



children's
ADVOCACY CENTER
OF KENT COUNTY

Leading the effort against child sexual abuse.

cac-kent.org

Leah Ortiz, LMSW-Clinical, J.D. - President & CEO

As I reflect on my first year as CEO of the Center, I continue to be humbled by the dedication of our team and partners, who show up each and every day to do this work. Together, we have faced challenges, celebrated successes, and most importantly, provided support and services for children impacted by sexual abuse. I would like to share a few highlights from the the past year and share what is coming next:



Reintroduction of onsite medical examinations: These exams are an essential part of the healing process for children who have experienced sexual abuse. By providing these services within the comforting and familiar walls of our Center, the emotional burden that can come with navigating multiple unfamiliar environments is minimized.

Enhanced mock courtroom: A mural, depicting a jury, now transforms the space into a more realistic environment helping children feel prepared and confident as they engage with the legal system. Watching a child find their voice, in the face of daunting circumstances, is a powerful reminder of the critical role we play in supporting them through their journey to justice.

MDT Orientations: Multidisciplinary Team (MDT) Orientations were launched in 2024. This training familiarizes partner agency staff with the Center and emphasizes the critical role of collaboration among MDT partners. Materials are tailored for new detectives, caseworkers, and other agency staff, offering a chance to see firsthand how each service we provide integrates into the larger multidisciplinary response.

Implementation of Key Performance Indicators (KPIs): By tracking and analyzing data, we can assess our progress, identify opportunities for growth, and ensure we are delivering the highest quality of services. These metrics not only keep us grounded in our mission but also provide a clear vision for the road ahead.

We know that the work of healing and justice does not stop at the walls of the Center. We will continue to focus on increasing the awareness of child sexual abuse prevention and intervention. At the same time, we will deepen our engagement with vital partners in the community to ensure a seamless and effective response happens for every child we serve.

Creating a community where children are safe, supported, and empowered requires the collaboration of not only the multidisciplinary team, but the entire County. Every individual, organization, and community member plays a crucial role in fostering an environment where our children can thrive. I hope you will join us.

Best wishes, *Leah Ortiz*

Walk In Their Shoes



Building Trust. Inspiring Hope. Empowering Community.

Since our inception, we have supported over 25,000 children and families through our one-of-a-kind multidisciplinary approach. The Children's Advocacy Center of Kent County opened its doors in 1993 to serve suspected victims of child sexual abuse. For the past three decades, the Center has helped to minimize trauma, by providing a space where a child has access to every service they may need and where they only have to tell their story once.

To support children and families impacted by sexual abuse, we combine the efforts of a multidisciplinary team (MDT) to build trust and provide life changing services that promote hope and healing, while seeking justice. In Kent County, our MDT consists of partnerships with 10 law enforcement agencies, Children's Protective Services, the Kent County Prosecutor's Office, and the YWCA. It also comprises our internal team of forensic interviewers, therapists, and advocates.

Finances

October 1, 2023 - September 30, 2024

Condensed Statement of Financial Position*

Assets

Current Assets	\$1,083,238
Property and Equipment (Net)	\$2,290,252
Other Assets (Promises to Give)	\$3,476,090

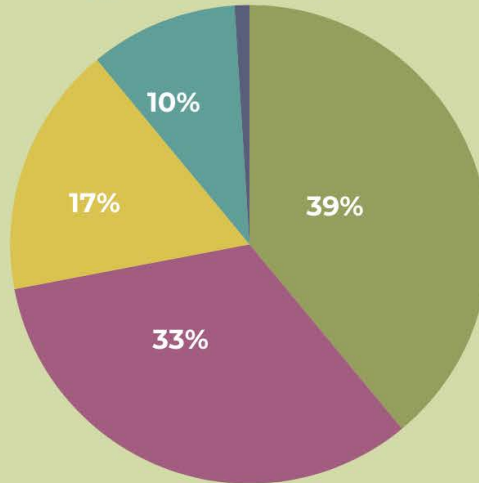
Total Assets

Liabilities & Equity

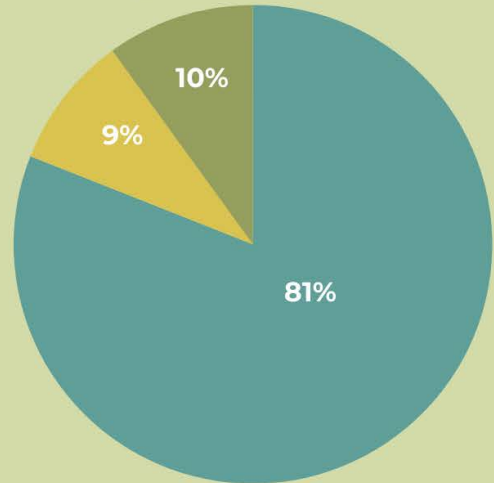
Current Liabilities	\$164,886
Long-Term Liabilities	-
Equity	\$3,311,204
Total Liabilities & Equity	\$3,476,090

*This project is supported by the Victims of Crime Act, awarded by the State of Michigan and administered by the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services - Division of Victim Services. Points of view or opinions contained within this document do not necessarily represent the official position or policies of the State of Michigan or the MDHHS-DVS.

Revenue



Expenses



This is an unofficial financial report, for an audited financial report please email djohnston@cac-kent.org

The Impact of Child Sexual Abuse

Without treatment, children who have been sexually abused are more likely to experience the following throughout their lives.



PTSD, Anxiety, and Depression



Substance use



Challenges with behavior and social skills



Self-inflicted harm



Decreased school performance



Heart disease



Inability to form lasting relationships



Sleep and eating disorders

Children's Advocacy Center of Kent County - Board of Directors

Gail Scott

Board Chair
Retired, Founder & CEO
MorningStar Health, Inc.

Chief Kimberly Koster

Vice Chair
Chief of Police
Wyoming Police Department

Kim Krause

Secretary
VP/General Manager
WXMI FOX17

Tim Emmitt

Treasurer
Partner
Bridge Leadership Solutions LLC

Chris Becker

Chief Prosecutor
Kent County Prosecutor's Office

Anne DeWys

HR Consultant
MI HR Oasis, LLC

Andrew Fuelling

Underwriting Manager
County Reinsurance Limited

Jeff Fraser

Attorney
Miller Johnson

Jane Gietzen

Director - Digital Services
Corewell Health

Sgt. Matthew Hooker

Kent County Sheriff's Office

Damika Houston

Owner, Therapist
Healing Minds Counseling Services

Kyle Irwin

Community Advocate

Sheriff Michelle LaJoye-Young

Kent County Sheriff's Office

India Manns

Community Advocate

Fran Miller

Community Advocate

Savator Selden-Johnson

Retired-Former Kent County
Child Welfare Director

Tracey Silas

Director,
Michigan Department of Health & Human
Services, Kent County

Kelli Smith

President & CEO
UMRC - Porter Hills Foundation

Mercedes Toohey

Retired Educator

Lance Werner

Executive Director
Kent District Library

Chief Eric Winstrom

Chief of Police
Grand Rapids Police Department



FY24 Clinical Impact

490

Forensic Interviews

23,976

Hours of Forensic Interviews

697

Children Received Services

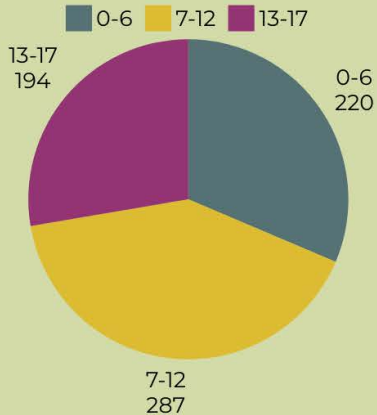
1,751

Therapy Sessions

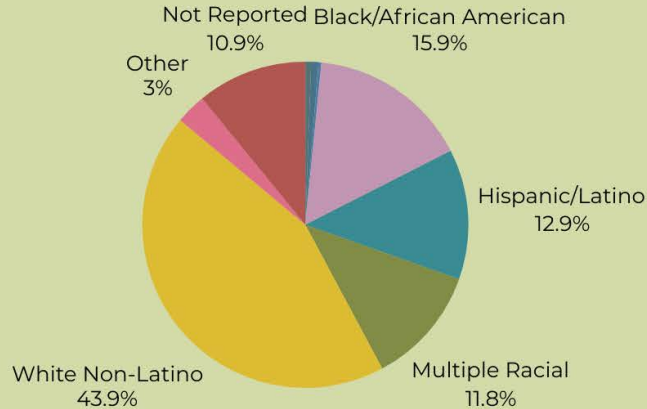
568

Caregivers Received Services

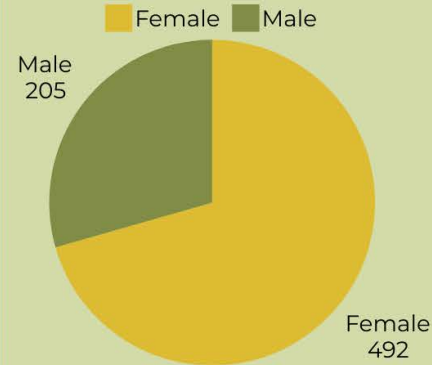
Age of Children Receiving Services



Services by Race



Services by Gender



Client Wish List

A child's physical and mental health are important. The basic needs of a child are food, sleep, clothing, a shelter, and health. While at the Center, children are welcomed into a safe environment that promotes health by processing the traumatic-experiences that they have had.

Many children come to the Center right from school, leaving no time for an afternoon snack, which can improve attention, engagement, and even build rapport with their therapist. Having a variety of healthy snacks onsite is beneficial for our clients.

The Center is also always in need of items that help us make children feel more comfortable and at-ease, while addressing their trauma and learning coping skills while they heal.

Shop our Amazon Wish List at cac-kent.org/client-wish-lists for items that would benefit our clients and the Center.



Bacon - Facility Dog

Sharing some of his favorite items
from our Amazon Wish List

Kids Have Rights™ - 2023-2024

1,211

Body Safety
Education Lessons

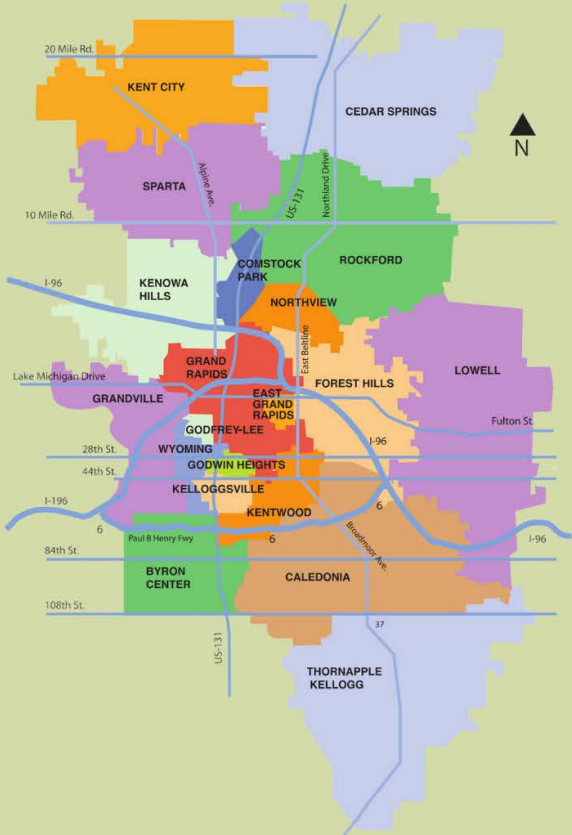
26,287

Students
K-4th

*"Material was presented in a child friendly language and in a way that helped them to understand a topic that can be uncomfortable. Thank you for continuing to support our students."
-4th Grade Teacher-*

Following Kids Have Rights™ body safety lessons **35** students disclosed sexual abuse or unsafe behavior to Kids Have Rights educators.

Kids Have Rights™ Participating Schools



CEDAR SPRINGS

Cedar View
Beach
Cedar Trails

KENT CITY

Kent City

GODWIN HEIGHTS

North Godwin
West Godwin

KELLOGGSVILLE

Southeast Kelloggsville
Central Kelloggsville
West Kelloggsville

WYOMING

Gladiola
West Wyoming
Oriole Park
Parkview-Wyoming

SPARTA

Applevue
Ridgeview

KENOWA HILLS

Alpine
Central-Kenowa Hills
Zinser

GODFREY-LEE

Godfrey ECC
Godfrey Elementary

GRANDVILLE

East Grandville
South Grandville
West Grandville
Cummings

COMSTOCK PARK

Stoney Creek
Pine Island

KENTWOOD

Bowen
Brookwood
Glenwood
Meadowlawn
Southwood
Townline
Discovery
Endeavor
Explorer
Challenger

BYRON CENTER

Countryside
Brown
Marshall

EAST GRAND RAPIDS

Wealthy
Lakeside
Breton Downs

LOWELL

Alto
Bushnell
Cherry Creek
Murray Lake

ROCKFORD

Belmont
Cannonsburg
Crestwood
Lakes
Meadow Ridge
Parkside
Rougewood
Valley View

CALEDONIA

Kettle Lake
Paris Ridge
Caledonia El
Dutton
Emmons Lake

GRANDVILLE

Century Park
Learning Center
Grand View

NORTHVIEW

East Oakview
North Oakview
West Oakview

PRIVATE SCHOOLS

AnchorPoint Christian
Living Stones Christian
Grandville Christian
GR Christian - Evergreen
Grand Rapids Christian
The Potter's House

GRPS SCHOOLS

Aberdeen
Dickenson
GR Ford
GR Montessori
Harrison Park
MLK Jr.
North Park Montessori
Shawmut Hills
Sherwood Park
Southwest Community
Brookside
Buchanan
Burton
CA Frost
Campus
César E. Chavéz
Coit
Congress
East Leonard
Ken-O-Sha
Kent Hills
Mulik Park
Palmer
Ridgemoor
Sibley
Stocking

CHARTER SCHOOLS

New Branches
Child Discovery Center
William C Abney Academy
WMAES (W)
Stepping Stones Montessori

Ambassadors & Foundational Ambassadors

Ambassadors of the Center have an opportunity to make a lasting difference in the lives of Kent County children and families, and mitigate the long-term public health impacts that child sexual abuse carries throughout our entire community. The Commitment: A dedicated annual contribution of at least \$1,000, with an invitation to renew status every 12 months.

Foundational Ambassadors FY24 Ambassadors

Buist
David and Angela Burke
Dr. Edward and Linda Cox
Jamie D'Agostino
Grand River Bank
Gun Lake Casino
Leah and Pepé Ortiz
*Tonya Porter

**Posthumously*

Doug Bellah
Robert and Nancy Bierenga
John Boeschstein
Tracy Breihof
Dr. William and Kathy Bush
Carlovers Carwash
Aisha Coulson-Walters
Amanda and Justin Fielder
Twink Frey
Garza Labor
Jane Gietzen
George and Susan Heartwell

Kim and Kent Hildebrand
Linda Hoemke
Win and Kyle Irwin
Alissandra Kruer
Karen Kania and Peg McClure
JD Loeks
Deborah McNabb
Fran and David Miller
Ron and Patty Miller
Walter and Roxann Monroe
Tom and Brenda Muraski
Joan Panopoulos

Melissa Perrine
Davin and Rashelle Reust
Mary Ann Sabo
Vincent and Carol Schumacher
Gail and David Scott
Hon. Sara Smolenski and Linda Burpee
Douglas and Alix Thompson
Melissa and Todd Vigh
Dr. Michael and Rebecca Vredenburg
John and Vicky Weller
Lyndsay Westdale

Become An Ambassador Today

By becoming an Ambassador of the Center you are ensuring our services are a sustainable resource for survivors of child sexual abuse while providing direct services at no-cost.

Program Benefits:

- Access to Ambassador Coffee Hours
- Listed in Annual Report
- Recognition at Center Events
- Listed on Website
- Tour Opportunities
- Annual Gift



Core Staff

Leah Ortiz, LMSW-Clinical, J.D. President & CEO
Daneil Johnston Business Manager
Kyle Amanda Leonard Development & Communications
Director
Misti DeVries Office Manager
Kelsey Klumpstra Intake & MDT Coordinator

Monica Lopez, BA Advocate
Kendra Anderson, BSW Advocate
Lauren Kubiak, BS Advocate

Augustena Baar, BSW Forensic Services Supervisor
Marcia Van Soelen, LLMSW Forensic Interviewer
Onalee Roberts, LLMSW Forensic Interviewer
Kierra Gietzen Client Services Receptionist

Megan Van Wyhe, LMSW Clinical Supervisor
Amanda Watters, LLMSW Therapist
Bria Smith, LLMSW Therapist

Andrea Woller Prevention Services Supervisor
Sarah Claus Kids Have Rights™ Educator
Paula Visser Kids Have Rights™ Educator
Lisa Wodarek Kids Have Rights™ Educator

Bacon Facility Dog

