



LAKE COUNTY CHILDREN'S ADVOCACY CENTER
CELEBRATING 35 YEARS



Original LCCAC Building - 1987

ANNUAL REPORT
2021 / 2022





EST. 1987



Protecting and advocating

**A LOOK AT WHERE WE CAME FROM...
WHERE WE ARE TODAY...
AND WHAT OUR FUTURE HOLDS.**



for children in Lake County

LOOKING BACK...

Back in 1985, State's Attorney Fred Foreman formed a Task Force to evaluate the needs of the child abuse victims in Lake County. They found that children were being interviewed multiple times-often up to six times-in different settings by different people, all collecting the same information but for different purposes. Because of this, the idea of all disciplines coming together in a private home atmosphere came to light.

Today, the Lake County Children's Advocacy Center (LCCAC) is where children are brought for forensic interviews when there has been an allegation of sexual abuse and/or physical abuse. The number one goal is to ensure that all children receive consistent evidence based forensic interviews and receive services that help children heal from the abuse they have suffered. Since our inception, the LCCAC has helped thousands of children thanks to the leadership of the following individuals.

In their own words...

FRED FOREMAN

LCCAC Founder / Lake County State's Attorney 1980-1990

Fred

Foreman

In 1987, I was in my third term as Lake County States Attorney and also President of the National District Attorneys Association in Alexandria, Virginia. District Attorney Bud Cramer from Huntsville, Alabama was a member of the Board who presented the multi-disciplinary model for addressing the increase of child abuse in the communities and courts throughout the United States. His model became the inspiration for the creation of the National Children's Advocacy Center.

During my term as Chief Judge for the 19th Judicial Circuit from 2012-2014 I worked closely with Executive Director Carrie Flanigan and the Friends Committee of the Lake County Children's Advocacy Center to maintain the resources and quality of services offered. Thank you all for your continual support and service.

My wife Stephanie, also a Friend and volunteer, and I look forward to joining you at the Celebration of the 35th Anniversary of the Lake County Children's Advocacy Center and its enormous contribution to the children and citizens of Lake County.

"OVER THE PAST 35 YEARS, OUR PROGRAM BECAME A MODEL FOR THE AMERICAN PROSECUTORS RESEARCH INSTITUTE."



LAURA NOTSON

LCCAC Executive Director 1985-2017

*Laura
Notson*

The Center continues to grow and evolve, but there are several factors that have not changed and are integral to the CAC's success. Throughout the Center's history, the commitment of the CAC staff, it's professional partners, and community partners have remained constant. Because of their tireless effort and support; the CAC opened its doors, provided a much-needed service for child victims and continues to grow. It was an honor to work with such an amazing group of professionals, and it is an honor to witness the many ways the CAC is growing and continues to meet the needs of the children.



**"THE DEDICATION OF THE STAFF,
PAST AND PRESENT, ARE
INSTRUMENTAL IN THE CONTINUED
SUCCESS OF THE CAC."**



MIKE WALLER

Lake County State's Attorney 1990-2012

*Mike
Waller*

From its humble beginning in downtown Waukegan, the Center has evolved to a state-of-the-art program and facility in Gurnee. During my tenure as State's Attorney, we added many new positions and programs to the Center. A key development in this evolution was the acquisition of the current building, the former Gurnee Post Office. That more central location provided the space necessary to expand staff and programs, and its location promoted greater interaction and cooperation with other agencies. Vitally important services for children were enhanced and expanded.

Nothing is more important in the criminal justice system than protecting children. The work of the Center in that effort is vitally important. I am very proud of my years of involvement with the LCCAC.

**"AS WE LOOK TO THE FUTURE, WE SHOULD
REDEDICATE OUR EFFORTS TO
CONTINUING THE OUTSTANDING
RECORD OF THE CENTER."**



MIKE NERHEIM

Lake County State's Attorney 2012-2020

Mike

Nerheim

In looking back at all the improvements that have been made to the CAC, from the remodeling of the facility, upgrading of the audio video equipment, the addition of the healing garden and the medical facility, as well as the implementation of the Friend's Committee, Specialized Victims Unit and MDT approach, I am reminded that, while the LCCAC is certainly a wonderful and one of a kind facility, what makes it so special, is the staff (including Mitch of course) that give so much of themselves in order to make a difference in the lives of the children and families that they serve.



"I AM PROUD OF THE WORK DONE THROUGH THE CENTER. THE MEN AND WOMEN THAT WORK AT THE LCCAC ARE TRUE HEROES."



From left to right: Mike Waller, Mike Nerheim, Laura Notson, Fred Foreman

LOOKING FORWARD...

ERIC RINEHART

Lake County State's Attorney 2021-Present

Eric

Rinehart

“There is no higher mission than the protection of children in Lake County. The Center's multi-disciplinary team approach embodies the highest values of cooperation, integrity, and compassion. This critical work is central to our office's goals of bringing to justice those who would harm others and to provide support to survivors. I could not be more proud of the women and men who have worked there and who go above and beyond on a daily basis to help children.”



“THE CENTER'S SERVICE
AND THE VISION OF ITS
FOUNDERS HAVE
PROTECTED & ENRICHED THE
LIVES OF THE RESIDENTS OF
LAKE COUNTY FOR DECADES.”



CARRIE FLANIGAN

LCCAC Executive Director 2017-Present

Carrie

Flanigan

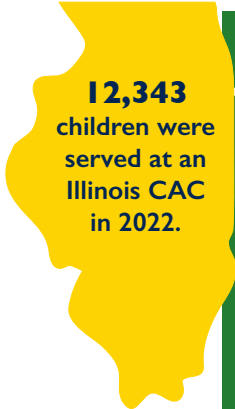
“The work of my predecessors have paved the way for a Children's Advocacy Center that excels based on solid relationships and a dedicated staff. They have set the bar for not only their legacy to continue, but for the children in Lake County to receive a comprehensive response while being provided compassion and justice.”



“WITHOUT THE SUPPORT OF OUR
DONORS, AND ALL THE
MULTI-DISCIPLINARY PARTNERS, THE
LCCAC WOULD NOT BE AN INTEGRAL PART
OF THE COMMUNITY. OUR SUCCESS IS
CONTINGENT ON THEIR LOYALTY.”



VICTIM DEMOGRAPHICS



12,343
children were
served at an
Illinois CAC
in 2022.

OUR CLIENTS

SEX ABUSE VICTIMS

60%

PHYSICAL ABUSE VICTIMS

25%

WITNESS TO A CRIME

15%

GENDER

MALE

29%

FEMALE

71%

STATE

Male 29%
Female 71%

*Fiscal Year
2022*

NUMBER OF SCHEDULED INTERVIEWS & CASES

**SCHEDULED
INTERVIEWS**

807

DCFS CASES

591

OUR IMPACT...

ALLEGED OFFENDERS

NON-RELATIVE	22%
PARENT/FOSTER PARENT	21%
OTHER RELATIVE	14%
STEPPARENT	6%
UNKNOWN RELATIONSHIP	6%
OTHER KNOWN PERSON	4%

27% of alleged offenders had more than one victim

STATE

Bio-parents (25%) and non-relative (known to child) (27%) account for the majority of perpetrators.

STATE

0-6	22%
7-12	38%
13-17	38%
>18	2%

CHILD STATISTICS

AGE

0-6	16%
7-12	38%
13-17	44%
>18	2%

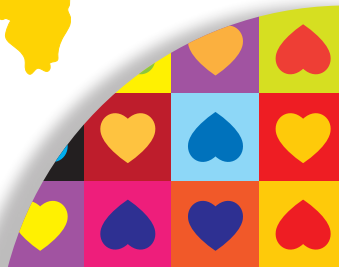
RACE

WHITE	42%
HISPANIC	37%
BLACK	20%
ASIAN	1%



LCCAC Reporting Dates:
10-01-21 through 9-30-22

State of Illinois:
CACI Annual Report 2022



MITCHELL

Our beloved Mitchell continues to be a huge part of what we do at the LCCAC. He has earned his badge and is set to retire in 2023. But, he will have our hearts forever!
(Stay tuned for details on a proper send-off for Mitch!)

A FEW FUN FACTS ABOUT MITCHELL...



**PROVIDED SUPPORT
IN OVER 750 FORENSIC
INTERVIEWS...
PROVIDED SNUGGLES
AND COMFORT IN
OVER 200 THERAPY
SESSIONS.**



**REWARDED WITH
5 TREATS PER DAY
(HE WOULD
LIKE MORE)**

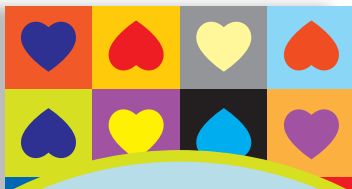


MITCHELL

**ENJOYS THE HEALING
GARDEN WITH STAFF
DURING LUNCH**



**HAS A BROTHER
NAMED BERNIE**



**TAKES UP TO
4 NAPS PER DAY
(STAFF & CHILDREN
CAN EXPECT TO
HEAR 10 SNORES
PER NAP)**

MITCHELL

**ATTENDS OVER
20 COMMUNITY
EVENTS PER YEAR**



**MAKES AN AVERAGE
OF 15 NEW FRIENDS
PER WEEK**



**ENJOYS GIVING
“PUPPY DOG EYES”
TO ANYONE
EATING CARROTS**



**LOVES RUNNING
THROUGH THE STAFF
HALLWAY WITH HIS
“SNOOP” TOY**

MITCHELL

MITCHELL

MENTAL HEALTH

- Division Updates -

The mental health team consists of two therapists that offer both individual and group therapy services. The groups offered include a teen art group, coping skills group, yoga/mindfulness group, and parent support group. All services are offered in both English and Spanish.

(Statistics reported November 1, 2021 through November 1, 2022. Artwork shown is from children that have visited and attended our sessions.)



BLUE KIDS

Last April brought us another successful Child Abuse Prevention Month with support from our Blue Kids Partners.



APRIL is
child abuse
prevention
month

"Our donors and community partners went above and beyond for Blue Kids this year. They not only brought awareness to the community, but they helped raise money in hopes to grow Blue Kids and share our mission to even more locations, families and communities."
-Carrie Wings

Be a superhero!

JOIN FORCES AGAINST CHILD ABUSE

Working in partnership with organizations across
Lake County to protect and advocate for children in our communities



CELEBRATING 35 YEARS

Friends Fest 2022

In October of 2022, the LCCAC held the first annual Friends Fest to celebrate 35 years. We thank our Friends Committee for a wonderful event and for everything they do within our community to create awareness and raise funds for child abuse prevention!



Photos provided by Motor Werks of Barrington

LCCAC FRIENDS COMMITTEE

Maureen Slott, Treasurer
Carrie Wings, Secretary
Megan Austin
Joanne Balogh
Karen Bressanelli
Diana Carroll

Gabriella Cervantes
Jeanne Cliff
Elaine Flanigan
Fred & Stephanie Foreman
Linda Hamilton
Brooke Hagstrom
Sara Hammock

Nellie May
Shirley Patterson
Tiffany Popiolek
Judi Schutter
Michele Spinell
Christine Stevenson

*Thank You TO
Our Sponsors*

**KIRK & LINDA
HAMILTON**



MOTOR WERKS
OF BARRINGTON

**ANONYMOUS
DONOR**



THE SCHUTTER FAMILY

FINANCIALS



STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION - LCCAC 2021 Audit -

ASSETS

Current Assets

• Cash	\$252,843
• Dues from Lake County Circuit Court	2,905
• Capital Assets	
- Construction in progress	56,785
- Property and equipment, net of depreciation	316,984

TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS \$629,517

Other Assets

• Deposit	\$ 50
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TOTAL ASSETS \$629,567

LIABILITIES

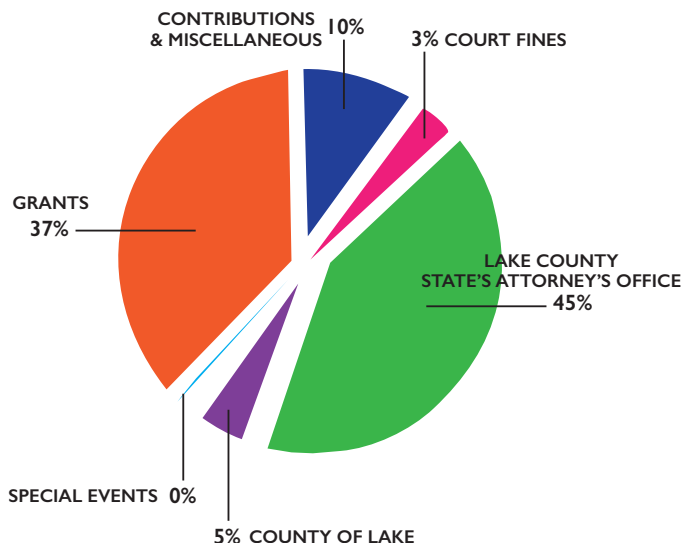
NET ASSETS

Without Donor Restrictions \$620,283

With Donor Restrictions 9,284

TOTAL NET ASSETS \$629,567

TOTAL LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS \$629,567



STAFF

OUR AMAZING STAFF

Carrie Flanigan
LCCAC Executive Director

Christine Burnside-Newman
Victim Advocate

Rachel Valencia
Bilingual Victim Advocate/
Forensic Interviewer

Jill Verbrick
Victim Advocate

Carrie Wings
Juvenile Victim Advocate

Lynn Aladeen
Forensic Interviewer

Amy Hyndman
Forensic Interviewer

James Adkins
Investigator/Forensic Interviewer

Ali Alstott
Contractual Forensic Interviewer

LaKesha Wilkerson
Detective/LCSO

Sara Hammock
MDT Coordinator

Julie Novelo
Administrative Assistant

McKenzie Endsley, LCPC
Lake County Health Department

Haley Rainwater, LSW
Lake County Health Department

Lauren Walker
Chief, Specialized Victims Unit

John Brown
Assistant State's Attorney

Stella Day
Assistant State's Attorney

Jason Humke
Assistant State's Attorney

Eduardo Zermeno
Assistant State's Attorney

Mitchell
Facility Dog

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Eric Rinehart
Lake County State's Attorney

Carrie Flanigan
Executive Director,
Lake County Children's Advocacy Center

Brenda Affinati, MD, FACP
Associate Dean of Clinical Affairs,
Rosalind Franklin University of Medicine & Science

Daniel Brown
ASA Civil Division,
Lake County State's Attorney's Office

Shannon Couffer
VP Associate General Counsel,
Children's Health

Patrick Dolan, MD, FAAP
Pediatrician

Michele Esser
Associate Director,
Lake County Health Department

John Idleburg
Lake County Sheriff

Amy Junge
ALSAC/St. Jude Children's Research Hospital

Norma Machay
Northern Region Immersion Site Director,
Illinois DCFS

Charles May
Lake County Community Member

John Monahan
Chief, Mundelein Police Department

Gina Roberts
Lake County Board Member, District 4

Maureen Slott
LCCAC Friends Committee Treasurer/
J. Hilburn and Carlisle Etcetera

John Tannahill
Lake County Forest Preserves

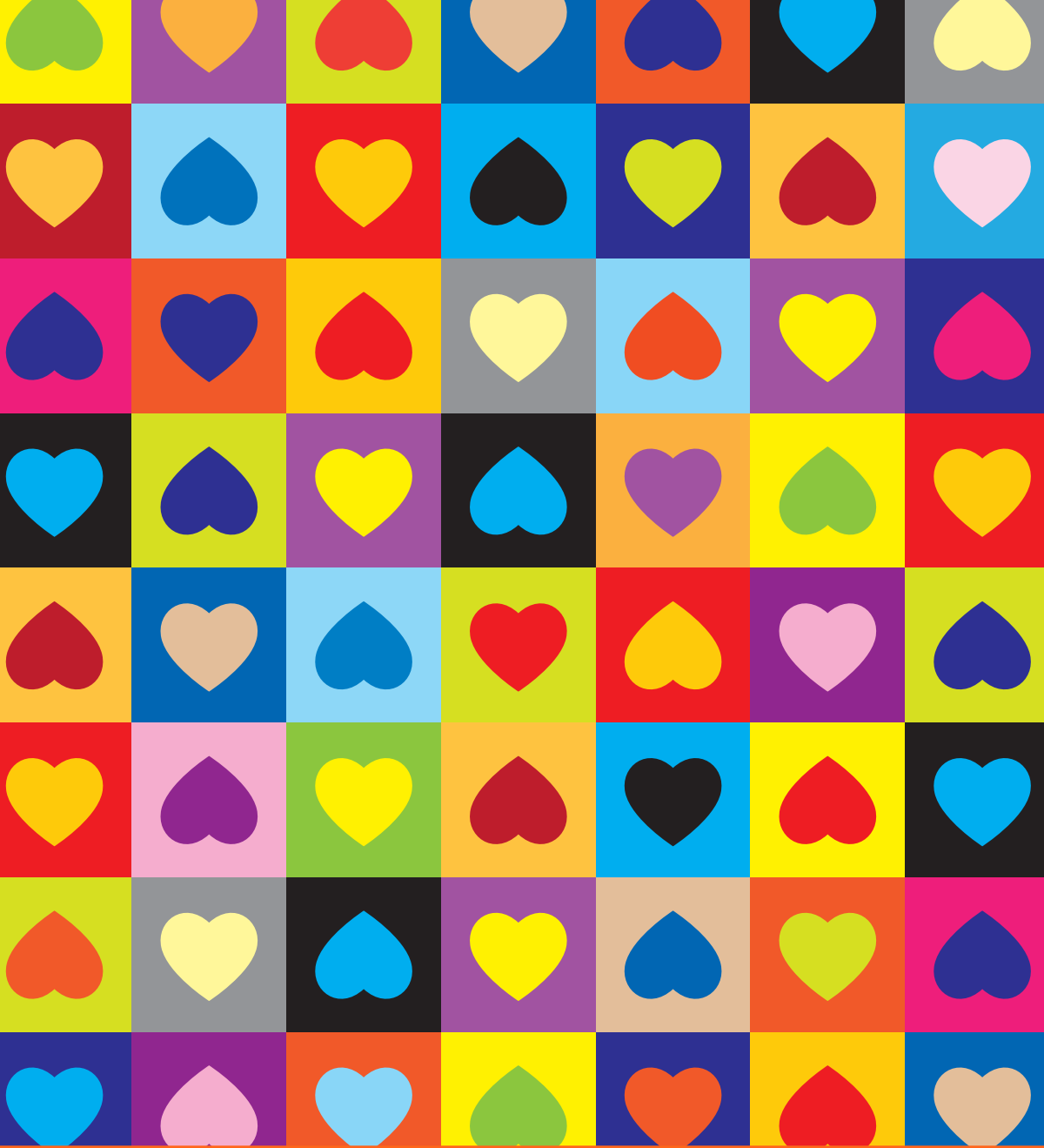
Andrea Usry
Deflection Coordinator,
Nicasa

Jessica Vealitzek
Lake County Board Member, District 10

Lauren Walker
Chief, Specialized Victims Unit,
Lake County State's Attorney's Office

Teri White
Chief Deputy of Administration,
Lake County State's Attorney's Office





LAKE COUNTY CHILDREN'S ADVOCACY CENTER
123 N. O'PLAINE ROAD
GURNEE, IL 60031

WWW.FRIENDSOFLCCAC.ORG