

Joining Hands

PROTECT CHILDREN STOP ABUSE
CHILD ADVOCACY
CENTER

A Place of Healing & Hope



UPCOMING EVENTS

San Juan's
CROSS CREEK
SUBARU

Subaru Share the Love

November 17, 2022 - January 3, 2023

The CAC is honored that Cross Creek Subaru has chosen us as their local charity for this year's "Share the Love" event. When you purchase or lease a new Subaru between November 17, 2022, and January 3, 2023, you can designate the Child Advocacy Center to receive a \$250 donation from Subaru of America. Cross Creek Subaru has donated over \$215,000 to the CAC since choosing the CAC as their local charity of choice beginning in 2014. We are so thankful for their amazing support of our work that brings hope, help and healing to child victims of abuse. The CAC presented a thank you plaque to Cross Creek Subaru for their generous contribution of \$27,000 from last year's event. If you are thinking of purchasing a new vehicle this year, consider a new Subaru and help support the programs at the Child Advocacy Center. Visit Cross Creek Subaru at 497 N. McPherson Church Road and select the Child Advocacy Center as your hometown charity of choice when you purchase or lease a new Subaru.



Pictured L-R, CAC Executive Director Roberta Humphries, CAC Board Members Nadine Miller – Bernard and Beth Lee and Cross Creek Subaru General Sales Manager John W. McHann



Fayetteville Ultimate Lip Sync Showdown Saturday May 6, 2023 Crown Center Ballroom - 7 p.m.

Dust off that microphone and start rehearsing your act for one of the most fun and entertaining evenings in our community. We are looking for 10-12 acts consisting of 2-10 people to perform in the Lip Sync Showdown to benefit the Child Advocacy Center. Email Roberta Humphries at roberta@cacfaync.org if interested in performing or working on the Lip Sync Planning Committee.

Check our website for more information
www.cacfaync.org

Event information is updated
regularly on the CAC website:
CACFayNC.org

You Can Make a Difference in the Life of a Child - Now is the Time to Join Hands with the Child Advocacy Center

By Roberta Humphries, Executive Director

A child-friendly, compassionate, and safe refuge – that is what the Child Advocacy Center means to hundreds of child victims of abuse in Cumberland County. Thanks to your generosity, the Child Advocacy Center has been here for 29 years as a beacon of hope, help and healing for children and their families as they chart the turbulent and difficult waters of disclosure, investigation, and prosecution of child abuse. During this past year, the Child Advocacy Center has continued to fulfill its mission of protecting children and stopping abuse. During FY 22, 808 cases of suspected child abuse were received by the Child Advocacy Center, 67% were female, and 30% were less than 7 years old. 569 cases were referred for forensic interviews, 612 victims received services with 499 being new victims who received services for the first time, 1470 people were provided child abuse prevention/awareness education and 800 children received body safety books. 877 individual counseling appointments were provided to 127 child abuse victims and 10 girls, and 10 boys participated in year-long group empowerment classes.

It is our hope, and the hope of the children served by the Child Advocacy Center that prevention and intervention of child abuse remains one of your top charitable-giving priorities. Your donation will enable us to continue our fight to protect and serve the most helpless among us – our children! Use the enclosed donation envelope or on the website cacfaync.org.

You can help us continue to provide help, hope and healing to so many other children that are victims of sexual and physical abuse in our community.

1. Purchase a leaf (\$250) or star (\$100) for our CAC Tribute Murals.



2. Select one or more of the items from our "wish list" and donate them to the Center.

Washable dry erase markers, Bottled water, Juice boxes, Individually wrapped snack items for children, Comfort blankets, Gift cards to grocery store or office supply store, Canned soda, Coffee, Keurig coffee cups and Paper plates.

3. Become a member of our Benefactor Program – opportunity for individuals or businesses to support the CAC year-round. Our Benefactor program offers generous community partners the opportunity to make an annual sponsorship contribution while receiving benefits of year-round recognition. Benefactors are recognized as sponsors for **both** of our annual signature fundraising events, the Pinwheel Masquerade Ball in the fall and the Ultimate Lip Sync Showdown in the spring, as well as receiving

additional public acknowledgement and appreciation from the CAC. Packets are available by calling the CAC at (910) 486-9700 or on our website www.cacfaync.org.

4. Give to the CAC Organization Endowment Fund at the Cumberland Community Foundation. Donations to the Endowment Fund may be sent directly to the Cumberland Community Foundation, PO Box 2345, Fayetteville, NC 28302. Please indicate on your check that your contribution is for the *Child Advocacy Center Endowment*. Be a hero to the children now and in the future. For healing and hope, forever

Quotes from some of our participants:

When I first came to the CAC I was scared and the people there made me feel brave, happy, and what I like best at the CAC is making friends and laughing. Now I feel happy and less nervous. – Child who attends group therapy

Thank you for being there for the families who experience abuse of their children. I realized what a valuable resource this Center is. I appreciate that the Center is here for everyone. You never know when or if you may need the services. – from a Caregiver

So glad this Center exists. Never thought I'd need something like this but so glad it's there for abused children. – from a Caregiver

This Center is the best place for children to go. The staff is very helpful and understanding when dealing with children that have challenges. – from a Caregiver

Thank you for donating to the CAC. When I first arrived, I was holding a lot of emotion and was not in a good mental state. Now I feel a lot better. I am getting better, and my mental state is a lot better and I'm myself again. – Child who attends therapy

Be Their Voice ~ Stop Human Trafficking! Speak Up.

By: Faith, Boehmer, CAC Prevention & Volunteer Coordinator

In January, a yearlong promotional campaign around the theme of “*Be Their Voice*” will kick-off. Throughout the year you will see this theme promoted through a variety of channels. In January, the focus is on the impact of child trafficking both labor and sexual. Each of us has a role to play in helping to be the voice of children who are traumatized by many different forms of child maltreatment. The Child Advocacy Center is partnering with Methodist University Social Work Department, WORTH Court, and Fayetteville Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority to provide a variety of opportunities for the community to be educated about human trafficking. Here are the events coming up during the month of January:

January 11, 2023: Wear Blue Day – post your “blue” photos using the following hashtags: #betheirvoice, #worthcourt, #cacfaync

January 19, 2023: Human Trafficking Forum, Kiwanis Recreation Center, 352 Devers Street, 6:30 pm

January 25, 2023: Information Session about Human Trafficking, John D. Fuller, Sr. Recreational Center, 6627 Old Bunce Road, 6:00 p.m.

January 28, 2023, Stop Human Trafficking 5K Run/Walk, Methodist University, 9 a.m. <https://runsignup.com/Race/NC/Fayetteville/StopHumanTrafficking5k>

We hope you will join us for one or more of these events as we discuss how we as a community can be more aware and learn the signs of trafficking. Human Trafficking is not something that happens in another country, another state or even another community. It happens here and we need to be prepared to know the signs and report when we see them.

Here are some of the Signs of Human Trafficking:

- Appearing malnourished
- Showing signs of physical injuries and abuse
- Avoiding eye contact, social interaction, and authority figures/law enforcement
- Seeming to adhere to scripted or rehearsed responses in social interaction
- Lacking official identification documents

- Appearing destitute/lacking personal possessions
- Working excessively long hours
- Living at place of employment
- Checking into hotels/motels with older males, and referring to those males as boyfriend or “daddy,” which is often street slang for pimp
- Poor physical or dental health
- Tattoos/ branding on the neck and/or lower back
- Untreated sexually transmitted diseases
- Small children serving in a family restaurant
- Security measures that appear to keep people inside an establishment - barbed wire inside of a fence, bars covering the insides of windows
- Not allowing people to go into public alone, or speak for themselves



19 Days of Child Abuse Prevention – November 1-19, 2022

By, Roberta Humphries, Executive Director

The Greater Exchange Club of Fayetteville sponsored 19 Days of Prevention which kicked off on November 4 with a Prevention Luncheon at the Kiwanis Recreation Center. Lilly, a survivor-leader in the Human Trafficking movement used her lived experience to educate and support our community by advocating for change. Plaques were presented to 14 new and renewing Partners in Prevention. These are organizations whose members have taken the Darkness to Light – Stewards of Children Child Sexual Abuse Training. Body Safety classes were provided to local childcare and Headstart Centers. The 19 days culminated with the announcement of the winners of the 2022 youth art contest “Showing kindness to your neighbor” sponsored by the Fayetteville-Cumberland County Arts Council, the Child Advocacy Center, and the Greater Exchange Club of Fayetteville. In addition to creating an original piece of art the contestants also had to write a 25–200-word essay that explained how the artwork represented kindness toward their neighbor. The reception was held at the Arts Council with remarks from Robert Pinson, Interim President and CEO of the Arts Council and Freddy Rivera, President of the Greater Fayetteville Exchange Club.

Kindergarten – 2nd Grade: 1st Place Cale Easton Jones, 2nd Place Tinashe Ogunwo, 3rd Place Lila Garnier and Rachel Payad

3rd-5th Grade: 1st Place Nadia Bryant, 2nd Place Lillian Boykova, 3rd Place Nina Brodbeck

Middle School: 1st Place Norma Sepa, 2nd Place Brooke Mahon, 3rd Place Yeore Im

High School: 1st Place Kaylen Willis, 2nd Place Emily Willis, 3rd Place Gerean Fuller

Pictured below are some of the winners with their artwork.



Thank You!

The CAC is incredibly grateful to our Corporate and Individual Benefactors who have agreed to be year-long sponsors for CAC events for the 2022-2023 Year. If you would like to become a Benefactor of the Child Advocacy Center, please visit CACFAYNC.org and click on How to Help at the Top of the Page and then the Sponsorship tab.

CHAMPIONS FOR CHILDREN:



HERO

- Joyce & Howard Loughlin
- Array Publishing & Marketing LLC
- Mike & Ann Morketter
- Timothy D. Edwards Family Law Attorney
- Valley Auto World, Inc.
- Beasley Media

STARS

- Truist
- Lucy & Wes Jones
- Systel Business Equipment
- Dr. Robin & Debbie Jenkins
- Kenneth Barefoot
- CityView Media
- Brown & Associates Investment Services, Inc.

A Special Thank You!

Thank you to the following grantors who have supported the CAC this year.

- Community Grants Fund of Cumberland Community Foundation, Inc.
- Youth Growth Stock Trust
- Carter Bank and Trust
- Florence Rogers Charitable Trust
- Cumberland County
- City of Fayetteville
- Anonymous Trust/Simply East Fund
- Leon Levine Foundation
- Tracy Family Foundation

Holiday Best Wishes

The board and staff of the CAC want to express our gratitude to all our volunteers, donors, community partners and friends; and we wish all of you the very happiest of holiday seasons.

Did you know your purchases can make a difference? AmazonSmile donates to the Child Advocacy Center when you do your shopping at smile.amazon.com/ch/56-2161682

UPCOMING EVENT

Fayetteville Ultimate Lip Sync Showdown Fundraiser

This year's Lip Sync Showdown Fundraiser is scheduled for Saturday May 6, 2023 at the Crown Complex Ballroom. Tim Edwards and Jenny deViere will return as co-chairs for the 2023 fundraiser and the committee is currently in the planning stages. If you or a group would like to participate please contact the CAC for an entry form. We also have sponsorship opportunities available for you or your business. You can email roberta@cacfaync.org or visit our website cacfaync.org for more information about joining the committee, sponsoring the event or entering a group or individual in the competition.

Photo collage from the 2022 event to get you motivated to participate in the 2023 event.



And a special thank you to all our individual donors and supporters who help us provide the very best services to the child victims of abuse in our community. We could not do this work without your generosity.

Did you know the CAC has a weekly blog?

Be sure to check out our blog, updated each Wednesday.

Visit the website at CACFayNC.org and click on the Blog Posts link on the main page.



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What We Do

A Place of Healing and Hope: Joining hands with community agencies, the Child Advocacy Center (CAC) offers a safe and child-friendly place to interview, investigate and provide support for child victims of abuse. The CAC also provides prevention education for parents, professionals, and agencies in our community. We look to a future where all children live in a safe and nurturing environment free from abuse.

During FY 2022, the Child Advocacy Center received 808 cases of reported child abuse. 467 forensic interviews were conducted at the center. 612 families received Victim Family Advocate services, providing direct aid as well as assisting them in accessing needed resources. 127 children attended individual counseling and 20 children participated in group counseling. 1470 people received child abuse prevention and awareness education. Volunteers contributed 1464 hours of service to the CAC. For additional information, please visit CACFayNC.org.

2022 Board of Directors and Staff

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LaTisha Culbreth-Robinson, *Program Assistant*

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