

Local Resources

Child Abuse Hotline:
703-771-KIDS (5437)

Emergency
911

Leesburg Police Department
703-771-4500

**Loudoun Citizens for Social Justice/LAWS
24-hour Hotline**
703-777-6552

**Loudoun Citizens for Social Justice/LAWS
Youth and Children's Services**
703-771-3973

**Loudoun Citizens for Social Justice/LAWS
Sexual Assault Program**
703-771-9020

**Loudoun County Commonwealth's
Attorney's Office**
703-777-0242

**Loudoun County Department of Family
Services**
703-777-0353

**Loudoun County Mental Health, Mental
Retardation and Substance Abuse
Services**
Leesburg Office: 703-771-5100
Eastern Loudoun Office: 571-258-3026

Loudoun County Sheriff's Office
703-777-1021

Loudoun County Victim Witness Program
703-777-0417

Contact Information

Mailing Address:
105 E. Market St.
Leesburg, VA 20176

Phone: 703-779-5643
Fax: 571-291-2281

Email: contact@loudouncac.org
Website: www.loudouncac.org



If a child discloses abuse to you,
or if you suspect or have reason
to believe a child is being
abused, neglected or victimized,
please contact the
Department of Family Services
Child Protective Services Unit
Child Abuse Hotline:
703-771-KIDS (5437)

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The Loudoun Child Advocacy Center



The Child First Doctrine

The child is our first priority.
Not the needs of the family.
Not the child's "story."
Not the evidence.
Not the needs of the courts.
Not the needs of police, child
protection, attorneys, etc.
The child is our first priority.

What is a Child Advocacy Center?

A Child Advocacy Center (CAC) is a comfortable, private, child-friendly setting that provides a safe space for child victims of abuse and/or assault to talk about what happened.

The purpose of a CAC is to provide a well-coordinated multi-disciplinary team (MDT) to respond to allegations of child abuse or victimization, beginning with a forensic interview and including case management services for children and their non-offending family members or guardians.

The Loudoun CAC

- ◉ Reduces trauma for children who have been victims of abuse and/or assault.
- ◉ Reduces the number of interviews children have to endure during the investigation.
- ◉ Offers links to specialized medical examination and treatment.
- ◉ Increases communication and collaboration among community agencies that are investigating, prosecuting, and/or providing support services.
- ◉ Increases successful prosecutions of child abuse cases.
- ◉ Provides funding for training of investigators and other child abuse professionals.

What is an MDT and How Does It Work?

A multi-disciplinary team (MDT) is the key to the CAC. It is made up of members from different agencies (see below). The team members collaboratively make decisions about the investigation, prosecution, and treatment of child abuse and assault cases. Each member of the MDT has a unique job and duty regarding the safety and well-being of the child.

The team approach allows members to combine professional knowledge, which increases communication and accuracy of information. It also allows for more immediate follow-up, appropriate referrals to medical and mental health services, and consistent support for child victims.

Our Team

This team is composed of representatives of the following agencies and disciplines:

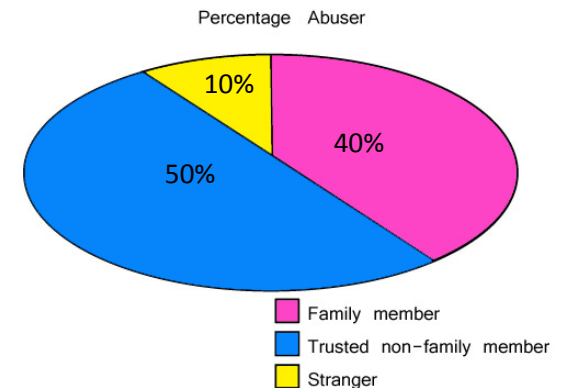
- ◉ Inova Fairfax Hospital/FACT Department
- ◉ Leesburg Police Department
- ◉ Loudoun Child Advocacy Center
- ◉ Loudoun Citizens for Social Justice/LAWS
- ◉ Loudoun County Attorney's Office
- ◉ Loudoun County Commonwealth's Attorney's Office
- ◉ Loudoun County Department of Family Services
- ◉ Loudoun County Department of Mental Health, Mental Retardation, and Substance Abuse Services
- ◉ Loudoun County Juvenile Court Services Unit
- ◉ Loudoun County Sheriff's Office
- ◉ Loudoun County Victim Witness Program

Why Does Loudoun Need A CAC?

The Loudoun County Community is not immune from family violence and child abuse.

The U.S. statistics are shocking:

- ◉ 1 in 4 girls is sexually abused before the age of 18.
- ◉ 1 in 6 boys is sexually abused before the age of 18.
- ◉ 1 in 5 children is solicited sexually while on the internet.
- ◉ There are an estimated 39 million survivors of childhood sexual abuse in America today.
- ◉ Nearly 70% of all reported sexual assaults (including assaults on adults) occur to children ages 17 and under.



Statistics from www.darkness2light.org.

- ◉ The CAC model saves \$1,318 per case, which translates to millions of dollars each year.