocacy Centers: Empirical data on a practice model. Child Abuse & Neglect 31 - 1031-1052