

*Children's Advocacy Center of
East Central Missouri
A DIVISION OF COMTREA, INC.*



January 2009 Volume 1, Issue 1

In this Edition:

- CACECM to Open Satellite Office
- 3rd Annual Golf Tournament
- Upcoming Trainings
- 7th Annual Sweetheart Dinner/Dance
- Welcome New Board Members

CAC Staff

Connilee Boehne
Executive Director

Carrie Newenham
Family Advocate

Kathy Hartmann
Family Advocate

Deanna Ryan
Administrative Assistant

Sarah Nowak
Mental Health
Coordinator

Pam Roth
Forensic Interviewer

Kimberly Williams
Forensic Interviewer

Greetings!!! The CAC staff wishes you a great and exciting New Year in 2009!! In this edition of our newsletter, we'll show you what we've been working on and what is coming up in the next several months!

CACECM Receives Grant to Open Satellite Office

The CACECM is excited to announce that we have received a \$30,000 grant from National Children's Alliance to open a satellite office in St. Francois County. Currently, families and team members from St. Francois, Ste. Genevieve, Madison, and Iron counties have to travel to the Desoto office to receive a forensic interview and services. Some are travelling 50 miles or more and have to face the burden of long travel times and mileage. A site in St. Francois County will cut mileage and travel time almost in half for these counties and allow the CACECM to provide the same quality services at a more convenient location. At the new site, the CACECM will continue to provide education to families regarding the criminal and prosecutorial process, links to appropriate mental health services in the area, court advocacy and support service and conduct on-site multidisciplinary case reviews.

The one year grant will assist in providing funding for office space, furnishings and recording equipment for the office, as well utilities and maintenance. A Forensic Interviewer and Family Advocate from the Desoto site will travel to St. Francois County to conduct interviews and provide family support services. Staff will coordinate with the team members and families to designate interview days for the office.

The CACECM is currently working with Executive Board Members, team members, and community partners in the St. Francois County area to explore possibilities for an office space location. The goal is to have the new site open by March 2009. The CACECM will be searching for additional funding for this project through grants and donations. If you know anyone who would like to assist with the project through a tax deductible donation, please have them contact Connilee Boehne at 636-586-1806.

**CAC Executive
Board Members**

Robert Parks
President

John Rupp
Vice President

Bettie Haug
Secretary

Wendy Wexler-Horn

Russ Allen

Tracy Wiecking

Lt. Chuck Subke

Lt. Col. Steve
Meinberg

Det. Sgt. Tim Porter

Det. Matt Lindemeyer

JoAnn Bayless

Dr. Dave Stansfield

Cheryl O'Brien

Lisa Drew

3RD ANNUAL CAC GOLF TOURNAMENT

The 3rd Annual CAC Golf Tournament was held on August 15 at the Union Hills Golf Course in Pevely, Missouri. The tournament was a great success due in part to beautiful weather, enthusiastic volunteers and last but certainly not least, our



golfers who took time out of their busy schedules to spend a day on the golf course.

Over 100 golfers played the eighteen holes in a four-person scramble format. A hot dog lunch preceded the event and a dinner with awards followed. The day featured contests for the longest putt, longest drive, poker run and closest to the pin.

The funds raised through this event will directly contribute the support of the CAC, which will allow the Center to continue working towards its mission to provide a community based, collaborative effort to improve the response to allegations of serious child abuse and neglect.

We are grateful for how the tournament has developed and expanded over the past three years and want to thank everyone for their support and dedication.

We look forward to seeing everyone again next year for more fun in the sun!

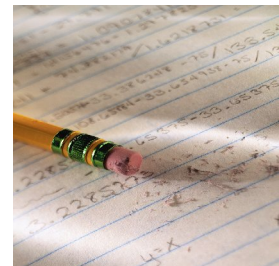
UPCOMING TRAININGS

On January 16, 2009 at East Central College Training Center in Union, Missouri, the Children's Advocacy Center of East Central Missouri, A Division of COMTREA, Inc. presents Toni Cavanagh Johnson, Ph.D.

Toni Cavanagh Johnson is a licensed clinical psychologist. She has been working in the field of child abuse for 27 years as a researcher, trainer and clinician. For the past 22 years, Dr. Johnson has provided highly specialized treatment for children 12 and younger with sexual behavior problems. She has written five books, two booklets, two therapeutic games, published numerous articles in journals, as well as book chapters on child sexual abuse and children with sexual behavior problems.

If you are a psychologist, therapist, social worker, counselor, educator or juvenile office, please contact Sarah Nowak, Mental Health Coordinator at 573-468-2271 or snowak@comtrea.org for more information or visit our website at www.cacecm.com.

CEU's are pending.



7TH ANNUAL CAC SWEETHEART DINNER/DANCE



While everyone is trying to stick to their New Year's resolution, we are preparing to host the 7th Annual CAC Sweetheart Dinner and Dance on February 28, 2009 at the KC Hall in Washington with Special Guest Emcee, Dave Glover. The evening will begin with cocktails at 6:00, dinner at 7:00 and music by the Steve Leslie Band from 8:00-11:30. Other events throughout the night will include raffles, a silent auction as well as a live auction.

This year we have formed a committee to help the Center make this year's benefit bigger and better than last year and to help us reach our goal of \$25,000. Those hardworking individuals are Det. Steve Sitzes, Washington PD; Det. Ken Hotsenpiller, Franklin County Sheriff's Office; Alyce Carpenter & Emily Goyea, Franklin County Children's Division; Bev Gillam, Franklin County NARC Unit; Kelley Guertzgen, COMTREA; and Kim Williams, Sarah Nowak, Connilee Boehne, & Kathy Hartmann with the CAC.

For more information about being a sponsor or to reserve tickets, please call us at (573)468-2271, email us at khartmann@comtrea.org or visit our website at www.cacecm.org.

WELCOME NEW BOARD MEMBERS

Lisa Drew is the Circuit Manager for Jefferson County Children's Division. She has been employed with the agency for 10 years. She has her Bachelor's of Science in Sociology. Ms. Drew is a wife and the mother of the two best set of twins in the world. She likes to travel and enjoys scrapbooking in her "spare" time.



Matt Lindemeyer is a Detective Sergeant with the Gasconade County Sheriff's Office. He has been employed with the Sheriff's Office for 8 years. Some of his certifications/licensures include Hostage Negotiator, C.V.S.A. (Computer Voice Stress Analyzer) Examiner, Bloodstain Pattern Analyst, and Emergency Medical Technician (E.M.T).

Det. Lindemeyer is the Commander of the Gasconade County Search and Recovery Dive Team, Hunter Education Instructor for the Missouri Department of Conservation, a member of the Gerald Area Ambulance District Board of Directors, a member of the International Association of Bloodstain Pattern Analysts and a member of the Mid-Missouri Major Case Squad.

Matt enjoys spending time with his beautiful wife, Jennifer, and children, Kendall & Hudson. His other hobbies include camping, fishing, playing guitar/vocalist in the local rock cover band "Borderline" and being a part-time real estate agent for Coldwell Banker Quality.

New CAC Board Members Cont'd.



Steve Meinberg is a Lt. Colonel at the Jefferson County Sheriff's Office. He has been the Undersheriff for 16 years. He has been in law enforcement for 28 years and prior to joining the JCSO, he was Chief of Police at Nixa PD for 3 ½ years, and with Crystal City PD for 9 ½ years where he worked up the ranks to become Assistant Chief of Police. He served 4 years in the US Air Force, is an FBI National Academy graduate, was a Major Case Squad Deputy Commander and is a life member and past President of Missouri Police Juvenile Officers Association. He has Associate Degrees in Business Management and Law Enforcement and Bachelor Degrees in both Behavioral Science and Criminal Justice.

Lt. Col. Meinberg is a member and past President of the Arnold Rotary, a member of the Windsor School Board and is involved with numerous other boards and service/law enforcement organizations.

Steve was born and raised in St. Louis. He has been married to his wonderful wife Sue for 25 years and they have two children, a boy & a girl both 11, whom they adopted from Slovakia. They currently reside in Imperial and attend Victory Church in Pevely.

Tim Porter is a Detective Sergeant with the Farmington Police Department and has been in Law Enforcement for 12 years. He is also an Adjunct Instructor at the University of Phoenix (St. Louis Campus) Criminal Justice Department. Prior to becoming a detective, he was a patrol officer and did income maintenance for the Division of Family Services. He received his BS from Southeast Missouri State University in 1991 and his MPPA from University of Missouri St. Louis in 2005.

Det. Porter has been married to Donna for 15 years and they have three great children, Jacob, 19; Rachel, 14; and Alison, 10. His interests include riding his ATV, coaching his kids, watching them play sports and broadcasting high school sports for the local radio station.

Lt. Charles Subke is married to Denise and they have three boys 8, 13 and 17 years old and in his spare time, he likes to fish. He has been with Franklin County Sheriff's Office for 11 years. Chuck has been the Lieutenant of the Bureau for the last two years, and a Detective for 7 years. Prior to Law Enforcement, he worked for The Dakota Boys Ranch in Dutzow, MO which was a residential treatment center for boys 8 to 18 who were physical or sexually abused. Lt. Subke also served in the United States Marine Corps. He is a member of the American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars, Missouri Deputies Sheriff's Association, and Missouri Division of International Association of Identification.

What is the Children's Advocacy Center (CAC)?

A non-for profit agency whose mission is to provide a community based collaborative effort to improve the system's response to allegations of child abuse and neglect by following the child first doctrine.

The Center utilizes a child-friendly facility and highly trained staff who coordinate with the members of multidisciplinary teams that are responsible for investigating allegations of child abuse/neglect.

Services provided by the CAC:

- ✿ Child Appropriate/Child Friendly Facility
- ✿ Training and coordination of multidisciplinary team (MDT) members, which includes: CAC staff, law enforcement, social workers, juvenile officers, medical personnel, prosecutors, and therapists.
- ✿ Forensic (fact finding) Interviews of children who allege child abuse and/or neglect, in a child friendly, neutral setting conducted by highly trained interviewers. These interviews are digitally recorded and observed by team members to minimize the possibility of redundant interviewing.
- ✿ Advocacy for children and the non-offending caregivers throughout the investigative and court process.
- ✿ Referrals and training for mental health providers to allow for quality assurance and coordination between professionals and families.

What is the CAC Cont'd

- ✿ Medical examinations conducted on site at our location in DeSoto and local referrals for the Sullivan office.
- ✿ Case Review / Case Tracking for MDT routine discussion and information sharing regarding the investigation, case status and services needed by the child and family
- ✿ Community awareness and education regarding child abuse issues.

What are the benefits to utilizing the CAC?

- ✿ Restructure the interview process to meet the needs of the child who is an alleged victim of child abuse/neglect
- ✿ Fewer interviews lead to less trauma to the child
- ✿ Help determine *whether or not* alleged abuse occurred
- ✿ Facilitate collaboration between agencies involved in child abuse investigations
- ✿ Identify needed services for children and families
- ✿ Provide coordination and collaboration of medical and mental health treatment services
- ✿ Identify gaps in services and the investigation process
- ✿ Provide specialized training for staff and multidisciplinary teams
- ✿ Provide quality assurance through case review with all agencies involved

The Center serves an eleven county region of Missouri to include: Crawford, Franklin, Gasconade, Iron, Jefferson, Madison, Osage, Phelps, St. Francois, Ste. Genevieve, and Washington Counties.

Parents if you don't know about the need to protect your kids online, read these statistics:

- 95% of parents didn't recognize the lingo kids use to let people know that their parents are watching
- 89% of sexual solicitations are made in either [chat rooms](#) or Instant Messages
- 20% of children age 10-17 have been solicited sexually online; that's 1 out of every 5 kids
- 75% of youth who received an online sexual solicitation did not tell a parent
- One third of kids have been contacted by a stranger and half of these were considered inappropriate
- 81% of parents of online youth say that kids aren't careful enough when giving out information about themselves online
- 76% of parents don't have rules about what their kids can do on the [computer](#)
- 65% of parents believe that kids do things online that they wouldn't want their parents to know about
- 4,000,000 children are posting content to the Web everyday
- 15,000,000 youth use [Instant Messaging](#)
- 9 out of 10 parents will never know that any inappropriate contact has occurred
- 14% have actually met face to face with a person they have met on the Internet
- 1 out of 17 kids have been harassed, threatened, or bullied
- Nearly three-quarters (73%) of online teens believe that someone their age is most likely to be approached by someone unknown to them online as opposed to offline
- When asked how they responded the last time they were contacted online by a complete stranger, just 3% of online teens said they told an adult or authority figure
- Most kids will not report inappropriate Internet contact to their parents because they are afraid of losing Internet privileges
- 61% of 13-17 yr olds have a personal profile on social networking sites
- 44% of online teens with profiles like Facebook and Myspace have been contacted by a stranger, compared with 16 percent of those without profiles.
- 71% have reported receiving messages from someone they do not know
- 45% have been asked for personal info from people they do not know
- 48% of 16-17 yr olds report that their parents know "very little" or "nothing" about their online activities
- MySpace deletes 25,000 profiles weekly of users who don't meet the site's 14-year-old minimum age requirement

Protecting your kids online cont'd

Fortunately research shows that adults are catching up with kids in the use of text messaging. In 2006-2008, texting by adults ages 45 to 54 increased 130 percent. Half of texting adults say they started sending messages so they could communicate with their children. Bravo, NetLingo is here to help!

Web sites used when researching these statistics:

- <http://www.netlingo.com/statistics.cfm>
- <http://www.pewinternet.org/pipcomments.asp?m=9&y=2007>
- <http://www.washingtonpost.com>
- <http://www.protectkids.org/statistics.htm>
- http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ovc/publications/bulletins/internet_2_2001/internet_2_01_6.html
- <http://www.sentrypc.com/statistics.htm>
- <http://www.enough.org/inside.php?tag=statistics>
- <http://www.netsmartz.org/safety/statistics.htm>
- http://www.mykidsafeinternet.com/pornography_stats.php
- <http://www.safefamilies.org/sfStats.php>
- <http://www.cyberpatrol.com/default.aspx?id=79&mnuid=7.5>
- <http://safetspace.com>
- <http://climbtothestars.org>

Reproduced by Permission © 1994-2008; NetLingo™ The Internet Dictionary at <http://www.netlingo.com>.

LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

It has been almost a year since I became the Executive Director for the CACECM. You know how they say “time flies...?” Well I must be having a lot of fun because that has truly been the case here. I am excited as I look over the past year about the changes and achievements we have experienced here at the Center. Just to name a few...We had two of our most successful fundraisers this year with the help of CAC staff, Comtrea staff, our team members, and the community. The CACECM Sweetheart Dinner/Dance raised over \$13,000 and the CACECM Golf Tournament raised over \$10,000 which was more than double what was raised last year! We added five new members to the Executive Board which we are very excited about. We continue to expand our Mental Health Network to include more therapists and are providing another exceptional training for therapists in the area. Most recently, we received a grant to open a satellite office in St. Francois County so we may be able to provide more accessible services to our southern counties.



However, with all of these exciting changes and achievements I also think of the day to day operations of the Center which can sometimes be overlooked. As a director, I am so blessed to work with phenomenal staff and team members. They work very hard to provide quality services to children and families and often go above and beyond to make a very traumatic situation as comfortable as possible. This was once again evident the other day when one of the forensic interviewers showed me a drawing a child had made that said “Thank you for all your help” and then listed the names of ALL of the team members! This is yet another example of the difference we all make, working together, to help these children.

So in the words of that child...Thank you for all of your help! Thank you for your hard work, your dedication, your support, and for allowing us the privilege of serving you. Together, we can make a difference!

On Behalf of the Kids-Thank You!

Connilee



Wish List

**Donations may be sent to either location

Magazine Subscriptions

Healthy Snacks for Children

2 Digital Cameras

Printer Paper

DVD-R

DVD/CD Envelopes

Children's Advocacy Center of East Central Missouri

Our Locations:

127 W Pratt
DeSoto, MO 63020
Phone
(636) 586-1806
Fax
(636) 586-9285

20 Hughes Ford Rd, Ste. 5
Sullivan, MO 63080
Phone
(573)468-2271
Fax
(573)468-2453



CHILDREN'S
ADVOCACY CENTER
OF EAST CENTRAL MISSOURI
A DIVISION OF COMTREA



We're on the Web!

See us at:

www.cacecm.org

If you would like to unsubscribe to this newsletter, please email me at khartmann@comtrea.org.