



Prince William County Child Advocacy Center

The Prince William County Child Advocacy Center (PWC CAC) is a safe, welcoming place where children who have been sexually or physically abused can begin their journey of healing. Our team works together to protect, treat, and counsel child victims and their families. From prevention, counseling and investigation through prosecution, the PWC CAC provides a compassionate and efficient process for child abuse intervention.

What is the Child Advocacy Center Model?

The Child Advocacy Model offers child-focused, facility-based programs in which representatives from various disciplines work together to conduct interviews and make decisions regarding cases of child abuse.

CAC models for child abuse intervention are proven and effective. They bring together trained professionals to provide medical and mental health services and advocacy and support for child abuse victims and their non-offending caregivers. The model also holds offenders accountable through collaboration with the judicial system.

Do You Suspect Child Abuse?

It takes courage for a child to disclose abuse. Be equally strong. If you suspect a child is being neglected and/or abused, do the right thing. Make a report.

Call 9-1-1 any time there is an emergency regarding child abuse or neglect.

Reports can also be made to the hotline numbers below.

Virginia: 800-552-7096

Out-of-State: 804-786-8536

Deaf or Hard of Hearing: 800-828-1120



Child Advocacy Center

Dr. A.J. Ferlazzo Building
15941 Donald Curtis Drive
Woodbridge, VA 22191

703-792-6549

pwcva.gov/cac

PRINCE WILLIAM
Social Services

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Social Services



Child Advocacy Center

A community where we strive for all children to be safe and free from abuse.



CAC Services and Support

Forensic Interviews

Forensic interviews are essential in the investigation of child physical and sexual abuse cases. They can produce details critical to the investigation and criminal prosecution. Forensic interviews provide an opportunity for the child to tell their story. During the process, an expert trained in trauma-informed interviewing provides the child with a safe space to share their experience.



Medical Exams

Examinations are conducted by medical professionals trained in evidence collection, documentation and preservation. The CAC provides referrals to forensic medical exams if necessary.

Victim Services and Advocacy

Victim advocates support the child and family throughout the investigation and prosecution of the case. They connect families to support services and victim compensation.

Mental Health

The PWC CAC provides trauma-informed therapy and partners with community-based mental health specialists who are trained and credentialed in trauma-informed treatment for the entire family. Referrals for individual and group therapy are available.

Training and Professional Development

The PWC CAC provides training for professionals on various topics, including the dynamics of child abuse, the CAC model, the importance of trauma-informed care and other topics.



Where the trauma of child abuse stops and healing begins.

How Big is the Problem?

Child abuse and neglect are common.

At least **one in seven** children has experienced child abuse and/or neglect in the past year. This number is likely an underestimate.



In 2020, **1,750 children** died of abuse and neglect in the United States.

Children living in poverty experience more abuse and neglect.

Experiencing poverty can place additional stress on families, which may increase the risk for child abuse and neglect.

Lower socioeconomic status

5X HIGHER

Rates of child abuse and neglect are five times higher for children in families with lower socioeconomic status.

Child maltreatment is costly.

In the United States, the total lifetime economic burden associated with child abuse and neglect was approximately \$592 billion in 2018.

\$592 BILLION



This economic burden rivals the cost of other high-profile public health problems, such as stroke and type 2 diabetes.