

BENEFITS OF A CAC

Provides healing, justice, and trust for children and their families

Reduced number of times the child is interviewed

Support and advocacy

Coordinated investigations that can lead to more effective, successful prosecutions

Access to specialized medical and mental health services

Prompt, attentive, and culturally sensitive services

NEARLY 97% OF CAREGIVERS AGREE, IF THEY KNEW ANYONE ELSE WHO WAS DEALING LIKE A SITUATION THE ONE THEIR FAMILY FACED, THEY WOULD TELL THAT PERSON ABOUT THE CAC.



Backed by
National Children's Alliance*
Accredited Member



**Children's Advocacy
Centers of Pennsylvania**

penncac.org

424 West Main St
Smethport, PA 16749

ph: 814.887.3354

fax: 814.887.3355



@cacmckeancounty

download our app!



This brochure has been paid for with
Pennsylvania taxpayer dollars



About the CAC of McKean County

The Children's Advocacy Center (CAC) is a child-friendly, safe environment for children and families. Once a report of suspected child abuse has been made, investigators from Children & Youth Services and/or Local and State Law Enforcement Officials make a referral to the CAC. Through the CAC, an interview is conducted with the child, which allows CYS and law enforcement to obtain their information all at once. This collaborative investigative process is intended to reduce the number of times a child/teenager is interviewed, therefore preventing additional trauma and improving the investigation.

The CAC does not exist without its Multidisciplinary Team, which includes the following disciplines:

- District Attorney's Office
- Children and Youth Services
- Local Law Enforcement and Pennsylvania State Police
- Victim Advocacy
- Bradford Regional Medical Center
- SANE / First Step Clinic
- Mental Health Services
- Juvenile Probation
- Forensic Interviewer

ALL SERVICES ARE FREE AND CONFIDENTIAL
Office Hours:
Monday through Friday
8:30 A.M to 4:30 P.M.

The Reality of Child Abuse

Child abuse includes:

Sexual abuse, physical abuse, neglect, witness to violence, drug endangerment, commercial sexual exploitation of children

Getting help is hard because:

Legal, social, medical and mental health services are mostly designed for adults, not children.

Local Statistics:

Child abuse affects over 1,200 children per year in OUR COMMUNITY.

99 % of physical and sexual child abuse crimes are committed by individuals the child knows.

National Statistics:

CACs serve more than 370,000 kids each year, helping them to recover from and avoid lifelong impacts of trauma.

ONE in 10 children will be sexually abused before age 18

Two-thirds of all cases CACs handle involve child sexual abuse.

20-25% of CAC cases every year involve a child hurting another child; with treatment, 98% of child offenders never repeat it.

**If you suspect child abuse call
ChildLine:
1-800-932-0313**

Mission

The Children's Advocacy Center of McKean County Multidisciplinary Team are dedicated to serving child victims of abuse and their families by providing collaborative services in a child friendly environment to reduce trauma and promote healing.



"Safety and security don't just happen, they are the result of collective census and public investment. We owe our children, the most vulnerable citizens in our society, a life free of violence and fear."

~ Nelson Mandela

