

Children's Center

A place where healing begins

CONTACT

Barbara Peschiera, Executive Director
Children's Center

Barbara@childrenscenter.cc

503-655-7725

THE PROBLEM

One in ten children will be sexually abused by their 18th birthday. And sadly, an average of 20 children are killed as a direct result of child abuse, in Oregon alone, every year.

Untreated, child abuse leads to debilitating, lifelong chronic physical and mental health conditions. The fallout from child abuse and neglect extends beyond these young victims, destabilizing families, fracturing communities, and increasing the financial burden on law enforcement, social services, and the health care system.

Children of every gender, age, race, ethnicity, background, socioeconomic status and family structure are at risk of child abuse. **No child is immune.**

WHO WE ARE

Children's Center is an accredited member of National Children's Alliance and an integral partner in Clackamas County's response to child abuse and the answer to a child's pain. A private, non-profit medical assessment center, Children's Center supports children and families in cases of suspected physical abuse, sexual abuse, neglect, drug endangerment, and witness to violence. Core services include:

- **Forensic Medical Evaluations:** Comprehensive head-to-toe exam to determine and document a child's health and safety by Medical Examiners trained in diagnosing child abuse and neglect.
- **Forensic Interviewing Services:** Digitally recorded forensic interviews with Child Interviewers specially trained to talk to children of all ages and developmental levels. Child Interviewers work with the Medical Examiners as part of the medical evaluation.
- **Family Support:** Support, referrals, education, and case management for families in Clackamas County struggling with issues of abuse or neglect. These services are offered to non-offending family members of children receiving evaluations at Children's Center as well as families in the community.
- **Community Education and Outreach:** Trainings, presentations, prevention workshops, and resources for local professional and community groups.

HOW YOU CAN BE PART OF THE SOLUTION

Though we hope to prevent child abuse from ever occurring, there is a national movement in April to recognize Child Abuse Prevention Month. Working with strong community leadership, we are undertaking a comprehensive public education and engagement campaign. Our goals are to increase calls to our local Child Abuse Hotline and decrease incidents of child abuse in Clackamas County.

Many community partners will play a role in the success of our campaign. We hope you will consider joining us as we all work together to prevent child abuse and neglect in Clackamas County. We welcome the opportunity to talk with you more about how we can work together to end child abuse in our community.