

PENNSYLVANIA COMMISSION ON CRIME AND DELINQUENCY
CHILDREN'S ADVOCACY CENTER ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Endowment Act Funds
Project Summary and Analysis

Project Title: Endowment Act – Child Advocacy Centers

Applicants: 14 applicants in 14 counties

Project Duration: January 1, 2016 – December 31, 2016

Project Description:

On June 17, 2015, the Office of Research, Evaluation, and Strategic Policy Development (ORESPD) at PCCD announced the availability of state Endowment Act (Act 1 of 2013) Funds. Act 1 outlines five categories which are eligible for funding for the benefit of the residents of the Commonwealth. For the purposes of this funding announcement, the following four categories were opened:

- (i) Programs or projects assisting the victims of child sexual abuse.
- (ii) Child Advocacy Centers (CACs).
- (iii) Victim service organizations that provide services to children subjected to sexual abuse.
- (iv) Training of persons who treat victims of child sexual abuse.

The Endowment Act – Child Advocacy Center solicitation focused on providing funding to National Children's Alliance (NCA) member CACs and developing CACs. Applicants were eligible to apply for up to \$100,000. Funding under this category was limited to supporting:

- (i) NCA accredited/associate CACs or NCA accredited satellite services.
- (ii) NCA associate CACs in meeting NCA standards for accreditation.
- (iii) The development of NCA member CACs and satellites in underserved areas in meeting NCA standards, pursuant to Act 28 of 2014.
- (iv) Meeting an unmet demand for NCA member CAC services.
- (v) The creation of innovative programs such as telemedicine, mobile therapists, medical navigators, etc. utilized by NCA member CACs/Satellites.

Staff Analysis and Recommendation:

In response to this solicitation, ORESPD received 29 applications requesting a total of \$2,560,592. The following table was prepared to provide highlights from the applications being recommended for funding. Staff is currently in the process of reviewing each application being recommended to ensure compliance with the requirements set forth in the funding announcement.

The Children's Advocacy Center Advisory Committee and Staff are recommending approval of these 14 applications requesting \$1,262,124 in Endowment Act Funds pending the resolution of outstanding programmatic and fiscal concerns.

<p>Blair County Commissioners</p> <p>Blair County</p> <p>Grant # 26251</p> <p>Amount: \$65,266</p>	<p>Blair County Commissioners are requesting funding to begin the process of establishing in-county service delivery either in the form of a CAC, a satellite of an existing CAC or through the use of hybrid methods such as telemedicine in partnership with a local medical provider. Blair County will also look to collaborate with Bedford and Huntingdon Counties. Short term goals of the project include: conducting a feasibility study, creating a strategic plan, securing funding for forensic interviews conducted in other counties, continuing Multidisciplinary Investigative Team (MDIT) coordinator funding and expanding this position's role, obtaining funding for advanced training opportunities, continuing ground-level training of initial responders and applying for NCA associate membership. Funds will be used to fund a part-time MDIT case coordinator, cover the cost of forensic interviews in other counties, hire a consultant to conduct a feasibility study and conduct an initial responder training.</p>
<p>Centre County CAC</p> <p>Centre County</p> <p>Grant # 26245</p> <p>Amount: \$100,000</p>	<p>The Centre County CAC (CCCAC) is requesting funding to continue the momentum of providing a child-centered facility, with supervised staff and highly trained medical providers, equipped to provide services to children in Centre County and additional counties throughout Central PA. The first part of the project will focus on exploring opportunities that will lead the CCCAC to regionalizing, which will provide rural communities easier access to the CAC. The project will also focus on reimbursing medical providers at the CCCAC for time spent outside the exam room on peer reviews, journal club calls, monthly case reviews and participation in trainings. Funds will be used to partially support the executive director, three medical personnel and rent.</p> <p>Funding for this project is conditional on clarification of current funding sources for the requested positions and rent.</p>
<p>Cen-Clear Child Services, Inc.</p> <p>Clearfield County</p> <p>Grant # 26242</p> <p>Amount: \$93,039</p>	<p>Cen-Clear Child Services, Inc. is requesting funding to help strengthen their MDIT and help develop a CAC with the goal of NCA associate membership by the end of the grant period. Major deliverables of the project will be: expand the role of MDIT coordinator to incorporate the CAC; provide ongoing training for the MDIT as a team; provide a child-focused setting to allow for forensic interviews and medical examinations; strengthen the ability to provide evidence-based trauma-focused mental health services; and explore options for case tracking using a database system. Funds will be used to increase the hours of the part-time MDIT coordinator to full-time, send two forensic interviewers to advanced forensic interviewing training, purchase supplies to ensure that the facility is child-friendly and provide minimal standards training to MDIT members.</p>
<p>Pinnacle Health Hospitals</p> <p>Dauphin County</p> <p>Grant # 26227</p> <p>Amount: \$100,000</p>	<p>The Dauphin County Children's Resource Center (CRC), through Pinnacle Health Hospitals, is requesting funding to support the Lebanon County satellite office's preparation for NCA accreditation by ensuring all children seen at the satellite office have access to medical care. The project will support the cost of hiring a contracted certified registered nurse practitioner (CRNP) to provide medical care two days per week in the Lebanon satellite office. Currently, the CRC is able to provide medical coverage one day per week and children interviewed on that day when no medical provider is available often do not come back for medical services. A medical assistant will also be hired to assist the CRNP in collecting blood and urine, conducting pregnancy tests, and assisting with the colposcopy and photo imaging. Funds will also be used to cover the costs associated with converting the paper medical records to an electronic medical record (EMR). This will lead to an increase in record security, support electronic retention of colposcopic images and provide faster access to medical records when children return for subsequent visits to the CRC.</p>

<p>Family Support Line of Delaware County</p> <p>Delaware County</p> <p>Grant # 26253</p> <p>Amount: \$45,494</p>	<p>The Family Support Line of Delaware County, which runs the Delaware County Child Advocacy Center (DCCAC), is requesting funding to address cultural and language barriers that interfere with the DCCAC providing information, support and child abuse prevention education to Delaware County children and families who have limited English proficiency. The goals of the project include: meeting the NCA cultural competency and diversity standards; enhancing the capacity of the DCCAC and MDIT members to provide culturally competent services to children and families who are especially vulnerable because their ability to communicate in English is limited; and disseminate information about child sexual abuse prevention, investigations and the prosecution of cases to families and communities whose ability to communicate in English is limited. Funding will be used to develop a task force who will develop a cultural competency and diversity plan by holding focus groups with various community members, translate various CAC documents into at least 12 languages and support various agency supplies.</p>
<p>Franklin County Commissioners</p> <p>Franklin County</p> <p>Grant # 26248</p> <p>Amount: \$99,576</p>	<p>The Franklin County Commissioners, in conjunction with Over the Rainbow Franklin County CAC (OTR-FCCAC), is requesting funding to further the development of OTR-FCCAC by creating, implementing and strengthening the policies and procedures in accordance with NCA standards. The overall goal of this project is to strengthen the MDIT, seek NCA associate membership and develop and implement policies and procedures in accordance with NCA standards. Funds will be used to partially support the executive director who will be responsible for the oversight of daily operations and service provision along with the continued development and implementation of policies and procedures which adhere to NCA standards. Funds will also be used to partially support a forensic interviewer who will be responsible for conducting all forensic interviews, scheduling MDIT case review, and tracking cases in accordance with NCA standards. Facility costs and NCAtrak fees will also be supported.</p>
<p>Friends of Western PA CARES for Kids</p> <p>Jefferson County</p> <p>Grant # 26225</p> <p>Amount: \$95,620</p>	<p>Friends of Western PA CARES for Kids (PA CARES) is requesting funding to help secure the positions of victim/family advocate and administrative assistant in order to help ensure that NCA standards remain met and allow for additional growth in meeting the required standards. Funds will be used to support a victim/family advocate who will be responsible for providing a wide range of direct services such as victim advocacy, explaining the medical evaluation process to families, engaging with the family during the medical exam and forensic interview and providing referrals as needed. Funds will also be used to support a part-time administrative assistant who is responsible for case tracking, reporting to NCA, case preparations and coordinating case reviews for the MDIT, clerical assistance and inputting case information into the tracking system. This grant will also be used to support renovating two existing areas in the CAC to convert into needed office spaces that will allow for confidentiality during counseling sessions.</p>
<p>Lancaster General Hospital</p> <p>Lancaster County</p> <p>Grant # 26273</p> <p>Amount: \$100,000</p>	<p>Lancaster General Hospital is requesting funds to implement an innovative approach to improve services and increase capacity at the Lancaster County Children's Alliance (LCCA). Funds will be used to partially fund a nurse practitioner and a forensic interviewer which will enable 85% of children to have joint forensic and medical appointments on the same day. With current staffing levels, LCCA is able to provide medical services to 43% of the children and often these services are not on the same day as the forensic interview. An updated colposcope and camera system will also be funded to immediately improve the quality of medical information collected to support treatment, peer review and medical testimony. Funds will also be used to support training for the nurse practitioner and the forensic interviewer.</p>

<p>CAC of Lawrence County</p> <p>Lawrence County</p> <p>Grant # 26317</p> <p>Amount: \$100,000</p>	<p>The CAC of Lawrence County is requesting funding to ensure that the CAC continues to meet the standards for accreditation, particularly forensic interviews, mental health and organizational capacity. Funds will be used to support the forensic interviewer/program manager who will conduct forensic interviews, organize case review coordination, facilitate the case review meeting, track cases and collect data. This person will take on additional duties of the executive director which will free up time for the director to focus on organizational capacity. Funds will also be used to support a family advocate who will help reduce barriers to treatment by guiding children and families through the referral process and tracking their connection to providers of trauma-focused therapy. This person will also assist in case tracking, data entry and NCA bi-annual reports. To satisfy the NCA standard for mental health, the CAC will use funding to hire a part-time therapist who will help ease the current waiting list and allow more children to receive evidence-based mental health services within the county instead of driving over an hour to receive these services. This grant will also support advanced forensic interview training and various office supplies.</p>
<p>Family Service Association of NEPA</p> <p>Luzerne County (serving Wyoming and Susquehanna Counties)</p> <p>Grant# 26230</p> <p>Amount: \$100,000</p>	<p>The Family Service Association of Northeast PA (FSA-NEPA) is requesting funding to continue with the creation of a CAC that will serve both Susquehanna and Wyoming Counties and strengthen their current MDITs in order to better serve children and their families. Funding will be used to support the CAC director who will coordinate the MDITs activities, help with updating protocols, further the development of medical services and forensic interviewing, develop a CAC operating protocol and implement a training plan and identify local quality trauma focused services. The project will also focus on developing a medical room so that services can be provided onsite at the CAC. It is estimated that in the first full year of operation in 2016 between 50 and 75 children and 25 to 75 family members will receive services. Funding will also be used for agency supplies, meals at various trainings and to partially fund two FSA-NEPA employees.</p>
<p>McKean County Commissioners</p> <p>McKean County</p> <p>Grant # 26213</p> <p>Amount: \$63,804</p>	<p>The McKean County CAC, through the McKean County Commissioners, is requesting funding to help comply with two NCA standards for accreditation: Victim Support and Advocacy and Medical Evaluation. Although the CAC works with the Victims' Resource Center (VRC), the advocates at VRC are not able to provide services to all children seen at the CAC. Funding will be used to fund a family advocate/case manager who will be responsible for providing advocacy, crisis support and case management services to child victims that are not served by VRC. Funding will also be used to train new Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners - Pediatric (SANE-P) at the National CAC, medical equipment and costs related to medical peer review to help increase the number of children receiving a medical evaluation locally. Of the cases referred to the CAC, approximately 20% of children received a medical evaluation. However, of the 20%, less than 7% were able to receive an examination locally and had to travel to either Erie or Allegheny County for services.</p>
<p>Geisinger Clinic</p> <p>Montour/Northumberland Counties</p> <p>Grant # 26272</p> <p>Amount: \$100,000</p>	<p>Geisinger Clinic, which houses the CAC of Central Susquehanna Valley, is requesting funding to support a full-time Certified Registered Nurse Practitioner (CRNP) that will be housed at the CAC. Currently only 15% of suspected child sexual abuse victims receive forensic medical examinations due to the limited availability of the CAC medical director who is only allotted six hours per week at the CAC. As a result, the CAC has to determine which cases should be considered priority to receive an exam. The addition of a CRNP will allow for 100% of the cases to be seen onsite at the CAC. Funding will be used to fund a full-time CRNP, travel to the 2016 Annual Conference on Child Maltreatment and medical supplies.</p>

<p>Philadelphia Children's Alliance</p> <p>Philadelphia County</p> <p>Grant # 26256</p> <p>Amount: \$100,000</p>	<p>The Philadelphia Children's Alliance (PCA) is requesting funding to support a forensic interviewer, a therapist and rent for their facility. In FY 2015, PCA saw an 11% increase in services provided and their expense have already exceeded their revenue. Funding will be used to support a forensic interviewer who will conduct at least 330 interviews, participate in case review meetings and participate in peer review. A part-time therapist housed at PCA will also be funded. Although children are referred to trauma focused services off site, the need for services has outpaced the availability; PCA has also found that engagement rates for on-site therapy are much higher than off-site referrals. Funds will also be used to partially cover the rent and utilities of PCA which will allow PCA to decrease the gap in revenues and expenditures.</p>
<p>York County CAC</p> <p>York County</p> <p>Grant # 26338</p> <p>Amount: \$99,325</p>	<p>The York County CAC is requesting funding to help address the increase in the number of referrals seen at the CAC, to help increase their medical exam completion rate and to help increase advocacy time spent with victims. The CAC will utilize funds to make a part-time forensic interviewer full-time to respond to an additional 20 referrals a week which will allow for quality interviews in the shortest window possible. Funds will also be used to hire a new full-time Intake Coordinator position who will focus on rapid scheduling of interviews, stress the importance of medical exams and increase medical exam rates, take on duties of coordinating interview schedules, greet families and assist with intake paperwork. Currently, the family advocate performs these duties. By hiring an intake coordinator, the family advocate will be able to focus solely on family follow-up and allow for improved advocacy and support in particular for children and families whose cases are not going to be prosecuted. Funds will also be used to support training and conference costs.</p>
	<p style="text-align: center;">Total Amount Requested: \$ 1,262,124</p>