



ARIZONA
GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF
YOUTH, FAITH & FAMILY

Children's Justice Act Grant

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Governor's Office of Youth, Faith and Family

Vision

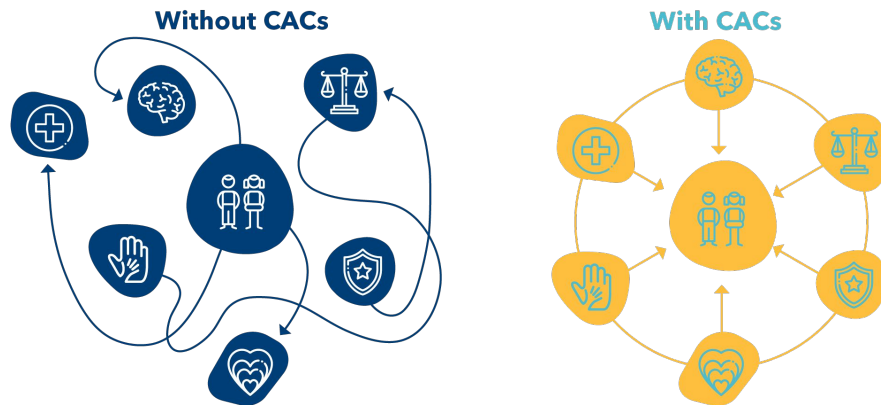
Strengthen the health and safety of Arizona's communities through collaboration and capacity building across the state.

Mission

Develop and implement programs, strategies, and initiatives to strengthen the continuum of services through partnerships with community, faith, private, public, and tribal partners.

Children's Justice Act Grant Purpose

The Children's Justice Act (CJA) provides grants to states to improve the investigation, prosecution, and judicial handling of cases of child abuse and neglect, particularly child sexual abuse and exploitation, in a manner that limits additional trauma to the child victim.



(National Children's Alliance, 2025)

Amberly's Place

Yuma, AZ

- Amberly's Place houses professionals who are specially trained in dealing with victims of child abuse, domestic violence, sexual assault, and elder abuse.
- Currently, their Mandatory Reporter Trainings have resulted in more tours and/phone calls asking about services.
- New recent collaboration with the fire department on creating new protocols for their response to crime victims.



New Hire:
Lottie the
Therapy Dog!

Childhelp, Inc

Phoenix, AZ



- Since 1998, the Childhelp Children's Advocacy Center of AZ (CCAC) has provided investigational resources, medical treatment, mental health therapy, and victim support services to child victims of abuse.
- This quarter's Multidisciplinary Teams (MDTs) were mainly made up of case reviews with a few training courses being incorporated into the schedule.
- Peer review requirements have been written into the Maricopa County Multidisciplinary Team Protocols.

Children's Advocacy Center of Southern Arizona

Tucson, AZ

- The mission of the Children's Advocacy Center of Southern Arizona is to provide a safe, compassionate, healing environment for children who have been a victim or witness to a crime.
- The strong collaboration between SACAC and our investigative partners in law enforcement and child welfare continues to increase the number of children who receive medical exams.
- SACAC has recently supported Mariposa Community Health Center (MCHC) build a sexual assault forensic nurse program in Santa Cruz County.



Flagstaff Medical Center - Safe Child Center

Flagstaff, AZ



- The Safe Child Center opened in 1998 and serves children living in Coconino, Mohave, Yavapai, Navajo and Apache counties, including Tribal Communities.
- Exciting Q1 collaboration: The Coconino County Attorney's Office will begin to participate in MDT Case Reviews and consult with Law Enforcement during the investigation process.
- CJ Coordinator and Coordinator Assistant worked on a "mini blue" card to prompt patrol officers on how to respond to reports of child abuse by not asking too many questions.

Prevent Child Abuse Arizona - Yavapai Family Advocacy Center

Prescott Valley, AZ

- In 1999, the Yavapai County Children's Justice Task Force recommended the establishment of a Children's Advocacy Center.
- YFAC gave presentations to local government groups, community groups and political groups regarding victimization and interpersonal crimes in our area.
- When Mandatory Reporter Trainings (MRTs) are scheduled, the training presentation is reviewed and tailored to the group as different professions have different interactions.



Children's Justice Task Force

- The Children's Justice Act (CJA) Task Force is comprised of professionals with knowledge and experience relating to the criminal justice system and issues of child abuse and neglect, child sexual abuse and exploitation, and child maltreatment-related fatalities.
- In 2023, Governor Hobbs reauthorized the Child Safety and Family Empowerment (CSFE) Council with Executive Order 2025-06 to include the CJ Task Force as a subgroup of the Council.

Children's Justice Task Force: Recommendations

The CJ Task Force is responsible for conducting a comprehensive review of the investigative, administrative, and judicial handling of child abuse and neglect cases, making training and policy recommendations

Continue sponsorship funding to the Arizona Child Abuse Prevention Conference and other professional development opportunities.	Improve guidelines and training for county joint-investigation protocols and communicate them to relevant parties in each county
Continue to sustain and strengthen existing resources for MDTs and MRTs throughout the state	Expand prevention resources awareness for community stakeholders to enhance support for families needing services

Thank you!

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