



# A Collaborative Trauma-Informed Approach to the Investigation, Treatment & Prosecution of Child Abuse



**Child Advocacy Center**  
of FREDERICK COUNTY

301-600-1758  
[www.frederickcountymd.gov/CAC](http://www.frederickcountymd.gov/CAC)

# A Brief History

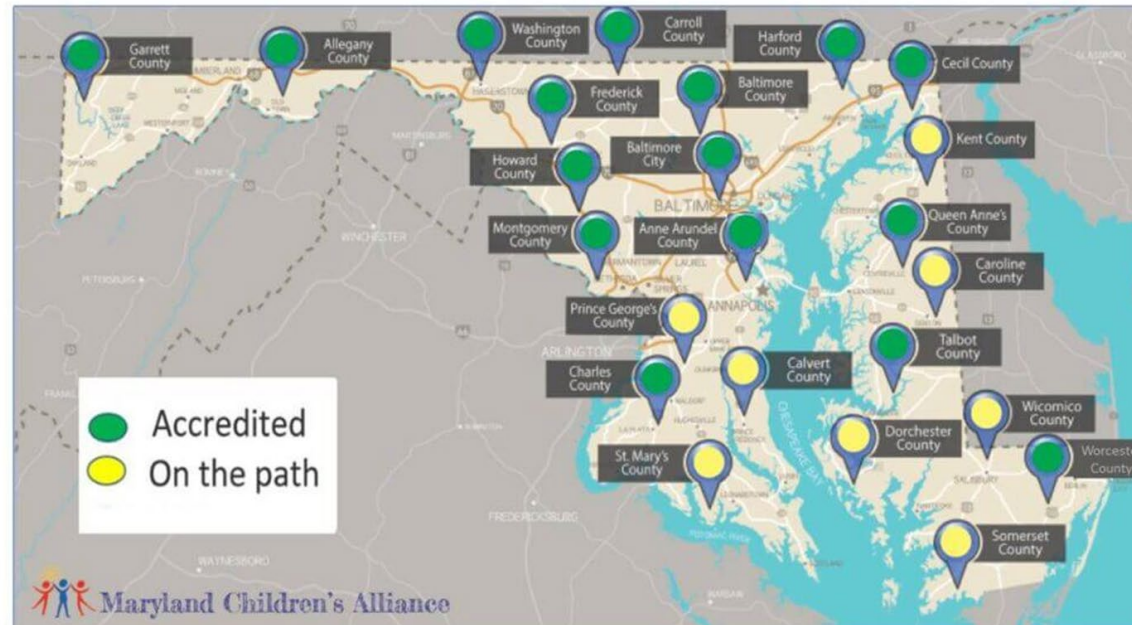
- **Former Congressman, Bud Cramer - A case of two brothers**
- **National Children's Advocacy Center, Huntsville, Alabama 1985**
- **National Children's Alliance (NCA), Network of CAC's and the Accrediting Body**
- **Maryland Children's Alliance (MCA), State Chapter**



NATIONAL  
CHILDREN'S  
ALLIANCE®



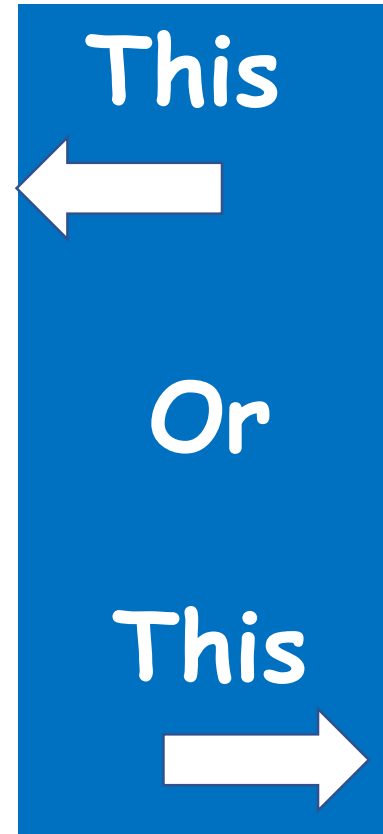
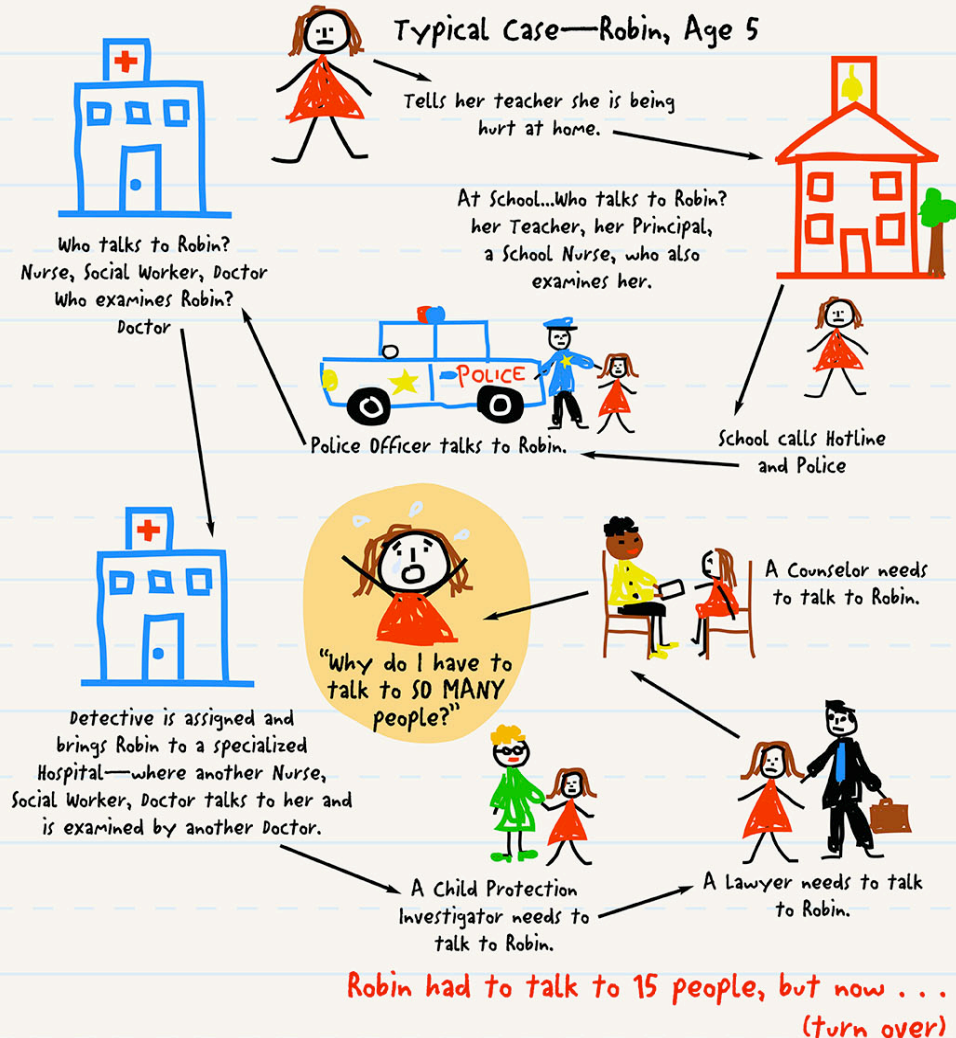
**National Children's  
Advocacy Center**



**Maryland Children's Alliance**

# Changing the Child Abuse System

## WHAT USED TO HAPPEN WHEN KIDS NEEDED HELP FOR ABUSE



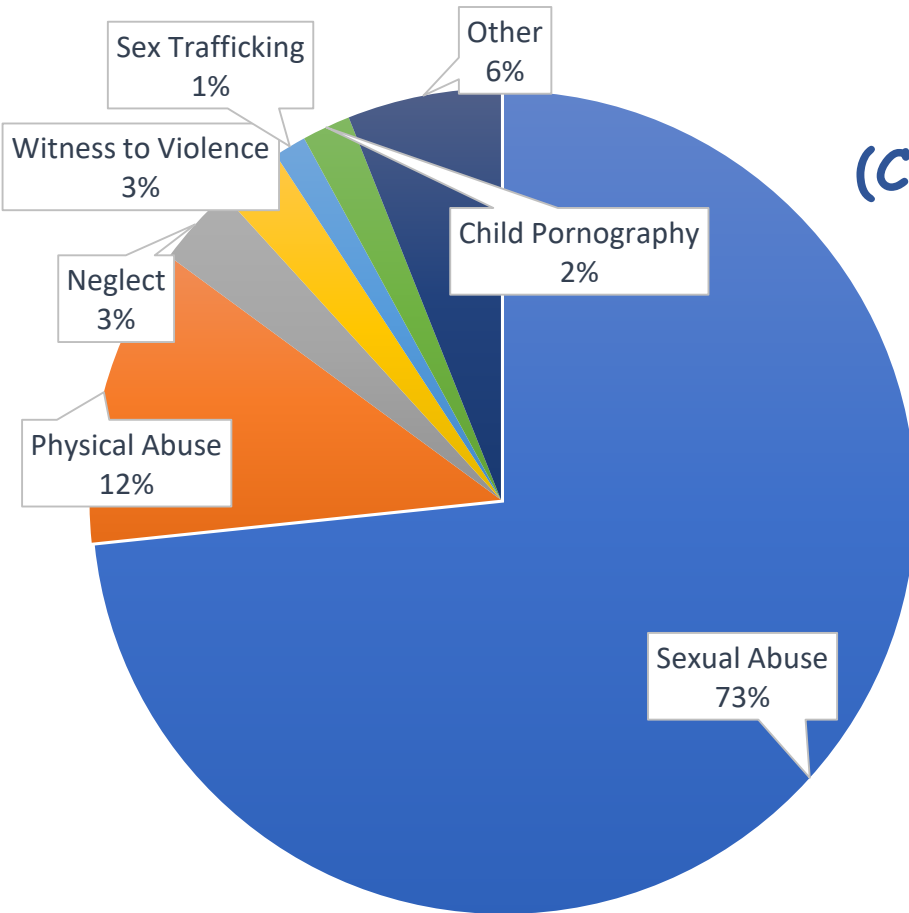
## HOW THE MULTIDISCIPLINARY TEAM RESPONDS TO CHILD ABUSE





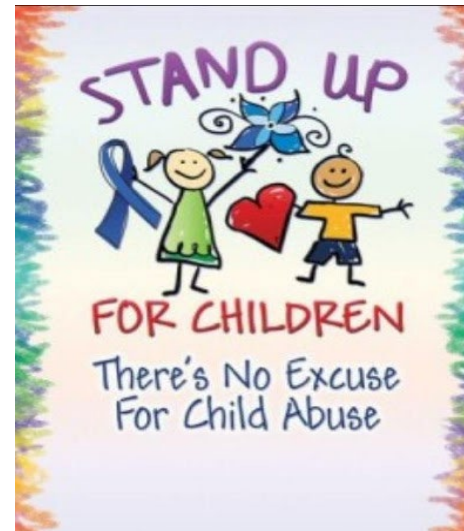
# Frederick County CAC Statistics 2020

258 children served by the CAC (160 girls, 98 boys)



## Type of Abuse

(Children may have experienced more than one type)



- Sexual Abuse
- Physical Abuse
- Neglect
- Witness to Violence
- Sex Trafficking
- Child Pornography
- Other



# Meet our MDT Partners



Brunswick, Thurmont, Mt.

Airy Police Departments

Frederick County DSS Child Protective Services

Federal Law Enforcement Agencies

Frederick County Public Schools

Frederick County Health Department

Frederick County Sheriffs Office

Frederick County States Attorney's Office

Frederick Health Hospital

Frederick Police Department

Maryland State Police



**Public Health**  
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

Frederick County Health Department

# CAC Services

Trauma-Focused Therapy



Education

Medical  
Examinations

Forensic interviews

Trauma Sensitive  
Yoga

Mentoring

Advocacy

Community  
Outreach

# Forensic Interviews



## Child First Doctrine

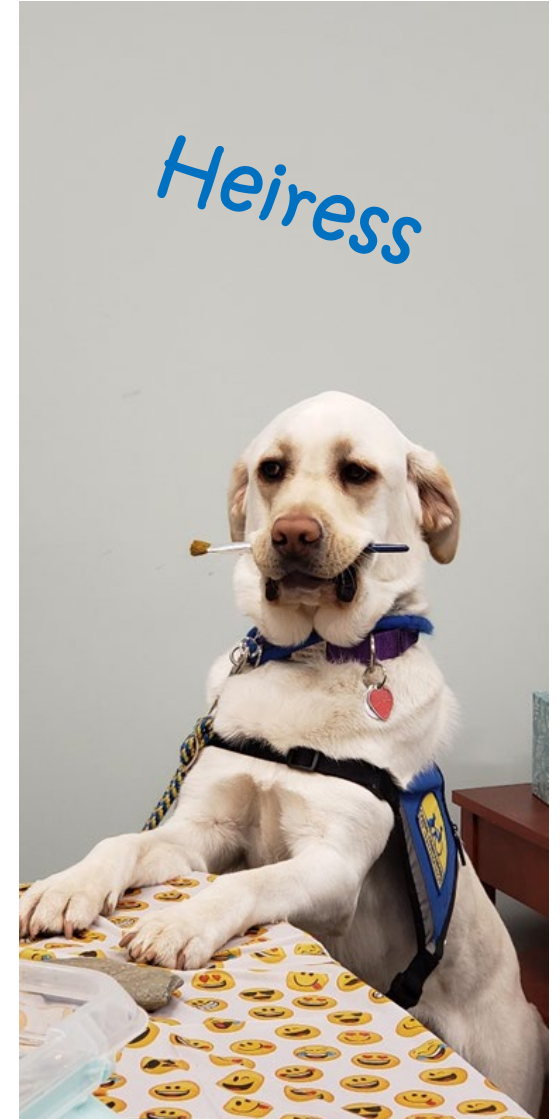
The child is our first priority.  
Not the needs of the family.  
Not the child's "story".  
Not the evidence.

Not the needs of the courts.  
Not the needs of police, child  
protection, attorney's etc.

**The child is our first priority!!!**



Heiress



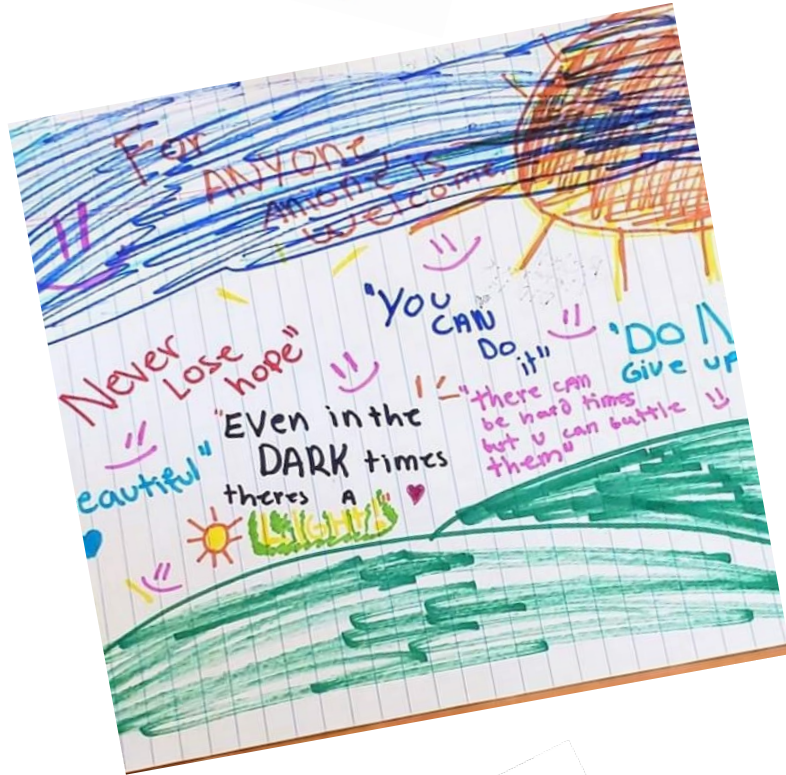
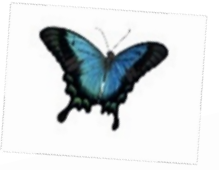


# Medical Examinations





# Trauma-Focused Therapy



Healing  
Hope





# Advocacy

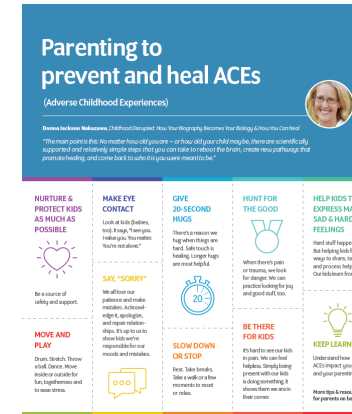
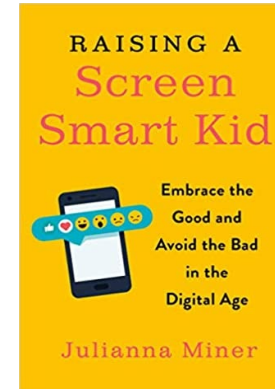
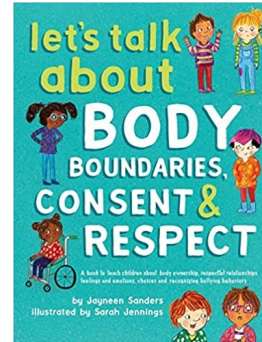
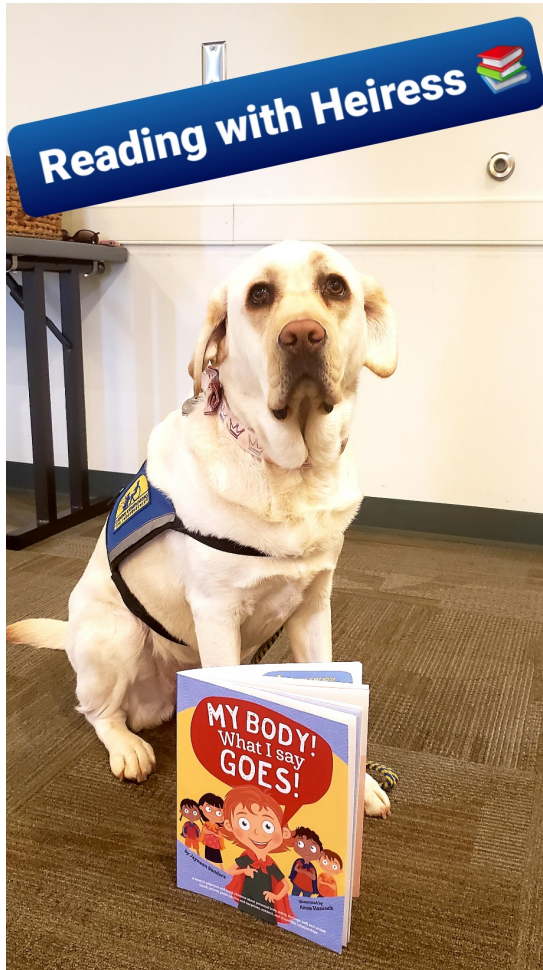
- Information and education about recognizing, reporting, and healing child maltreatment
- Facilitated case collaboration with a multidisciplinary team
- Individualized linkages to resources
- Accompaniment to court proceedings
- Making connections that lead to hope and healing



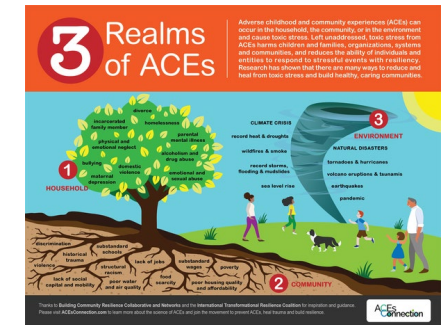


# Education

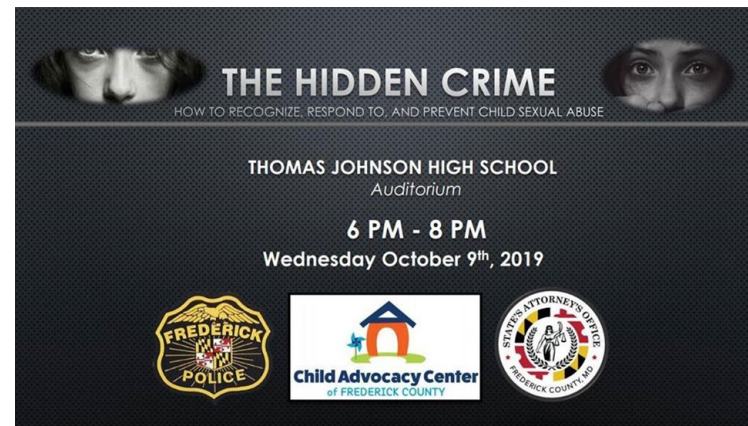
## Children



## Caregivers



## Community



## Legislators





# Community Outreach





# The Friends of the CAC



## Wear Blue Friday April 2, 2021

Frederick county citizens, businesses, associations, schools, and organizations are invited to help raise awareness of child abuse by wearing blue, the national color for child abuse prevention.



### April is **CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH**



Demonstrate your support for a happy healthy childhood for children by wearing blue—to work, shop, school, play, or relax. Wear whatever works for you; don a blue hat, shirt, jeans, tie, or scarf to show you are part of the fight against maltreatment.



Take a selfie of you and your friends at work, play, or home. Post it to your Facebook page and tag Friends of the Child Advocacy Center and the Child Advocacy Center. Your photos will be posted on our Facebook pages and webpage.

Sponsored by

**FRIENDS OF THE**  
Child Advocacy Center







# Thank you

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rgrove@frederickcountymd.gov



They may  
**forget**  
WHAT YOU SAID,  
BUT THEY WILL  
never forget  
HOW YOU MADE THEM  
**feel** ❤️



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