Our Vision
is a community where children are safe, families are strong, and our child victims become children again.
When Hope Prevails
A Message from the President of the Board

1 in 4 girls and 1 in 6 boys will be sexually abused before they are 18 years old.
Source: U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

2008-2009
Board of Directors

Carrie-Ann Barrow, Community Member, President
Ann Cowden, Community Member
Sarah Castillo, Adams County District Attorney’s Office
Scott Denisch, PA State Police
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Courtney Wege, Gettysburg College
Hope In Our Community

The Year In Review

2008-2009 was an active and transforming year for the Adams County Children’s Advocacy Center. We expanded our programming, made many important connections within the community, and advanced awareness of child abuse and neglect occurring in Adams County.

PA Attorney General Visits
Kicking off our fiscal year, Pennsylvania Attorney General Tom Corbett visited our center in September to mark our second anniversary of serving the community. His appearance brought statewide attention to the critical work of children’s advocacy centers in helping victims of child abuse and emphasized the need for sustained support.

3rd Annual Snowflake Gala
Our annual dinner and auction event welcomed hundreds of guests to the Gettysburg Hotel. In addition to raising $37,000 for programs, the evening was a time to honor volunteers and service professionals whose work in the last year has advanced our mission helping child victims of abuse.

Two young people received The Voice of Courage award. C.J. Haupt was honored for his Fairfield HS senior project in which he coordinated a motorcycle ride fundraiser event that was so successful it is now an annual event. Stephanie Beamer, a Gettysburg HS student, also received the award. During her sophomore year she sent a special Christmas letter to her friends and family asking them to financially support the center.

Adams County prosecutor Bernie Yanetti from the district attorney’s office received The Making A Difference Award. In addition to prosecuting all juvenile offender cases for the county, Bernie provides pro bono legal counsel to the ACCAC and tirelessly helps with outreach, awareness and fundraising.

Pinwheels for Prevention
Every April, staff and volunteers commemorate National Child Abuse Prevention Month by raising awareness of child abuse issues. The pinwheel garden on the front lawn of the center represents the number of child abuse cases from the previous year. In 2008, there were 210 reported cases of child abuse in Adams County.

T-shirt Campaign
Employees from seven local businesses donned “super-cute” ACCAC T-shirts on April 24 to build awareness about the importance of reporting child abuse and of learning how to prevent abuse. (T-shirts can be purchased at the center.)

Community Seminars
Parents and community members attended a day of informational seminars to learn how to keep children safe. Topics ranged from cyber bullying and internet predators to learning healthy boundaries and recognizing trauma. This program was co-sponsored with the Exchange Club and the Healthy Adams County Child Abuse Task Force. The month’s activities were rounded out with a radio, TV and print media campaign that included educational information and public appearances with collaborating organizations.

Bikers Raise Awareness
Jessie’s Ride
Parent and child advocate Mark Lunsford returned to Gettysburg in May for the 2nd annual Pennsylvania Jessie’s Ride, which raised $5,000 for the center. Bike Week came in with a roar as we continued our local partnership with Bikers Against Child Abuse.

Hope is a belief in a positive outcome related to events and circumstances in one’s life.
**Hope Is Everything**

**A message from the Executive Director**

Seeing hope in a child’s face is not something we take for granted at the center. Children come to us overflowing with feelings of shame, distrust, guilt, anger and a host of other emotions. Emotions that are hard even for adults to describe, much less understand and manage. From the moment a child enters our doors, he or she knows that the CAC is a place for children, that it is safe, and that there is hope.

Moment by moment, bit by bit, the caring professionals at the center bring back hope to a child. The first person a child meets is a clinical coordinator. She helps a family navigate a complicated process from beginning to end. The forensic interviewer, who is specially trained to ask children neutral, fact-finding questions, interviews the child just once. A physician specializing in child abuse performs a comprehensive, noninvasive medical exam to assure the child that he or she is still physically healthy. Finally, the child meets our on-site mental health therapist. Therapists are trained to provide different types of age-appropriate therapy for children who have experienced trauma. This relationship may continue for several months to help the child manage symptoms associated with child abuse.

Outside of the center, the ACCAC has become a regional resource for hope and healing. We provide free child abuse prevention training for adults in the community throughout the year. This training helps parents, teachers, and youth leaders feel confident in protecting the children in their care. Beyond that, we offer regular professional development training to local and area providers and multidisciplinary team members who also treat child victims of abuse.

Support, guidance and treatment are necessary to recover from abuse and are key ingredients in effectively breaking the cycle of child abuse. With the expertise and wisdom of a coordinated multidisciplinary team, the center has made a difference in the lives and futures of hundreds of Adams County children. Together, we give hope to a child who has lost everything. And with hope, a child can become a child again.

*Joddie Walker, MS*
The Path to Hope

Mental Health Services

In two years the ACCAC mental health program has developed beyond initial expectations. Several new programs now address the needs of family members and multidisciplinary team (MDT) providers who may also feel effects of child abuse. In addition, the center has become a leader in the region by providing specialized continuing education opportunities for mental health providers in the area.

Rebuilding Families

By expanding our definition of “client” to include nonoffending siblings and caregivers, the center now offers care to those who suffer from secondary effects of child abuse. Both individual and group programs are available. When nonoffending family members understand child abuse, they can support the child’s healing process, create new, healthy family roles, and break the cycle of abuse.

Protecting the Front Line

Service providers who bear witness to other’s pain, such as forensic interviewers and mental health therapists, can sometimes experience lingering side effects of that pain. This is known as vicarious trauma. To prevent this common source of stress and burnout from affecting staff and MDT members, the CAC developed and implemented a program that enables providers to find relief from associated trauma. The program includes awareness of symptoms of vicarious trauma, learning about self-care strategies such as massage, yoga, and chiropractic services, and monthly meetings with a therapist.

Child-friendly Trauma Assessments

In order to provide a standard framework for mental health services, former on-site therapist Stacy Sechrist, MSW, LSW, CTC, developed a comprehensive six-to-eight week assessment. This assessment uses child-friendly intervention treatments that provide the MDT with the most comprehensive picture possible of the impact of abuse on the child. This commitment to helping a child without adding to their trauma is a key part of the CAC mission.

Strengthening Community Response

This past year the ACCAC made a conscious decision to examine the trauma-based mental health needs and resources of the community. Research has shown that time, distance and cost are all factors that influence a caregiver’s decision to access treatment for a child. When surveys and consulting confirmed suspicions that Adams County did not have enough trauma-focused mental health providers to avoid these barriers in accessing long-term mental health care for children, the CAC took action. The executive director and on-site therapists developed training programs and invited outside mental health providers to participate in MDT opportunities.

Financial Information  July 1, 2008 - June 30, 2009

Program & Operating Expenses

- Personnel 56%
- Contract Services 19%
- Equipment & Fixed Assets <1%
- Operating Costs 14%
- Special Events 4%
- Treatment/Supportive Supplies 6%

Funding Sources

- Grants 75%
- Contributions 9%
- Special Events 13%
- Fee for Service 2%
- Interest & Misc. Income 1%

Of Pennsylvania’s 67 counties, only 20 have CACs. Adams County is the smallest county in Pennsylvania to have a CAC.
Giving the Gift of Hope: Donors & Volunteers

The PNC Financial Services Group
Roof Right, Inc.
William and Carolyn Scott
Brian and Pheap Mao Seltzer
James and Marian Sutton
United Way of Adams County
Jennifer and Shawn Wagner

Supporters $250 - $499
Cordori Memorials
Conewago Enterprises, Inc.
Beth A. Coutts
Darryl and Darcy Ed
Robert Farrell
Gettysburg Health & Fitness
GFVW Apple Valley Women’s Club
Kathleen Kick
Laura Lippy
Kathy Nelson
Cleveland Null
Katherine and Michael Powley
The Ragged Edge Coffee House
Andrea Singley
Upper Adams Jaycees
Jamie Weaver
Cynthia and Richard Winkelmann
Eric and Asha Withers

Friends Gifts to $249
Ability Prosthetics and Orthotics
Judy Alder
Tammy Barbour
Adam Barrow
Jessi Barrow
Battlefield Motorcycles, Inc.
Judy Beamer
Beauty Works

Belco Community Credit Union
Dr. Ira Berman
Thomas and Paulette Brabender
Jane Brewer
Bruce and Lori Bridel
Melanie Brodhead
Darlene Brown
Drew Bucher
Carol Buellen
C.J. Hair, Inc.
Ericka Campbell
Thomas and Tamara Campbell
Jason and Sarah Castillo
Stan and Candice Clark
Michael and Lisa Conklin
Terry and Vickie Corbett
Angela Costas
CRS Insurance, Inc.
Ronald and Lee De Munbrun
The Dobbins House
Gloria and Charles Dodd
Frank Donnelly
Janelle and Jason Driver
Shelly Duckworth
Philip and Kimberly Duffy
Nicholas and Christine Duryea
Peter Eisert
James and Barbara Entwistle
Jamison Entwistle
Ralph and Barbara Eriksen
Ernie’s Texas Lunch
Rita Frealing
Kathy and Jamie Gaskin
Devon Gebhart
Debra Gelles
Georgia’s Mane Attraction
Gettysburg Chapter Women of the Moose
Gettysburg Chiropractic
Gettysburg Construction Company
Gettysburg Endodontics, PC
Gettysburg Travel Council, Inc.
Karen S. Gondan
Christine Goodacre
Katherine P. Gottlieb
Katie Gramlich
GT Maryland, Inc.
Randy Hankey
Richard and Shannon Harvey
Arthur and Diana Henne
Home Association of McSherrystown
Melody L. Jansen
Angela Johnston
Cindy Keeney
Troy Kessel
Stephanie Klosterman
David Laughman
Jane LeVan
Kevin and Ilona Little

Circle of Hope $10,000+
PA Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED)
PA HealthChoices Reinvestment Fund

Champions $5,000 - $9,999
ABA of PA
The Fraternal Order of Eagles #1562, Gettysburg
David and Jennifer LeVan

Angels $1,000 - $4,999
American Legion Club of Gettysburg
Carrie Ann and Clay Barrow
Carl E. Frantz, Inc. Plumbing & Heating
Exchange Club of Gettysburg
Gettysburg Bike Week, Inc.
Scott and Becky Hawk
Tracy and James Hawkins
Anne Marie Logue
Kirk and Lisa Martin
Mary Alice Murphy Poulsen
The Robert C. Hoffman Charitable Endowment Trust
Rotary Club of Gettysburg
E. Greg and Joddie Walker
WellSpan Health Public Relations

Guardians $500 - $999
Beauchat & Beauchat, LLC
BP Fabric of America Fund
Chambersburg Waste Paper Co.
Kirk and Ann Cowden
Gettysburg Pediatrics
Gene and Debbie Golden
Sherri and P.K. Hoover
Paul and Elizabeth Kellett
Matt and Gina LeVan
Loyal Order of Moose — McSherrystown Lodge No. 720
Linda Neiswender, MD
The Pike Restaurant & Lounge

A FAMILY KEPT SAFE

Three children ages 16, 13 and 10 came to the ACCAC. After the initial interview the mother revealed that the entire family had suffered physical and emotional abuse at the hands of the father. Working with Adams County Victim Witness, Children & Youth Services, and the police, the CAC coordinated services and supported investigations. This family remains safe because of a collaborative effort.
ACCAC Volunteer Honored

Long standing ACCAC volunteer Sara Walter received the Exchange Club’s prestigious Book of Golden Deeds award in spring 2009. She has supported the CAC in a voluntary capacity since 2006. Her commitment to the center, from aiding in the start-up of a new nonprofit to cleaning and gardening, has never waivered. Her commitment to ending child abuse is steadfast.

In 2007, Sara accepted the role of Volunteer Coordinator for the CAC. In this capacity she interacts with MDT professionals and community members. She recruits, screens and organizes dozens of volunteers for special events, facility maintenance and other projects.

Last year Sara coordinated more than 800 volunteer hours for the center. With her lively spirit and positive demeanor she leads by example. Thank you, Sara, and congratulations!

Thank you

It is with deep-felt appreciation and gratitude that we accept gifts in support of the Adams County Children’s Advocacy Center. We are honored to be a part of your charitable giving.

Thank you to the many individuals, families, businesses, trusts and foundations who make our work possible. Your financial support brings hope and healing to a child living in Adams County. ♥

Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of this report. If you find a discrepancy, please accept our apology and let the office know so it can be corrected. Thank you.

On average, the cost of a single child abuse investigation case coordinated by a CAC is $1047 less than that of a non-CAC investigation.


THRIVING AFTER ABUSE

Taylor is 14-year-old girl who was abused by a repeat offender. Nine months after a forensic interview, medical exam and mental health services — all through the ACCAC — she felt confident enough to participate in a Miss Teen USA pageant. A supportive team of experts can change a child’s life.

Erma Weikert
WGTY
John and Tonya White
Jeffrey Wickard
Michael and Betsy Wilhelm
Fred and Julia Wilke
James and Suzanne Wiltgen
Kristine Witherow
The Woman’s Club of Gettysburg
Nicole Yingling

R. Perry and Darlene Lyons
Angie Miller
Robert and Ivris Macks
Mason Dixon Memorial Post VFW Littlestown
Kathy McConaghy
Shirley McDonal
Scott and Jennifer McNew
Sara Meisenhelter
Carey and Patricia Moore
Dorothy Moore
Dotty and Dennis Moul
Matthew and Donna Muller
A. Daniel and Linnett Murray
Michael and Selena Neiderer
New Oxford Area Chamber of Commerce
George Newton
Louis Nyiri II
Warren and Linda Orey
Joanne Ozenbaugh

Todd R. Platts
Holly Purdy
Anna Rebmann
Adarsh Reddy
Pressley Ridge
Kelly K. Riggle
Michael and Robin Roop
Stacy and David Sechrist
Shippensburg University
R.C. Shultz
Kermit and Sandra Singley
Sixeas Furniture Gallery
Sixeas Premier Marketing, Inc.
David Smith and Kathleen Carroll
Pete and Angela Sontheimer
Joyce W. Sprague
David A. Staneck, DDS, MAGD
Paul and Pricilla Staub
Nicole L. Stone
Sam and Laurie Stover
John Summers, Jr.
Taneytown Antique Shoppes
Angelique Tarbox
Tom Knox Used Cars
Carolyn and Robert Wagaman
Bonnie and Donald Walters

Erma Weikert
WGTY
John and Tonya White
Jeffrey Wickard
Michael and Betsy Wilhelm
Fred and Julia Wilke
James and Suzanne Wiltgen
Kristine Witherow
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Believe in Hope: Our Video

Explaining how an organization makes a difference and why it is needed in a community are perennial issues facing all nonprofits. Last year, those questions were answered in the form of a 15-minute video created and donated by CAPA Productions, an award-winning company based in Gettysburg and Los Angeles. This beautiful and poignant video answers questions about child abuse and how the ACCAC helps children, families and our community.

Not only did this project bring awareness to the work of the center, the fundraising campaign associated with it helped raise thousands of dollars in support of our programming. We are grateful to the many sponsors of this video.

Special thanks to our multidisciplinary team, the survivor and caregivers who shared their experiences, the parents who brought their children to the video shoot, and to the agencies who allowed us to film at their locations. A special thank you to Jenifer Wagner and Jennifer Branstetter for their oversight of this project.

GIFT OF HOPE VIDEO SPONSORS
Champions of Children — $10,000+
The Barrow Family
David and Jenifer LeVan
Linda Neiswender, MD, Let’s Look, Inc.
The Jenifer and Shawn Wagner Family

Heart of Gold — $5,000 – $9,999
ABATE of PA, Mason Dixon Chapter
Fraternal Order of Eagles #1562, Gettysburg

Giver of Hope — $1,000 – $4,999
Gettysburg Bike Week
Helicopter Applicators, Inc.
The Historic Gettysburg Hotel
Anne Marie Logue
Mary Alice and Lauren Poulsen

Stewards of Children — $500 – $999
Community Benefits Real Estate
Carl and Suzie Frantz
Gettysburg Exchange Club
Loyal Order of Moose — McSherrystown Lodge No. 720
Suzanne Peck
The Pike Restaurant & Lounge
PNC Bank
Roof Right, Inc.
The Underwood Family
United Way of Adams County

Our Mission

To meet the needs of children and families in our community by providing a community-based, child focused center that facilitates a compassionate, multi-disciplinary approach to the prevention, identification, investigation, prosecution, and treatment of child abuse.

Staff
Joddie Walker, MS
Executive Director

Kimberly Duffy, LSW
Forensic Interviewer

Shelly L. Duckworth, MS, CTS
Mental Health Therapist / Clinical Coordinator

Jamison Entwistle, MSW
Clinical Coordinator

Petula Yingling
Office Manager

Gift of Hope Campaign
Go to www.kidsagaincac.org and click on the Movie button on the right to watch our video.