

TEAM **4** **0**

A Publication for Friends & Supporters of
Traverse Bay Children's Advocacy Center

April 2014

Zero Tolerance for Child Abuse

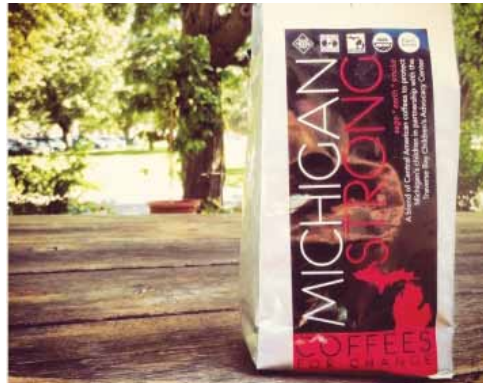
April is National Child Abuse Prevention Month, a time to recognize that we each can play a part in promoting the social and emotional well-being of children and families. It is a time to look back, to acknowledge the children who have suffered and the losses sustained throughout our communities because of that suffering. It is also an opportunity to look forward to a time when children no longer have to live in fear.

The pinwheel has become a nationwide symbol for the prevention of child abuse. It is an uplifting reminder of childhood and the bright future that all children deserve.

Join us on Sunday, April 27th at 1PM for the **4th Annual Zero Tolerance Event** at the State Theatre in Traverse City. Josh Beechraft, winner of Traverse City's Got Talent, will encourage us to "Lose the Illusion" about child abuse through a family friendly magical performance.

Afterwards, everyone is welcome to join the **March to End Child Abuse** – with pinwheels in hand – as we walk down Front Street to the Open Space for a carnival celebration until 3:30 PM.

The **2nd Annual Spring Splatter** will be held on April 26th at 9AM. Niki Roxbury and the student senate of Central High School will host this special 5K with a different color station at every kilometer of the race. Mixing trail running and road running, this race is truly unique, looping through Central's campus. 100% of the proceeds benefit the TBCAC. Register online at Active.com.



Wake up from the illusion of child abuse every morning with a cup of Michigan STRONG coffee. Roasted in Traverse City, \$5 from each bag sold goes directly to the TBCAC. Visit Higher Grounds Trading Company online or call 231.922.9009 for bulk quantities.



Participants march at the 3rd Annual Zero Tolerance Event.

Preventing Child Sexual Abuse

Prevention Tip #1

A thumb is a thumb, an elbow is an elbow, a penis is a penis.

In early childhood, parents can teach their children the name of the genitals, just as they teach their child names of other body parts. This teaches that the genitals, while private, are not so private that you can't talk about them.

Prevention Tip #2

Minimize Opportunity...

More than 80% of sexual abuse cases occur in isolated, one-on-one situations. If you eliminate or reduce isolated, one-on-one situations between children and adults, and children and other youth, you'll dramatically reduce the risk of sexual abuse.

Prevention Tip #3

Learn The Facts!

Use REALITY to guide you when choosing the people YOU allow your child to spend time with. Trust is something that is developed. It is something that is EARNED through safe behaviors and knowledge.

The reality is, people who abuse children look and act just like every one else. In fact, they often go out of their way to appear trustworthy, seeking out settings where they can gain easy access to children, such as sports leagues, faith centers, clubs, and schools.

YOU get to choose the people who influence your children. Choose carefully, ask questions, and screen all individuals who will have the privilege of spending time with your child.

For more information visit traversebaycac.org

The POWER of GRANTS

The TBCAC is a safe haven. Every service that we provide is offered at no cost to the children and families who need them. Our door is open to everyone – regardless of ability to pay – because we truly believe in ending child sexual abuse. Amazing community partners are reaching out and supporting the PEOPLE who make this life-changing work possible. We are especially grateful to the:

Art and Mary Schmuckal Family Foundation for supporting Amelia Siders, PhD, Clinical Coordinator

Art and Mary Schmuckal Family Foundation for supporting Brooke Netz, Forensic Interviewer

Children's Trust Fund for supporting Christal Wilcox, Prevention Coordinator

Michigan Department of Community Health - Crime Victim Services Commission for supporting Gwen Taylor, Family Advocate

Michigan Domestic & Sexual Violence Prevention & Treatment Board for supporting Denise Kuschell, Intake Coordinator and Brooke Netz, Executive Director

United Way of Northwest Michigan for supporting Amelia Siders, PhD, Clinical Coordinator

**Thank you for Reaching Out.
Thank you for Reaching the Children.**

Traverse Bay Children's Advocacy Center

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BEACONS of LIGHT

Traverse Bay Children's Advocacy Center is the only child advocacy center in Northern Michigan accredited by the National Children's Alliance. Furthermore, it is one of only a handful of CACs that adopt a dual approach toward ending child abuse by offering prevention programs as well as intervention services. The TBCAC utilizes the Stewards of Children: Darkness to Light training program to teach adults about the signs of abuse, how to report child abuse and how to prevent maltreatment. When adults are aware of the facts, children feel safer and more willing to disclose abuse.

Graduates of Darkness to Light:

13th Judicial Circuit Court – Family Division

Big Brothers Big Sisters

Career Tech Center

CFS Foster Parents

Child and Family Services

Community-at-large

Court Appointed Special Advocates

First Congregational Church

Grand Traverse County Probate Court – Honorable Melanie D. Stanton

Grand Traverse County Prosecutor's Office

Grand Traverse Metro Fire Department

Juvenile Probation Officers

Kitty Educational Center

Learning Partners

Michigan State University

Peach Ranch

Safe Haven

Tabernacle Day Care

TBAISD – Staff and Counselors

TBCAC Parents

Traverse Bay Area Youth Soccer

Traverse City High School

Women's Resource Center

Contact us to bring Darkness to Light to your organization.

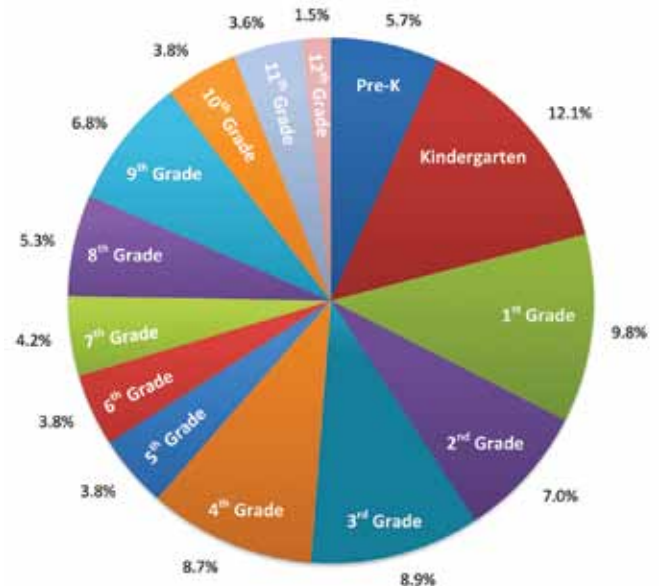


As unbelievable as it may seem, approximately 1 out of 10 children will be sexually abused by age 18 - usually by someone they know and trust. As a result, you know someone or you are someone who has been affected by sexual abuse.

555 children have walked through the doors of the TBCAC since opening in 2010.

- 98% were children
- 2% were vulnerable adults
- The oldest was 71
- The youngest was 2
- 71% were female
- 29% were male
- 64% reported sexual abuse
- 6% reported severe physical abuse
- 4% reported witnessing violence
- 25% required safety checks
- 1% reported neglect

Children Served by Grade Level



TBCAC Society



- 1 Circle of Friends co-chairs Marilyn, Jody and Rhonda.
- 2 Children celebrating at the Open Space carnival.
- 3 Turkey Trot for Charities.



Local Initiatives

What do the Cherry T-Ball Drop, Festival of Cakes, Shop Your Community Day, and Turkey Trot have in common? They all named the TBCAC as beneficiary of their event in 2013! Just by participating in these community offerings, you have contributed to a safer world for our children.

Donations to the Traverse Bay Children's Advocacy Center

Received October 1, 2013 - February 28, 2014

Guardians \$25,000 and above

Michigan Department of Community Health - Crime Victim Services Commission
Michigan Domestic and Sexual Violence Prevention and Treatment Board (Grant Award)

Stewards \$10,000 - \$24,999

Art and Mary Schmuckal Family Foundation
Mike and Denise Busley - Grand Traverse Pie Company
Children's Trust Fund
United Way of Northwest Michigan

Protectors \$5,000 - \$9,999

Cherry T Ball Drop
Michael and Rhonda Estes

Shields \$1,000 - \$4,999

Anonymous
Beers Family Foundation
Dick and Susan Bingham
Community Foundation's Robert T. Hughes Endowment
Grand Traverse Children's Clinic
David and Charlotte Gray
Louise Hagerty
Masters Design
Quota International of Traverse City
Pat Sharpnack
TBA Credit Union
The Delta Air Lines Foundation
Up North Media, Inc
Women's Fellowship of First Congregational Church
Dr. and Mrs. Wyckoff

Believers \$1 - \$999

Robin Ahart-O'Malley
Roger and Carla Bloom
John and Sue Bolde
Ashley Bosley
Rich and Marty Brauer
Ron and Barbara Budros
Archie and Robbie Carmichael
Grant and Terry Carrithers
Community Foundation's Youth Endowment
Corporate Settlement Solutions
Downtown Traverse City Association
Richard Doyle
Pat and Deb Ehle
Philip and Barbara Ellis
John Emanuel
Gail Evans
James Fegan
First National Bank of America
Dietrich and Ann Floeter
Vincent and Carolyn Fochtman
Gary and Lou Anne Ford
David Friar and Rorie Lewis
Global Environmental Engineering
Gosling Czubek Engineering Sciences
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Bob and Pat Lewallen
Pat and Shelle McGuire
Jerry and Dawn McLaughlin
John Meyer
James and Mary Beth Milliken
Penny Milliken
James and Nancy Moegle

Jayne Mohr and Calvin Karr
Scott Monteith and Kathy Baylis
Anne Morrison Perry
Earl Morrison
Emily Morrison
Kimberly Morrison
Ann Murphy
Joel Myler
Mike Nangle
Brooke Netz
Northwood Animal Hospital
Oryana Food Cooperative
Melissa Pauley
John and Linda Racine
Richard and Leslie Redmond
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Leon and Patricia Roggen
Schmuckal Oil Company

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Amelia Siders
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Tonya Wildfong Photography
Tucker Design
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Bob and Jodie Wick
Christal Wilcox
Roger and Linda Wood
Thomas Wressell and Sandra Bannon
Jay and Judy Zrimec



TRAVERSE BAY
Children's Advocacy Center
ABUSE PREVENTION AND INTERVENTION

121 E. Front Street, Traverse City, MI 49684



Art from the Heart

A young client of the center drew this picture of Clinical Coordinator Amelia Siders and her dog because "Jeeves and you are why I like coming here to talk."



Our Mission:

To protect children from sexual abuse through awareness, intervention, collaboration, and healing.

Our Vision:

A world where children are safe from abuse and neglect.



TBCAC mascot Jeeves welcomes families to the center!