

# Harvest Awareness

Our Mission: We collaborate with community partners to respond to and prevent child abuse.





### FALL 2024 NEWSLETTER

### NOVEMBER IS HARVEST AWARENESS MONTH

BY FAITH BOEHMER, PREVENTION & VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR



SOAR (Strengths in Overcoming Adversity through Resilience) Community Coalition is planning events during November's Harvest Awareness Month. Our goal is to increase community commitment and provide educational activities for both children and adults to raise awareness about child abuse prevention. Harvest Awareness Month serves as a reminder that each of us can make a difference in preventing child abuse in our community. According to the Monique Burr Foun-

dation, consistent prevention education for children offers numerous benefits, including lowering dropout rates, improving school attendance, and increasing test scores and grade point averages.

This year, one of our key focuses is educating our youngest citizens, preschoolers, using a curriculum alongside our body safety books. The curriculum, called "Child Safety Matters," is from the Monique Burr Foundation in Florida. The lesson will introduce MBF's five safety rules:

Register

Child Abuse

Prevention

Luncheon!

for the

- Know What's Up
- Spot Red Flags
- Make a Move
- Talk it Up
- No Blame—No Shame

These lessons will teach students age-appropriate strategies to promote personal safety. Students will learn how to recognize unsafe situations and how to talk to trusted adults. Thanks to a grant from the United Way of Cumberland County Youth Growth Stock Trust, we will provide body safety books to all children who attend the classes, as well as a copy for each childcare center's library.

We are currently recruiting volunteer readers from the community to share this important information with students. Two volunteer training sessions will be held at the Child Advocacy Center on October 22, at noon and 5:30 p.m. If you're interested in leading these classes in November, please contact Elizabeth Learn More about Body Safety!

Dorn at elizabeth@cacfaync.org to sign up for one of the trainings. On Friday, November 15, 2024, we will host a prevention luncheon at the Dorothy Gilmore Recreation Center from 12:00 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. Our speaker, Amber Love from Virginia Beach, Virginia, will share her lived experience with human trafficking. The cost for the luncheon is \$20, and tickets can be purchased via Eventbrite or through our website at www.cacfaync.org.

Awareness and education are essential as we work to help our community protect children and empower them to report when they feel uncomfortable. For a list of body safety books you can share with your children, visit our website at https://www.cacfaync.org/ resources/body-safety.html.



## THE PINWHEEL MASQUERADE BALL AND AUCTION

**BY ROBERTA HUMPHRIES, FINANCIAL MANAGER** 

Tickets are now on sale for the 10th annual Child Advocacy Center's Pinwheel Masquerade Ball and Auction to Unmask Child Abuse, scheduled for Saturday, October 12, from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. at the Carolina Barn at McCormick Farms, located at 7765 McCormick Bridge Road in Spring Lake. This year's event is chaired by Valerie Shorts, with the following committee members: Julie Lee-Jacobs – Logistics Chair • Beth Lee and Sharon Mozingo – Culinary Chairs • Cathy White – Auction Chair • Anita Flowers – Entertainment Chair

Mary McCoy – VIP Tables and Mask Contest Chair • Chris Lee and Jackie Davis – Sponsorship Chairs • Jeff Shorts – Auctioneer and Specialty Drink Chair

Dr. Juelle McDonald, Lucy Jones, Genique Freeman, and Eugene Pinckney, with support from CAC staff Faith Boehmer and John Webster. • Join us for an enchanting evening filled with mystery and elegance as we gather to unmask child abuse and support the vital work of the Child Advocacy Center. Every mask tells a story, and every bid helps change a life.

### **HIGHLIGHTS OF THE EVENING INCLUDE:**

- A mask contest
- Silent and live auctions featuring a dazzling array of items, luxurious getaways, and unique experiences
- Music to sweep you off your feet and keep you dancing the night away
- 360 photo booth fun
- A live painting demonstration by Shari Link
- And much more you won't want to miss!

Your support of this event directly funds crucial services for children and families impacted by abuse. Whether you're a seasoned supporter or new to our cause, everyone is welcome at the Pinwheel Masquerade Ball. Join us for an unforgettable evening of celebration and advocacy.

### **TICKET PRICING**

Early bird pricing (until October 7): \$75 per person or \$140 per couple After October 7: \$100 per person or \$175 per couple Premiere reserved tables for 8: \$1,000 (includes added amenities) Standard reserved tables for 8: (after October 7): \$1,200 Tickets and tables can be purchased in person at the Child Advocacy Center, online at CACFayNC.org, or by scanning the barcode on the PMB ad on the front of the newsletter. A limited number of sponsorships are still available. Sponsor forms can be found on the CAC website at www.CACFayNC.org. Make a meaningful impact by becoming a sponsor—showcase your commitment to the community while enjoying exclusive benefits.

We are deeply grateful to our current event sponsors, whose support enables us to provide hope, help, and healing to victims of child abuse.

Thank you also to our Corporate and Individual Benefactors who are listed below and whose support of this event is so valued.

#### MARK YOUR CALENDAR, GET YOUR MASK, PURCHASE YOUR TICKETS AND GET READY FOR A NIGHT YOU WON'T FORGET!



### THANK YOU PINWHEEL MASQUERADE BALL SPONSORS!





GOLD PINWHEEL: Horne Brothers Communications, Inc.

SILVER PINWHEEL: Carolina Barn • Lee Hyundai of Fayetteville • Mi Casita • Wiggs Auto, LLC BLUE PINWHEEL: Blush & Blade Cosmetic Tattoo Studio • RBurger COFFEE SPONSOR: 7 Brew SIGNATURE DRINK SPONSOR: Anonymous Sponsor AUCTION PADDLE SPONSOR: Williams Printing SPIRIT TASTING SPONSOR: Cape Fear Distillery DECOR SPONSOR: Anonymous MASK CONTEST SPONSOR: Coldwell Banker Advantage

TASTER'S CHOICE: Bee Sweet • Gaston Brewing Company • Nona Sushi • Superior Bakery • The Sweet Palette

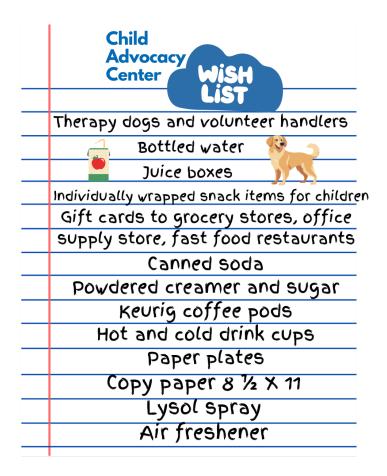
### **THANK YOU 2024 BENEFACTORS!**

CHAMPIONS FOR CHILDREN: CAPE FEAR VALLEY HEALTH



HERO: Brown & Associates Investment Services, Inc. • Carter Bank & Trust • Leslie Dysinger Real Estate Timothy D. Edwards Family Law Attorney • Dr. Robin and Debbie Jenkins • Lucy and Wes Jones Joyce and Howard Loughlin

STAR: Patty Collie • Warren Jacobs & Julie Lee-Jacobs • Lafayette Baptist Church Mike & Ann Morketter • Snyder Memorial Baptist Church • St. Constantine and Helen Greek Orthodox Church • Systel Business Equipment • Truist



### HELP US MAKE A DIFFERENCE: BECOME A VOLUNTEER OR SPONSOR TODAY!

Every child deserves a safe and nurturing environment, yet too many in our community face the devastating impact of abuse. At the Child Advocacy Center, we are committed to providing support, healing, and hope for these children and their families—but we can't do it alone.

By becoming a volunteer or sponsor, you can play a vital role in changing lives. Whether it's through donating your time or financial support, your involvement will help us offer critical services like therapy, advocacy, and prevention programs. Together, we can create a safer future for our children.

Join us today. Become a volunteer or sponsor and be part of the solution. Visit our website to learn more and make a lasting impact.

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.



### SUBARU SHARE THE LOVE EVENT

*November 21, 2024 - January 2, 2025* Help share the love this holiday season by purchasing a Subaru and supporting the Child Advocacy Center! This promotion applies to all new Subaru vehicles sold or leased from November 21, 2024, through January 2, 2025. Visit Cross Creek Subaru at 497 N. McPherson Church Road and choose the Child Advocacy Center as your hometown charity when you purchase or lease a new Subaru.

Cross Creek Subaru has partnered with the Child Advocacy Center for 11 years, raising funds through the Share the Love event. This partnership has allowed us to expand our mental health therapy program, offering both individual and group therapy to child victims of abuse. Additionally, we have provided victim advocacy services to over 4,000 families and conducted 5,100 forensic interviews since the beginning of this collaboration.

### **GIVING TUESDAY**

*November 25-December 4* The Child Advocacy Center will once again participate in Cumberland Community Foundation's Giving Tuesday campaign. Launched in 2012, Giving Tuesday is a global day of generosity that takes place on the first Tuesday after Thanksgiving. This year, it falls on December 3.Cumberland Community Foundation's campaign will accept donations from November 25 at 9:00 a.m. through December 4 at 5:00 p.m., encouraging donors to support local charities based in Cumberland County. Keep an eye out for the Guide to Giving, which lists the nonprofits participating in this year's campaign. Your donation to the Child Advocacy Center through the Giving Tuesday campaign will help us provide support, hope, and healing to victims of child abuse and their families, while also contributing to our efforts to prevent child abuse.

### FAYETTEVILLE'S ULTIMATE LIP SYNC SHOWDOWN

Saturday May 17, 2025, Crown Center Ballroom Dust off that microphone and start rehearsing your act for one of the most fun and entertaining events in our community. After last year's tremendous success of having both a matinee show for youth and then an evening show for adults we will be repeating that format for the 2025 event. We are looking for 10-12 acts for each show, consisting of 2-10 people, to perform in the Lip Sync Showdown to benefit the Child Advocacy Center. Email Karen Tisdale, Lip Sync Chairperson at caclipsync@gmail.com if interested in performing or working on the Lip Sync Planning Committee.



### **CHILD ADVOCACY CENTER**

222 Rowan Street P.O. Box 488 · Fayetteville, NC 28302 Phone (910) 486-9700 · Fax: (910) 486-8677 www.CACFayNC.org





### 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 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 2024, the Child Advocacy Center received 772 cases of reported child abuse. 444 forensic interviews were conducted at the center. 433 families received Victim Family Advocate services, providing direct aid as well as assisting them in accessing needed resources. 105 children attended individual counseling, and 39 children participated in group counseling. 1090 people received child abuse prevention and awareness education. Volunteers contributed 1945 hours of service to the CAC. For additional information, please visit CACFAYNC.org.

### **2024 BOARD OF DIRECTORS & STAFF**

### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Nadine Miller-Bernard, M.Ed., Ed.S. CHAIRPERSON The Honorable Caitlin Evans VICE-CHAIRPERSON Julie Lee-Jacobs, Psy.D. SECRETARY Chris Lee

TREASURER

Rebecca Aul, J.D. Cheryl Perry, M.D. DeLisa Crosby, Ph.D. Laura Jean Hardy, MBA Jimmy Hendley, Jr. George Elton Hendricks, Ph.D. The Honorable Claire Hill Robin Hurmence, J.D. Debbie Jenkins, DCSW Lucy Jones The Honorable (Ret.) Elizabeth Keever Elizabeth Fox Lee Johnny Leonard, MA, LCMHS, LCAS Mark Maynor Juelle McDonald, Ed.D. Mike Morketter Sarah See Danielle Thomas-Taylor, M.D., M.P.H. Wendy Vonnegut, J.D.

#### STAFF

John Webster, Executive Director Faith Boehmer, Prevention/Volunteer Coordinator Lynnelle Brands, Forensic Interviewer/ Victim Family Advocate Amirah Claiborne, Victim Family Advocate/ Case Manager Elizabeth Dorn, Program Assistant Amy Hansen, Lead Forensic Interview, MDT facilitator and Victim Family Advocate Roberta Humphries, Financial Manager Renee Pridgen, Program Assistant Dahlia Talley, Victim Family Advocate Oretha Harris, LCMHC-S, Psychotherapist (contracted)