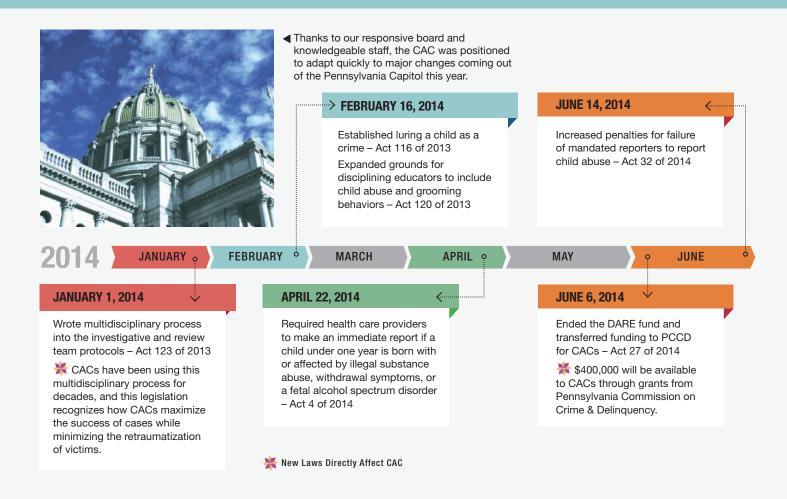


# "It is not the strongest of the species that survive, nor the most intelligent, but the one most responsive to change."

- Charles Darwin (1809-1882)

# A Timeline of Changes to Pennsylvania's Child Protective Services Law



# A MESSAGE from the PRESIDENT



👚 n 2014-15, we saw a sea change in laws related to child abuse in Pennsylvania. Although we are still waiting to see how they will affect our work in the long-term, there is no doubt that the new L legislation is a leap forward for children.

Child advocates have had a longstanding concern that Pennsylvania's rates and substantiation of child abuse reports were far lower than other states.

After the shocking arrest and conviction of Jerry Sandusky in 2011, Pennsylvania legislators accelerated their work to improve our Child Protective Services Law (CPSL). In 2012, there were three new laws that affected our field. 2013 saw ten new laws enacted, and in 2014, the legislature passed 19 new acts regarding child abuse.

This year especially, the Adams County Children's Advocacy Center is proud to be a part of the larger movement to protect children and give them a voice. We salute the survivors, advocates, and legislators, including State Representative Dan Moul, for their long and hard work to make Pennsylvania a safer place for children.

Sincerely,

John Fitzpatrick

# > JULY 1, 2014

Increased cost of certified copies of birth records to provide funds for training of mandatory reporters and PCCD grants for CACs and MDITs -Act 28 of 2014

By raising the cost of ordering certified copies of birth records, this legislation is expected to generate \$2.86 million a year earmarked to develop new or support existing CACs.



■ On December 18, 2013, Governor Tom Corbett signed into law ten bills that made significant improvements to the state's child protection laws.

© Pennsylvania Commonwealth Media Services

JULY **AUGUST** 

SEPTEMBER

**OCTOBER** 

**NOVEMBER** DECEMBER

#### **DECEMBER 31. 2014**

Expanded the definition of "child abuse" and "sexual abuse and exploitation" - Act 108 of 2013

Clarified the definition of "perpetrator" to include additional relationships but exclude children under the age of 14

- Act 117 of 2013

Defined "mandated reporters" and "encouraged reporters" - Act 33 of 2014 Required certain attorneys to report suspected child abuse - Act 32 of 2014

Provided whistleblower protections for individuals who file good-faith reports of child abuse - Act 34 of 2014

Added an expansive definition of "school" to include all levels and settings of education Act 44 of 2014

Expanded definition of "school employees" to include individuals who offer school-sponsored programs and activities - Act 44 of 2014 Required background checks for school employees - Act 45 of 2014

Required employees and unpaid volunteers with direct care of children to obtain child abuse clearances - Act 153 of 2014 - Sponsored by Representative Dan Moul of Adams County

Established that school employees must report suspected abuse immediately and before notifying leadership - Act 44 of 2014 Added a detailed definition of "child care services" to include centers, services, programs, and homes - Act 119 of 2013

"Change will not come if we wait
for some other person or some other time.

We are the ones we've been waiting for.

We are the change that we seek."

– President Barack Obama (1961-)

# A MESSAGE from the EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



s you look over our accomplishments in 2014-15, you might notice that the majority focus on prevention. Now that we are an established part of the community response to reports of child abuse, the CAC is giving more attention to preventing abuse from happening in the first place – or going unreported if it has already happened. Our outreach has received warm welcome from school districts, and we taught more than twice as many children this year that their bodies are theirs and it is never their fault if someone hurts them.

When I consider that, I feel renewed energy to continue the fight against child abuse. I hope you too feel renewed commitment to the mission of the Adams County Children's Advocacy Center as you read about how many lives we have touched in the past year, because, without your support, none of it would be possible.

Sincerely,

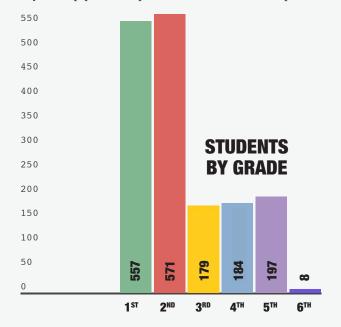
Vammy Barbous

Tammy Barbour, MSW, LSW

# 2014-15 Accomplishments

# **Prevention Program**

- ➤ Speak Up Be Safe is a research-based, child abuse prevention program for children in grades 1 to 6. A total of 1,696 Adams County children participated in Speak Up Be Safe during 2014-15 school year up from 732 the previous year.
- ▶ In September 2014, a CAC staff member was trained to provide **Darkness to Light,** an award-winning and evidence-based program that teaches adults how to prevent and report child abuse. We also offer **TECS Technology Education for Child Safety** to help parents supervise their children's computer use.





# **Bilingual Outreach**

- ▶ In 2014-15, we added **a bilingual facilitator** for Darkness to Light. We also provided Spanish-language follow-up information to the parents of 11 percent of children who participated in Speak Up Be Safe.
- ▶ The CAC continues to offer Spanish interpretation services for children and families at the center, as well as Spanish-language materials to help family members understand the process their child is undertaking.

## **Public Awareness**

- ▶ On April 1, 2015, the Adams County Commissioners declared it to be **Child Abuse Prevention Month** to express their support. CAC staff and Multidisciplinary Investigative Team (MDIT) members planted 240 pinwheels at the center, one for each child abuse report in Adams County in 2014.
- Our 7th annual **Pinwheels to Prevent Child Abuse Conference** was held on April 14th with 135 participants 23% more than the previous year. Sessions provided valuable information about child abuse prevention and identification to professionals and community members.

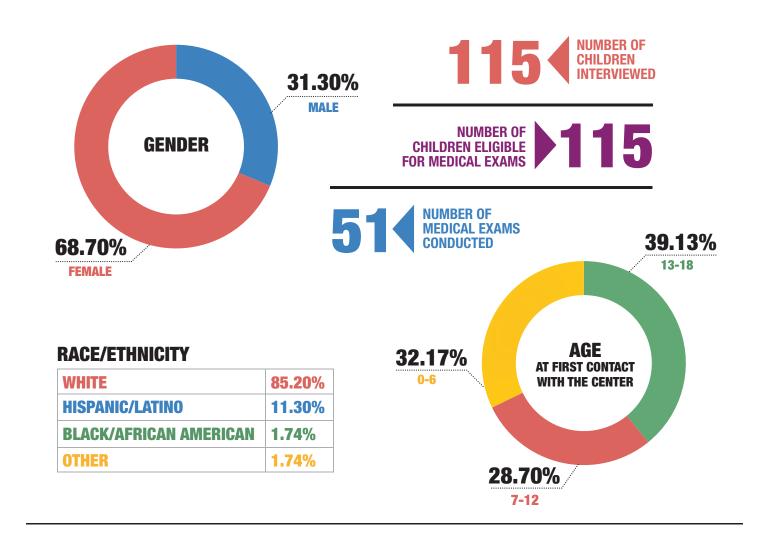


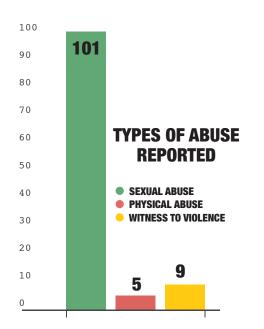
# **New Funding**

- ▶ The Pennsylvania Commission on Crime & Delinquency awarded the center a \$50,000 grant to fund an onsite Victim Advocate/Prevention Specialist. Previously on staff at the Adams County Victim Witness Assistance Program, Jennifer Shearer is now located at the center, offering advocacy services to child victims and their families from their first visit through the end of their case.
- ▶ The CAC also was awarded a \$10,000 grant from the **Pennsylvania District Attorneys Institute** to fund materials for Speak Up Be Safe outreach and a retreat for MDIT members. Held as part of the April conference, the retreat brought together 25 team members to discuss current team collaboration, protocols and proposed changes to the referral and case review processes.
- Before going back to school in September 2014, kids were able to visit the center to choose a new backpack and school supplies to fill it – thanks to AETNA's generosity.

# CHILD ABUSE IN ADAMS COUNTY JULY 1, 2014 – JUNE 30, 2015

# FINANCIAL INFORMATION JULY 1, 2014 – JUNE 30, 2015



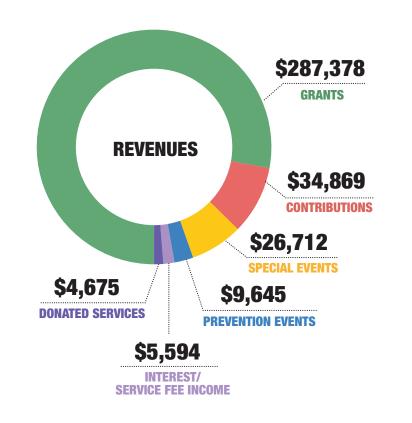


#### **AGE OF ALLEGED OFFENDERS**

UNDER 13	6
13-17	9
18+	56
UNKNOWN	24

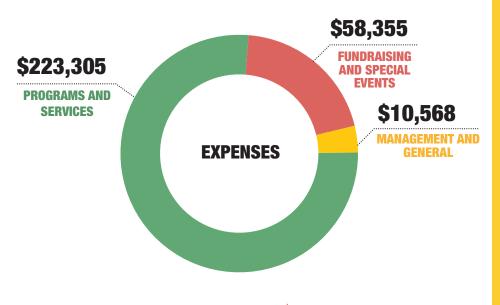
# RELATIONSHIP OF ALLEGED OFFENDER TO CHILD

PARENT	27
STEP PARENT	5
OTHER RELATIVE	18
PARENTS BOYFRIEND/ GIRLFRIEND	13
OTHER KNOWN PERSON	35



\$368,873





\$292,246 TOTAL EXPENSES

# HOW YOU CAN HELP

The Adams County Children's Advocacy Center Board of Directors, staff, partners, and volunteers work tirelessly year after year to fulfill our mission of helping child victims become kids again. Even with the dedication of many professionals, we still need your support.

#### Volunteer

All types of volunteers are needed, and we have opportunities that accommodate your skills, interests, and schedule. You could help keep our operational costs low by devoting your time to fundraising, community outreach, office work, facility maintenance, or landscaping. You can find the Volunteer application on our website.

## Shop

Providing much-needed materials to the center ensures that we keep our services available to children and families – completely free of charge. We are always in need of office supplies, arts and crafts materials, new toys and books, as well as snacks. Gift cards to office supply, craft, and grocery stores are a convenient way to help, or you can consult the Wish List on our website.

#### Donate

Contributing to the CAC is a simple way to show that you don't want any more Adams County children to suffer alone and in silence. Even \$5 can make a difference. You can donate easily and securely on our website or by calling our office.

Be the Change!





- Mohandas K. Gandhi (1869-1948)

# Thank You!

The many generous individuals, businesses, foundations, organizations, and public agencies that support the Adams County Children's Advocacy Center bring Gandhi's inspirational saying to life. They are creating a new world, where children are not re-victimized by a system designed to help them. Even dining and dancing at the Snowflake Gala makes a difference – we took in over \$54,000, which allows us to keep the doors open to all who need us. Special thanks to our volunteers, like the members of the Apple Valley Women's Club, who help us create a safe space for children. We are tremendously grateful to all of these changemakers for the support they provide the center.

# Pinwheel Garden Supporters



Forty-one schools, businesses, organizations, and community members planted Pinwheel Gardens to show their support for children.

\*\* Purchased 2 Gardens Purchased 3 Gardens ACNB Bank \*\*

Adams Country Children and Youth Services \*\*

Adams Electric Cooperative, Inc.

Battlefield Harley-Davidson 🎇

Biglerville Elementary School

C.S. Davidson Inc.

Children's Aid Society

Christ Evangelical Church

Conewago Township Elementary

Confederate Woods Veterinarian Hospital

Darlene Hardman

Explore & More Children's Museum

Fairfield Mennonite Church

Farnsworth House Inn

Franklin Township Elementary School

Fun in the Sun Tanning/Shauna Hockenberry

General Pickett's Buffet

Gettysburg Day Spa

**Gettysburg Community Theatre** Gettysburg Dance Center

Gettysburg Eagles

Gettysburg High School

Gettysburg Hospital

Gettysburg Middle School

**Gettysburg Times** 

Hampton Inn

Inn at Herr's Ridge

Kennie's Market - Biglerville

Kennie's Market - Gettysburg

Lincoln Elementary School

Merle and Jackie Rudisill

**New Oxford Elementary** 

Prince of Peace Episcopal Church 💥

Regina Campbell

Sherri Depasqua

Sue Cohick

Survivors Inc.

Tammy Barbour

Weikert's Livestock

Wesley Chapel United Methodist Church York Springs United Methodist Church

YWCA of Gettysburg and Adams County

# Donors

#### CHAMPIONS (\$5,000-\$9,999)

Fraternal Order of Eagles F.O.E #1562

#### ANGELS (\$1,000-\$4,999)

Adams County Community Foundation

Deb Gemmell

Ethel Boon

Jeff and Mari Stein

New Hope Faith Community Church

#### **GUARDIANS (\$500-\$999)**

Bar-Ray

Fairfield Amvets Post 172

Gettysburg Beer Runners

St. James Lutheran Church

Teton Camping RV Group

United States Treasury

VFW Home Association Post 15



#### **SUPPORTERS (\$250-\$499)**

Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church

Cruzin' Vettes Corvette Club

Exchange Club of Hanover

General Federation of Women's Clubs -

Gettysburg

Gettysburg Lion's Club

Gettysburg Moose

Jessica and Troy Dean

Loyal Order of Moose 720

Pennsylvania State Education Association

Schindler Elevator Corporation

The Financial Consulate

Tom Campbell

United Methodist Church

Zion United Church of Christ



Our center is very child-friendly – with colorful murals on the walls, comfortable seating, and snacks available to all guests.



As a part of child abuse investigations, children come to the center for a forensic interview and medical exam. These spaces are designed to be professional but non-threatening.

#### FRIENDS (\$249 AND BELOW)

Arthur and Diana Henne Arthur and Hannah Rice Barclay Brooks Cheryl Richardson

**David Santos** 



Diana Morelen Gettysburg Animal Hospital Gettysburg Area Middle School Gettysburg United Methodist Church Hoss's Steak and Sea House Hunterstown Ruritan Club Jack and Dorothy Nicholas James and Joanne Getty



Through our partnership with TrueNorth Wellness Services, the CAC offers children traumainformed counseling, including art and play therapy.

Jarred Picarelli

Knoebel, Picarelli, Inc.

Littlestown VFW Post 6954

Network for Good

Pennsylvania Chapter of Children's Advocacy Centers & Multidisciplinary Teams

Robert and Ester Langley

Robert and Marilyn Teeter

United Way of Adams County

Upper Adams Lions Club WellSpan York Hospital

Women of the Moose Chapter 182

Toys, games, and books keep little hands occupied in our Family Waiting Rooms.

# WFLAKE Gala SPONSORS







George and Cindy Keeney, Board Secretary, caught up with Adam and Megan Zei.

Gala Co-Chair Brecia Nevada and her husband, Steve, appreciated the performance of Schizophonic.

The Wyndham Gettysburg was transformed into a winter wonderland to support hope and healing of children in our community.

#### **GUARDIAN ANGELS** (\$7,000 AND ABOVE)

A.B.A.T.E. - Mason Dixon

#### **CHAMPIONS OF CHILDREN** (\$5,000-\$6,999)

Ken Adams Mechanical

#### **PLATINUM (\$2,000-\$4,999)**

Biglerville American Legion Post 262

Jennifer and David LeVan

Kennie's Markets

Sherry Wisor/Wisor HR Consulting

WellSpan Gettysburg Hospital

#### GOLD (\$1,000-\$1,999)

Adams Electric Cooperative, Inc. **AETNA** 

Deb Gemmell

Ameriprise Financial

Drs. Null, Seidel & Dental

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**Helicopter Applicators** 

Granite Hill Camping Resort Susquehanna Bank

VFW Home Association - Post 15 Gettysburg

American Legion Post 202

SILVER (\$500-\$999)

Avalon Foster Group, LLC Conewago Enterprises, Inc.

Fraternal Order Eagles 2226

Garryowen Irish Pub

Gettysburg Eagles 1562

Highmark Blue Shield

Loyal Order of Moose Lodge 227 - Hanover

Matt and Gina LeVan Optimist Club of Gettysburg

Roof Right

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**TRAC** 

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Biglerville Car Wash Brent Guise Family Dentistry

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DL3 Systems

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Steve and Brecia Nevada

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Andrea Singley

Anonymous

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Brecia and Steve Nevada

Carli Lehr Carol Weaver

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Cindy Keeney

Cumberland Township Police

Department

**Dancer Sport Fishing Charter** 

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**Dobbin House** 

**Dubbs Karate** 

Eric and Heather Hillson

Erin Aumen

Garryowen Irish Pub

Gettysburg Animal Hospital

Gettysburg Day Spa

Gettysburg Historic Hotel

Gettysburg Times

Holey Joe's Cafe

Hollywood Casino

Industry Salon

John and Robin Fitzpatrick

Judy Alder

Kathy Williams Littlestown Ace Hardware

Littlestown Vet

Lowe's Hanover

Majestic Theater

Mandy Loughery

Mt. Gretna Brewery

National Riding Stables

Regina Campbell

Sara Bulger

Scott & Co. Fine Jewelers

Serenity Day Spa Sherry Wisor

Ski Liberty

South Hills Golf Club

Strawberry Hill Nature Preserve

The Links at Gettysburg

True Friends Boutique

Under the Horizon

Wyndham Gettysburg YWCA of Gettysburg

# **SPECIAL THANKS TO:**

Musselman Greenhouses Olga Stine Graphic Designer

## THANK YOU TO A.B.A.T.E.

Everyone involved with ACCAC would like to extend A HUGE THANK YOU to THE MASON DIXON CHAPTER OF ALLIANCE OF BIKERS AIMED TOWARD EDUCATION (A.B.A.T.E.) for their support of our organization. This year, A.B.A.T.E. donated \$7.500 to the CAC. Their **COMMITMENT** to our center is an **ENORMOUS HELP** as we continue to put forth our best efforts to provide A SAFER COMMUNITY FOR OUR YOUTH.

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**Jennifer Shearer** 

Victim Advocate/Prevention

Specialist

Jackie Hendricks

Office Manager

# 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.

# Vision

A community where children are safe, families are strong, and our child victims become children again.





