





**SPRING 2023 NEWSLETTER** 

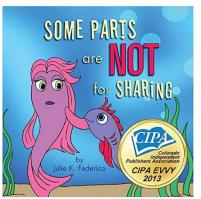
# SPRING IS IN THE AIR AND BLUE PINWHEELS WILL BE EVERYWHERE!

### BY FAITH BOEHMER, PREVENTION & VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR

Soon Spring will be here! Buds of flowers will be popping up all over our community and so will beautiful blue pinwheels. The pinwheel (a happy childhood symbol) represents the bright future all children deserve. April is Child Abuse Prevention and Awareness month and since 2010, the Child Advocacy Center has led an effort to cover our community in blue pinwheels spinning all throughout our community. 2023 will not be any different. There will be Pinwheel Gardens at FTCC, CAC, Festival Park, Methodist University, Spring Lake, Fayetteville Cumberland Parks and Recreation Centers and many more locations.

Our vision is a community where children feel safe, nurtured, and loved. April is a time to remind us that no matter the challenges we face as individuals, caring for all our children must always be our priority.

Read Along Story Time - Tune in on our social media channels or visit our website at www.cacfaync.org to catch these interactive and engaging story sessions. By teaching kids about body safety at a young age and continuing the conversation throughout their childhood, we can help empower them to make informed decisions and stay safe. Don't miss out on this important opportunity to start the conversation with your child. It's never too late to start!



# JOIN US EVERY TUESDAY IN APRIL FOR STORY TIME

SHARING BOOKS THAT EDUCATE CHILDREN ABOUT BODY SAFETY, PERSONAL BOUNDARIES, AND THE IMPORTANCE OF SPEAKING UP WHEN THEY FEEL UNCOMFORTABLE.

READ ALONG STORY TIME THESE STORY TIMES WILL BE AVAILABLE ONLINE VIA THE CAC WEBSITE.

SCAN HERE INFO







PINWHEEL GARDEN PLANTING AT FESTIVAL PARK - 335 RAY AVE. MARCH 31, 2023 @ 12:30PM

WE WILL BE PLANTING PINWHEELS IN HONOR OF THE 808 CHILDREN REFERRED TO THE CAC FOR ALLEGATIONS OF ABUSE DURING FY22.

## **APRIL 7, 2023 IS NATIONAL #WEARBLUEDAY**

TAKE A PICTURE OF YOURSELF, YOUR OFFICE, ETC. AND POST TO SOCAL MEDIA USING THE HASHTAG #WEARBLUEDAY #CACAFAYNC. WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOUR 'BLUE.'

#### 2023 CHILD ABUSE SUMMIT APRIL 20 8AM – 4:30 PM

JOHN D. FULLER SR. RECREATIONAL/ATHLETIC COMPLEX PLENARY SPEAKER: SASHA NEULINGER SHOWING OF THE DOCUMENTARY "REWIND" OPEN TO THE PUBLIC. NO CHARGE. MUST REGISTER THROUGH SOUTHERN REGIONAL AHEC

FAYETTEVILLE'S ULTIMATE LIP SYNC SHOWDOWN SATURDAY MAY 6, 2023 CROWN CENTER BALLROOM @ 6 PM

# thank you benefactors!

## **CHAMPION FOR CHILDREN:**





### **HERO FOR CHILDREN:**

Joyce and Howard Loughlin • ARRAY Publishing & Marketing LLC
Mike and Ann Morketter • Timothy D. Edwards, Family Law Attorney
Valley Auto World, Inc. • Beasley Media

### STAR FOR CHILDREN:

Truist • Lucy and Wes Jones • Systel Business Equipment
Dr. Robin and Debbie Jenkins • Kenneth Barefoot
CityView Media • Brown & Associates Investment Services Inc.

### THANK YOU TO THE FOLLOWING GRANTORS WHO HAVE SUPPORTED THE CAC THIS YEAR:

Community Grants Fund of Cumberland Community Foundation, Inc. • Youth Growth Stock Trust
Carter Bank and Trust • Florence Rogers Charitable Trust • Cumberland County
City of Fayetteville • Anonymous Trust/Simply East Fund • Leon Levine Foundation
Tracy Family Foundation • Cumberland Community Foundation Giving Tuesday

A Special Thank you to all our individual donors and supporters who help us provide the very best services to the child victims of abuse in our community through monetary donations and the donations of goods and services. We could not do this work without your generosity.







## Fayetteville's Ultimate Lip Sync Showdown Saturday May 6, 2023 Crown Center Ballroom @ 6PM

Tickets are on sale now for Fayetteville's Ultimate Lip Sync Showdown to be held at the Crown Center Ballroom on Saturday, May 6, 2023. Social hour begins at 6 p.m. with show time starting at 6 PM. Proceeds from the event will benefit the Child Advocacy Center.

Tim Edwards and Jenny deViere return as co-chairs for the event again this year and the committee is hard at work planning another tremendous show. Local "celebrities" will battle it out for the title of

Local "celebrities" will battle it out for the title of Fayetteville's Ultimate Lip Sync Star! Audience participation will determine the winner of the People's Choice award.

Ticket prices are \$75 per person for standard table seating and \$100 per person for VIP table seating. (Facility and online order fees not included.) Tickets are available online or in person at the Crown Center box office. For more information, visit www.CACFayNC.org. All tickets include hors d'oeuvres and desserts. Cash bar will be available. "Party festive" is the suggested attire. This event is recommended for adult attendees.



# thank you volunteers!

# HONORING OUR VOLUNTEERS & MULTI-DISCIPLINARY TEAM MEMBERS

## BY ROBERTA HUMPHRIES, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

On February 16 the Child Advocacy Center honored its volunteers and Multi-Disciplinary Team members with a special recognition dinner – Taco'Bout Appreciation" held at the Kiwanis Recreation Center. Bees and Boards Charcuterie Co. provided a taco buffet. Awards were presented in recognition of service and participation during 2022.

#### THE FOLLOWING MDT MEMBERS WERE RECOGNIZED:

### MOST OBSERVED FORENSIC INTERVIEWS BY AGENCY:

- DET. SHANNON ODENWELDER, CCSO
- JESSICA CARTER, CCDSS
- DET. EDWARD FREDA, FPD
- DET. MICHAEL WILSON, HMPD
- DET. CHELSEY HUNT, SLPD

#### MOST ATTENDED CASE REVIEWS BY AN INVESTIGATOR:

- AVRIL BRISSETT, CCDSS
- DET. DANIEL EDMONDS, FPD
- DET. SHANNON ODENWELDER, CCSO

# MOST ATTENDED CASE REVIEWS BY PARTNER AGENCY REPRESENTATIVE:

- ALISSA BRASHEAR, CCDSS
- DR. DANIELLE THOMAS-TAYLOR, SRAHEC
- SGT. RANESSA WALLACE, FPD
- REBECCCA AUL, CUMBERLAND COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE

#### 100% AGENCY ATTENDANCE AT CASE REVIEW:

CUMBERLAND COUNTY DSS
CUMBERLAND COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE

2022 was another great year of working with a variety of volunteers that assisted the CAC in being able to be successful

in so many ways. The following volunteers were recognized:

# 40+ HOURS OF VOLUNTEER SERVICE CERTIFICATES PRESENTED TO:

SAMMY SOZA • KRISTY WOOD • CECILE GRIFFIN
STAN GRIFFIN • JACKIE DAVIS • JACKIE O'DONNELL
JOHN KINSTREY • JULIE LEE-JACOBS
SHARON KINSTREY • SHARON MOZINGO
BETH KEEVER • BETH LEE • DEBBIE JENKINS

JIMMY HENDLEY JR • LUCY JONES • NADINE MILLER BERNARD
ROBIN HURMENCE • WENDY VONNEGUT • CATHY WHITE
VALERIE SHORTS • ALEX DESOTA

# THE CHILD ADVOCACY CENTER WELCOMES NEW BOARD MEMBERS

Johnny Leonard, Behavioral Health Therapist and owner of Healing Minds Therapeutic Services, PLLC.

Michelle Smith, RN – Patient Care Manager PEDS/PICU at Cape Fear Valley Health

Sarah See - Professor at Methodist University



We applaud all our volunteers and MDT members for their passion and desire to help child victims of abuse in our community. Without each of their passions, willingness, care for the children and so much more the staff of the CAC would not be able to accomplish our mission to bring help, hope and healing to children and their families in our community impacted by child abuse. We thank them for their willing heart, their never-ending support, their love for children and desire to see this epidemic of child abuse end.

OUTSTANDING COMMUNITY
GROUP:
ST. JAMES LUTHERAN CHURCH

SHINE AWARD: THE HONORABLE (RET.) A. ELIZABETH KEEVER

FACILITATOR OF THE YEAR: SHANTEL CASIANO

VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR:
JACKIE DAVIS

THERAPY/COUNSELING AWARDS PRESENTED TO:

DIFFERENCE MAKER: JIMMY HENDLEY, JR.

> CHANGE AGENT: KRISTY WOOD

> CHANGE AGENT: SAMMY SOZA

CHANGE AGENT: TANEIDRA NIXON

#### CHILD ADVOCACY CENTER

222 ROWAN STREET

P.O. BOX 488 · FAYETTEVILLE, NC 28302 PHONE (910) 486-9700 · FAX: (910) 486-8677 WWW.CACFAYNC.ORG







**CHECK US OUT 4** ON SOCIAL MEDIA



WHAT WE DO

A Place of Healing and Hope: Joining hands with community agencies, the Child Advocacy Center (CAC) offers a safe and child-friendly place to interview, investigate and provide support for child victims of abuse. The CAC also provides prevention education for parents, professionals, and agencies in our community. We look to a future where all children live in a safe and nurturing environment free from abuse.

During FY 2022, the Child Advocacy Center received 808 cases of reported child abuse. 467 forensic interviews were conducted at the Center. 612 families received Victim Family Advocacy Services, providing direct aid as well as assisting them in accessing needed resources. 127 children attended individual counseling and 20 children participated in group counseling. 1470 people received child abuse prevention and awareness education. Volunteers contributed 1464 hours of service to the CAC. For additional information, please visit CACFAYNC.org.

# **2023 BOARD OF DIRECTORS & STAFF**

## **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

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**NON-PROFIT US POSTAGE** 

PAID

**PERMIT NO. 13** 

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Coordinator

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Advocate/Case Manager

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Family Advocate

Amy Hansen, Forensic Interviewer/Victim

Family Advocate

Renee Pridgen, Program Assistant Dahlia Talley, Victim Family Advocate Oretha Harris, LPC, Psychotherapist

(contracted)