



**15 YEARS ADVOCATING
FOR CHILDREN**

As adults, we are responsible for
protecting children from abuse.

To report suspected abuse in
Illinois, call **1-800-25-ABUSE**
(1-800-252-2873). If a child is in
immediate danger, also call 911.

Dear Friends,

Since opening our doors 15 years ago, ChicagoCAC has served as the voice of thousands of victims of child sexual abuse. We are the trusted institution to protect our city's most vulnerable residents, and we are the sought-after experts on child sexual abuse, helping victims, and preventing abuse.

Your support has made us a strong, vibrant center of hope for our children. Your investments in our work help place children on a path to healing and expand our reach to even more children who need us.

Our 2017 fiscal year has been one of reflection and celebration. Reflection on the more than 30,000 children we have served in our first 15 years. Reflection on holding thousands of perpetrators accountable and protecting other children from their abuse. Reflection on our expanded capacity to meet our city's needs, on our ever-evolving expertise in protecting and serving families, and our growing efforts to teach our community how to prevent abuse.

We have helped more than 30,000 children and families in just 15 years.

Celebration of the thousands of children who are no longer suffering in silence. Celebration of the hundreds of professionals within our collaboration who have dedicated their careers to battling abuse and restoring lives. Celebration of our expanded programs to help children who have suffered physical abuse and witnessed other forms of violence. Celebration of the healing families who have worked to become whole again.

We are here for the children of Chicago, and you have been here for us. You've championed our work, helped us grow, and shared in our accomplishments. Thank you for being part of the solution to a problem that crosses every neighborhood in our city.



Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Char Rivette".

Char Rivette, MSW, LCSW
Executive Director

CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE IN OUR CITY

Since 2001, ChicagoCAC has been the expert resource on child sexual abuse in Chicago. Our teams are first responders to reports of child sexual abuse, and we coordinate the response of the city's law enforcement, child protection and medical professionals.

Child sexual abuse occurs in every community in Chicago.

Regardless of race, ethnicity, religion, socio-economic status or any other demographic.

Sexual abuse is most often a repeated crime.

Victims often suffer in silence for months, years or a lifetime before abuse is discontinued or reported.

90+% of sexual abuse is by someone the child knows.

Abusers often have regular access to victims by being a family member, babysitter or other caregiver.

Sexual abuse across the U.S.

1 in 7 girls and 1 in 25 boys are sexually abused before turning 18. That is 1 in 10 children.

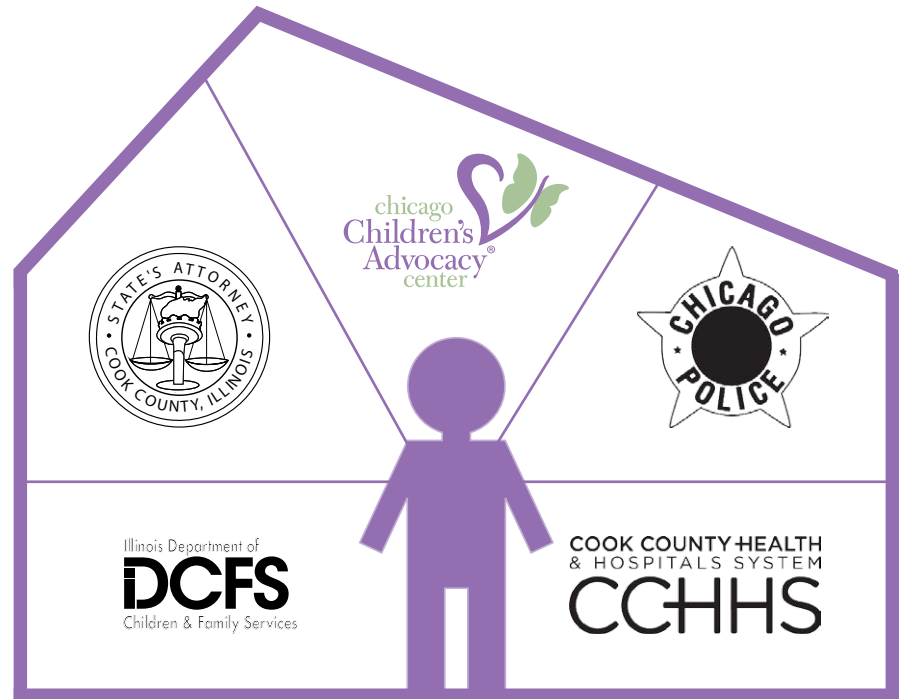
Only 20-40% of child sexual abuse is ever reported to authorities.

Experiencing child sexual abuse has long-term health impacts, as well as increased risk of poor academic performance, being a victim of other violence, drug abuse, depression and suicide.

OUR UNITED APPROACH

With our partners, we are Chicago's front-line responders to reports of child sexual abuse. We also respond to severe physical abuse, witness to violence, sex trafficking and other violence.

Working under one roof facilitates enhanced collaboration and represents best practices as a trauma-informed agency. Our co-location enhances information-sharing, making our investigations more child-centered, effective and timely.



Together, we give child victims a place to talk about what happened to them in their own words, with experts who listen to them, protect them and put them on the path to healing.

Our Multi-disciplinary Pediatric Education & Evaluation Consortium (MPEEC) team coordinates efforts among child abuse pediatricians, child protection staff and law enforcement to determine whether serious injuries to children under 3 are caused by abuse. We protect children with timely, accurate medical diagnoses and appropriate interventions by child welfare and law enforcement professionals. Our MPEEC partners include the above agencies as well as our city's leading teaching hospitals:

 Ann & Robert H. Lurie
Children's Hospital of Chicago™

 THE UNIVERSITY OF
CHICAGO MEDICINE
Comer Children's

Provide trauma-informed care

We adhere to standards of trauma-informed care, ensuring that our families can access services and participate fully in the investigative process. All of our services are free of charge and developed to meet our families' unique needs. We provide:

- Transportation to and from the center
- Child life services for victims and siblings, which includes child-led play and trauma-informed activities
- Services in the languages that children and families speak
- Developmentally-appropriate care for children and adults with disabilities

Protect and preserve evidence

To reduce trauma, we ensure a child does not have to tell their story to multiple authorities. We conduct recorded forensic interviews to collect, preserve and protect evidence. Our co-located partners always have access to complete information about our shared investigations.

Our mission

Uniting public, private and community partners to ensure the safety, health and well-being of abused children.

Our shared vision

To eliminate the suffering of abused children in Chicago.

2,446 total reports of child maltreatment made to the center for a coordinated multi-disciplinary response

8 days median time between report and arrival at the center

1,564 families given rides to and from the center

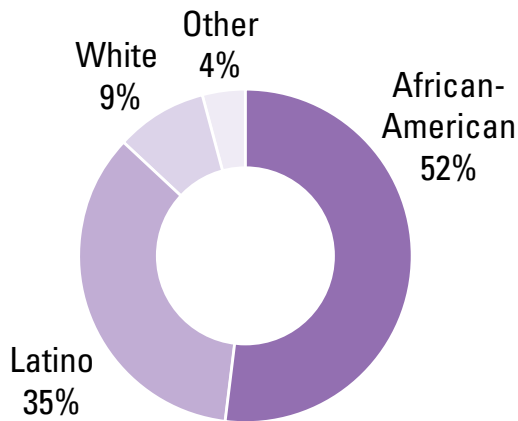
OUR IMPACT THIS YEAR

WE RESPONDED TO 2,046 REPORTS OF CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE

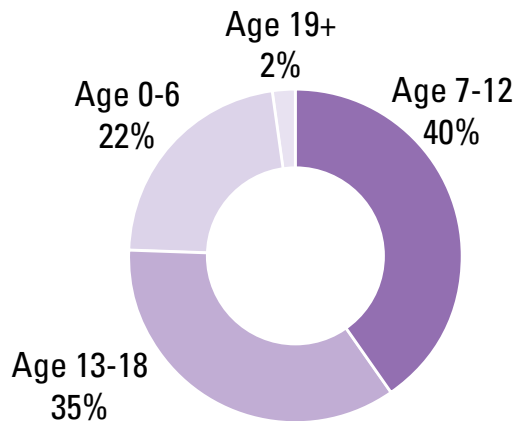
Family Advocacy 1,891 families	Forensic Interviews 1,634 children	Training 7,198 adults	Therapy at ChicagoCAC 308 children
Child Life 3,698 children	Medical Exams 371 children	Support Services 693 families	Therapy at PATHH Agencies 289 children

ALLEGED VICTIM DEMOGRAPHICS

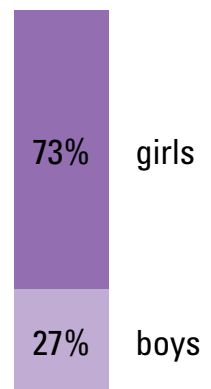
Race/ethnicity



Age

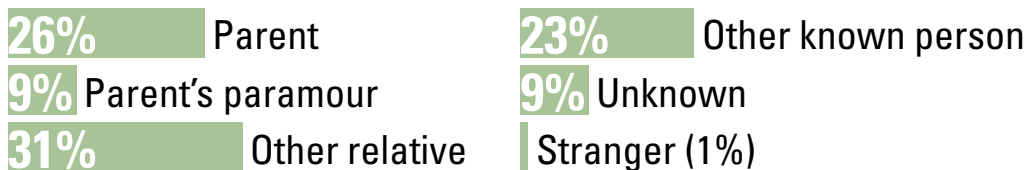


Gender



ALLEGED PERPETRATOR DEMOGRAPHICS

Relationship to victim



Gender

82% men/boys
 16% women/girls
 2% unknown

Data from July 1, 2016 to June 30, 2017

OUR RESPONSE TO OTHER VIOLENCE

Our expert teams are called on to assist child victims of many traumas. We provide family advocacy, forensic interviews and healing services to children involved in:

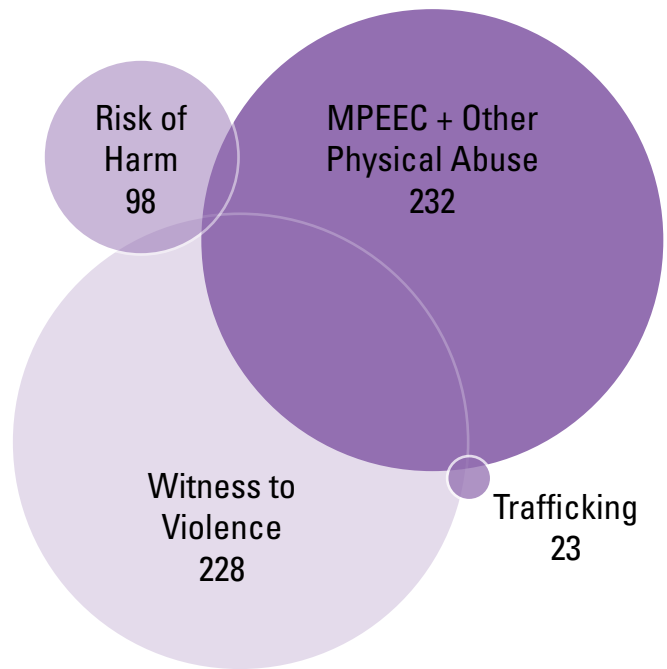
Physical abuse. In addition to our MPEEC program for children under age 3, we serve children of all ages who have been severely physically abused.

Witnessing violence. As our city faces high rates of community violence, we serve affected families and collaborate with local police for investigations.

Risk of harm. These children are often siblings of victims and considered to be potential victims.

Sex trafficking. As commercial sexual exploitation of children (CSEC) gains national attention, we've increased our services and funding for these victims.

Cases by type of violence



OUR PATHH PARTNERSHIP

Through our Providing Access Toward Hope and Healing (PATHH) collaboration, we convene a group of mental health providers committed to improving the mental health system in Chicago. Led by a steering committee, the collaboration is an alliance of 22 non-profit agencies that provide evidence-based, trauma-informed therapy for children and families who are victims of sexual abuse. Through PATHH, we connect our families with mental health therapy that is timely, accessible and affordable.

It feels promising. Because of the center, I feel that my son's case will be successful and justice will be served. – Caregiver

FAMILY ADVOCACY

As the first contact on each family's road to healing, our family advocates provide the immediate support and resources families need, including education on the effects of abuse, mental health screenings and housing referrals.



Family Advocate Casey

Olivia's Story

For Olivia and her parents, their family advocate was more than a listening ear; she was a lifesaver. At age 14, Olivia revealed to a trusted teacher that she was pregnant by her 19-year-old cousin. Her teacher called the DCFS hotline (1-800-25-ABUSE), and Olivia was referred to the center.

When their family advocate, Casey, greeted them, Olivia wasn't able to hold eye contact. She had a hard time opening up, and she was visibly uncomfortable as she answered questions for a mental health screening.

While Olivia was in her forensic interview, her parents told Casey how "different" their daughter had become; she was withdrawn, angry and not sleeping well. **Casey referred them to therapy at the center to ensure that Olivia could get the long-term care she needed to ease her mental health concerns and to truly begin healing.**

Once their appointments were over at the center, Casey walked Olivia and her parents to the door. As they waited for their ride home with our transportation team, and knowing it was her last chance, Olivia gathered the courage to say that her cousin had abused other children, too.

In sharing more than just her story of abuse, Olivia helped and protected other children. Casey collaborated with the DCFS and Chicago Police staff right down the hall to bring the other children to the center for family advocacy and forensic interviews. The detective arrested the offender, whose case is pending.

FORENSIC INTERVIEWS

Forensic interviewers help children of all ages talk about what happened in their own words. Their patience, reassurance and consistency makes children feel safe, so they can give as many details as possible to help DCFS and police with investigations.

Isabella's Story

Forensic interviewers build trust with the children who come to the center. In a short period of time, they develop rapport and make children comfortable talking about some of the most painful, scary pieces of their lives.

4-year-old Isabella came to the center after telling her mom that her babysitter had shown her “bad stuff” on his phone. With her forensic interviewer, Cleveland, Isabella revealed that her babysitter had also touched her inappropriately. **With Cleveland's patient, non-judgmental conversation, Isabella revealed detailed information that allowed the police to make an arrest.**

After her interview, Isabella went back to a family room to be with her parents. As Cleveland walked by, he noticed that Isabella was upset – she was crying and screaming, not the calm little girl he had seen just a few minutes before. He knocked on the door to help, and Isabella immediately smiled and ran to hug his legs.

Using the trust he had built during their interview, Cleveland reassured her that she was safe, and he was able to stay with the family for the rest of their visit at the center. Isabella's mom was grateful for the support, and she was able to talk with their family advocate about the resources she needed.



Forensic Interviewer Cleveland

99% of families reported satisfaction with ChicagoCAC.

Statute of limitations removed in Illinois



Our staff and volunteers advocated strongly for Senate Bill 189, which removed the statute of limitations for child sexual abuse and passed unanimously in the Illinois House and Senate. **This legislation ensures that time never runs out for victims of abuse to seek justice – and it helps protect our community from known perpetrators.**

On this and other legislative issues, we mobilize our online networks of advocates by sending out **advocacy actions**. Providing template emails and phone scripts, we encourage supporters to speak out on behalf of victims and survivors.



Amy testified in support of SB189 in Springfield. Read her powerful story at ChicagoCAC.org/amy

Kids' Holiday Party

More than 300 children and caregivers celebrated the season over lunch, games, crafts and other activities in a safe, joyful environment. Generous volunteers donated thousands of toys so our caregivers could “shop” for their children free of charge. The party is always one of our most special days of the year, and our families were deeply grateful.





Our doors are open to all

Political events in our country affected our client families and staff, including threats to the safety of people of color, women, LGBTQ folks and immigrants. We've increased efforts to assure clients and their families that the center is a safe and welcoming place for all.



Outstanding Service Award honors

At our 15th anniversary celebration, we recognized special staff and partners for going above and beyond to help children and families, create safe spaces and build collaboration at the center. Read about them at ChicagoCAC.org/AR17

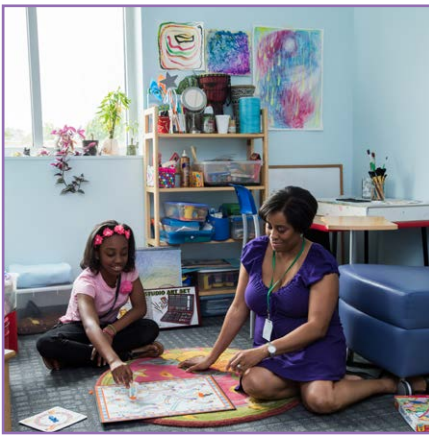


Canine Companions give back

Through our partnership with Canine Therapy Corps, volunteers bring their certified therapy dogs to the center to play with children, help them relax and build their confidence. We celebrated the retirement of one of our clients' most beloved canine companions, Fannie, and her owner, Paul.

FAMILY HOPE CENTER

ChicagoCAC's Family Hope Center is a place of healing for child victims, their siblings and their caregivers. In this new space, our therapists help children heal from trauma, our child life teams lead family-focused activities, and our family support specialists help caregivers meet competing needs.



The comprehensive care in our Family Hope Center can be life-changing. Emily came to the center after she was abused by a family friend who lived with them. During her initial visit to the center, she talked to her family advocate and forensic interviewer about the years of abuse she had endured, and that she felt depressed. Her advocate referred her to therapy at the center so she could start healing.

In therapy, Emily is always smiling and happy. But at home and school, it's not so easy. She is depressed, and she has regular flashbacks and has a hard time concentrating. **She and her therapist talk about the fact that the abuse was not her fault, she is allowed to be angry, and that she is not defined by her abuse.** She practices positive self-talk and grounding behaviors to keep her in the present moment when she feels anxious. After just a few months, she's already feeling better, and her mom Anita regularly joins in their sessions.

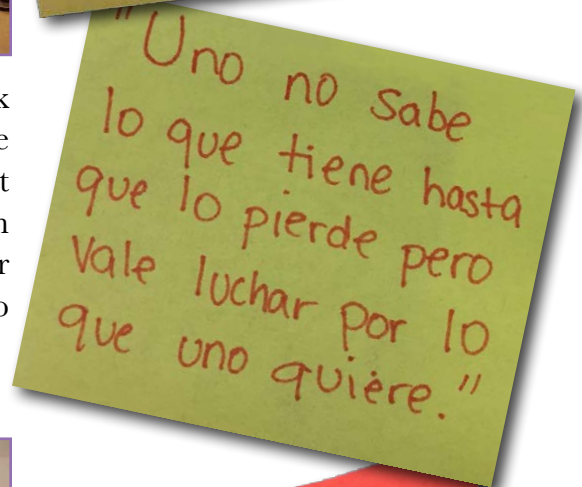
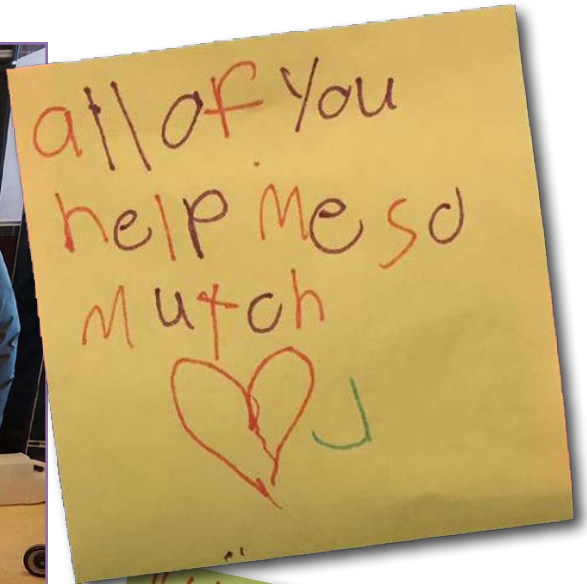


While Emily is in therapy, **Anita meets with Mayra, a family support specialist, for additional help.** After kicking the offender out of their home, Anita struggled to pay the other half of the rent and faced eviction. Mayra connected her with a pro-bono attorney and stood right beside her at the trial. Since then, Mayra has helped Anita apply for benefits for victims of crime to continue providing for her family.

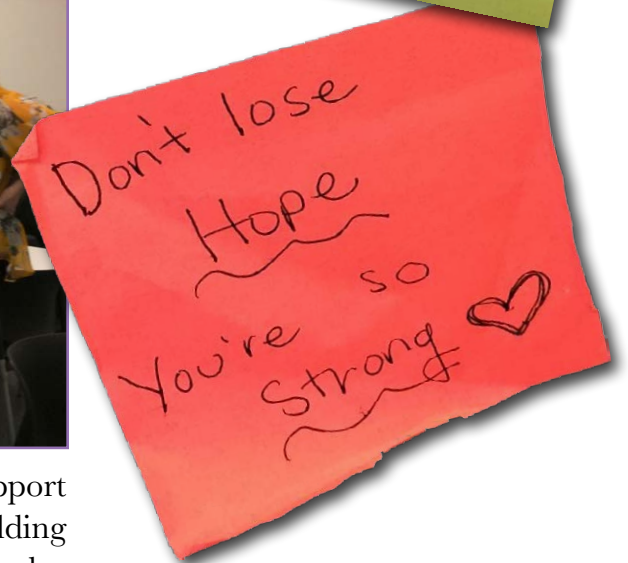
With free transportation, therapy and other support services, Emily and Anita can focus on their healing, stabilizing their lives and their relationship with each other – all at once.



Family support specialists Paloma and Mayra (pictured) work with families to address competing needs at home. They secure food, employment, counseling, visas and more for parents so that they can focus more of their energy on helping their children heal. For Thanksgiving, they worked with Jewel-Osco Manager Steve, who generously donated 20 complete turkey dinners to our families in need.



With the added space in our building, therapists, family support specialists and volunteers have room to host community-building activities for our families. Junior League of Chicago hosted a spring craft night and dinner, giving families an opportunity to spend time in a safe, fun environment as they reinforce lessons from therapy, such as patience and support.



Children and caregivers wrote these notes of encouragement to each other on a bulletin board that our therapists created.

EDUCATION, OUTREACH

With expanded support of our Growing & Giving campaign, our Education, Outreach and Prevention (EOP) team continues to grow. This year, we trained more adults than ever before, and we are well on our way to reaching more than 11,000 adults annually beginning next fiscal year.

7,198 adults reached

275 unique trainings given to prevent, recognize and respond to abuse

Our team trained a class of **160 new Chicago Police detectives** in January, teaching them about our work on investigations of child sexual abuse, our physical abuse program and our services for victims of many types of violence. First responders are better equipped to recognize signs of abuse and bring children to the center for trauma-informed care.

This year, we began a partnership with Brighton Park Elementary School, teaching staff and caregivers how to prevent child sexual abuse, intervene before concerning behaviors become abuse, and take action when a child needs help. We also began our **primary prevention trainings** at the school, teaching children the foundations of abuse prevention, including their right to say “no” and that abuse is never a child’s fault.

The training opened my eyes about how to prevent abuse from happening or continuing. – Training Attendee

& PREVENTION



In recognition of April as **Child Abuse Prevention Month**, our Community Advisory Council hosted BEYOND WORDS at The Public House Theater. Survivors and their family members created t-shirts and fabric squares sharing their strength and their journeys to healing.

The exhibit traveled throughout the city to continue raising awareness during the month. Shirts were displayed at the Thompson Center, Garfield Park Fieldhouse and Ogden Park Fieldhouse.

We all want to be believed. – Survivor

COMMUNITY SUPPORT

Individual donors have an incredible impact on our work and the children and families we serve. Throughout the year, individual, foundation and corporate supporters contributed more than \$2.1 million toward our mission.

\$571,500
raised from events

1,188 toys
donated and given
out at our Kids'
Holiday Party

300 fully-stuffed
backpacks given to
children in need

At our third annual Luminary Award Dinner, we honored Anne Pramaggiore, president and CEO of ComEd, for her longtime support of ChicagoCAC and her strong advocacy for children. The event raised more than \$425,000 for our programs and services, including more than \$80,000 for our Growing & Giving campaign.



Our ninth annual Guys' & Gals' Night Out for the Kids raised more than \$120,000. Hundreds of attendees enjoyed an exciting silent auction, a raffle for an Apple Watch and much more at Kaiser Tiger.

Thank you for your patience and consideration. – Caregiver



Generous supporters Monica and Rob Breslow (pictured here with Char) donated an entirely new playground to the center. The beautiful new structure is a welcoming, safe place for our children to play. Seeing it for the first time, one of our clients exclaimed, “It’s a dream come true!!”



We were thrilled to be selected as a grant recipient of the 8th annual Invest For Kids Conference, which brought together financial services professionals to discuss investment ideas while supporting multiple charities. ChicagoCAC was a previous beneficiary of the event, and it was an honor to be welcomed back. We received a grant for \$235,000.

OUR FINANCES

JULY 1, 2016 TO JUNE 30, 2017

REVENUE

State	\$2,209,742
City Grants	\$1,095,504
Individuals, Events & Corporations	\$915,583
Private Grants	\$841,652
Growing & Giving Campaign	\$392,281
Federal	\$286,600
County	\$132,073
Contributed Services & In-kind	\$64,134
Training/Other	\$3,564

Total Revenue: \$5,941,133

EXPENSES

Advocacy & Investigations	\$2,211,763
Family Hope Center	\$1,297,299
MPEEC	\$880,411
Management/General	\$586,018
Fundraising	\$ 532,633
Education, Outreach & Prevention	\$304,314

Total Expenses: \$5,812,438

The above presentation excludes the \$508,616 net effect of a 10-year lease donated by the City of Chicago. When included, the impact on net assets is:

Net Assets June 30, 2016: \$6,903,472 • Net Assets June 30, 2017: \$6,523,551 • Change: \$(379,921)

GROWING & GIVING CAMPAIGN

Our Growing & Giving campaign continues to raise funds for our expanded programming, including our Family Hope Center and our education, outreach and prevention efforts. Since its founding in 2013, the campaign has raised more than \$10.6 million, **more than 90 percent of our goal** of \$11.5 million to grow these vital programs.

Generous donors have dedicated many of our new spaces in honor and memory of those who have made significant contributions to the center. The Perkaus family dedicated a forensic interview suite in memory of **John Philip Reed, Jr.** Four generations (pictured) came together to see the dedication and honor Mr. Reed's legacy as a state's attorney. As longtime partners, The Northern Trust has sponsored our beautiful, calming green roof.



OUR FUNDERS

PUBLIC SUPPORTERS

Chicago Department of Family & Support Services

Chicago Department of Public Health

Cook County Department of Planning and Development

Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority

Illinois Department of Children & Family Services

Office of the Illinois Attorney General

FOUNDATION SUPPORTERS

A.G. Cox Charitable Trust

A. Montgomery Ward Foundation

Albert J. Pick Jr. Fund

Allstate Encompass

American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers

Anonymous Family Foundation

Anonymous Family Foundation

Anonymous Private Foundation

Baxter International Foundation

Blowitz-Ridgeway Foundation

Chicago Cotillion Charities

Chicago Tribune Charities – Holiday Campaign

Chicago White Sox Charities

CME Group Community Foundation

Col. Stanley R. McNeil Foundation

Crown Family Philanthropies

Dr. Scholl Foundation

George M. Eisenberg Foundation for Charities

Grant Healthcare Foundation

Help For Children

Invest for Kids

John and Kathleen Schrieber Foundation

John R. Houlsby Foundation

Kovler Family Foundation

Lloyd A. Fry Foundation

McGraw Foundation

Michael Reese Health Trust

Morgan Stanley Foundation

Northern Trust Charitable Trust

Paul M. Angell Family Foundation

Polk Bros. Foundation

Ravenswood Health Care Foundation

Service Club of Chicago

Speiser Family Foundation

W.P. & H.B. White Foundation

I think this is a very good place for kids who need help,
and they need more funding to keep our kids safe. – Caregiver

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Board members as of June 30, 2017.



NATIONAL
CHILDREN'S
ALLIANCE®

ChicagoCAC is accredited by the National Children's Alliance. We meet or exceed national standards to provide high quality, effective services and care for children and families who come through our doors.

OUR CORE VALUES

- 1 Freedom from abuse and exploitation is a basic human right.
- 2 The center is a safe place for everyone who enters its doors.
- 3 The collaborative process is the best approach to prevent and respond to child abuse.
- 4 Our children and families deserve to receive the highest standard of care available.
- 5 Best-practice interventions can restore lives.



Chicago Children's Advocacy Center
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