

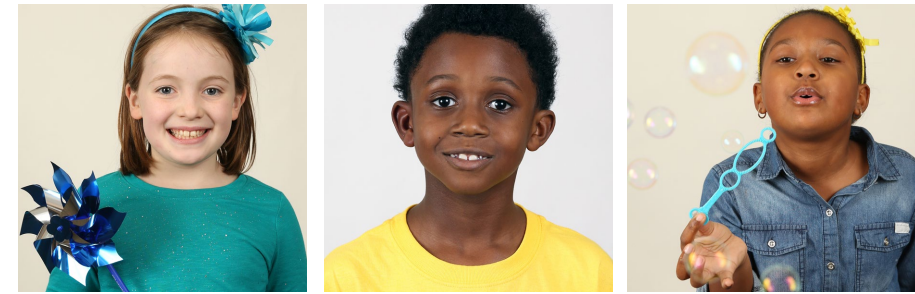
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**PROOF**  
 11/16/2021

## 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 2021, the Child Advocacy Center received 959 cases of reported child abuse, a 9.5 increase from the previous year. 514 forensic interviews were conducted at the center, a 4% increase from the past fiscal year. 568 families received Victim Family Advocate services, providing direct aid as well as assisting them in accessing needed resources. For additional information, please visit [CACFayNC.org](http://CACFayNC.org)

## 2021 Board of Directors and Staff

### Board of Directors

The Honorable Claire Hill <b>CHAIRPERSON</b>	Jimmy Hendley, Jr.
Nadine Miller-Bernard, M.Ed., Ed.S. <b>VICE-CHAIRPERSON</b>	Robin Hurmence, J.D.
Debbie Jenkins, DCSW <b>SECRETARY</b>	Chris Lee
Kathleen Thompson <b>TREASURER</b>	Julie Lee-Jacobs, Psy.D.
DeLisa Crosby, Ph.D.	Lucy Jones
Cheryl Colvin, M.D.	The Honorable (Ret.) Elizabeth Keever
Timothy D. Edwards, J.D.	Elizabeth Fox Lee
The Honorable Caitlin Evans	Mark Maynor
Carla Fagan, Ph.D.	Julie Martin
Mike Hardin, J.D.	Juelle McDonald, Ph.D.
Laura Jean Hardy, MBA	Shelley (Taylor) Morgan
	Mike Morketter
	Danielle Thomas-Taylor, M.D., M.P.H.
	The Rev. Felica R. Thompson
	Wendy Vonnegut, J.D.

### Staff

Roberta Humphries, *Executive Director*

Rebecca Boccia-Fern, *Forensic Interviewer/ Victim Family Advocate*

Faith Boehmer, *Prevention/Volunteer Coordinator*

LaTisha Culbreth-Robinson, *Program Assistant*

Jada Hazley, *Victim Family Advocate/Case Data Manager*

Oretha Harris, *LPC, Psychotherapist (contracted)*

Darian Korbecki, *Forensic Interviewer/Victim Family Advocate*

Renee Pridgen, *Program Assistant*

Monica Ramos-Clyne, *Forensic Interviewer/Victim Family Advocate*

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**SUBARU**  
*Share the Love Event*  
 November 18th  
 - January 3th, 2022

**ULTIMATE LIP SYNC**  
*Showdown Fundraiser*  
 April 9, 2022

**GIVING TUESDAY**  
 November 30, 2021

**SPEAKER SERIES**  
*Exploring the Impact of Human Trafficking*

January 20, 2022, at 6:30 pm-  
**What you need to know about Human Trafficking in NC**

January 31, 2022, at 6:30 pm -  
**Demand Reduction**

**Community Cafes**  
 January 13, 2021,  
 January 25, 2021,  
 Both will be held  
 from 6-8 pm

Event information is updated regularly on the CAC website: [CACFayNC.org](http://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 28 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 21, 959 cases of suspected child abuse were received by the Child Advocacy Center, a 9.5% increase from the previous year; 59% were female, and 35% were less than 7 years old. 514 forensic interviews were conducted, 568 families received victim advocacy services, 2000 backpacks filled with body safety books, parenting tips and CAC information were distributed to child development centers throughout Cumberland County and Fort Bragg. 687 individual counseling appointments were provided to 131 child abuse victims and 15 girls, and 14 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!

So why should you support the Child Advocacy Center:

- Because every child deserves to feel safe
- Because I want them to know it's not their fault and they are going to be ok
- Because I care about children
- Because every child deserves a happy childhood
- Because it's not too late to heal
- Because a new life and happiness can start today
- Because...

*(insert your reason)*

**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
- 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](http://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:**

*Thank you. So much for everything. I learned a lot from group. My anger got better and I'm not as angry as often. It makes me feel good knowing that people are there supporting us and helping out.*

*I learned a lot – mostly how to control myself and how to love myself. It was amazing here, everyone has been nice*

*The staff was so nice and welcoming. The lady gave me a lot of good advice and resource information that I will be able to use.*

*Everyone was very informative, helpful, and welcoming. Thanks for all you do for the children and their parents.*

*They were able to break down the walls that were suffocating my child. Once she opened up, she has been so much better.*

*So happy the CAC exists. Great staff, very child friendly.*

*I'm so glad this Center exists. Not only did it help us, but it can also help so many others.*

*Thank you for your kindness and being there for the children and their family. It's a scary position to be in but the staff put us at ease.*



# January is Human Trafficking Awareness Month

By: Faith, Boehmer, CAC Prevention & Volunteer Coordinator

This coming January we will spend the month focusing on the issue of human trafficking. According to The Imprint, Youth and Family News, victims of sex trafficking reported the following:

- 63 percent reported involvement with the child welfare system and a staggering
- 95 percent reported a history of child abuse and/or neglect
- The largest number (49 percent) had been sexually abused as children
- 33 percent experiencing physical abuse
- More than half reported that the maltreatment began when they were 5 years of age or younger
- All but a few described the onset of maltreatment as age 10 or younger

These statistics are alarming. As a community we need to learn more about the issue and what we as individuals and community at large can do to protect our children from being trafficked.

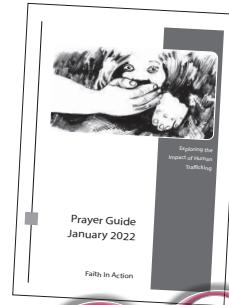
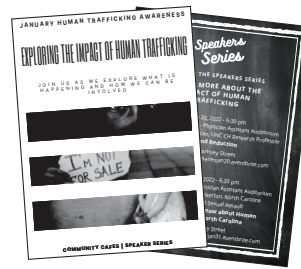
The Domestic Minor Sex Trafficking committee with the Child Advocacy Center will be hosting a series of events during January:

## Speaker Series

- **Exploring the Impact of Human Trafficking**
  - January 20, 2022, at 6:30 pm - *What you need to know about Human Trafficking in NC*
  - January 31, 2022, at 6:30 pm - *Demand Reduction*
  - These will be hosted at Methodist University, Physician Assistant Auditorium, 5400 Ramsey St.

## Community Cafes

- January 13, 2021, hosted at Snyder Memorial Baptist Church Chapel, 701 Westmont Drive
- January 25, 2021, hosted at Methodist University, Alumni Dining Hall, 5400 Ramsey Street
- Both will be held from 6-8 pm
- Lite dinner provided



A Prayer Guide will be provided to the Faith Community as a tool to allow parishioners throughout the various faith venues to bring more awareness to their congregants about the issue.

Visit our website to learn more and to register for the events at [www.CACFayNC.org](http://www.CACFayNC.org).

# Therapy Dog Brings Comfort to Child Abuse Victim

Some volunteers at the Child Advocacy Center have four legs, soft fur, and wagging tails.

Eight years ago, August 2010, the CAC launched a new program using therapy dogs to meet and greet children and their families when they come to the CAC for interviews related to child abuse. Being with a therapy dog can help calm a child and reduce the child's level of anxiety.

"It's almost like having a security blanket, but it is a wonderful dog the child can pet," says Jan Rogers, former Forensic Interviewer at the CAC. "Even just looking at the dog helps with overall stress reduction. The heart rate and breathing slows down. You can see the child's neck and shoulder muscles relax." Being greeted by a therapy dog is not only beneficial for the child, but also helpful for the entire family, according to CAC staff.

Several breeds are therapy dogs, but all must go through training and certification. The therapy dogs' handlers are volunteers who bring the dogs to the CAC.

"Jodi" JoHanna Horner and her dog, Bruno have been volunteering with the CAC since 2017. Bruno was trained locally at the Cape Fear Dog Training Facility and is certified through Therapy Dogs International. Bruno is also a Canine Good

Citizen. Jodi enjoys volunteering and helping in the community of Fayetteville. She is the owner of The Dog Lady, Pet Services founded in July 2011. She is also a Fitness Instructor and Free Lance Personal Trainer. Jodi says her "passions are helping children, animals & people who want to be fit." If you have a therapy dog that you think would be a good fit at the Child Advocacy Center, please contact Faith Boehmer at (910) 486-9700 ext. 234 or email [faith@cacfaync.org](mailto:faith@cacfaync.org) to schedule a volunteer interview.



Pictured Jodi Horner and Bruno

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# Community Child Abuse Prevention Luncheon

The Cumberland County Community Coalition for the Prevention of Child Sexual Abuse in conjunction with the Child Advocacy Center hosted the annual Community Child Abuse Prevention Luncheon "Take a Bite Out of Child Abuse" on Thursday November 4 to kick off the 19 Days of Child Abuse Prevention in November. The guest speaker was C. David Moody, Jr from Atlanta, GA. He is a survivor of childhood sexual abuse and has co-authored the book, "Fighting Through the Fear-My Journey of Healing from Childhood Sexual Abuse" with Charles W. Cheery II. He is the owner of C.D. Moody Construction Company, Inc. one of the Nation's largest black owned businesses. In addition to the speaking presentation, the winners of the 2021 youth art contest "You... Behind the Mask" sponsored by the Fayetteville-Cumberland County Arts Council and the Child Advocacy Center with prizes donated by Chick Fil A - West Fayetteville and the CAC were recognized.

3rd-5th Grade: 1st Place Luciana Zacipa Reyes, 2nd Place Addison Davidson, 3rd Place Milana Prokhnevsky

Middle School: 1st Place Avion Lamar Hill, 2nd Place Isabela Marie Seifert, 3rd Place Zoe Beere

High School: 1st Place Juan Cabanes



CAC Board Member Nadine Miller-Bernard and C. David Moody pictured with the CAC staff at the event.

Thank You!

The CAC is very grateful to our Corporate and Individual Benefactors who have agreed to be year-long sponsors for CAC events for the 2021-2022 Year. If you would like to become a Corporate Benefactor of the Child Advocacy Center, please visit [CACFayNC.org](http://CACFayNC.org) and click on How To Help at the Top of the Page and then the Sponsorship tab.

## CHAMPIONS FOR CHILDREN:



## HERO

- Array Publishing & Marketing LLC
- Brown & Associates Investment Services
- Timothy D. Edwards Family Law Attorney
- Joyce & Howard Loughlin
- Mike & Ann Morketter

## STARS

- Truist
- Cape Fear Eye Associates
- Fayetteville Area Plumbing Contractors Association
- Robin & Debbie Jenkins
- Lucy & Wes Jones
- Player McLean, LLP
- Systel Business Equipment

## A Special Thank You!

### SUBARU - Share the Love Event

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 18, 2021 - January 3, 2022, you can designate the Child Advocacy Center to receive a \$250 donation from Subaru of America. Cross Creek Subaru has donated over \$190,000 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 \$36,002 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.



Pictured L-R: CAC Board Member Beth Lee, CAC Executive Director Roberta Humphries, Cross Creek Subaru General Sales Manager John W. McHann



### The Return of the Fayetteville Ultimate Lip Sync Showdown Fundraiser

After not being able to hold this signature event to benefit the programs at the Child Advocacy Center for 2 years due to COVID we are so excited to announce that April 9, 2022 is the return of this amazing event at the Crown Complex Ballroom. Tim Edwards and Jenny deViere will co-chair the 2022 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](mailto:roberta@cacfaync.org) or visit our website [cacfaync.org](http://cacfaync.org) for more information about joining the committee, sponsoring the event or entering a group or individual in the competition.



Jessica Rivera and Jackie Davis, employees at Blue Ridge Power, accept the thank you plaque from the company's Champion for Children sponsorship



Dr. Leamor Buenaseda is presented a Champion for Children thank you plaque by CAC Board Member Honorable (Ret) A. Elizabeth Keever

## 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.

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](http://CACFayNC.org) and click on the Blog Posts link on the main page.

