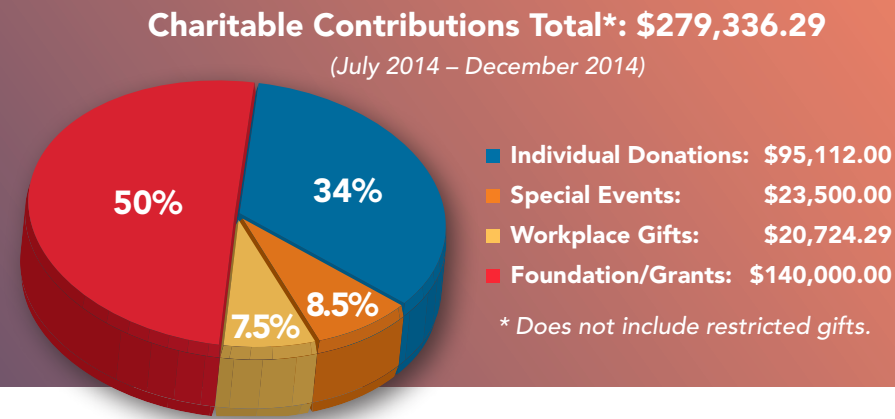


YOUR GENEROSITY AT WORK

Because of you, between July 2014 and December 2014, BCAC was able to provide:

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



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:
Ruby Nelson
Director of Training
rnelson@bcaci.org
(443) 923-7017

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

the POINT

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



Baltimore Child Abuse Center

ISSUE NO 3 // SPRING 2015

WELCOME TO THE POINT:

I'm happy to share the news that BCAC made a strategic decision to work with the nation's leader in child abuse prevention, Darkness to Light (D2L). This past March, leaders in child advocacy convened at BCAC to begin this journey to educate our community. BCAC intends to make D2L's program available to as many people as possible over the next few years so that we can, together, make Baltimore a safer, healthier place for children. Learn more about D2L and our other training initiatives at our website: www.bcaci.org.

Join us in protecting children, and share your point with me at arosenberg@bcaci.org.

Let's stay safe,

Adam Rosenberg
Executive Director
Baltimore Child Abuse Center

SUMMER CAMP TRAININGS

Are you ready for the summer?

Infamously asked in the opening credits to the legendary 1979 movie *Meatballs*, this question looms large for parents, children, and camp staff as we all think about warmer weather, just weeks away.

Building upon BCAC staff's own expertise and background, we have over the last several summers worked directly with summer camp counselors, supervisors, and directors in an effort to keep children safe and minimize the risk of abuse. To date, the BCAC team has trained over 3,000 staff members, impacting over 10,000 children.

Summer camp training poses its own unique challenges for all involved - children spend weeks away from home, young adults supervise children, emotional situations, adolescent puberty, budding leadership - it all adds up to a crucible of opportunity, excitement, possibilities, and of course, *risk*. Summer camp can be one of the most impactful times for young children growing into adults, but if an incident of abuse occurs or is even alleged, all of camp suffers.

BCAC looks forward to another summer of training summer camp staff. If you'd like to discuss how BCAC can help your camp or what questions you should ask your children's summer camp, visit www.bcaci.org/resources and click 'Summer Camp.'



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 Ruby at rnelson@bcaci.org or (443) 923-7017 to schedule a custom training for your youth-serving organization. All trainings 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.

BCAC ADVOCACY AGENDA 2015

BCAC takes an active role in several issues relating to child protection and advocates on local, State, and Federal levels. We see these issues as vital in keeping children safe and enabling crisis-response services for all children in need.

Improving Mandatory Reporting Systems - BCAC advocates that every child deserves to have someone speak up for them and make a report of abuse, namely professionals in youth-serving organizations such as schools, camps, and medical facilities. *These professionals are known as mandated reporters.* Astonishingly, Maryland is one of only two states where there is no penalty for the failure to report abuse. Mandated reporters need better mechanisms to make a report, easy access to information, and consolidated systems to inform child protective services.

Defending Childhood: Responding to Childhood Exposure to Violence - BCAC recognizes that our services and skills can help more than just victims of sexual abuse and that we are in a unique position to respond to a vastly larger group of children with *adverse childhood experiences* that result in negative outcomes later in life. BCAC has made significant impact over the last five years for children who have witnessed homicides, domestic violence, been victims of trafficking, and entering foster care. We have witnessed firsthand the impact of such violence on children and actively support efforts to help these fragile victims and prevent future crimes.

Prevention Education - BCAC knows educated adults are the first line in preventing abuse and that it's an adult responsibility to protect children. Mandated reporters and other adults should have the appropriate level of education to help them carry out their duty to report. BCAC also supports national efforts such as Erin's Law that would provide for education for all children in schools on the dangers of sexual abuse and what can be done to prevent and report it. A well-educated child is far less likely to become a victim of abuse.

Funding - 25% of BCAC's budget comes from government sources, such as the Victims of Crime Act, Victims of Child Abuse Act, and funds provided by the City and State. Annual threats of budget cuts and lack of consistency in appropriations leaves BCAC's funding structure at risk and puts much of our work at risk also.

Volunteer Opportunities

Because of dedicated volunteers, BCAC is a place where kids feel safe. Volunteers not only make kids' visits to BCAC special, they help an entire community learn more about preventing child abuse.

Here are some volunteer opportunities you may be interested in:

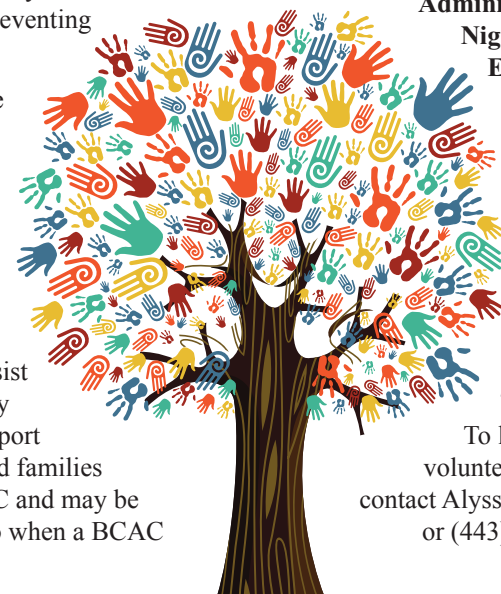
Child Care Volunteers – Child Care Volunteers assist BCAC staff by providing support to children and families visiting BCAC and may be asked to do so when a BCAC

staff member is not available. Volunteers also help with data entry, labeling and filing, preparing outgoing mailings, and more.

Administrative Volunteer Nights and Special Event Volunteers -

Volunteers are needed to help staff with administrative tasks at Administrative Volunteer Nights which are held monthly or at special events such as *Be A Hero* and the *Super Hero Walk*.

To learn more about volunteering with BCAC, contact Alyssa at adeiter@bcaci.org or (443) 923-7028.



Be A Hero

AN EVENT BY BALTIMORE CHILD ABUSE CENTER
TO CHANGE THE LIVES OF OUR COMMUNITY'S CHILDREN



The Second Annual Be A Hero Gala IS NOW SOLD OUT!

Email development@bcaci.org to be added to the event waiting list, and we will contact you if more tickets become available.

BCAC would like to thank the sponsors, Board Members, volunteer committee members, and those in the community who have been so supportive in making *Be A Hero* such a success...two years in a row! **Over 720 heroes will be joining us April 30th at Power Plant Live!**

Here is what you can do to help make *Be A Hero* even more successful and help more children in Baltimore:

- **GIVE** a gift in honor of *Be A Hero*. Any amount is appreciated and all gifts are tax-deductible to the fullest extent of the law.
- **PURCHASE** raffle tickets for *Be A Hero*. They are on sale now - 1 for \$25 and 5 for \$100. You can win restaurant, wine, sports, event packages and more! You do not need to be present at the event to win.
- **BID** on an assortment of amazing auction items online at our website www.bcaci.org/events. Bidding is open until Sunday, May 3rd.
- **KEEP TALKING ABOUT ABUSE** – Knowledge is power! Give children a voice and listen to what they say.

You Can BE A HERO!

E-mail Jenny at jtrust@bcaci.org to learn more about the event and how you, too, can *Be A Hero* to kids in Baltimore.

5 Spring Safety Tips

After being cooped up all winter, kids are ready to get outside and run around by the time Spring comes. It is important to have a conversation with your children about being safe during the Spring and Summer months. Here are some safety tips to use as guidelines:

CHECK CREDENTIALS

- Ensure that whomever you leave your child with, whether a babysitter, coach, or teacher, has the proper credentials.
- If hiring a new babysitter, consider performing a background check and following up on references to make sure your kids are in good hands.

USE THE BUDDY SYSTEM

- Make sure you communicate with your children that they should never walk home from school alone. Talk with your children and get to know their friends so you know who they are with.
- Also, get to know your children's friends' parents. Have open communication with other parents, and if you have younger children, make sure a trusted adult is with them at all times.

KEEP A LOOK OUT

- When your children are playing outside, make sure that they are always in sight and tell them not to play where they can't be seen.
- Consider setting up a neighborhood watch program. It is important to know your neighbors so you know who your children will be around. Trusted neighbors can take turns watching out for the children when they are playing outside.

SET UP HOME ALONE RULES

If you have age-appropriate children who can be trusted at home by themselves, explain to them that there are rules:

- Never answer the phone or the door unless they absolutely know who it is.
- Keep doors and windows locked at all times.
- Keep a list of important emergency contacts (fire department, police, etc.) where the kids can see it, and tell them that they should call 911 if there is a real emergency.

PRACTICE OUTDOOR SAFETY

- Take extra precautions when your kids are playing outside.
- Make sure they wear a helmet.
- Bring sunscreen.
- Check the stability of playground equipment. Make sure the equipment is well-mounted and free of rust.
- If your children are not established swimmers, make sure they wear floatation devices.
- Have a first-aid kit handy that includes band-aids, ointment, allergy medicine, anti-bacterial gel, etc. Visit www.redcross.org to learn more about first aid kits.