



GOVERNOR'S COORDINATING OFFICES

COMMUNITY INITIATIVES • SERVICE & VOLUNTEERISM • PERFORMANCE IMPROVEMENT  
CRIME CONTROL & PREVENTION • SMALL, MINORITY & WOMEN BUSINESS AFFAIRS  
CHILDREN • DEAF & HARD OF HEARING

January 12, 2018

The Honorable Larry Hogan  
Governor of Maryland  
100 State Circle,  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

The Honorable Michael Erin Busch  
Speaker of the House of Delegates  
State House, H-101,  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

The Honorable Thomas V. Mike Miller, Jr.  
President of the Senate  
State House, H-107,  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Dear Governor Hogan, President Miller, and Speaker Busch:

Provided for your review is a copy of the Fiscal Year 2017 Annual Report for the Child Advocacy Center Services grant program in Maryland, set forth under Criminal Procedure Article, § 11-923(h), MSAR 8610. Please accept this report as a fulfillment of the Governor's Office of Crime Control & Prevention's requirement to produce an annual report on the Child Advocacy Centers in Maryland. Enclosed is the required report.

Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact my office at (410) 697-9338.

Sincerely,

V. Glenn Fueston, Jr.  
Executive Director  
Governor's Office of Crime Control & Prevention

Enclosure



**Child Advocacy Center Services**  
**FY 2017**  
**Criminal Procedure Article, § 11-923(h)**  
**MSAR 8610**

**Larry Hogan**  
Governor

**Boyd K. Rutherford**  
Lt. Governor

**V. Glenn Fueston, Jr.**  
Executive Director  
Governor's Office of Crime Control & Prevention

January 1, 2018

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

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## Introduction

Child Advocacy Centers provide a coordinated, multidisciplinary approach to the problem of child abuse. Child Advocacy Centers 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. Child Advocacy Centers also help reduce existing gaps in services and foster collaboration among partner agencies and stakeholders throughout Maryland. Child Advocacy Centers promote and provide specialized training for professionals, and extend efforts to promote public awareness and prevention.

Section 11-923(h) of the Criminal Procedure Article requires the Governor's Office of Crime Control & Prevention to establish and sustain Child Advocacy Centers and states:

“(2) The child advocacy centers:

- (i) may be based in private nonprofit organizations, local departments of social services, local law enforcement agencies, or a partnership among any of these entities;
- (ii) shall be developed and located to facilitate their use by alleged victims residing in the surrounding areas;
- (iii) shall investigate allegations of sexual crimes against children and sexual abuse of minors;
- (iv) shall provide or facilitate referrals to appropriate counseling, legal, medical, and advocacy services for victims; and
- (v) shall be included in all joint investigation procedures developed in accordance with § 5-706 of the Family Law Article.”

In 2010, legislation was enacted to support 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. (Criminal Procedure Article, §11-923(h)).

## Goal and Intent of the Child Advocacy Center Services Program

The goal and intent of the Child Advocacy Center Services program are to help reduce existing gaps in services, foster collaboration and increase cooperation among partnering agencies and stakeholders throughout Maryland. Child Advocacy Centers stress coordination of investigative and intervention services by bringing together professionals and agencies as a multidisciplinary team to create a child-focused approach to child abuse cases. The main goal of all Child Advocacy Centers is to ensure that children are not traumatized by the very system designed to protect them.

## FY 2017 Child Advocacy Center Funding in Maryland

In October 2010, the Governor's Office of Crime Control & Prevention started its first year of funding to Child Advocacy Centers under the Child Advocacy Center Services grant program. The partnerships which consists of child advocates, law enforcement, Child Protective Services, and the State's Attorney's Office, combine compassion for victims with a commitment to the criminal justice system. The criminal justice system is a vital participant and first responder in our overall effort to protect our children.

It should be noted that for the FY 2017 budget, Governor Hogan realigned the budget of the Governor's Office of Crime Control & Prevention to increase the funding to Child Advocacy Centers by \$50,000. In FY 2017, 21 Child Advocacy Centers were funded in the amount of \$299,242 (See Appendix A). The purpose of these funds 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,
- Support for successful prosecution of all child abuse cases;
- Training; and
- Public outreach.

In FY 2017, these grants provided services to 7,173 crime victims and trained 1,523 criminal justice providers, crisis response teams, and advocates.

## Appendix A

Listed below are the FY 2017 Child Advocacy Center Services program sub-recipients.

**Applicant:** Jane's Place, Inc.

**Project Title:** Child Advocacy Center Services

**County:** Allegany

**Award Number:** CACS-2017-1906

**Summary:** The Jane's Place Child Advocacy Center program assists in developing and implementing strategies specifically intended to provide assistance to child sexual assault victims and their families in the State of Maryland. The development of a Parents Empowering Parents Program provides for a support group for parents of sexually abused children. Grant funds will provide salary, training, and memberships.

**Award Amount:** \$14,778.00

**Applicant:** Anne Arundel County Department of Social Services

**Project Title:** Child Advocacy Center Services

**County:** Anne Arundel

**Award Number:** CACS-2017-1902

**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, training, and memberships.

**Award Amount:** \$11,904.00

**Applicant:** Baltimore Child Abuse Center, Inc.

**Project Title:** Family Advocacy

**County:** Baltimore City

**Award Number:** CACS-2017-1901

**Summary:** The Baltimore Child Abuse Center (BCAC) Family Advocacy program assists in developing and implementing strategies specifically intended to provide assistance to child sexual assault victims and their families in the State of Maryland. 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 personnel.

**Award Amount:** \$15,950.00

**Applicant:** Baltimore County Department of Health

**Project Title:** Child Advocacy Center Services

**County:** Baltimore County

**Award Number:** CACS-2017-1915

**Summary:** The Baltimore County Department of Health and Human Services Child Advocacy Center Services assists in developing and implementing strategies specifically intended to provide assistance to child sexual abuse victims and their families in the State of Maryland. The Child Advocacy Center Services' 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 and their family. Program funds provide equipment and training.

**Award Amount:** \$14,511.00

**Applicant:** Carroll County Sheriff's Office

**Project Title:** Enhancement Project

**County:** Carroll

**Award Number:** CACS-2017-1916

**Summary:** The Carroll County Sheriff's Office Enhancement Project program assists in developing and implementing strategies specifically intended to provide assistance to child sexual assault victims and their families in the State of Maryland. The Child Advocacy Center Services' 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. Program funds provide training and equipment.

**Award Amount:** \$9,267.24

**Applicant:** Cecil County Department of Social Services

**Project Title:** Medical Services and Training

**County:** Cecil

**Award Number:** CACS-2017-1920

**Summary:** The Cecil County Department of Social Services Medical Services and Training program seeks to provide contracted medical services to child victims of child abuse. The Medical Provider will perform direct services on-site to include examination, treatment, and consultation and will serve as a member of the Multidisciplinary Team. Grant funds will provide onsite medical services, memberships, and educational material.

**Award Amount:** \$14,501.88

**Applicant:** Center for Children, Inc.

**Project Title:** Child Advocacy Project

**County:** Charles

**Award Number:** CACS-2017-1903

**Summary:** The Center for Children, Inc. Child Advocacy Project assists in developing and implementing strategies specifically intended to provide assistance to child sexual assault victims and their families in the State of Maryland. The program provides multidisciplinary child abuse investigation, prosecution, and treatment, as well as, training and support to allow the Charles County Child Advocacy Center to move forward with accreditation and foster collaboration among inter-agency team members. Program funds provide salary support, training, and contractual services.

**Award Amount:** \$14,513.00

**Applicant:** Frederick County, Maryland

**Project Title:** Child Advocacy Center Services

**County:** Frederick

**Award Number:** CACS-2017-1904

**Summary:** The Child Advocacy Center of Frederick County Child Advocacy Center Services program assists in developing and implementing strategies specifically intended to provide assistance to child maltreatment victims and their families in Frederick County. The program utilizes a multidisciplinary team approach to investigation, prosecution, treatment, education, and advocacy. Program funds provide training, memberships, and contractual services.

**Award Amount:** \$15,865.96

**Applicant:** Garrett County Department of Social Services

**Project Title:** Team Training Initiative

**County:** Garrett

**Award Number:** CACS-2017-1910

**Summary:** The Garrett County Department of Social Services Team Training Initiative program assists in developing and implementing strategies specifically intended to provide assistance to child sexual assault victims and their families in the State of Maryland. The program helps reduce existing gaps in services and foster collaboration and cooperation among partner agencies and stakeholders throughout Maryland. The program provides child abuse investigation, forensic interviewing, medical services and therapeutic services. Program funds provide training and operating expenses.

**Award Amount:** \$14,513.00

**Applicant:** Harford County Child Advocacy Center

**Project Title:** Investigative Enhancement

**County:** Harford

**Award Number:** CACS-2017-0002

**Summary:** The Harford County Investigative Enhancement program assists in developing and implementing strategies specifically intended to provide assistance to child sexual assault victims and their families in the State of Maryland. The program seeks to improve public safety by supporting technological advancements and training at the Child Advocacy Center. Grant funds will improve the ability to investigate crimes and present evidence in court for child abuse and child exploitation cases. Grant funds support training and equipment.

**Award Amount:** \$14,778.00

**Applicant:** Howard County Police Department

**Project Title:** Child Advocacy Center Enhancement Program

**County:** Howard

**Award Number:** CACS-2017-1919

**Summary:** The Howard County Police Department's Child Advocacy Center Enhancement Project 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 for the investigation of child abuse and provides services to child victims and their families. Grant funds will provide training to the various professional staff members and assist them with investigations. Grant funds will provide training.

**Award Amount:** \$14,507.77

**Applicant:** Kent County Department of Social Services

**Project Title:** Child Advocacy Center Services

**County:** Kent

**Award Number:** CACS-2017-1918

**Summary:** The Kent County Department of Social Services Child Advocacy Project helps reduce existing gaps in services and foster collaboration and cooperation among partner agencies and stakeholders throughout Maryland. This program provides consistent advocacy and support for Kent County victims of sexual abuse and their families. It also 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 support, equipment, and supplies.

**Award Amount:** \$13,219.00

**Applicant:** Primary Care Coalition of Montgomery County

**Project Title:** Victims Advocate

**County:** Montgomery

**Award Number:** CACS-2017-1905

**Summary:** The Primary Care Coalition Victims Advocate program develops and implements services specifically intended to assist child maltreatment victims and their families in the State of Maryland. The project funds a victim advocate who provides child victims and family members crisis intervention and prevention; information and support during an investigation, prosecution, and treatment; and guidance as cases move through the justice system. Grant funds provide salary support.

**Award Amount:** \$14,513.00

**Applicant:** Prince George's County Department of Social Services

**Project Title:** Enhancement Project

**County:** Prince George's

**Award Number:** CACS-2017-1321

**Summary:** The Prince George's County Department of Social Services Enhancement Project will assist developing and implementing strategies specifically intended to provide assistance to child sexual assault victims and their families in the State of 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, renders medical expertise in the evaluation of child sexual abuse and supports training opportunities. Grant funds provide contractual services, equipment, and training.

**Award Amount:** \$14,513.00

**Applicant:** Queen Anne's County Department of Social Services

**Project Title:** CARE Team Training

**County:** Queen Anne's

**Award Number:** CACS-2017-1908

**Summary:** The Queen Anne's County Department of Social Services' CARE Team Training program will enhance the team's expertise in investigating, prosecuting, and treating cases of child sexual abuse in Queen Anne's County, Maryland. The project will offer the team specialized, advanced level training in core concepts around child sexual abuse and the children's advocacy center model. Grant funds provide training.

**Award Amount:** \$15,950.00

**Applicant:** St. Mary's County Department of Social Services

**Project Title:** Enhancement Project

**County:** St. Mary's

**Award Number:** CACS-2017-1911

**Summary:** The St. Mary's County Child Department of Social Services Enhancement Project will assist developing and implementing strategies specifically intended to provide assistance to child sexual assault victims and their families in the State of 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, renders medical expertise in the evaluation of child sexual abuse and supports training opportunities. Grant funds provide travel contractual services.

**Award Amount:** \$14,401.43

**Applicant:** Talbot County Department of Social Services

**Project Title:** Children's Advocacy Center Program

**County:** Talbot

**Award Number:** CACS-2017-1912

**Summary:** Talbot County Department of Social Services Children's Advocacy Center program assists in developing strategies specifically intended to provide assistance to child sexual assault victims and their families. 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, renders medical expertise in the evaluation of child sexual abuse and supports training opportunities for Multidisciplinary Team (MDT) members. Grant funds provide travel, contractual services, and supplies.

**Award Amount:** \$14,513.78

**Applicant:** Washington County Department of Social Services

**Project Title:** Child Advocacy Center Program

**County:** Washington

**Award Number:** CACS-2017-1907

**Summary:** The Washington County Department of Social Services Child Advocacy Center Program assists in developing and implementing strategies specifically intended to provide assistance to child sexual assault victims and their families in the State of Maryland. The 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. Grant funds provide training, equipment, and supplies.

**Award Amount:** \$14,435.77

**Applicant:** Wicomico County Department of Social Services

**Project Title:** Child Advocacy Center Services

**County:** Wicomico

**Award Number:** CACS-2017-1909

**Summary:** The Wicomico County Department of Social Services Child Advisory Center Services program assists in developing and implementing strategies specifically intended to provide assistance to child sexual assault victims and their families in the State of 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 training, equipment, operating expenses and supportive services.

**Award Amount:** \$14,753.01

**Applicant:** Life Crisis Center, Inc.

**Project Title:** Team Training Initiative

**County:** Wicomico

**Award Number:** CACS-2017-1917

**Summary:** The Life Crisis Center's Team Training Initiative program assists in developing and implementing strategies specifically intended to provide assistance to child sexual assault victims and their families in the State of Maryland. The Child Advocacy Center fosters collaboration and team building among partner agencies to ensure best practices in the investigation, prosecution, and treatment of child sexual abuse. Program funds provide training and operating expenses.

**Award Amount:** \$14,513.00

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

**Project Title:** Advocacy Center Professional Development

**County:** Worcester

**Award Number:** CACS-2017-1914

**Summary:** The Cricket Center, Inc.'s Child Advocacy Center Professional Development program assists in developing and implementing strategies specifically intended to provide assistance to child sexual assault victims and their families in the State of Maryland. The Program Manager enhances the use of the multidisciplinary team and the child advocacy center approach, improves screening and response time and models best practice standards. The Program Manager serves as the multidisciplinary team coordinator. Grant funds provide salary support.

**Award Amount:** \$13,341.00