

Year In Review HIGHLIGHTS



THE
CHILD ADVOCACY CENTER
OF NIAGARA

April 2017

A service of Niagara Falls Memorial Medical Center

CAC Staff

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Family Services Advocate

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*Education/Outreach
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Message from the Executive Director

After 21 years of service to children and families affected by abuse and trauma, we were thrilled to move into our beautiful new facilities in the Golisano Center for Community Health. One of our young clients seeing it for the first time said "This place is EPIC!". We think so too! We are so grateful to Joe Ruffolo and Niagara Falls Memorial Medical Center for their commitment to abused children and their families and for providing us a better way to serve them. Over its long history, the Child Advocacy Center has served more 5,000 children and adults through the CAC, its Family Services component and its Safe Harbour program. We could not have done so without the support of our agency partners and our Child Abuse Intervention Project (CAIP) team. We look forward to continuing to work with you to protect Niagara's children and families.



2016 CAC Services

- 215 CAC cases (children)
- 88 Family Services cases
- 46 Safe Harbour referrals
- 122 children received trauma therapy
- 154 children received forensic interviews
- 43 children received medical evaluations
- 9,213 case management services
- 117 education/outreach programs for 3,000 people

Niagara County Cribs for Kids® Program: In response to an alarming number of infant deaths in Niagara County related to unsafe sleep conditions, the Child Advocacy Center's Child Fatality Review Team has partnered with Cribs for Kids®, a national safe sleep program. The program is being implemented in collaboration with Niagara Falls Memorial Medical Center's P3 Center for Teens, Moms and Kids. Program participation is open to infants and caregivers who meet eligibility criteria related to need and who agree to participate in ongoing safe sleep education and follow-up. P3 staff conduct home visits to set up the approved Pack and Play's for families, provide safe sleep education and encourage continued use of safe sleep practices.



April is Child Abuse Prevention Month

The CAC offers many outreach and education programs for students, adults and professionals- prevention, recognizing and responding to child abuse, maltreatment, neglect, child sexual abuse; mandated reporter, domestic violence healthy relationships, child trafficking, crisis intervention, infant sleep safety, and water safety.

To learn more about our FREE outreach and education sessions, please contact the Child Advocacy Center (716)285-0045

The Child Advocacy Center of Niagara

is a multidisciplinary program that responds to reports of physical and sexual abuse of children, child witnesses of domestic violence and child survivors of trafficking.

Visit our website for more information
www.cacofniagara.org

The Golisano Center for Community Health
533 10th Street, Niagara Falls, New York, 14301



Stewards of Children Training: Learn how to **PROTECT THEIR ONLY CHILDHOOD** by scheduling a Free community education sessions on preventing, recognizing and addressing sexual child abuse.

Picture courtesy of the Niagara Gazette



Niagara County Safe Harbour Project: Through our outreach, community education, billboards, bus benches and media campaigns we hope to raise awareness of the issue of child trafficking in Niagara County. Some **Red Flags** for children who are being trafficked are; running away, time spent with significantly older or controlling partner, disconnecting from social support, explanations inconsistent with injuries, reluctance to discuss how they made money, stalking, ETC. Commercial sexual exploitation of children, (CSEC), is a global problem that could be happening right in your neighborhood. The commercial sex industry victimizes girls, boys, and transgendered youth. A commercial sex act is any sex act where something of value is given to or received by any person. The Safe Harbour Project provides intensive case management and linkage to local services, including shelter, legal advocacy, trauma counseling ETC. For more information, call the CAC Safe Harbour project.

Annual Safe at Home Conference: The Child Advocacy Center of Niagara in conjunction with the Niagara County Family Violence Intervention Project thanks our sponsors for making it possible to feature a national faculty of experts on domestic violence, child trafficking, maltreatment, and addiction to reach over 200 attendees. Keynote, Scott Modell, is an international expert on crimes against persons with disabilities. Plenary, Tina Frundt, is a survivor of commercial sexual exploitation and a high profile advocate on the issue of domestic sex trafficking. **Thank You Sponsors! Niagara Falls Memorial Medical Center, Niagara County Department of Social Services, Niagara County Department of Mental Health, Buffalo Bills and Catholic Charities of Buffalo, Inc.-Niagara County Services.**

Save the Date for the 19th Annual Conference on October 12, 2017.

The 2017 conference will feature Dr. Jim Hopper, Sheriff Timothy Whitcomb and Jennifer Shimer from Love 146. See our website for additional information and updates.