



# CAP'S MISSION IS TO END CHILD ABUSE IN CHAUTAUQUA COUNTY.

When abuse occurs, CAP coordinates a community response to bring healing, hope and justice to these children and families.

# Why is the Child Advocacy Program

# Child Advocacy centers such as CAP are uniquely positioned to address the needs of children experiencing physical or sexual abuse.

CAP brings together dedicated professionals to form a Multidisciplinary Team (MDT). CAP provides a safe and child friendly environment where law enforcement, child protective services, prosecution, victim advocacy, medical and mental health professionals meet and develop coordinated strategies that are sensitive to each child.

CAP coordinates investigative and intervention services including advocacy, forensic interviews, medical examinations and trauma focused counseling in an environment that is welcoming to children and their families. This ensures that children are not re-victimized by the very systems that are designed to help and protect them.





Operating since 2008, CAP has offices in both Jamestown and Fredonia.

# so Important?



### Dear friends,

2017 has been a year of transition at CAP. The long-time **Executive Director**, **Jana McDermott**, resigned and moved out of the area. A Search Committee was formed to find someone to continue growing CAP's legacy. CAP would like to thank Jana for her years of service to the children of this community.

In 2017, CAP finished their "Room To Grow" renovation project at their Jamestown office. This enabled us to add a large conference room, two staff offices, a medical office, a counseling office, two waiting areas for children and their families and a co-location room where Multidisciplinary partners can work.

CAP also received an award from the New York State Office of Victim Services to fund a **Forensic Interviewer** position which will start in 2018. A forensic interview is a structured conversation with a child intended to elicit detailed information about a possible event(s) that the child may have experienced or witnessed. This is done in a non-threatening and non-judgmental manner at the Child Advocacy Program.

CAP continues their prevention efforts by training community members through the **Stewards of Children** and Less Is More trainings. CAP staff participated in several public education and awareness events for children and their families throughout the county.

As CAP reflects on this past year, they are grateful to all who helped advance their mission. CAP would like to extend a huge thank you to those who volunteered, donated, funded programs, became more educated about recognizing and responding to child abuse, attended one of the fundraisers (Diamond Dinner in April, and Walk/Run in September), or told someone else about CAP's services. CAP would like to thank the members of the Multidisciplinary and Steering teams for their expertise and time. CAP could not do what it does without the support of the community partners.

The Child Advocacy Program will continue to strive to meet the needs of the county's children and work tirelessly towards their vision of seeing healthy children and families in a safe and engaged community.



**Betsy Goldman** Board Presisdent



Jana McDermott Executive Director

When abuse occurs, the Child Advocacy Program coordinates a community response to bring healing, hope, and justice to children and their families."

#### This is not only the Child Advocacy Program's mission statement but was Jana McDermott's passion, vision and constant mantra.

Jana resigned as the Child Advocacy Program's executive director in July 2017 after ten years of service but her vision and mantra carry on through the efforts of the staff who proudly served under her leadership.

# Jana achieved numerous accomplishments during her tenure at CAP including:

- Successfully leading the initial development of the Child Advocacy Program,
- Transitioning the administration of CAP from the county to a stand-alone nonprofit organization led by a volunteer board of directors,
- Overseeing grant development and fundraising,

- Achieving accreditation by the National Children's Alliance as well as New York State Office of Children and Family Services,
- Spearheading the video recording of child abuse forensic interviews,
- Implementing on-site, evidence based mental health treatment for children,
- Expanding services and program offices three times in Jamestown and Fredonia,
- Introducing the Stewards of Children child abuse prevention program to Chautauqua County.

Carey Lee, Advocacy Coordinator for CAP, was appointed the interim executive director on August 14, 2017 and ably served this capacity until the committee search for a full-time executive director culminated in March 2018.



Jana is certainly missed, but we wish her all the best in her new endeavor and continued mission to protect children and bring hope and healing wherever she goes.

# **Highlights**



#### 7th Annual Diamond Dinner

It is a remarkable experience to witness the support that the Child Advocacy Program received at our 7th Annual Diamond Dinner Auction. There were 375 people attending the dinner, 109 items donated for auction, over 30 businesses sponsored the event and many people gave their time and talent to make it happen.

We never lose sight of what drives everyone's efforts: people dedicated to CAP's mission to end child abuse and protect children.

A unique part of the Diamond Dinner is the counselling auction. This opportunity allows people to purchase counselling sessions for children. This year, people generously donated 215 counselling sessions.

The Diamond Dinner is a fund-raiser, but it is so much more. The dinner gives CAP the opportunity to recognize the remarkable collaborative work of the Child Abuse Multidisciplinary Team in Chautauqua County. Their work is what drives the best response possible for children in our community and supports CAP's child friendly approach where every child always comes first.



2017 Step Up for Kids 5K Run/Walk -September 30, 2017

The Village of Cassadaga and the Cassadaga Beach always proves to be the perfect setting for Child Advocacy Program's "Step Up for Kids"5k Run/Walk. The CAP Board of Directors' Fundraising Committee organizes this annual child abuse awareness event dedicated to helping the community effectively respond to allegations of child abuse in a manner that puts the needs of children first. CAP is very grateful to the Village of Cassadaga for providing invaluable support for this event.

# **Prevention**

# Stewards of Children Child Abuse Prevention Training

The Child Advocacy Program has worked for nine years towards the prevention of child sexual abuse and the coordination of a community driven response of bringing healing, hope and justice to children and families. CAP works with other community agencies to empower people to prevent child sexual abuse. Anyone can be a part of the empowerment.

CAP provides Stewards of Children, a national sexual abuse prevention program to employees of agencies, community groups and business as well as to interested individuals.

Those attending a Stewards of Children training can become an agent of change by learning how to prevent, recognize and react responsibly to abuse, create policies and procedures that prevent abuse, and commit to a personal prevention plan.



# In 2017 there were **277** individuals trained with **2,218** trained to date

#### Less is More -

#### A Trauma Informed Response for Professionals Mandated to Report Suspicions of Child Abuse

How professionals react and respond to a suspected child abuse allegation will have a direct impact on the child's recovery from the traumatic act and on the integrity of the subsequent investigation. This training is designed to give school and child-care personnel, along with medical, mental health and other mandated reporters, the tools needed to optimally respond when a child discloses or indicates that he or she may be a victim of abuse. As a result, more children will receive the help they need, in a timely and sensitive manner. This training is recommended for all Mandated Reporters. Less is More is facilitated by Law Enforcement, CPS, District Attorney's Office and CAP staff and is free.

Contact Karen Yeversky, CAP Training Coordinator, at 716-338-9844 or yeverskyk@capjustice.org for more information or to register



# Problematic Sexual Behavior (PSB) Therapy

CAP has been providing PSB Therapy for school age children, and now is using the treatment model for adolescents.

- Serves youth, boys and girls, ages 7-17 and their families through group, individual and family therapy utilizing evidence-based models.
- Requires active involvement of parents or other caregivers.

This short-term, community-based outpatient program is conducted in weekly sessions over 6-12 months. Referrals to the program can come from schools, CPS, mental health providers, probation, court, families and other agencies. The therapy reduces risk for future harm and promotes safety within our community. There has been low recidivism (3%) found in 10-year follow-up studies of adolescent youth who have successfully completed the treatment program.

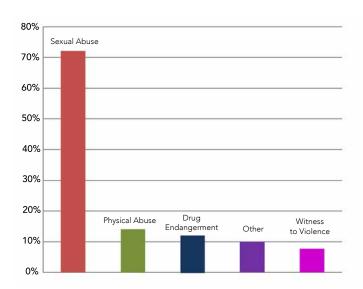
### **Human Trafficking**

Chautauqua County Safe Harbour is a program that implements a system-level approach to preventing, identifying and responding to human trafficking and the commercial sexual exploitation of children in Chautauqua County.

Through partnerships with local school districts, child welfare, probation, the Child Advocacy Program, and other youth-serving agencies in Chautauqua County, Safe Harbour works to identify victims of trafficking and at-risk youth through screenings and referrals for services. Safe Harbour provides elementary, middle and high school level prevention education, also. From May-December of 2017, 25 youth were flagged as being at risk for sexual exploitation.

## Children Served at CAP

# Types of abuse



### The MDT and CAP Staff provided:

119 Forensic Interviews
442 Advocacy Cases with 4,568 Services
113 Children with 921 Trauma Focused
Counselling Sessions
25 Children with Medical Evaluations
62% of the Children Served were
under the age of 12 years
38% were Male
62% were Female

### **Multidisciplinary Team**

**Brooks Memorial Hospital** 

**Catholic Charities** 

Chaut Co. Department of Mental Hygiene

Chaut. Co. Department of Health

and Human Services

Chaut. Co. District Attorney

Chaut. Co. Law Department

Chaut. Co. Office of Probation

Chaut. Co. Safe Harbour

Chaut. Co. Sheriff's Office

**Chautauqua Tapestry** 

**Court Appointed Special Advocates** 

**Dunkirk Police Department** 

Family Service of the Chautauqua Region

Fredonia Police Department

**Jamestown Pediatrics** 

Jamestown Police Department

Lakewood/Busti Police Department

Lane Women's Health Group

**New York State Police** 

Seneca Nation

**Southern Tier Pediatrics** 

The Resource Center

The Salvation Army ANEW Center

**Town of Carroll Police Department** 

Town of Ellicott Police Department

UPMC

**Westfield Family Physicians** 

Westfield Family Police Department

#### **New Staff**



Tori Jordan came on staff as a Family Advocate in May of 2017. Tori is a recent graduate of The State University of New York at Fredonia with a Bachelor's degree in Social Work. Tori enjoys working with the children and families at CAP, and enjoys facilitating the Stewards of Children Training to educate adults on Child Sexual Abuse and how to react and respond appropriately to disclosures. Outside of work, Tori enjoys spending time with family and friends, and loves to read and play with her daughter. Tori resides in Falconer NY with her husband, Travis, and daughter, Laci.



Sean Lennon is a New York State Licensed Mental Health Counselor (LMHC) with dual Master's Degrees: MA Clinical Psychology and MA Forensic Psychology. Sean serves as the Clinical Mental Health Coordinator for the CAP mental health counseling program. In addition, he provides treatment for children who have been victims of abuse or neglect using Trauma-Focused Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (TF-CBT), and for children who exhibit problematic sexual behavior (PSB), using PSB-CBT. Sean has 20 years of experience working with children, adolescents, adults, and families in community-based, outpatient, residential, and private-practice settings.

# 2017 Financials

#### Statement of Financial Position, December 31, 2017

Assets:	\$440,116
Liabilities & Refundable Advances:	\$96,119
Net Assets:	\$343,997

#### Statement of Change in Net Assets 2017

Revenue:	\$756,696
Expenses:	\$649,895
Change in Net Assets:	\$106,801
Net Assets as of 12/31/16:	\$237,196
Net Assets as of 12/31/17:	\$343,997

#### **Volunteers**

Jamestown Volunteers: Kathy Ballard Mike Danielson Lois Kibler Pam Sali

Fredonia Volunteers: Laurel Brown Wendy Black

### **Board of Directors**

Betsy Goldman - President Karen Dolce - Vice President John Felton - Treasurer Mary Maisto - Secretary Regina Brackman Scott Franzen Angelica Peck LeeAnn Lazarony Lewis Meckley Edwin Rodriquez, Jr Tim Smeal

# THANK YOU

to our financial donors

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FCU

Southern Tier Pediatrics

The Legend Group

Truck-Lite Co., LLC

Zonta Club of Jamestown



### **Staff**

Jana McDermott, Executive Director/ Resigned (7/14/17)
Jillian Bloomquist, Program Assistant

Sheryl Waterman, Program Manager

Tori Jordan, Advocate

Tammy Simmons, Counselor

Kelly Ziegler, Advocate

Sean Lennon, Mental Health Clinical Coordinator

Karen Yeversky, Advocate

Jennifer Champ, Grant and Development Manager

Carey Lee, Advocacy Coordinator/Interim Executive Director (8/14/2017)

Ellen Barnes, Forensic Interviewer (not pictured)



# **Looking Ahead**

# Although much has been accomplished, there is always more to be done

The Child Advocacy Program continues to grow and expand. A Clinical Mental Health Coordinator and a Full Time Family Advocate joined the CAP Team in 2017. The additional staff enabled CAP to increase direct services to the children of Chautauqua County as well as expand prevention programming.

Thank you to all of the volunteers, donors, and friends who support CAP's mission. Community support makes a difference in the lives of each child we serve and is essential to ending child abuse in Chautauqua County.



**Community Partner** 

CAP is a United Way agency

### How can YOU get involved?

- Call 338-9844 or 672-2031 to tour one of the CAP offices
- Become a volunteer, committee or Board member
- Take one of our trainings
- Be part of our Fundraising efforts-Diamond Dinner and the Run/Walk
- Donate healthy snacks and drinks for the children
- Be informed about how you can recognize signs of abuse
- Follow CAP's Facebook page and tell others about the work CAP does



www.capjustice.org