

CHILD ADVOCACY CENTERS

Criminal Procedure Article § 11-923(h)

MSAR # 8610

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Submitted by: Governor's Office of Crime Control & Prevention

Contact: Anne Marie Litecky

(410) 837-5937

[alitecky@goccp.state.md.us](mailto:alitecky@goccp.state.md.us)



300 E. Joppa Road, Suite 1105  
Baltimore, Maryland 21286-3016  
410-821-2828 / TOLL FREE: 1-877-687-9004  
FAX: 410-321-3116  
INFO@GOCCP.STATE.MD.US  
WWW.GOCCP.MARYLAND.GOV

Martin O'Malley  
*Governor*

Anthony Brown  
*Lt. Governor*

Tammy M. Brown  
*Executive Director*

December 18, 2014

The Honorable Martin O'Malley  
Office of the Governor  
State House  
100 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401-1991

Dear Governor O'Malley:

As required under Md. Annotated Code, Criminal Procedure Art. §11-923(h) and, in accordance with § 2-1246 of the State Government Article, please accept this letter as fulfillment of the Governor's Office of Crime Control & Prevention (GOCCP) requirement to produce an annual report on the Child Advocacy Centers. Attached is the required report. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions regarding the Child Advocacy Centers Report.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Tammy M. Brown".

Tammy M. Brown  
Executive Director

cc: The Honorable Anthony G. Brown  
The Honorable Thomas V. "Mike" Miller  
The Honorable Michael Busch  
Ellen Alexander, Maryland State Board of Victim Services  
Sarah Albert, Department of Legislative Services  
Joan Bourne, Enoch Pratt Free Library

## CHILD ADVOCACY CENTER SERVICES PROGRAM REPORT

The Governor's Office of Crime Control & Prevention (GOCCP) is a part of the Executive Branch of State Government. GOCCP's mission is to serve as the State Administering Agency in the application for, and administration of, federal and state funds for public safety, crime control and prevention; and to coordinate and promote public safety linkages and partnerships between and among federal, state and local agencies. The Office is Maryland's one stop shop for resources to improve public safety and exists to educate, connect, and empower Maryland's citizens and public safety entities through innovative funding, strategic planning, crime data analysis, best practices research and results-oriented customer service.

Crimes committed against women and children are especially heinous due to the fact that they can impact a family for generations. By the end of 2012, to improve public safety and enhance the quality of life for all Marylanders, particularly for Maryland's women and children, the State of Maryland set a goal of reducing violent crime against women and children by 20%. After accomplishing that objective, a new goal was set to decrease violent crime against women and children by 25% by 2018.

Child Advocacy Centers (CAC) provide a coordinated, multidisciplinary approach to the problem of child abuse. CACs are safe, child friendly environments for forensic interviews and medical evaluations for the alleged child victim and offer continued support to the child and non-offending family members. Programs provide services to children, and their families, who are victims of severe physical and sexual abuse and neglect. CACs also help reduce existing gaps in services and foster collaboration among partner agencies and stakeholders throughout Maryland. CACs promote and provide specialized training for professionals, and extend efforts to promote public awareness and prevention.

On May 4, 2010 Governor Martin O'Malley signed into law a bill supporting child advocacy centers and the services that they provide for Maryland children and their families. The law states that money shall be provided in the annual State budget and shall be used to supplement, but not supplant, money that the programs receive from other sources. The law supports law enforcement, child protective services, social workers, and all who work to protect Maryland's vulnerable child victims of crime and abuse. (Md. Annotated Code, Criminal Procedure Art. §11-923(h))

### **Maryland CAC Structures**

Of the 21 CACs in Maryland, seventeen (17) are government based, three (3) are private non-profit, and one (1) is a private-public partnership. The newest addition, Kent County CAC opened in 2013.

#### Government Based:

Anne Arundel, Baltimore, Carroll, Cecil, Frederick, Garrett, Harford, Howard, Kent, Prince George's, Queen Anne's, Somerset, St. Mary's, Talbot, Washington, Wicomico, Worcester Counties

#### Private Non-Profit:

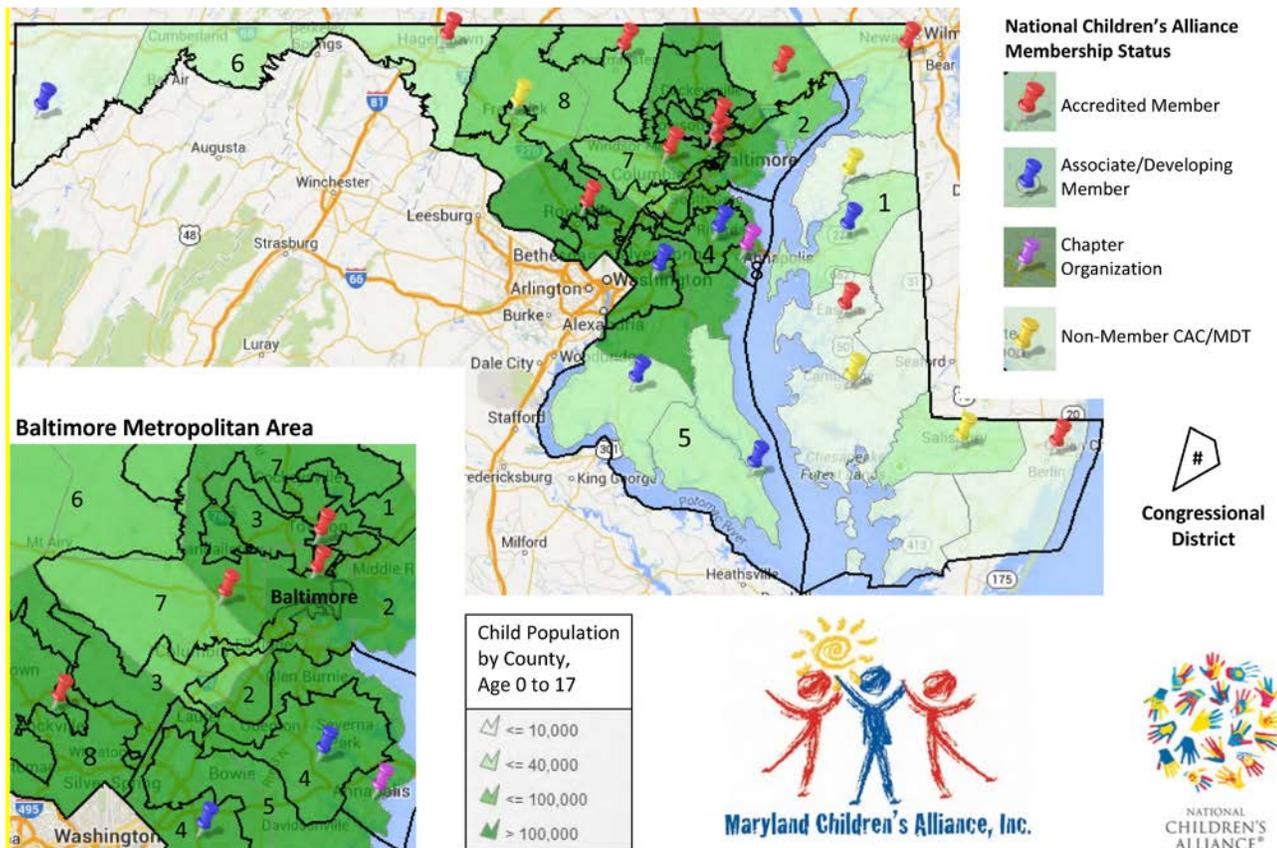
Allegany County, Baltimore City, Charles County

#### Private-Public Partnership:

Montgomery County

#### No CAC:

Caroline, Calvert and Dorchester Counties



2014 Map of CACs in Maryland by the National Children's Alliance (NCA)

### FY 2014 Child Advocacy Center (CAC) Funding in Maryland

On October 1, 2010, GOCCP started its first year of funding to CACs under the Child Advocacy Center Assistance grant program by offering support to existing Child Advocacy Centers. In these challenging times, there is nothing more important in our State than protecting Maryland's most vulnerable citizens - our children. The partnerships formed in child advocacy centers combine compassion for victims with a commitment to law enforcement, a vital participant and first responder in our overall effort to protect our children.

In FY2014, twenty (20) CACs and the Maryland Children's Alliance (MCA) each received up to \$12,500 in funding. The total amount awarded was approximately \$249,993. Twenty-one (21) CACs are eligible and invited by GOCCP to apply for funding.

*(See Appendix)*

### Performance Measures

- Services to 3,972 victims
- Crisis intervention to 2,531 victims
- Training for 386 criminal justice providers, crisis response teams and advocates.

The purpose of these funds for Child Advocacy Center Assistance Grants is to support a broad range of services, including:

- Counseling and psychological services for children who have been physically, sexually, and/or emotionally abused;
- Services to help child victims overcome trauma;
- Counseling and support for families of children who have been victimized and abused;

- Forensic/medical evaluations;
- Specialized equipment;
- Specialized personnel including Child Protective Service Workers,
- Supports successful prosecution of all child abuse cases;
- Training; and
- Public Outreach.

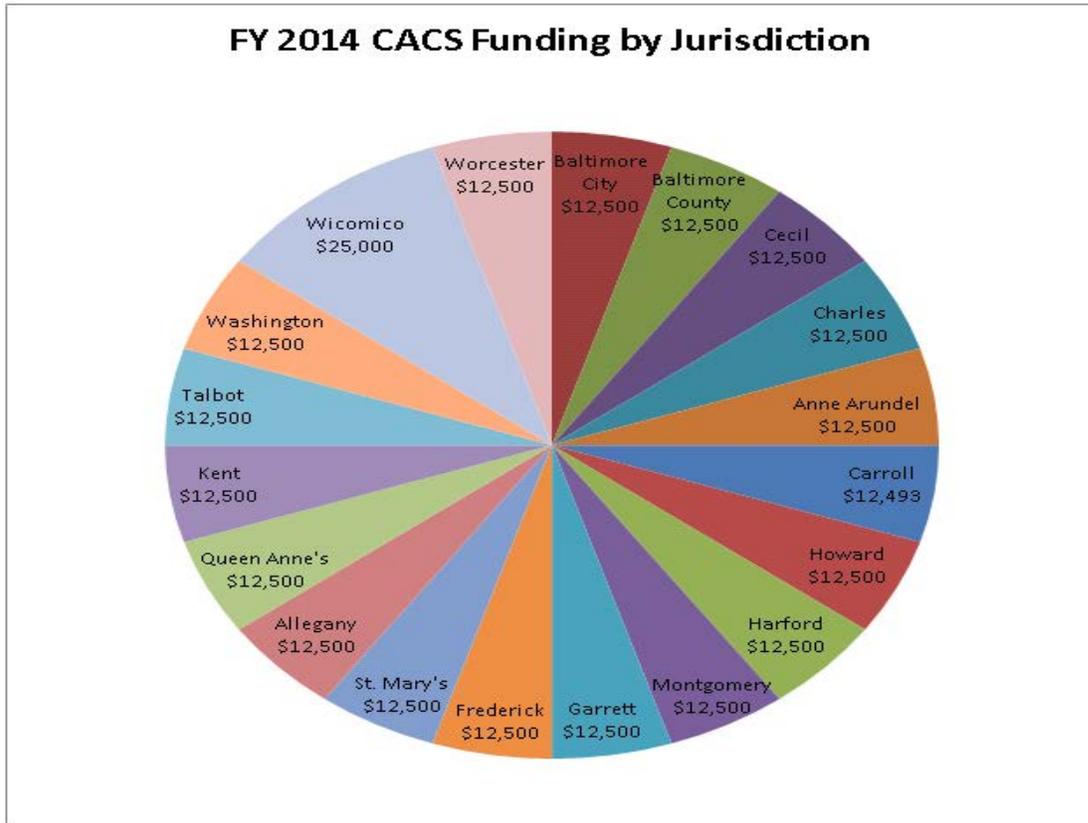
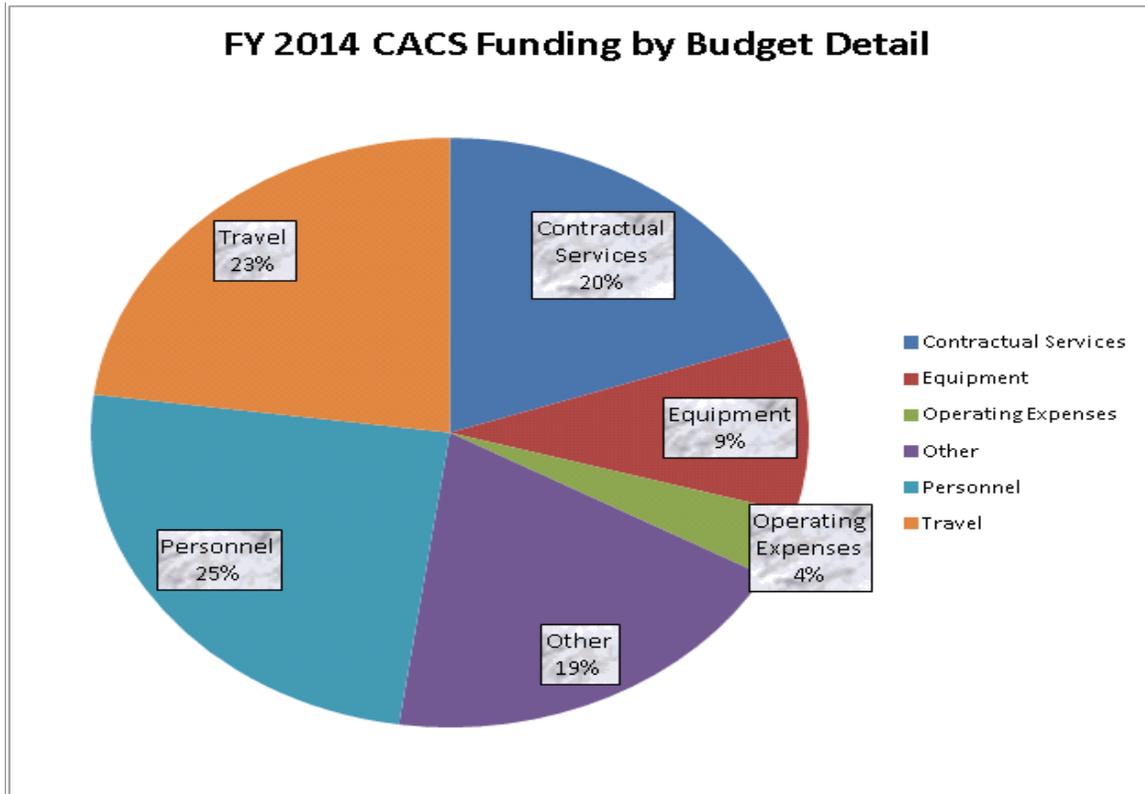


Chart reflects FY 2014 CACS funds distributed by jurisdiction.

CACS program funds go to help reduce existing gaps in services, foster collaboration and increase cooperation among partnering agencies and stakeholders throughout Maryland through salaries, operating expenses, specialized equipment and trainings. Skilled staff embrace and care for child victims of trauma and their families. Following an interview, a child is assisted by a designated case manager or advocate while rejoining their parent or guardian, by answering questions, providing a short “de-briefing” and providing referral information to the family for counseling and other needed services. Team case reviews and coordination are conducted on a regular basis to assure best possible outcomes for the child and family.

## Budget Funding for Child Advocacy Centers: FY 2014 Budget Detail



Budget Detail chart reflects how FY 2014 CACS funds were utilized by expenditure category.

### Conclusion

The Office for Victims of Crime, U.S. Department of Justice Office of Justice Programs Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) and the National Children’s Advocacy Center (NCAC) collaborate to provide cutting-edge research, best practices, models and resources to raise awareness and support child victims. One recent research brought to light a newly defined type of trauma in children termed poly-victimization, also known as complex trauma, which describes the experience of multiple victimizations of different types. Research shows that the impact of poly-victimization is much more powerful than even multiple events of a single type of victimization. This issue is strongly integrated into the Attorney General’s Defending Childhood Initiative which addresses children’s exposure to multiple types of violence. CACs now have the training and resources to properly equip child maltreatment practitioners with the skills they need to assess and assist poly-victims, provide resources for appropriate response, reaction, and questioning for all professionals working with children, throughout the nation and beyond.

## FY 2014 Child Advocacy Center Services (CACS) Awards

**Award Number:** CACS-2014-0001      **Applicant Agency:** Kent County Department of Social Services  
**Implementing Org:** Kent County Department of Social Services  
**Project Title:** Victim Advocate/Coordinator  
**Project Start Date:** 10/1/2013      **Project End Date:** 9/30/2014      **Award Amount:** \$12,500.00  
**County:** Kent      **Municipality:** County-wide      **Matching Funds:** 0

**Project Summary:**

The Kent County Department of Social Services Victim Advocate/Coordinator (VAC) program helps reduce existing gaps in services and foster collaboration and cooperation among partner agencies and stakeholders throughout Maryland. This position provides consistent advocacy and support for Kent County victims of sexual abuse and their families. The VAC develops resources, provides information and referrals, coordinates the Kent County's Child Advocacy Center Multi-Disciplinary Investigative Team (CAC-MDIT), and educates the public and other community professionals. Grant funds provide salary, training, and equipment for the Victim Advocate/Coordinator.

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**Award Number:** CACS-2014-1406      **Applicant Agency:** Baltimore Child Abuse Center, Inc.  
**Implementing Org:** Baltimore Child Abuse Center, Inc.  
**Project Title:** Long-Term Family Advocacy  
**Project Start Date:** 10/1/2013      **Project End Date:** 9/30/2014      **Award Amount:** \$12,500.00  
**County:** Baltimore City      **Municipality:** County-wide      **Matching Funds:** 0

**Project Summary:**

The Baltimore Child Abuse Center's (BCAC) Long-Term Family Advocacy program helps to close a gap in case management services available to victims of child sexual abuse in Baltimore City. The program provides assistance through the criminal justice process, courtroom advocacy, and referrals to mental health treatment and other services to victims and their families. Grant funds provide salary support.

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**Award Number:** CACS-2014-1408      **Applicant Agency:** Harford County, Maryland  
**Implementing Org:** Harford County Child Advocacy Center  
**Project Title:** Investigative Enhancement  
**Project Start Date:** 10/1/2013      **Project End Date:** 9/30/2014      **Award Amount:** \$12,500.00  
**County:** Harford      **Municipality:** County-wide      **Matching Funds:** 0

**Project Summary:**

The Harford County Child Advocacy Center Investigative Enhancement program improves public safety by supporting technological advancements, equipment enhancements and training improvements at the Child Advocacy Center while reducing existing gaps in services and fostering collaboration and cooperation among partnering agencies. This grant will assist with the ability to investigate crimes and present evidence in court for cases involving child abuse and child exploitation. Grant funds will support the purchase of equipment and necessary training.

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**Award Number:** CACS-2014-1409      **Applicant Agency:** Howard County, Maryland  
**Implementing Org:** Howard County Police Department  
**Project Title:** CAC Enhancement  
**Project Start Date:** 10/1/2013      **Project End Date:** 9/30/2014      **Award Amount:** \$12,500.00  
**County:** Howard      **Municipality:** County-wide      **Matching Funds:** 0

**Project Summary:**

The Howard County Child Advocacy Center's CAC Enhancement program helps reduce existing gaps in services and to foster collaboration and cooperation among partner agencies and stakeholders throughout Maryland. The program is a team approach to the investigation of child abuse and providing services to child victims and their families. Grant funds will provide excellent training to the various professional staff members of the CAC and assist them with their job responsibilities and investigations.

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**Award Number:** CACS-2014-1412      **Applicant Agency:** Primary Care Coalition of Montgomery County  
**Implementing Org:** Primary Care Coalition of Montgomery County  
**Project Title:** Advocacy for Abused Children  
**Project Start Date:** 10/1/2013      **Project End Date:** 6/30/2014      **Award Amount:** \$12,500.00  
**County:** Montgomery      **Municipality:** County-wide      **Matching Funds:** 0

**Project Summary:**

Primary Care Coalition's Advocacy for Abused Children project provides child abuse victims and non-offending family members broad-spectrum counseling and support, including crisis intervention, extensive guidance and support as cases move through the criminal justice system, and information on issues of importance to abuse victims (including their rights as crime victims, the components of the multidisciplinary/CAC response, and the effects investigation, adjudication, and treatment can have on families). Grant funds provide salary support for one victim advocate.

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**Award Number:** CACS-2014-1419      **Applicant Agency:** St. Mary's County Department of Social Services  
**Implementing Org:** St. Mary's County Department of Social Services

**Project Title:** Child Victims Program  
**Project Start Date:** 10/1/2013      **Project End Date:** 9/30/2014      **Award Amount:** \$12,500.00  
**County:** St. Mary's      **Municipality:** County-wide      **Matching Funds:** 0

**Project Summary:**

The St. Mary's County Child Advocacy Center's Initiative to Continuing Meeting the Needs of Child Victims helps ensure that all child victims and their family members receive assistance through services that recognize their unique circumstances and needs. This program provides child victims who present with special circumstances an opportunity to access additional evaluations, and ongoing mental health therapy. In addition, the program encourages a multidisciplinary team approach of trained professionals who have the expertise, equipment and access to information required to provide comprehensive services to victims of child maltreatment and their family members.

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**Award Number:** CACS-2014-1501      **Applicant Agency:** Cecil County, Maryland  
**Implementing Org:** Cecil County Department of Social Services

**Project Title:** Medical Services and Training  
**Project Start Date:** 10/1/2013      **Project End Date:** 9/30/2014      **Award Amount:** \$12,500.00  
**County:** Cecil      **Municipality:** County-wide      **Matching Funds:** 0

**Project Summary:**

The Cecil County Child Advocacy Center's Medical Services and Training project seeks to provide contracted medical services to child victims served through the Cecil County Child Advocacy Center. The Medical Provider will perform direct services on-site to include examination, treatment and consultation and will serve as a member of the Multi-Disciplinary Team. Funding is also requested for training for the Multi-Disciplinary Team Members and supplies to be utilized to maintain a child-friendly environment.

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**Award Number:** CACS-2014-1502      **Applicant Agency:** Queen Anne's County Department of Social Services  
**Implementing Org:** Queen Anne's County Department of Social Services

**Project Title:** Multi-Disciplinary Team Training  
**Project Start Date:** 10/1/2013      **Project End Date:** 9/30/2014      **Award Amount:** \$12,500.00  
**County:** Queen Anne's      **Municipality:** County-wide      **Matching Funds:** 0

**Project Summary:**

The Queen Anne's County (QAC) Child Abuse Response & Evaluation (CARE) Center's Multi-Disciplinary Team Training Program helps reduce existing gaps in services and fosters collaboration and cooperation among partner agencies and stakeholders throughout Maryland. The program provides specialized, advanced level training on core concepts surrounding child abuse and the children's advocacy center model. Grant funds provide training and travel costs.

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**Award Number:** CACS-2014-1503      **Applicant Agency:** Anne Arundel County Department of Social Services  
**Implementing Org:** Anne Arundel County Department of Social Services

**Project Title:** Child Advocacy Center Services  
**Project Start Date:** 11/1/2013      **Project End Date:** 9/30/2014      **Award Amount:** \$12,500.00  
**County:** Anne Arundel      **Municipality:** County-wide      **Matching Funds:** 0

**Project Summary:**

The Anne Arundel County Department of Social Services Child Advocacy Center Services program helps to reduce existing gaps in services and to foster collaboration and cooperation among partner agencies and stakeholders throughout Maryland. The program provides for the investigation of allegations of sexual child abuse/assault in collaboration with law enforcement, State's Attorney's Office, and Victim Witness Program. The program also provides forensic interviews; crisis intervention services; forensic medical exams; therapeutic treatment group for victims; and referrals for appropriate services. Grant funds provide salary, overtime, equipment, training and operating expenses.

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**Award Number:** CACS-2014-1504      **Applicant Agency:** Carroll County Board of County Commissioners  
**Implementing Org:** Carroll County Board of County Commissioners

**Project Title:** Training and Equipment  
**Project Start Date:** 10/1/2013      **Project End Date:** 9/30/2014      **Award Amount:** \$12,493.00  
**County:** Carroll      **Municipality:** County-wide      **Matching Funds:** 0

**Project Summary:**  
The Carroll County Advocacy and Investigation Center (CCAIC) Child Advocacy Center Services Training and Equipment program helps reduce existing gaps in services and foster collaboration and cooperation among partner agencies and stakeholders throughout Maryland. The program provides a friendly environment committed to reducing trauma as it investigates allegations of sexual and physical abuse and sexual assault, assesses and protects the victim, and provides resources for the victim. Grant funds provide training and equipment.

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**Award Number:** CACS-2014-1505      **Applicant Agency:** Center for Children, Inc.  
**Implementing Org:** Center for Children, Inc.

**Project Title:** Organization and Training  
**Project Start Date:** 10/1/2013      **Project End Date:** 9/30/2014      **Award Amount:** \$12,500.00  
**County:** Charles      **Municipality:** County-wide      **Matching Funds:** 0

**Project Summary:**  
The Center for Children's Organization and Training program provides training and support to allow the Charles County Child Advocacy Center to move forward with accreditation and foster collaboration among interagency team members. The program provides multidisciplinary child abuse investigation, prosecution, and treatment. Grant funds provide salary support, training, membership dues, a tracking system, and video equipment maintenance licenses.

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**Award Number:** CACS-2014-1507      **Applicant Agency:** Frederick County Board of Commissioners  
**Implementing Org:** Frederick County Board of Commissioners

**Project Title:** Training and Client Support  
**Project Start Date:** 10/1/2013      **Project End Date:** 9/30/2014      **Award Amount:** \$12,500.00  
**County:** Frederick      **Municipality:** County-wide      **Matching Funds:** 0

**Project Summary:**  
The Frederick County Child Advocacy Center Training and Client Support program helps reduce existing gaps in services and fosters collaboration and cooperation among partner agencies and stakeholders throughout Frederick County, Maryland. The program provides training for Multidisciplinary Team members, CAC supplies, and interpretive services to enhance capacity to effectively serve primary and secondary victims of child abuse/neglect within a child and family-friendly facility. Grant funds provide for training expenses, interpretive services for therapy and advocacy for children and their non-offending caregivers, and office supplies and furniture.

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**Award Number:** CACS-2014-1510      **Applicant Agency:** Jane's Place, Inc.  
**Implementing Org:** Jane's Place, Inc.

**Project Title:** Jane's Place  
**Project Start Date:** 10/1/2013      **Project End Date:** 9/30/2014      **Award Amount:** \$12,500.00  
**County:** Allegany      **Municipality:** County-wide      **Matching Funds:** 0

**Project Summary:**  
Jane's Place, Inc., provides a child-friendly facility where children who have alleged to have been traumatized from sexual and physical abuse are interviewed and undergo medical examinations. Coordinated services are provided in order to avoid creating additional trauma from the child needing to recount the incidents of abuse with child protective service workers, law enforcement, and prosecutors. Grant funding provides salary support.

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**Award Number:** CACS-2014-1511      **Applicant Agency:** Life Crisis Center, Inc.  
**Implementing Org:** Life Crisis Center, Inc.

**Project Title:** Somerset CAC Team Training Initiative  
**Project Start Date:** 10/1/2013      **Project End Date:** 9/30/2014      **Award Amount:** \$12,500.00  
**County:** Wicomico      **Municipality:** County-wide      **Matching Funds:** 0

**Project Summary:**

The Life Crisis Center's Somerset CAC Team Training Initiative fosters collaboration and team building among partner agencies to ensure best practices in the investigation, prosecution and treatment of child sexual abuse. Grant funds will provide training costs for the 5 person team to receive joint training. Funds will also provide personnel costs, occupancy costs, travel costs, and equipment costs.

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**Award Number:** CACS-2014-1513      **Applicant Agency:** Talbot County Department of Social Services  
**Implementing Org:** Talbot County Department of Social Services

**Project Title:** Children's Advocacy Center Program  
**Project Start Date:** 10/1/2013      **Project End Date:** 9/30/2014      **Award Amount:** \$12,500.00  
**County:** Talbot      **Municipality:** County-wide      **Matching Funds:** 0

**Project Summary:**  
Talbot County Children's Advocacy Center (TCCAC) Program helps reduce existing gaps in services and fosters collaboration and cooperation among partner agencies and stakeholders throughout Maryland. The program provides trauma centered psychological services and advocacy for child victims and their families, offers counseling to non-offending caregivers and adult survivors of child sexual abuse, and provides training opportunities for staff on cutting edge practices for child victims. Grant funds provides contractual services and training.

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**Award Number:** CACS-2014-1514      **Applicant Agency:** Washington County Department of Social Services  
**Implementing Org:** Washington County Department of Social Services

**Project Title:** Safe Place - Child Advocacy Center  
**Project Start Date:** 10/1/2013      **Project End Date:** 9/30/2014      **Award Amount:** \$12,500.00  
**County:** Washington      **Municipality:** County-wide      **Matching Funds:** 0

**Project Summary:**  
The Washington County Department of Social Services' Safe Place - Child Advocacy Center program helps to reduce existing gaps in services and to foster collaboration and cooperation among partner agencies and stakeholders throughout Maryland. The program provides a child-friendly environment during collaborative investigations, therapeutic/medical interventions, and criminal prosecutions of child abuse cases. Grant funds provide equipment and supplies.

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**Award Number:** CACS-2014-1515      **Applicant Agency:** Wicomico County Department of Social Services  
**Implementing Org:** Wicomico County Department of Social Services

**Project Title:** Counseling Services  
**Project Start Date:** 10/1/2013      **Project End Date:** 9/30/2014      **Award Amount:** \$12,500.00  
**County:** Wicomico      **Municipality:** County-wide      **Matching Funds:** 0

**Project Summary:**  
The Wicomico County Department of Social Services's Counseling Services program helps reduce existing gaps in services and to foster collaboration and cooperation among partner agencies and stakeholders throughout Maryland. The program provides a multidisciplinary team approach to assess allegations of child maltreatment in Wicomico County, Maryland. The program addresses issues of child physical & sexual abuse, neglect and mental injury. Grant funds provide salary support.

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**Award Number:** CACS-2014-1516      **Applicant Agency:** Baltimore County, Maryland  
**Implementing Org:** Baltimore County Department of Social Services

**Project Title:** Program Enhancement Project  
**Project Start Date:** 10/1/2013      **Project End Date:** 9/30/2014      **Award Amount:** \$12,500.00  
**County:** Baltimore County      **Municipality:** County-wide      **Matching Funds:** 0

**Project Summary:**  
The Baltimore County Department of Health and Human Services Program Enhancement Project helps reduce existing gaps in services and fosters collaboration and cooperation among partner agencies and stakeholders throughout Maryland. The program provides assistance to CAC personnel in the investigation of crimes against children, specialized services to child victims of crime, and facilities in which the healing process can begin for victims of crime. Grant funds provide specialized equipment and training.

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**Award Number:** CACS-2014-1517      **Applicant Agency:** Garrett County Department of Social Services  
**Implementing Org:** Garrett County Department of Social Services

**Project Title:** Child Advocacy Center  
**Project Start Date:** 10/1/2013      **Project End Date:** 9/30/2014      **Award Amount:** \$12,500.00

**County:** Garrett

**Municipality:** County-wide

**Matching Funds:** 0

**Project Summary:**

The Garrett County Department of Social Services's Child Advocacy Center program helps reduce existing gaps in services and foster collaboration and cooperation among partner agencies and stakeholders throughout Maryland. The program provides services to victims of child abuse/assault and child sexual abuse/assault. Services include a multi-disciplinary system of care through a Child Advocacy Center (CAC) utilizing its various methods of treatment for individuals and groups as well as ancillary child and family support services. These services include child abuse investigation, forensic interviewing, medical services, and therapeutic services. Partners include representatives from the disciplines of child welfare, law enforcement, medical, and prosecution. Grant funds provide training for the multi-disciplinary team members.

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**Award Number:** CACS-2014-1551

**Applicant Agency:** The Cricket Center, Inc.

**Implementing Org:** The Cricket Center, Inc.

**Project Title:** Multi Disciplinary Team

**Project Start Date:** 10/1/2013

**Project End Date:** 9/30/2014

**Award Amount:** \$12,500.00

**County:** Worcester

**Municipality:** County-wide

**Matching Funds:** 0

**Project Summary:**

The CRICKET Center's (Child Advocacy Center) Program Manager helps reduce existing gaps in services and fosters collaboration and cooperation among partner agencies and stakeholders throughout Worcester County, Maryland. The Program Manager enhances the use of the multi-disciplinary team, the Child Advocacy Center approach, improves screening and response time, and models best practice standards. The program supports the Program Manager, who serves as the Multi-Disciplinary Team coordinator. Program funds provide salary.

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**Total Awards:** 20

**Total Funds:** \$249,993.00