



# The CAC Connection

September 2007



## SAVE THE DATE! SAVE THE DATE!

The 4th Annual "Connecting for Children's Justice: A Team Approach" Conference will be held November 19-21, 2007 at the Sheraton Music City in Nashville. This Conference aims to strengthen, promote, and enhance



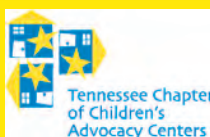
the understanding and response to child maltreatment throughout the state of Tennessee. Attendees include professionals from the legal, law enforcement, mental health, and child protective services. Conference Registration fee is \$125.00. Registration information will be available at [www.tncac.org](http://www.tncac.org) in the coming weeks.

## *NCA Leadership Conference 2007*

Staff of the Tennessee Chapter of Children's Advocacy Centers, along with a number of Child Advocacy Center Executive Directors from across the state, attended the National Children's Alliance's "Leadership Conference 2007" in Washington, D.C. June 17-20. Attendees met with their Congressional Delegation and asked the Representatives to support funding the Victims of Child Abuse Act at the \$15 million dollar level. Attendees also received training on a number of topics including "Advanced Issues in Risk Management for Children's Advocacy Centers," "Cultural Competency and Diversity," and "Integrating Prevention into Your Children's Advocacy Center."



Pictured Left to Right: Jennifer Wilkerson - Upper Cumberland Children's Advocacy Center (CAC), Joe Saladino - Tennessee Chapter of Children's Advocacy Centers, Jeanne Boone - Tennessee Chapter of Children's Advocacy Centers, Senator Lamar Alexander, Frankie Cowan - TN Department of Children's Services, Kim Stringfield - CAC of the 23rd judicial District, Senator Bob Corker, Joette Street - CAC of Sullivan County, Jim Goodwin - CAC of Sullivan County, and Amy Burke-Salyers - Sumner County CAC





The Tennessee Chapter of Children's Advocacy Centers provided the following trainings from April 1, 2007-June 30, 2007:

"Children's Advocacy Centers 101"

Joe Saladino, Jeanne Boone  
Tennessee Conference on Social Welfare  
Nashville, TN  
April 4, 2007

"Medical Principles of Child Sexual and Physical Abuse"

Dr. Lisa Piercey  
Woodmont Hills Church of Christ  
Nashville, TN  
May 3, 2007

"Medical Principles of Child Sexual and Physical Abuse"

Dr. Lisa Piercey  
Community Foundation of Greater Memphis  
Memphis, TN  
May 22, 2007

NCAtrak Training

Julie Pape - NCA , Troy Price - NCA,  
Sherry Lenderman - SAIC  
TBI Headquarters  
Nashville, TN  
May 30-31

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Tennessee Conference on Social Welfare  
Nashville, TN  
April 3-5, 2007

National Children's Alliance Leadership Conference  
Washington, D.C.  
June 17-20

## Legislative Update

The 105th General Assembly passed a number of bills aimed at strengthening the state's response to allegations of child abuse. Highlights include:

Senate Bill 2167: This law removes express authorization of a hospital, clinic, school, or other organization responsible for the care of children to develop a specific procedure for "investigating" reports of child abuse.

Senate Bill 1881: Established the "Child Abuse Fund" into which the proceeds from forfeitures of conveyances of real or personal property used in commission of sexual offenses shall be deposited.

Senate Bill 2235: Increases the minimum period of incarceration for rape of a child from 15 years to 25 years. Authorizes board of probation and parole to require as a mandatory condition of supervision for any person convicted under this section that such person be enrolled in a satellite-based monitoring program for the full extent of the person's supervision.

Senate Bill 0230: Creates class of "Child Sexual Predators," which includes persons convicted at least two times of aggravated sexual battery, statutory rape by an authority figure, sexual battery by an authority figure, sexual battery by an authority figure, solicitation of a minor to commit sexual offense, or aggravated statutory rape. Requires child sexual predator to serve 100% of sentence.

## NEW FORENSIC INTERVIEWER POSITIONS

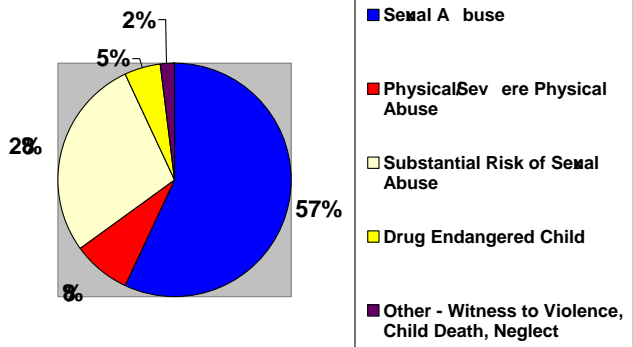
11 Child Advocacy Centers received funding to add a forensic interviewer to their staff. These additional positions will provide a forensic interviewer for every CAC in Tennessee. These forensic interviewers are specially trained to conduct child-friendly, developmentally appropriate interviews of child victims.

*"No one ever keeps a secret so well as a child."*

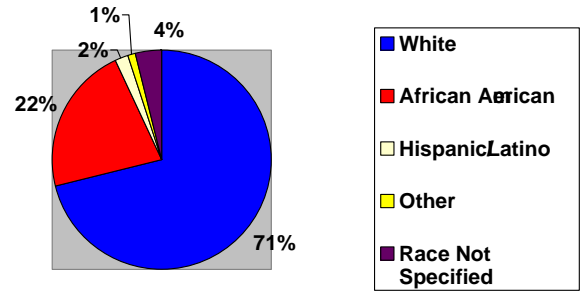
Victor Hugo  
1802-1885



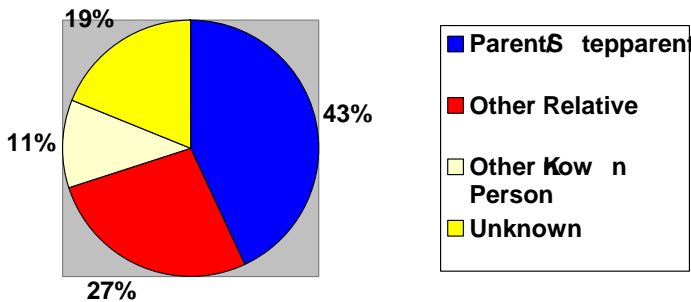
# Child Advocacy Centers of Tennessee Statewide Statistics



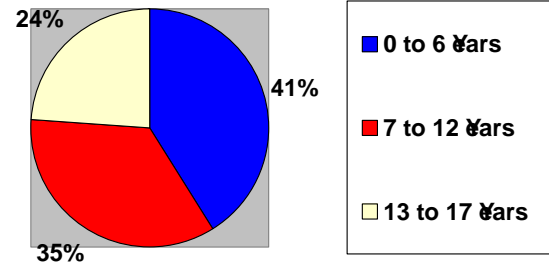
Reason Children were seen at Child Advocacy Centers of Tennessee from January 1 - June 30, 2007



Ethnicity of Children served by Child Advocacy Centers of Tennessee from January 1, 2007-June 30, 2007



Relationship of alleged perpetrator to abused child served by Child Advocacy Centers of Tennessee from January-June 30, 2007



Age of Children served at Child Advocacy Centers of Tennessee from January 1 - June 30, 2007

Total number of children served by the Child Advocacy Centers - 9,009  
 Number of Forensic Interviews conducted - 2,872  
 Number of Counseling Sessions Provided - 5,114

29 of 30 Children's Advocacy Centers reporting

## Update on Developing Children's Advocacy Centers:

**7th Judicial District, Clinton, TN:** District Attorney General, Dave Clark, has filed the 501c3 application with the Internal Revenue Service. Protocols and By-Laws have been written and are under review. The Child Protective Investigative Team is currently searching for space for the center.

**15th Judicial District, Lebanon, TN:** The Child Advocacy Center of the 15th Judicial District has contracted with an Executive Director, Ann Cox, and is currently actively searching for a location for their center.

## Congratulations to the newest members of the Tennessee Chapter to receive National Children's Alliance Accreditation:

Kid's Place, A Child Advocacy Center  
Lawrenceburg, TN  
Barbara Brewer, Executive Director

Child Advocacy Center of the  
27th Judicial District  
Martin, TN  
Lori Hendon, Executive Director

### *Welcome to Our New Executive Directors!*



**Heather White-Warden** is the new Executive Director of Junior's House, Inc, the Child Advocacy Center of the 17th Judicial District. Ms. White-Warden, M.S. graduated from Florida State University in 1992 with a Bachelor of Arts Degree in English Literature. In 1994, she graduated from Troy State University with a Masters of Science Degree in Counseling Psychology. She worked in the community mental health setting until 2000 when she decided to stay home with her first child, Garrett. While at home, she completed thirty hours towards a Ph.D. in Marriage and Family Counseling. In 2005, Heather became the Children's Therapist at Junior's House Child Advocacy Center and in May 2007 she became the Executive Director of the center.



**Joan Jenkins** is the new Executive Director of the Robertson County Children's Advocacy Center. Ms. Jenkins' experience has included work with Special Olympics Tennessee, Nashville Public Radio, CrossRoads to Hope and American Red Cross. She is a lifelong resident of the Nashville area and a graduate of Tennessee State University where she received a Bachelor of Science degree in Communications with Highest Distinction and University Honors. She also attended the Master of Science program in Communications at Tennessee State University.

## Tennessee Chapter of Children's Advocacy Centers

Bonnie Beneke, Executive Director  
Jeanne Boone, Development and Education Coordinator

1266 Foster Avenue  
Nashville, TN 37210  
(615) 327-9450  
[www.tncac.org](http://www.tncac.org)

