



Autism Support Alliance
Children's Advocacy Center
Shannon Cox Counseling Center
The Leadership Center for Youth
Court Appointed Special Advocates
Human Services Response Institute
Children and Families Action Network
Performance Employee and Business Services

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

THE CHILDREN'S ADVOCACY CENTER, A DIVISION OF FAMILY & YOUTH EARNS RE-ACCREDITATION FROM NATIONAL CHILDREN'S ALLIANCE

*National Children's Alliance recognizes **THE CHILDREN'S ADVOCACY CENTER, A DIVISION OF FAMILY & YOUTH** for its ongoing delivery of high quality and effective services to child abuse victims through accreditation*

(Lake Charles) – **THE CHILDREN'S ADVOCACY CENTER, A DIVISION OF FAMILY & YOUTH** has been awarded re-accreditation by National Children's Alliance following an extensive application and site review process. As the accrediting agency for Children's Advocacy Centers (CAC) across the country, National Children's Alliance awards various levels of accreditation and membership to centers responding to allegations of child abuse in ways that are effective and efficient, and put the needs of child victims of abuse first. Accreditation is the highest level of membership with National Children's Alliance and denotes excellence in service provision.

Accredited CACs must undergo a re-accreditation process every five years to ensure that best practices are continually being applied. With accreditation standards being updated in 2010, re-accreditation this year reflects **THE CHILDREN'S ADVOCACY CENTER, A DIVISION OF FAMILY & YOUTH** commitment to providing evidence-based methods practice.

The Children's Advocacy Center (CAC) opened in 1996 to provide services to children reported as victims of sexual or severe physical abuse. In 2020, the CAC recorded 489 forensic interviews for children from Calcasieu, Cameron, Jeff Davis, Allen, and Beauregard parishes. As an Accredited Member of National Children's Alliance since 2004, **THE CHILDREN'S ADVOCACY CENTER, A DIVISION OF FAMILY & YOUTH** has been dedicated to providing comprehensive, coordinated and compassionate services to victims of child abuse.

National Children's Alliance awards Accredited Membership based on a CAC's compliance with 10 national standards of accreditation to ensure effective, efficient and consistent delivery of services to child abuse victims. Accredited Members must utilize a functioning and effective Multidisciplinary Team approach to work collaboratively in child abuse investigation, prosecution, and treatment. National Children's Alliance also considers standards regarding a center's cultural competency and diversity, forensic interviews, victim support and advocacy, medical evaluation, therapeutic intervention, and child focused setting.

"As an organization our team is dedicated to responding to child abuse, we recognize the importance of maintaining best practices when serving our community through the re-accreditation process from National Children's Alliance. Re-accreditation not only endorses our organization's commitment to proven effective methods of child abuse intervention and prevention, but also contributes to consistency across the child advocacy center movement as a whole," said **Erika Doshier, Vice President of Family & Youth.**

*"**THE CHILDREN'S ADVOCACY CENTER, A DIVISION OF FAMILY & YOUTH** is to be commended for its continued commitment to effectively serve victims of child abuse. As the national association and accrediting body for Children's Advocacy Centers across the country, our goal is to ensure that every victim of child abuse has access to high quality services that result from professional collaboration. By requiring Accredited Centers to undergo re-*



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Accreditation every five years, we ensure that evidence-based practices are being implemented and the highest quality of service is being provided," remarked Teresa Huizar, Executive Director of National Children's Alliance.

For more information call (337) 436-9533 or visit www.fyca.org.

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Family & Youth

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