



News and Notes

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Of Special Interest:

- **Northern Kentucky Children's Advocacy Center**
- **Green Dot Kentucky**

Children are apt to live up to what we believe of them.

Lady Bird Johnson

In This Issue....

- Upcoming Conferences.....2
- Green Dot Kentucky.....2
- On-Line Safety and Children....3
- CACs across Kentucky.....3
- On-line Resources.....4

Northern Kentucky Child Advocacy Center Triumphs Over Growing Pains

April showers were nowhere to be found during the groundbreaking ceremony for the Northern Kentucky Child Advocacy Center's (NKCAC) new home – a home that promises to be bigger and better equipped to meet the needs of victimized children.

Initially founded in 1987 to provide medical services to physically and sexually abused children, as well as children who have witnessed violent crimes, NKCAC's history is a series of firsts. The organization was the first center in Kentucky to receive accreditation from the National Children's Alliance; it was the first in the state to use a forensic interviewer; and the first to provide child sexual abuse medical examinations. It is the longest-standing child advocacy center in Kentucky, and the only such center based with a hospital.

NKCAC saw 180 children in its first year of operation. That number has since grown to well over 500 children from Boone, Campbell, Carroll, Gallatin, Grant, Kenton, Owen and Pendleton counties. While the increase in children is a tribute to the strengths of NKCAC's services, it has also resulted in a few growing pains.

Currently, NKCAC and its partner The St. Luke Hospitals share space at the hospital's Pediatric Center in Bellevue. While this arrangement has proven satisfactory up to this point, the staff became increasingly aware that they needed more than one observation and examination room to fully focus on children's well-being. Combined with the fact that a single waiting area posed privacy issues for victimized children, research began on how to best meet the center's growing needs. After thoroughly examining all possibilities, the decision was made to build an entirely new facility on the campus of St. Luke Hospital West in Florence.

The cost of the new building reaches upwards of \$2.5 million -- \$1 million of which was provided by a community block grant from the cities of Florence and Fort Thomas, home to St. Luke Hospital East. The remaining monies will be generated with help from private donors contributing through the St. Luke Community Foundation, a coalition dedicated to raising funds for state-of-the-art equipment and better services within The St. Luke Hospitals.

"This is really a collaborative effort," says Janice Way, Vice President of the foundation. "It's truly a community working together."

NKCAC anticipates opening its new doors in April 2009. The building will offer family meeting rooms, separate interview rooms with state-of-the-art audio and visual capability, and space for medical exams in its new 5,000-square-foot facility. The staff will be able to provide on-site therapy for children, resources for non-offending caregivers and parents, and educational programs for its professional partners and the community in general. In addition, NKCAC's new location will provide easier access to rural areas, allowing the staff to focus on underserved communities.

Having a designated space that gives families privacy is key to the building's plans. "The new center will afford the children, families and professionals a safe, comfortable and more private environment." according to Vickie Henderson, the center's director.

For information on the NKCAC, call 859-261-3441.

Upcoming Conferences of Interest

9th Annual Conference on Child Sexual Abuse and Exploitation Prevention, 8/26/08-8/28/08, New Orleans, LA

Sponsored by the National Children's Advocacy Center

www.nationalcac.org

9th Annual Current Thinking/New Direction Conference, 9/25/08-9/26/08, Hyannis MA

Sponsored by Children's Cove-The Cape and Islands Children's Advocacy Center

www.childrenscove.org

Forensic Evaluation Training, 11/12/08-11/14/08, Huntsville, AL

Sponsored by the National Children's Advocacy Center

www.nationalcac.org

8th Annual Child Abuse and Neglect Conference, 11/14/08, Stone Mountain, GA

Sponsored by Children's Healthcare of Atlanta

onlineeducation.org

10th Annual Ending Sexual Assault and Domestic Violence Conference, 12/8/08-12/11/08, Louisville, KY

Sponsored by the Kentucky Association of Sexual Assault Programs

www.kasap.org

25th National Symposium of Child Abuse, 3/23/09-3/26/09, Huntsville, AL

Sponsored by the National Children's Advocacy Center

www.nationalcac.org

~GREEN DOT KENTUCKY~

We all want to stop domestic violence, stalking, child abuse and rape...we all want our state, our communities and our homes to be safer for our families, for our friends and for ourselves. **"Green Dot"** is a prevention campaign; a partnership between the Kentucky Domestic Violence Association, the Kentucky Association of Sexual Assault Programs, and the University of Kentucky Violence Intervention and Prevention Center, whose goal is to do just that...to make our communities safer by encouraging individuals to become part of the solution. A **GREEN DOT** is any behavior, choice, word, or attitude that counters or displaces a red-dot of violence – by promoting safety for everyone and communicating utter intolerance for sexual violence, interpersonal violence, stalking and child abuse. A green dot is intervening in a high risk situation; a green dot is sponsoring a fund raiser for prevention efforts; a green dot is responding to a victim blaming statement with words of support; a green dot is hanging a prevention poster in your office or business; a green dot is teaching your children about respect; a green dot is putting a link on your web site to a local prevention program; a green dot is providing safety information on the counter at your business. A green dot is simply your individual choice at any given moment to make our state safer. It is the accumulation of individual decisions, moments, values, and actions made by our friends, our family members, our co-workers and our neighbors to make our communities safer for women and children.

The Kentucky Association of Children's Advocacy Centers is one of many organizations across the state committed to preventing violence against children and women. For more information about how you can become a part of the **Green Dot** initiative, contact **Dr. Dorothy Edwards at the Violence Intervention and Prevention Center, 106 Frazee Hall, Lexington, KY 40506-0031, or phone (859) 257-3564 or (859) 257-3574.**

On-line Safety and Children

Did you know?

- That one out of 7 children between the ages of 10 and 17 have been sexually approached or solicited on-line?
- That only 25 % of children who were solicited told their parents?
- That 79 % of these solicitations occurred in the child's home?
- That 13 % of them happened while the child was visiting a friend, and 8 % of them happened when the child was using a public computer?

A sexual predator is a person who has been convicted of, or pled guilty to committing a sexually oriented offense. Predators are usually: male; white; educated; men who blend in to society, are often clean cut, and hold down respectable jobs. In other words, they look like everyone else! They target children who are trusting, children who are curious or rebellious; children who crave attention and love, and children who are from 9 to 15 years old. In other words, most children!

What are the warning signs that a child has been a victim of cyber-solicitation?

Warning signs could be hang up phone calls; children closing or getting out of a web-site when an adult comes into the room; gifts to the child that he or she has trouble explaining to his or her parent; secretive behavior; children spending excessive amounts of time on-line, especially at night and in chat rooms; a change in the child's personality; and pornography on the child's computer.

According to the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children, there are approximately 603,000 registered sex offenders in the United States, and at least 10000 of those are un-compliant and their whereabouts unknown. For more information about on-line safety and children, contact the Center for Missing and Exploited Children at www.missingkids.com.



CAC's Across Kentucky...



Buffalo Trace Children's Advocacy Center will hold it's 2nd Annual Golf Scramble on September 6, 2008. The Scramble will be held at the Kenton Station Golf Course in Maysville, Kentucky beginning at 8:00 A.M. Bring your own 6 person team. For more information contact Hope Price, Executive Director, at 606. 563.0572.

County Music Mega-Star Wynonna Judd paid a visit to Hope's Place

Inc. in Ashland Kentucky on August 11, 2008. The Singer generously contributed her \$10,000 winnings from her appearance on *Wheel of Fortune*, which will be used for renovations of the organization's conference and meeting room.

The Children's Advocacy Center of the Bluegrass will hold it's signature fund raising event on August 23, 2008 at 6:00 P.M. in Keene

Barn, at the historic Keeneland Race Course in Lexington, Kentucky. The event will include Silent and Live Auctions, Dinner and Dancing and will be hosted by Coach Matthew Mitchell and his wife Jenna. Tickets are \$100.00 per person. For more information on the event, please call 859.514.1566, or visit the Center's web-site at www.kykids.org.

The Kentucky Association of Children's Advocacy Centers receives support from the National Children's Alliance; the Southern Regional Children's Advocacy Center; and the Kentucky Bar Foundation.

THANK YOU !!!



*Let us put our minds together
and see what life we can make
for our children. Sitting Bull*



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Comfort Safety Community



The Kentucky Association of Children's Advocacy Centers, Inc., (KACAC) is the coalition of the 15 designated regional children's advocacy centers throughout the Commonwealth of Kentucky. KACAC serves as a network of service providers who share expertise, resources and support. The mission of KACAC is to promote, assist, and support the development, growth, and continuation of Children's Advocacy Centers in Kentucky.

The Children's Advocacy Centers (CACs) which comprise KACAC provide direct services to child victims of sexual abuse, offering a full array of services to promote healing and recovery. Additionally, the CACs incorporate a multidisciplinary approach within their communities to ensure a comprehensive approach to sexual abuse. KACAC does not provide direct services, but works to support the efforts of the individual CACs and their multidisciplinary teams at a statewide level.

Online Resource Guide

Stop It Now!

351 Pleasant Street, Suite B319, Northhampton, MA 01060

Office: 413.587.3500 Fax: 413.587.3505 Helpline: 1.888.PREVENT(1.888.773.8368) E-mail: helpline@stopitnow.org

General Inquiries: info@stopitnow.org Website: www.stopitnow.org

Stop It Now! Offers adults tools they can use to prevent sexual abuse before a child is harmed or injured. Stop It Now! Provides support, information and resources that enable individuals and families to keep children safe, and to build healthier communities. Through their network of community based programs, Stop It Now! reaches out to adults who are concerned about their own or others' sexualized behavior toward children.

Parents Anonymous

675 W. Foothill Blvd., Suite 220, Claremont, CA 91711

Phone: 909.621.8184 Fax: 909.625.6304 E-mail: parentsanonymous@parentsanonymous.org

Website: www.parentsanonymous.org

Parents Anonymous is a national organization that asks parents to ask for help early, before abuse begins, with the intent of breaking the cycle of abuse. Parents Anonymous operates a 24 hour hotline to provide an immediate response to parents seeking help. Parents Anonymous groups meet all over the country and chapters can be located by visiting the website, or by calling Parents Anonymous.

Darkness to Light

7 Radcliffe Street, Suite 200, Charlestown, South Carolina, 29403

Office: 843.965.5444 Fax: 843.965.5449 E-mail: darkness2light_2000@yahoo.com Website: www.darkness2light.org

Darkness to Light's mission is to shift responsibility for preventing child sexual abuse from children to adults, by providing them with information about how to prevent, recognize, and respond to child sexual abuse. Darkness to Light's initiatives include: a national media campaign involving radio, televisions, and ads to raise awareness; education and community grassroots programs using "7 Steps to Protecting Children" as a basis for sharing educational resources; a national helpline and website; and the mobilization of advocates to help change laws and policies for the better protection of children.

