

# SUPPORT CHILD VICTIMS OF ABUSE BY FUNDING KENTUCKY'S 15 CHILDREN'S ADVOCACY CENTERS

The Children's Advocacy Centers of Kentucky is the statewide coalition of CACs dedicated to helping every child impacted by abuse. Last year, CACs provided services to 7,412 child victims and their families.



From July 2020-June 2021, Kentucky's CACs saw a 33.5% increase in children served.



**5,979**  
Forensic  
Interviews



**644**  
Medical  
Examinations



**12,324**  
Mental Health  
Services



**90,466**  
Advocacy  
Services



**26,705**  
Case  
Reviews

**#1**

For the third year in a row, Kentucky had the highest child abuse rate in the nation.

**Kentucky must invest in services for child victims of abuse and their families.**

## SUMMARY OF FUNDING REQUEST

Current General Fund Allocation = \$4.2 million  
 Additional Needs for 15 Local Centers = \$7.5 million  
 Child Sexual Abuse Medical Exams & Programming = \$2.32 million  
**TOTAL = \$14.02 million in each fiscal year**

**Additional operating funds are needed to ensure each deserving child receives CAC services.** In partnership with DCBS, law enforcement, prosecutors and others, CAC Kentucky launched a pilot program to identify all children who meet criteria for CAC services and to create the tools needed to ensure that these children, once identified, receive the CAC and multidisciplinary team (MDT) services that they need. Data from the pilot program shows that CACs are currently seeing 50% of the roughly 15,000 children eligible for CAC services each year in Kentucky. Additional funding will allow CACs to roll the pilot program out statewide and provide the appropriate services to those who need them.

**Funding to support child sexual abuse medical exams** is needed because the current reimbursement rate from Medicaid still leaves the CAC to absorb a large portion of the cost. Child sexual abuse medical evaluations are complex in nature and per regulation, the exam must involve a mental health screening, a comprehensive physical evaluation and photo-documentation. Additional medical programming needs include funding for medical providers and ongoing specialized training for CAC medical professionals who play a vital role in the overall CAC experience for the child.