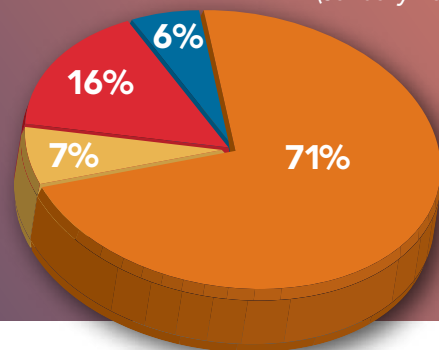


YOUR GENEROSITY AT WORK

Because of you, between January 2015 and June 2015, BCAC was able to provide:

- Help for 499 children
- 363 forensic interviews
- 174 medical examinations

Charitable Contributions Total*: \$515,812.67
(January 2015 – June 2015)



- Individual Donations: \$34,317.07
- Special Events: \$364,996.41
- Workplace Gifts: \$36,499.19
- Foundations/Grants: \$80,000.00

* Does not include restricted gifts.

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

If you have any questions about child sexual abuse or related issues, need to know where to go for services, or would like to volunteer, please feel free to contact us.

Baltimore Child Abuse Center
2300 North Charles Street, 4th Floor
Baltimore, MD 21218

- www.bcaci.org | 443-984-3013
- www.facebook.com/4BCAC
- www.twitter.com/ChildAbuseCentr
- www.linkedin.com/company/baltimore-child-abuse-center
- www.pinterest.com/BCAC2300/
- www.youtube.com/BCACvideo

STAFF CONTACTS:

TO MAKE A GIFT:
Jenny Trust
Director of Development
jtrust@bcaci.org
(443) 984-3013

TO VOLUNTEER:
Alyssa Deiter
Development Coordinator
adeiter@bcaci.org
(443) 923-7028

TO SCHEDULE TRAINING:
Kezia Snipe
Program & Community Outreach Associate
ksnipe@bcaci.org
443-923-7003

Cut here and please return the the form below ✂



YES! Children in Baltimore Can Count on Me!

Baltimore Child Abuse Center

NAME _____
ADDRESS _____
CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____
TELEPHONE _____
EMAIL _____

I WOULD LIKE TO MAKE A GIFT OF:
 \$25 \$50 \$100 OTHER \$ _____

NAME ON CARD _____

CARD NUMBER _____ EXPIRATION DATE/CW _____

SIGNATURE _____

Please make checks payable to Baltimore Child Abuse Center and mail to:
BCAC • 2300 North Charles Street, 4th Floor • Baltimore, MD 21218

Baltimore Child Abuse Center Statistics

July 2014 – December 2014

70%
of children who visited BCAC were female

76%
of children who visited BCAC were under 13 years of age

89%
of children who visited BCAC knew the alleged perpetrator

40%
of children who visited BCAC were identified as disabled

the POINT



Baltimore Child Abuse Center

ISSUE NO 4 // FALL 2015

WELCOME TO THE POINT:

Pleased to meet you! My name is Jennifer Sachs, and I am the newly-elected President of the Board of Directors for Baltimore Child Abuse Center (BCAC). I want to *thank you* for your personal commitment to keeping Baltimore's children safe. By connecting with the work we are doing throughout the Baltimore region, you are helping increase knowledge that child abuse is not okay, and there are steps that we can take as a collective to protect children.

I joined the BCAC Board in 2011. Since then, I've served as Secretary of the Board and twice as Co-Chair of the *Be A Hero* gala. I was elected last month to serve as President, an endeavor I am extremely excited to take on.

As an educator, parent, and community activist, I believe in the potential that every child has. When abuse and trauma impact a child, it is up to all of us to help bring that child back to health and healing.

BCAC has a bright future ahead, and we have many plans and initiatives on the horizon. I'm honored to be at the helm of this terrific organization and to be working side-by-side with Executive Director Adam Rosenberg, his outstanding staff, and a dynamic Board of Directors to see that we are pushing forward.

I believe wholeheartedly in the mission of BCAC, and I think that its mission is of utmost importance to Baltimore's future. **So tell me, what do you think of BCAC?** Connecting with you is also important to moving BCAC forward, so I'd love to hear your feedback. Please feel free to email me at jensachs1215@gmail.com.

I'm excited to start this new chapter with BCAC, and I look forward to working with you in the months and years to come.

Let's stay safe,

Jennifer



Jennifer Sachs
President
BCAC Board of Directors



TAKE ACTION. GET TRAINED.

BCAC offers a variety of trainings to the community at our facility in Charles Village, Baltimore. We hope you can join us!

APRIL 9, 2015

Human Trafficking Seminar – (9am to Noon) Human Trafficking is a crime that plagues the U.S. According to the U.S. Department of Justice, the average age a person is targeted and trafficked is between the ages of 12 – 14 years old. This workshop will provide participants the opportunity to study the issue of sex and labor trafficking in order to foster awareness and learn how to identify and respond to potential victims within Maryland. 3 CEU's

APRIL 15, 2015

Memory and Suggestibility in Children – (10am to Noon) This training will review early and current research regarding memory and suggestibility in children. Pivotal criminal cases will be reviewed. How to talk to children in ways that minimize problems of suggestibility will be discussed including question types and developmental considerations. 2 CEU's

APRIL 21, 2015

Stewards of Children: Darkness to Light – (10am to Noon) Darkness to Light is the leading evidence-based child sexual abuse prevention program in the country. The training program aims to empower adults to prevent, recognize, and react responsibly to child sexual abuse. This training is open to anyone who wants to make a difference in their community. 2 CEU's

APRIL 28, 2015

Understanding Your Role as a Mandated Reporter – (10am to Noon) Participants gain understanding of relevant state laws, requirements for reporting, and the signs and symptoms of abuse and neglect. This workshop provides participants with reasons to report and information on how to report. We will also explore the long-term impact of abuse on children. 2 CEU's

APRIL 29, 2015

Prevent Now! – (3pm to 5pm) Participants will gain an understanding of how to implement a community-wide child sexual abuse prevention program. Learn about the new tools and resources to help you find, involve, and keep new supporters and advocates for your community prevention program.

Contact Kezia at ksnipe@bcaci.org or 443-923-7003 to schedule a custom training for your youth-serving organization. All trainings listed above are FREE to the community and professionals for a limited time, but you can help underwrite the cost with a nominal donation when you sign up for one of BCAC's professional trainings online at www.bcaci.org.

WE'VE EXPANDED OUR MISSION AND IT'S ALL THANKS TO YOU

In early 2015, the Baltimore Child Abuse Center Board of Directors met to review the bylaws of our organization. At that time, we took the opportunity to revisit our mission.

For many years, the fight against child sexual abuse was the focus of our mission statement. However, we realized, we are doing so much more than responding to sexual abuse, exclusively. Our team has such great talent and such an interest in helping children succeed that they are often called upon when children have been witnesses to domestic violence, homicide, or victims of crimes in addition to sexual abuse.

Our leadership decided that it was important for our mission statement to reflect how our organization has grown and how BCAC uses its expertise to help more kids exposed to trauma and other Adverse Childhood Experiences that impact prosperity throughout childhood and into adulthood. Thus, our mission has been realigned to the following:

The mission of Baltimore Child Abuse Center is to provide victims of child sexual abuse, trauma, and other Adverse Childhood Experiences in Baltimore and their non-offending caretakers with comprehensive forensic interviews, medical treatment, and mental health treatment with a goal of preventing future trauma.

The expansion of our mission and work would not be possible without your support - your time, your donations, your commitment - are all being put to good use to build a better Baltimore. BCAC is fortunate to help the children of our City no matter the distress that they've experienced in their short lives. We thank you for being one of our greatest champions in this endeavor, and we look forward to working with you to provide essential care for Baltimore's children in the months and years to come.



OPEN HOUSE

BCAC is hosting its next open house on Wednesday, September 16th from 5 to 7 pm.

Visit our facility to walk the path that children take during the course of an abuse investigation. It's a great way to meet our staff and find out more about what we do to help children in Baltimore. Plus, you can check out the new murals in our lobby and family rooms!

The evening will include tours, a Q&A session, and an opportunity to share your ideas with BCAC staff. Light refreshments will be provided. Street parking is available on North Charles and 23rd Streets. This is a **FREE** event. **RSVP online at www.bcaci.org or call 443-984-3013.**

STAKEHOLDER CALL

Every quarter, Baltimore Child Abuse Center Executive Director Adam Rosenberg hosts stakeholder calls with supporters to keep them up-to-date on the work and mission of BCAC.

The next BCAC Stakeholder call is scheduled for **Tuesday, September 8th from 10:30 to 11 am.**

To access the call, dial **712-432-1500** and enter access code **684946#**. Contact Jenny at jtrust@bcaci.org or call 443-984-3013 for more information.



DARKNESS TO LIGHT'S 5 STEPS TO PROTECTING CHILDREN

In 2015, BCAC began a partnership with the national leader in child abuse prevention, Darkness to Light (D2L). With ten BCAC staff and several volunteers now trained in the D2L curriculum, *Stewards of Children*, our goal is to educate thousands of Baltimoreans in the coming years about keeping children safe. Interested in learning more about D2L and *Stewards of Children*? Contact LaDonna at lmorgan@bcaci.org or 410-396-6147 ext. 1014.

Darkness to Light's 5 Steps to Protecting Children



Step 1 – LEARN THE FACTS

- One in 10 children are sexually abused before their 18th birthday.
- 90% of children who are sexually abused know their abuser.

Step 2 – MINIMIZE OPPORTUNITY

More than 80% of sexual abuse incidents happen in isolated, one-one-one situations with a child.

- Make sure interactions can be observed and interrupted.

Ask for these best practices in schools and organizations that serve your children:

- Background checks.
- Policy for responding to disclosures and discoveries of child sexual abuse.
- Policy for responding to

inappropriate behavior, breaches in policy, and suspicions of abuse.

- Prevention training for employees, volunteers, parents, and caregivers.

Step 3 – TALK ABOUT IT

Have open conversations with children about our bodies, sex, and boundaries. Understand why children are afraid to tell.

- The abuser sometimes threatens the child or a family member or may try to confuse the child about right and wrong.
- The abuser may shame or blame the child or tell the child that his/her parents will be angry.
- Some children are too young to understand.

Know how children communicate.

- Children may ask questions about bodies, interactions, or sex, rather than talk directly about something they've experienced.
- Children may tell parts of what happened, or pretend it happened to someone else, to check your reaction.
- Children will often shut down and refuse to tell more if you respond emotionally or negatively.

Talk with children when they are young, and use proper names for body parts.

Step 4 – RECOGNIZE THE SIGNS

Know the signs of abuse to protect children from further harm. Physical signs are not common, but the following should be carefully examined by a professional:

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Thanks to our volunteers, BCAC is a place where kids feel safe. Volunteers also help an entire community learn more about preventing child abuse. Here are some volunteer opportunities you may be interested in:

DIVAS (Developing Inner Values to Acquire Success) is BCAC's psychosocial girls' mentoring program. The 9-week program (6 weeks during the summer) covers key topics such as self-esteem & empowerment, conflict resolution, communication, personal safety, career goals, and community. An ideal volunteer support staff

member is a caring, attentive, patient, trustworthy and responsible woman that serves as a positive role model and open ear to teenage girls who have experienced sexual abuse and/or trauma.

Applicants can send a resume and cover letter to Kezia at ksnipe@bcaci.org or call 410-396-6147 ext. 1003 for more information.

Administrative Volunteer Nights and Special Event Volunteers are needed to help staff with administrative tasks at Administrative Volunteer Nights which

- Bruising, bleeding, redness, rashes, bumps or scabs especially around the genitals.
- Urinary tract infections.
- Sexually transmitted diseases.
- Abnormal discharge.
- Chronic stomach pain, headaches or other ailments that can't be explained medically.

Emotional and behavioral signs are more common.

- Depression, withdrawal, changes in behavior.
- Anger, rebellion, defiance.
- Agitation or inability to concentrate.
- Fear of situations or people.
- Sexual behavior and language that are not age-appropriate.
- Falling grades.
- Use of alcohol or drugs, especially at a young age.

Step 5 – REACT RESPONSIBLY

If a child has chosen you as the person he or she trusts enough to tell, honor that with attention, compassion, and belief.

- Listen calmly and openly.
- Ask only open-ended questions like, "What happened next?"
- Believe the child.
- Affirm the child's courage and tell the child they've done nothing wrong.

REPORT ABUSE. In Baltimore City, call 911 or Child Protective Services at 410-361-2235. Visit www.bcaci.org for more information.

