



CAC Buzzzzzz...



News and Info about The Lincoln County Child Advocacy Center

CAC gets Timken Grant

September 16, 2010 was a day that the CAC staff could not forget as Lincoln County's Timken Corporation Manager, Paul Hubacher knocked on the CAC door and handed the staff a check for \$50,000.00. The staff was so ecstatic, it didn't take long for the news to travel after Hubacher left the building. The check was part of a \$100,000.00 award fund for the CAC to move out of their trailer and into a new building.

A building has been donated to the Lincoln County Coalition Against Child abuse by

Lincoln County on Policarp Street in Lincolnton. As of



Future CAC building located on Policarp Street.

now, the building is waiting to be renovated so that the CAC can soon call it home. The funds will assist with these renovations. The

CAC hopes to be in the new building by early next year.



Taste of Lincolnton, October 16, 2010. Featuring Court Street Grille: Winner of Best Appetizer and Best Show Dessert Awards.



MDT attends Symposium at Lake Junaluska

The month of September was a busy one for CAC staff members as they plan for the annual trip to Lake Junaluska. This year, 12 Multidisciplinary Team Members and 4 CAC Staff Members all traveled to the beautiful mountains of Western North Carolina to

attend the 16th Annual Symposium on Child Abuse and Neglect. The conference was a three day event hosted by the Children's Advocacy



Centers of North Carolina. The keynote speaker was Olga R. Trujillo, JD of Saint Paul, MN whose topic of discussion focused on Human Trafficking. This year's Symposium was dedicated to Victim Shaniya Davis of Fayetteville, NC whose life was cut short last November which made national news. The conference theme was "Facing Child Abuse Together."

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CAC Launches Mental Health Component

Sara Vela, Licensed Clinical Social Worker for the CAC, received her first client in September for the brand new mental health component now available at the CAC. The Lincoln County CAC will now provide on-site mental health services that incorporate an evidenced based model as a mode of treatment such as the Trauma-Focused Cognitive Behavioral Therapy model, which has been shown to be effective with children who have experienced trauma. Former CAC Coordinator, Sara Vela, has worked hard to get this component of the center up and going through ex-

tensive grant writing and licensing sessions. As part of the NCA accreditation standards, CACs are required to make available on-site specialized trauma-focused mental health services for the child client or through linkage agreements with other appropriate agencies or providers. As part of Vela's efforts to bring the Lincoln County CAC's mental health component up to notch, Vela is part of a

team involved in The 2010/2011 Learning Collaborative in Trauma-Focused Cognitive-Behavioral Therapy in the NC Child Treatment Program sponsored by Duke University. Completion of the learning collaborative will roster Vela with the NC CTP. If you are a caregiver of a child victim of abuse and you want to schedule an appointment with the LCCAC Mental Health Program, contact your Lincoln County DSS Caseworker.



LCCAC Mental Health Therapy Room.

Upcoming Event.....

The Lincoln County CAC desperately needs your help to secure a new home to provide services to our smallest citizens who are victims of abuse.



A New Home For The Holidays

Come out and support us at our

Home For the Holidays benefit and fundraiser being held at

Vesuvius Vineyards

6173 Vesuvius Furnace Road

Iron Station, NC 28080

On November 20, 2010

5:30 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.

Ticket Price : \$35

The event will feature live music and heavy hors d'oeuvres. There will be a silent auction featuring wonderful gift ideas as well as a live auction. Dress Code is business casual.

Please join us for this memorable evening!

Your sponsorship will help provide a New Home to support the children who are victims of child abuse throughout our Community.

Sponsorship includes making a monetary donation and providing a holiday tabletop decoration that will be auctioned later in the evening.

Call 704-736-1155 for information on how to become a sponsor.



CHILD ABUSE DECLINES NATIONALLY IN SPITE OF ECONOMIC DETERIORATION

August 24, 2010

DURHAM, N.H. -- Child abuse declined nationally in 2008 compared to 2007, according to a new report by the Crimes against Children Research Center at the University of New Hampshire. Sexual abuse declined 6 percent, physical abuse 3 percent and neglect 2 percent.

The report also found that child maltreatment fatalities stayed stable from 2007 to 2008. These trends are noteworthy, according to the report's authors, because 2008 marked the first full year of the current recession, and economic downturns are generally thought to be associated with increased family stress and child maltreatment.

"This is good news, but we need to be very cautious," said lead author David Finkelhor, director of the center and professor of sociology. "It could be that discouragement and despair in families about their deteriorating economic situation take longer than a year to show their effects."

On the other hand, the report notes, the recent declines represent a continuation of a large downward trend for physical and sexual abuse that is now over 15 years in length.

"The long-improvement for sexual and physical abuse may be related to a generation-long effort to educate and respond more effectively and aggressively to the problem," Finkelhor said. "If successful prevention efforts are behind the declines, then the improvements may persist even in the face of social stressors like the recession."

The report was based on an analysis of data on substantiated child maltreatment cases submitted by state child protection agencies to the federal government.

Individual states may have trends quite different from the national trends, especially in the short run. For

example, in New Hampshire, physical abuse was up 6 percent in 2008 over 2007 and neglect was up 35 percent, while sexual abuse declined 10 percent. Over the longer span, however, most states, including New Hampshire, show the nationally noted decline in physical and sexual abuse.

Created in 1998, the UNH Crimes against Children Research Center (CCRC) aims to combat crimes against children by providing high-quality research and statistics to the public, policy-makers, law enforcement personnel, and other child welfare practitioners. CCRC is concerned with research about the nature of crimes including child abduction, homicide, rape, assault, and physical and sexual abuse as well as their impact. More information: <http://www.unh.edu/ccrc/>

The University of New Hampshire, founded in 1866, is a world-class public research university with the feel of a New England liberal arts college. A land, sea, and space-grant university, UNH is the state's flagship public institution, enrolling more than 12,200 undergraduate and 2,200 graduate students.

Editors and Reporters: The full report, "Updated Trends in Child Maltreatment, 2008," can be downloaded at http://www.unh.edu/ccrc/pdf/CV203_Updated%20Trends%20in%20Child%20Maltreatment%202008_8-6-10.pdf.

Article taken from Channing Bete Company Healthy Communities E-Newsletter Vol. 8, Number 10.

"Child Abuse casts a shadow the length of a lifetime."

-Herbert Ward

Safety First

Lincoln County Child Advocacy Center's Sue Gauthier, Victim and Family Advocate, and Sherry Reinhardt, Executive Director were both recertified in CPR and First Aid in August at the YMCA.

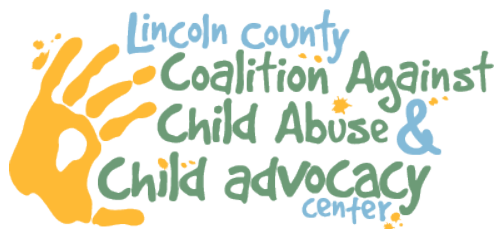


Sue Gauthier performing CPR at the YMCA.

Lincoln County Child Advocacy Center

PO Box 652
Lincolnton, North Carolina 28093

Phone: 704-736-1155
Fax: 704-736-1156
E-mail: gxiong@cac-lincolncounty.org



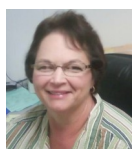
The Lincoln County Child Advocacy Center is a program under the Lincoln County Coalition Against Child Abuse organization. It was created by professionals from the child protection division, law enforcement departments, prosecutor's office, school personnel, medical and mental health community, and by local individuals that recognized a need for a better way to serve young victims of child abuse. The CAC is a child friendly, child focused environment, providing consistent and rapid follow-up to abuse allegations, medical and mental health areas for immediate treatment, and non-threatening forensic interviewing rooms that enables neutral, fact-finding interviews legally defensible in court.

Children referred to the CAC are greeted by sensitively trained staff and child abuse professionals. The professionals work together within a coordinated multidisciplinary team to lead the investigation. Specially trained and certified staff works with the child and the non-offending parents or caretakers and other family members for successful prosecution of the offender.

For more information about the CAC contact Sherry Reinhardt at 704-736-1155, or to report suspicions of child abuse contact your local law enforcement or department of social services.



Who's Who Corner.....



Rebecca Powell, Lincoln County Coalition Against Child Abuse Chairperson and Board President, calls Lincolnton her home. Rebecca received her Bachelor of Arts Degree from Western Carolina University in Birth-Kindergarten. She has worked in the child-care world for 25 years, starting from the infant room, and working herself up to the Director. She is now at the Partnership for Children and Families and has been there for over 10 years. Rebecca likes to read, do crossword puzzles, crafts, and enjoys her two grandchildren: Bryson and Cayden. She also enjoys being a mother to her son. Rebecca serves on several committees including Secretary for The Early Childhood Professional Group, Chair of the Library Board of Trustees, and member of the Parks and Recreation Commission. Next time you are at the Partnership for Children and Families of Gaston and Lincoln Counties, make sure you stop and say "hello" to Rebecca!

Featuring Board Members and MDT Members



Cammy Benton, Lincoln County Child Advocacy Center's Medical Evaluator, is also Lakemont Family Medicine's very own resident Medical Physician. Dr. Benton is originally from Stanley County but now resides in the town of Stanley. She has been with Lakemont Family Medicine for 5 years and "love(s) seeing everyone from little babies to my 97 year old lady." Dr. Benton attended medical school at ECU and completed her residency at UNC for Family Medicine. Together, her husband, Jaime and Dr. Benton have two daughters, Giselle, age 2, and Sofia, age 1. Before life as a mother, Dr. Benton enjoyed and loved ballroom dancing, primarily lindy hip hop and salsa. Since having children her hobbies have shifted to playing with her girls and sleep. In her busy schedule, she tries to find time to exercise just like "I preach to my patients," says Dr. Benton. Dr. Benton is "honored to do work with the CAC and all the people who work with their heart in it." Drop by Lakemont Family Medicine and give Dr. Benton a friendly "thanks" for her dedication to the CAC.

Photo of Dr. Benton printed with permission from Lakemont Family Medicine. Photo can be viewed at Lakemont Family Medicine's website: www.lakemontfamilymedicine.org.