

Be Their Voice

Don't Be Quick To Click



SUMMER 2023 NEWSLETTER

INTRODUCING THE NEW EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE CAC

BY FAITH BOEHMER, PREVENTION & VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR

The Child Advocacy Center would like to welcome the new Executive Director to the center, Jasie Landeros. A Cumberland County native, graduating from Cape Fear High School, Landeros has strong ties to the Eastover community.

After pursuing her undergraduate degree in Elementary Education from the University of North Carolina at Wilmington, where she was an esteemed member of the North

Carolina Teaching Fellows Program, Landeros taught public elementary school in both North Carolina and Oklahoma for many years. In addition to educating children in the traditional classroom, she also taught students of the Academically and Intellectually Gifted program.



Landeros, being a military spouse, spent her time while her family was stationed in the Florida Panhandle as the Community Outreach Program Manager for the Emerald Coast Children's Advocacy Center. She managed all child abuse prevention programs and community outreach efforts for the center. During this role is where she quickly found a desire and passion to help empower children who are victims of child abuse and neglect.

Landeros obtained her Master's Degree in Public Administration with a focus in nonprofit leadership and management from Florida State University.

When asked about assuming the role of Executive Director of the Center, she stated, "I am excited to be home again in Fayetteville and I look forward to the journey I am embarking on with the Child Advocacy Center here. It is most important to me that all who enter the doors of the CAC are welcomed with open arms of comfort to help guide them through their process. I hope to one day be out of the job and living in a world where all children are free from abuse and neglect." **Welcome to the Child Advocacy Center, Jasie.**

CROSS CREEK SUBARU PRESENTS THE CAC WITH PROCEEDS FROM THEIR SHARE THE LOVE EVENT



Pictured L to R: Jasie Landeros- CAC Executive Director, Roberta Humphries- CAC Executive Director (retiring), Cross Creek Subaru employees - Jason Wells, Spencer Brockhouse, Nick Fransisco Garza, Angela Barton, Nadine Miller-Bernard- CAC Board President, and Cross Creek Subaru employees Ava White and Emily Bracey.

Cross Creek Subaru presented a check to the Child Advocacy Center in the amount of \$28,345 from proceeds collected during the Subaru of America's 2022 Share the Love event. Cross Creek Subaru selected the Child Advocacy Center as their local charity of choice.

The CAC also presented a framed thank you plaque to Jason Wells for their support of the CAC and our work with children in the community.

YOUTH GROWTH STOCK TRUST GRANT AWARD PRESENTATION



Jasie Landeros and Faith Boehmer

On May 11th the committee of the Youth Growth Stock Trust, administered by the United Way of Cumberland County, awarded the CAC as a recipient of grant funds to help accomplish their mission of protecting children and stopping abuse. The funds will go toward helping the CAC grow awareness through education

in child abuse prevention. The award presentation was held at the FTCC Tony Rand Center Multipurpose Room.

HELP US MAKE OUR GOAL!



IN HONOR OF OUR 30TH ANNIVERSARY, WE ARE LAUNCHING A FUNDRAISING CAMPAIGN TO RAISE \$30,000 FOR THE CAC. YOUR DONATION CAN PROVIDE A LASTING IMPACT ON CHILDREN IN OUR COMMUNITY FOR YEARS TO COME.

CHECK OUT OUR EVENT CALENDAR



event calendar

thank you benefactors!

CHAMPION FOR CHILDREN:



HERO FOR CHILDREN:

Joyce and Howard Loughlin • ARRAY Publishing & Marketing LLC • Mike and Ann Morketter
Timothy D. Edwards, Family Law Attorney • Valley Auto World, Inc. • Beasley Media • The UPS Stores of Westwood & Ft. Bragg

STAR FOR CHILDREN:

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

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 • Cumberland Community Foundation Giving Tuesday

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 through monetary donations and the donations of goods and services. We could not do this work without your generosity.



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a sponsor**

JOIN US FOR A POWERFUL AND INFORMATIVE SCREENING OF SEXTORTION: THE HIDDEN PANDEMIC

June is known as Internet Safety Awareness Month. This was launched by the National Cybersecurity Alliance & the U. S. Department of Homeland Security in October 2004. The was begun as a way to help individuals protect themselves online as threats to technology and confidential data become more commonplace. In addition to these agencies, The Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention also partners to raise awareness about Internet safety and seeks to provide resources to keep kids safe online.

This year the Child Advocacy Center is presenting the documentary, Sextortion: The Hidden Pandemic from Auroris Media. It is directed and edited by Maria Peek, p.g.a, and produced and cinematographed by Stephen Peek. The film merges true crime with an empowering educational opportunity that provides families with essential ways to keep their children safe on the Internet. As parents themselves, the filmmakers experienced Sextortion in real time through one of their children's classmates, and it inspired them to be the change they want to see in the world. With a rapidly moving running time of 85 minutes, you will be engaged and inspired to help save kids around the globe once you watch this documentary.

ANY KID ONLINE. ANY TIME. ANYWHERE.



Thanks to a grant from the *Youth Growth Stock Trust* we will have two screenings of this on Tuesday June 13, 2023. The first will be held specifically for our Multi Disiplinary Team and other professionals in the community from 1 pm 4 pm at Methodist University Physician Assistant Auditorium. The second one will be more for parents, grandparents, caregivers and the community at large. It will be held from 6 pm – 8 pm also at MU Physician Assistant Auditorium.

This film empowers children, parents, and community members to help make the internet a safer place for all. You can RSVP to Eventbrite to reserve your seat for either time by using this QR code.

**Professional
Screening
1 - 4PM**



scan for tickets

**Public
Screening
6 - 8PM**



scan for tickets

FAYETTEVILLE'S ULTIMATE LIP SYNC SHOWDOWN

The 2023 Fayetteville Ultimate Lip Sync Showdown was held on Saturday May 6th at the Crown Center Ballroom. Tim Edwards and Jenny deViere co-chaired the Lip Sync committee consisting of Anita Flowers, Chris Lee, Cindy Williams, DeLisa Crosby, and Valerie Shorts. Karen Tisdale was the show coordinator. Nine amazing local acts performed and competed for various awards. Emcees for the evening were Marc de la Concha and Bianca Shoneman. Judges included Joshua Gray-Heim (appearing as Hannah Rae Rinse), Goldy, Dominique Womack, Laura Beaver, and the Honorable Toni S. King. Debbie Bender Designs provided the decorations with Five Star Entertainment and Von Demetriz and the Band providing the music and entertainment for the evening.

The following groups won awards:

TOP FUNDRAISING GROUPS

Third Place: The O-Zone

Second Place: Rockin Rainbow

First Place: The Miracles

BEST COSTUMED PERFORMERS

Rockin' Rainbow

BEST CHOREOGRAPHY

The Miracles

PEOPLE'S CHOICE AWARD

Third Place: Country Legends

Second Place: Flaming Lips

First Place: The Miracles

2023 FAYETTEVILLE'S ULTIMATE LIP SYNC STAR

Third Place: Rockin Rainbow

Second Place: Flaming Lips

First Place: The Miracles

THE CLOSING OF AN ERA

BY FAITH BOEHMER, PREVENTION & VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR

Roberta Humphries walked in the doors of the Child Advocacy Center on November 9, 2009, as the new Executive Director. She came with vast experience in the non-profit world from being Executive Director at Better Health and just prior to coming to CAC being the Resource Development Director at United Way. During her almost 14 years of serving the community through the CAC she has worked tirelessly to increase our funding, our staff and more, all in an effort to meet the needs of our youngest victims of a crime—child abuse—in our community. Roberta has been a steady leader both for the staff at the center as well as through partnering agencies both in the community and state levels. Because of her commitment, countless children's lives have been impacted and now they have tools to help them navigate through the rest of their childhoods and into adulthood. Roberta's presence will be missed on a day-to-day basis but her legacy of faithful commitment, leadership among staff and community members and caring for the most vulnerable children in our community will continue to carry the CAC forward. Thank you, Roberta, for the gift of YOU these last 14 years!



Flaming Lips



The Miracles



Country Legends



Rockin' Rainbow

HONORING CUMBERLAND COUNTY'S CHAMPIONS

BY JASIE LANDEROS, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

The Annual Child Abuse Summit 2023 Be Their Voice: Help Them Soar! was held on Thursday April 20 at the John D. Fuller Recreational/Athletic Complex. This is a collaborative effort with the Child Advocacy Center, Southern Regional AHEC, and Army Community Services to provide a regional educational opportunity for professionals in our community to hear from national and local experts in their field and to highlight April as Child Abuse Prevention Month. Discussion topics included the dangers of sexting and texting, enhancing cultural competencies within the LGBTQ+ community, and gaining a foundational understanding of child labor trafficking.

Each year Champions for Children are recognized for demonstrating exceptional commitment to the prevention of child abuse and neglect or the promotion of protection of the children in our county. This year we had five community members to judge our nominees for the awards of Champion for Children. The 2022 winners were announced at the conference and are as follows:



DSS Children's Services and Legal Department Agency Category



Debbie Jenkins C. Frank Pierce Volunteer Award



Roberta Humphries
The first ever recipient of the Roberta J. Humphries Champion for Children Professional Award

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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 Advocacy 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.

2023 BOARD OF DIRECTORS & STAFF

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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STAFF

Roberta Humphries, **Executive Director (retiring)**

Jasie Landeros, **Executive Director**

Faith Boehmer, **Prevention/Volunteer Coordinator**

Amirah Claiborne – **Victim Family Advocate/Case Manager**

LaTisha Culbreth-Robinson, **Program Assistant**

Melissa Doreck, **Forensic Interviewer/ Victim Family Advocate**

Amy Hansen, **Forensic Interviewer/ Victim Family Advocate**

Renee Pridgen, **Program Assistant**

Dahlia Talley, **Victim Family Advocate**

Oretha Harris, LCMHC-S, **Psychotherapist (contracted)**