

CHILD ADVOCACY SERVICES



Seeking child advocacy services can be a complicated and overwhelming experience. Still, we are here to help you navigate this process. We aim to provide clear, straightforward information to help you on this journey. The providers listed are centered on compassion and inclusivity, ensuring that all children receive the support and care they deserve.

We are committed to providing informative and helpful guidance to support each child's needs. We firmly believe that every child deserves a safe and nurturing environment. Whether you're searching for a child advocacy center for a young one in need, an adult survivor of childhood abuse seeking support, seeking information on preventing and addressing bullying, or looking for counseling and guidance for children, this guide is here to assist you. From trauma-informed care and legal advocacy to anti-bullying initiatives and counseling services, we're dedicated to celebrating the rich diversity of childhood experiences and offering the kindness and support every child and their caregivers deserve.

We invite you to explore the resources in this guide at your own pace, seeking the support and knowledge that resonate with you. If you have any questions or concerns about an agency listed in this guide, please do not hesitate to contact our offices at 225-342-1570 for more information.

Health & Happiness,



ADMINISTRATION FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

[Click here for website](#) Phone: 1-800-227-5242

Region 6 Contact: 214-767-9648

The Administration for Children & Families (ACF) is a division of the Department of Health & Human Services. ACF promotes the economic and social well-being of families, children, individuals and communities. ACF programs aim to: Empower families and individuals to increase their economic independence and productivity; Encourage strong, healthy, supportive communities that have a positive impact on quality of life and the development of children; Create partnerships with front-line service providers, states, localities and tribal communities to identify and implement solutions that transcend traditional program boundaries; Improve access to services through planning, reform and integration; Address the needs, strengths and abilities of vulnerable populations including refugees and migrants

BATON ROUGE CHILDREN'S ADVOCACY CENTER

[Click here for website](#) Phone: 225-343-1984

The center is designed to be non-threatening and to ease stress for children and families while providing forensic interviews of child abuse victims. The goal is to reduce the number of interviews for evidence collection. The BRCAC provides coordination of investigation, prosecution, and treatment services by bringing together a Multi-Disciplinary Team, including law enforcement, the district attorney, child protective services, and medical and mental health professionals.

CHILD ADVOCACY SERVICES

[Click here for website](#)

Hammond Phone: 985-902-9583

Amite Phone: 985-747-0868

Denham Springs Phone: 225-791-3136

St. Francisville Phone: 225-791-3136

Gonzales Phone: 225-647-2005

Destrehan Phone: 985-603-4022

Child Advocacy Services is a statewide leader in providing advocacy, clinical services, and prevention resources to give voice, healing, and security to children. Our Children's Advocacy Center Program (CAC) provides a safe child friendly environment for children who may have experienced abuse or witnessed a crime. A multidisciplinary team of professionals works together to reduce trauma and ensure the safety of children and families throughout the investigative process.

Child Welfare Information Gateway promotes the safety, permanency, and well-being of children, youth, and families by connecting child welfare, adoption, and related professionals as well as the public to information, resources, and tools covering topics on child welfare, child abuse and neglect, out-of-home care, adoption, and more. A service of the Children's Bureau, Administration for Children and Families, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, we provide access to print and electronic publications, websites, databases, and online learning tools for improving child welfare practice, including resources that can be shared with families.

ADULT SURVIVORS OF CHILD ABUSE (ASCA)

[Click here for website](#) [Find a Meeting](#)

ASCA is an innovative and effective support program designed specifically for adult survivors of physical, sexual, or emotional child abuse or neglect. The program was designed to support and assist survivors of child abuse, irrespective of their financial situation, in moving on with their lives. The two basic components of the ASCA program are: individually reading and working the Survivor to Thrive manual and participating in ASCA meetings.

CANE RIVER CHILDREN'S SERVICES

[Click here for website](#) Phone: 318-352-9349

Cane River Children's Services provides healing and hope for children and families with mental health and behavioral health needs by using therapeutic supports to help people fulfill their potential and build healthier family systems. Children benefit from inclusion in healthy families, however sometimes professional intervention is required for mental health and behavioral health needs to fuel personal growth and improve outcomes. This growth can be challenging. A special focus is placed on child development, trauma informed care, trust based relationships, holistic care, and instilling hope for the future by making positive choices today.

CHILDHELP USA

[Click here for website](#)

Childhelp National Child Abuse Hotline:

1-800-4-A-CHILD (1-800-422-4453)

Childhelp exists to meet the physical, emotional, educational and spiritual needs of abused, neglected and at-risk children. We focus our efforts on advocacy, intervention, treatment, prevention, family resilience and community outreach. The Childhelp National Child Abuse Hotline is dedicated to the prevention of child abuse. The Hotline is staffed 24 hours daily with professional crisis counselors who use a database of thousands of emergency, social service, and support resources. The Hotline's services are available to professionals who need help to report suspected abuse. This includes school nurses, teachers, counselors, psychologists, psychiatrists, pediatric dentists, fire investigators, and members of the faith community. All calls are anonymous and toll-free.

CHILD WELFARE INFORMATION GATEWAY

[Click here for website](#) Phone: 1-800-394-3366

CHILD WELFARE LEAGUE OF AMERICA (CWLA)

[Click here for website](#)

CWLA is a powerful coalition of hundreds of private and public agencies that since 1920 has worked to serve children and families who are vulnerable. Our expertise, leadership and innovation on policies, programs, and practices help improve the lives of millions of children across the country. Our impact is felt worldwide. Our focus is children and youth who may have experienced abuse, neglect, family disruption, or a range of other factors that jeopardize their safety, permanence, or well-being. CWLA also focuses on the families, caregivers, and the communities that care for and support these children.

CHILDREN'S ADVOCACY CENTER OF NORTHEAST LOUISIANA

[Click here for website](#) Phone: 318-398-0945

The Children's Advocacy Center of Northeast Louisiana (CAC) is designed to provide a unified approach to conducting forensic interviews for child and mentally challenged adult victims of sexual abuse, physical abuse, human trafficking, or witnesses to violent crimes. The CAC works to collaborate the efforts of all the agencies and officials who are involved in child victim cases in order for the process to be less traumatizing to the innocent. Everyone works together for one common goal of protection and healing. It is through this process that the CAC hopes to relieve some of the strain and trauma from those who have suffered through no fault of their own. CAC services can only be accessed through law enforcement or social services.

CHILDREN'S DEFENSE FUND

[Click here for website](#)

The Children's Defense Fund Leave No Child Behind® mission is to ensure every child a Healthy Start, a Head Start, a Fair Start, a Safe Start and a Moral Start in life and successful passage to adulthood with the help of caring families and communities. We champion policies and programs that lift children out of poverty; protect them from abuse and neglect; and ensure their access to health care, quality education and a moral and spiritual foundation. We seek to end child poverty, give every child a healthy start, a quality early childhood experience, a level education playing field, and safe families and communities free from violence

CYBERBULLYING RESEARCH CENTER

[Click here for website](#) [Report Cyberbullying](#)

The Cyberbullying Research Center is dedicated to providing up-to-date information about the nature, extent, causes, and consequences of cyberbullying among adolescents. The Center also explores other adolescent behaviors online including sexting, social media misuse, digital dating abuse, and issues related to digital citizenship, resilience, empathy, school climate, and more. This website serves as a clearinghouse of information concerning the ways adolescent's use and misuse technology. It is intended to be a resource for parents, educators, mental health professionals, law enforcement officers, counselors, and others who work with youth (as well as for youth themselves!). Here you will find facts, figures, and detailed stories from those who have been directly impacted by online aggression. In addition, the site includes numerous resources to help you prevent and respond to cyberbullying incidents.

CHILDREN'S ADVOCACY CENTER OF LAFOURCHE

[Click here for website](#) Phone: 985-446-4808

The Children's Advocacy Center of Lafourche has averaged over 175 forensic interviews per year. These interviews have proven invaluable in prosecuting those who prey upon and abuse children. A Children's Advocacy Center is a child-friendly place where adolescent victims or witnesses of physical or sexual abuse elaborate on their experience. Children are welcomed with open arms and are treated with kindness and respect to assist in the healing process. The purpose of the CAC of Lafourche is to establish one location as a neutral environment for the child to be interviewed one time while working with all the other agencies involved in the investigation.

CHILDREN'S ADVOCACY NETWORK

[Click here for website](#)

Children's Advocacy Center Phone: 318-448-4006

Avoyelles Office: 318-597-8736

Catahoula & Concordia Office: 318-336-8330

Grant Office: 318-392-5071

LaSalle Office: 318-992-2333

Rapides Office: 318-445-5678

Winn Office: 318-209-5110

The mission of the Children's Advocacy Network is to help heal and champion abused and neglected children throughout Central Louisiana. The agency has served its Central Louisiana community for over twenty-two years. As our original vision and service area has expanded, we've adopted a name that champions the needs of all children throughout Central Louisiana. Through a community wide collaborative effort, the Children's Advocacy Network was established.

CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL AUDREY HEPBURN CARE CENTER

[Click here for website](#) Phone: 504-896-9237

The Audrey Hepburn Children at Risk Evaluation (CARE) Center is a comprehensive child abuse center providing state-of-the-art pediatric forensic medicine evaluations in a home-like cottage near Audubon Park. Beyond providing clinical excellence in child abuse forensic medicine, the CARE Center is active in treatment, consultation, prevention, training, education and research. The New Orleans Children's Advocacy Center (NOCAC) is a program of the Audrey Hepburn CARE Center at Children's Hospital that provides a coordinated, multi-agency approach to the investigation, intervention and treatment of child sexual and physical abuse.

FAMILY AND YOUTH COUNSELING AGENCY

[Click here for website](#) Phone: 337-436-9533

Family & Youth Counseling Agency (Family & Youth), an award winning organization, was established as a nonprofit organization in 1970. It is our mission to provide affordable and professional support through programs and services dedicated to advocacy, counseling and education for the people of Southwest Louisiana and in communities we are called to serve. It is the belief of Family & Youth that all individuals possess the ability to solve their own challenges and live full and healthy lives when support is available.

HEARTS OF HOPE

24-Hour Crisis Support and Guidance: 337-233-7273

[Click here for website](#) Phone: 337-269-1557

The Children's Advocacy Center of Northeast Louisiana (CAC) is designed to provide a unified approach to conducting forensic interviews for child and mentally challenged adult victims of sexual abuse, physical abuse, human trafficking, or witnesses to violent crimes. Before the CAC, these victims would have to talk about their experience to several different agencies and officials. The victim could be moved all over the region to numerous locations in order to fulfill all of the required examinations, interviews and assessments. Now, the CAC works to collaborate the efforts of all the agencies and officials who are involved in child victim cases in order for the process to be less traumatizing to the innocent. Everyone works together for one common goal of protection and healing. It is through this process that the CAC hopes to relieve some of the strain and trauma from those who have suffered through no fault of their own. CAC services can only be accessed through law enforcement or social services.

JEFFERSON CHILDREN'S ADVOCACY CENTER

[Click here for website](#) Phone: 504-364-3857

The Jefferson Children's Advocacy Center (CAC) is a 501 c3 non-profit, nationally accredited agency, and was the first Advocacy Center to open in Louisiana in 1991. Located in a small, welcoming, child-friendly house, in a residential neighborhood just a few blocks from the Jefferson Parish Government Complex, our primary purpose is to coordinate an interagency approach within Jefferson Parish regarding child abuse, neglect and, most recently, child witnesses of violent crimes. With this goal in mind, we utilize a Multi-Disciplinary Team (MDT) approach to include Law Enforcement, Prosecutors, Social Services, Mental Health and Medical Professionals, while respecting and honoring our culturally diverse clientele within the community. Such an interagency effort facilitates the appropriate and consistent detection of and response to child abuse in our community.

GINGERBREAD HOUSE CHILDREN'S ADVOCACY CENTER

[Click here for website](#) Phone: 318-674-2900

Our Team at the Gingerbread House dedicates its efforts to reducing the trauma experienced by child victims of sexual and severe physical abuse. We are able to carry out our mission by employing a multidisciplinary approach to cases throughout the investigation, prosecution, and treatment phases. The multidisciplinary team approach has been designated as the best practice standard for handling child abuse cases. By coordinating services through the Multidisciplinary Team we reach out into the community and bring together twelve agencies representing law enforcement, child protective services, prosecution, medical, and mental health.

HOPE HOUSE

[Click here for website](#) Phone: 985-892-3885

Children's Advocacy Center - Hope House is an independent, non-profit organization dedicated to ending the cycle of child abuse in our community. We provide a path to recovery and a bridge to justice for victims of abuse. CAC Hope House provides forensic interviewing, family advocacy, counseling services, and prevention outreach within St. Tammany and Washington Parishes.

LOUISIANA ALLIANCE OF CHILDREN'S ADVOCACY CENTERS

[Click here for website](#) Phone: 504-715-4955

The Louisiana Alliance of Children's Advocacy Centers is the state chapter organization of the 15 CACs in the state of Louisiana. Children's Advocacy Centers provide services to child victims of felonious sexual and physical abuse. These services include forensic interviews, mental health referrals, medical exams, victim advocacy, and the MDT approach to child abuse cases. This ensures that cases do not fall through the cracks and that every child victim is afforded quality care at no cost to the victim or non-offending caregivers. Louisiana Alliance of Children's Advocacy Centers' mission is to promote and support Children's Advocacy Centers in providing a coordinated multidisciplinary response to child victims of abuse through development, training and advocacy.

LA CENTER FOR CHILDREN'S RIGHTS

[Click here for website](#) Phone: 504-658-6860

The Louisiana Center for Children's Rights is a nonprofit law office that stands with kids in the justice system no matter what. We provide holistic legal defense to address children's needs both inside and outside the courtroom. And we tackle the systemic issues that criminalize mostly poor, Black youth in the first place. Our goal is to keep kids out of a harmful system so that they can thrive where they belong: at home, at school, and in our communities.

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF ADULT SURVIVORS OF CHILD ABUSE

[Click here for website](#)

The primary mission at NAASCA is to reduce the incidence of child abuse for today's at-risk kids, and to offer recovery to those many millions of adults who still suffer from the pain and consequences of the abuses they experienced in their youth.

NATIONAL CENTER FOR MISSING & EXPLOITED CHILDREN

[Click here for website](#) Phone: 1-800-843-5678

The National Center for Missing & Exploited Children is a private, non-profit 501(c)(3) corporation whose mission is to help find missing children, reduce child sexual exploitation, and prevent child victimization. NCMEC works with families, victims, private industry, law enforcement, and the public to assist with preventing child abductions, recovering missing children, and providing services to deter and combat child sexual exploitation.

PINE HILLS CHILDREN ADVOCACY CENTER

[Click here for website](#) Phone: 318-255-7273

The Child Advocacy Center is a non-profit organization dedicated to lessening the trauma experiences by child victims when abuse allegations are investigated. Here, victims can find caring professionals who help them through the nightmare of abuse and neglect. Within the Center, families can find support and resources - but most importantly they find a place where healing can begin. The services provided by Pine Hills Advocacy Center would not be possible without the caring individuals that volunteer their time and talents to assist the Center in many different capacities. All our services are of no cost to our victims and our families because of generous donations, fundraising projects, as well as grants applied for by Pine Hills.

PROJECT CELEBRATION, INC. (PCI)

[Click here for website](#) Phone: 318-256-6242

Our agency provides direct services to survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault and children experiencing violence. PCI has carefully designed our services to fit the needs of our community. The CAC's primary goal is to provide a child friendly environment to record the disclosures of child physical abuse and/or sexual assault. Forensic interviews are conducted for investigative and prosecution purposes at the request of DCFS or Law Enforcement Agencies. We currently operate 2 domestic violence shelters that provide safe housing for women and children fleeing domestic violence; have outreach offices in each parish to provide services to nonresidential clients; and PCI also offers free services to sexual assault survivors such as medical, personal and court advocacy. All services through our organization are free and confidential. We never share your name or information with anyone outside our organization and work tirelessly to ensure we provide safe and effective services to all in need.

NATIONAL CENTER FOR CHILD TRAUMATIC STRESS (NCTSN)

[Click here for website](#)

The National Child Traumatic Stress Network (NCTSN) was created by Congress in 2000 as part of the Children's Health Act to raise the standard of care and increase access to services for children and families who experience or witness traumatic events. This unique network of frontline providers, family members, researchers, and national partners is committed to changing the course of children's lives by improving their care and moving scientific gains quickly into practice across the U.S.

NATIONAL SAFE PLACE

[Click here for website](#)

TXT 4 HELP counselors can provide support via text and can offer additional suggestions for immediate help regardless of where you are. Text the word "safe" and your current location (address, city, state) to 4HELP (44357).

Safe Place is a national youth outreach and prevention program for young people under the age of 18 (up to 21 years of age in some communities) in need of immediate help and safety. As a collaborative community prevention initiative, Safe Place designates businesses and organizations as Safe Place locations, making help readily available to youth in communities across the country. Safe Place locations include: libraries, YMCAs, fire stations, public buses, various businesses, and social service facilities.

PLAQUEMINES COMMUNITY C.A.R.E. CENTERS FOUNDATION

[Click here for website](#) Phone: 504-393-5750

The Plaquemines C.A.R.E. Center is the human services agency of Plaquemines parish. The C.A.R.E. Center provides parenting skills classes, mental and behavioral health counseling, advocacy, care management and resource referrals to individuals, couples, families, and groups by counselors, social workers, advocates, and community health workers. Plaquemines Children's Advocacy Center provides counseling to children who have been sexually abused and provides support for the families. We serve clients of all ages and for any reason, and all of our clinicians are trained in trauma informed practices.

SEXUAL ASSAULT YOUTH SUPPORT NETWORK (SAYSN)

[Click here for website](#)

SAYSN is a community of survivors, supporters, and advocates that are dedicated to building a world without sexual violence where justice is restorative and healing is possible. Since our founding in 2017, we have worked to curate a team of volunteers, staff, and board members that are intimately aware of the dynamics of sexual victimization, advocacy, and the criminal legal system, and know what must be done to transform them. The core of our organization, and of our programs, is supporting, empowering, and connecting young survivors.

STOPBULLYING.GOV

[Click here for website](#)

StopBullying.gov provides information from various government agencies on what bullying is, what cyberbullying is, who is at risk, and how you can prevent and respond to bullying.

STOP IT NOW!

Helpline: 1-888-PREVENT

[Click here for website](#)

[Online Helpline](#)

We are a leading expert on building awareness of the scope of sexual abuse, developing and widely distributing prevention tools for adults and families, and advocating for both compassion and accountability. Every year, we answer thousands of Helpline contacts, train thousands of adults, and reach more than 1 million people with our website.