

The Children's Advocacy Center of Delaware, Inc.

Center Locations

New Castle County

A.I. duPont Hospital for Children

1600 Rockland Road

Wilmington, DE 19899

302-651-4566

Kent County

611 S. Dupont Highway

Suite 201

Dover, DE 19901

302-741-2123

Sussex County

Children & Families First Building

410 South Bedford Street

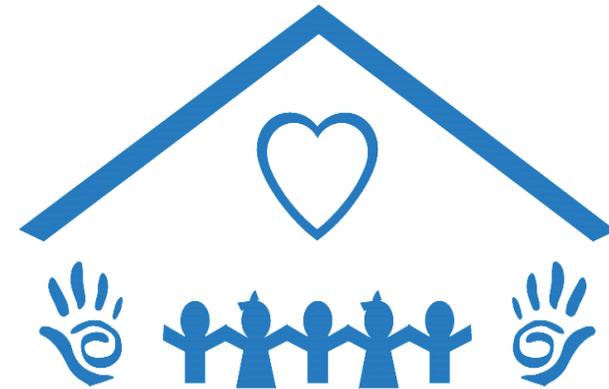
Georgetown, DE 19947

302-854-0323

Office of The Executive Director

302-741-2123 ext.103

- If you would like to learn more about us or make a donation visit our website at www.cacofde.org The Children's Advocacy Center of Delaware, Inc is a non-profit 501 (c) (3) corporation. Contributions are deductible from federal and other taxes to the extent allowed by law.
- The Children's Advocacy Center is funded in part through the Delaware State Legislature, the Delaware Criminal Justice Council, the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Victims of Crime, the National Children's Alliance, the United Way of Delaware, as well as private and corporate donations.



CHILDREN'S ADVOCACY
CENTER OF DELAWARE

A safe place where healing begins

Mission

The mission of The Children's Advocacy Center (CAC) is to reduce the devastating long-term effects that child abuse has on children, their families and society through immediate, coordinated, child focused services.

Vision

A world without child abuse.

www.cacofde.org



About The Children's Advocacy Center

The Children's Advocacy Center of Delaware is a child-focused organization that works with our multidisciplinary team (MDT) agency partners (prosecutors, law enforcement officers, child protection workers and child mental health and medical professionals) in order to ensure that Delaware's response to allegations of physical and/or sexual abuse of a child is timely, collaborative, coordinated, and effective so that the child is not further victimized and/or traumatized by the intervention systems designed to protect them.

Background & History

- The Children's Advocacy Center of Delaware (CAC) was founded in 1996 as a result of the efforts of a multidisciplinary task force comprised of leaders from the Attorney General's office, the Division of Family Services, State, County and Municipal law enforcement agencies, the Criminal Justice Council, A.I.duPont Hospital for Children, the Family Court, the corporate sector, the private bar and members of the public child advocacy and protection community.
- The task force was convened to consider the role that a multidisciplinary center, such as a Children's Advocacy Center (CAC), could play in the State's efforts to develop a more timely, collaborative, coordinated and effective response to allegations of child abuse. The task force concluded that the State should establish a CAC to help facilitate Delaware's collaborative response to allegations of child abuse.
- The Children's Advocacy Center of Delaware was established as a 501 (C) (3) non-profit organization in order to ensure that the center was able to operate from a position of neutrality, free from any disproportionate influence from any one branch of government or agency involved in Delaware's response to allegations of child abuse.
- The first CAC opened its doors in 1996 at the A.I.duPont Hospital for Children in Wilmington. Today, in addition to the Wilmington Center, we operate fully equipped and staffed Centers in Dover and Georgetown, and provide services to child victims and their families on a statewide basis. All three Centers employ nationally recognized best practices and are fully accredited by the National Children's Alliance

Services We Provide

- Forensic Interviews
The CAC interviews child victims and witnesses as well as adults and children with cognitive disabilities. The victim is interviewed one time in a neutral, safe, child-friendly setting by a specially trained and experienced forensic interviewer. The interview is observed by the multidisciplinary team (MDT) comprised of prosecutors, law enforcement officers, child protection workers and child mental health and medical professionals.
- Family Needs Assessment
Our Family Resource Advocates will speak with the family prior to and after the forensic interview in order to provide information regarding the interview process and to address any social, medical and/or mental health needs through appropriate referrals.
- Expert Court Testimony
- Technical Assistance and Training
- Community Outreach and Education regarding child abuse awareness and prevention
- Case Tracking

Cost Effectiveness

Cases are handled in the most cost-effective manner practicable. A recent national study has shown that traditional investigations of allegations of child abuse are 36% more expensive than those handled through a Children's Advocacy Center. The average (national) cost of a CAC based multidisciplinary team investigation is \$2,902.00 compared with \$3,949.00 for a non-CAC based investigation; generating a cost savings of more than \$1,000.00 per case.