# CHILD ADVOCACY CENTER

Division of Social Services

District Attorney Office/CAIT

Schools

CASA

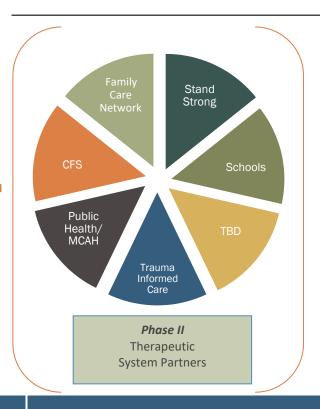
Victim Witness

Phase I
Forensic Investigation
System Partners

from first disclosure through healing & wellness

Child Advocacy
Center
Multidisciplinary
Team

A Multidisciplinary Team (MDT) represents a broad range of system partners who establish collaboration, review cases, recommend system improvements and ensure CAC standards are met.



### CHILD ADVOCACY CENTER GOALS

- Create a Child Advocacy Center (CAC) from point of first disclosure to healing and wellness for child sexual and physical abuse victims
- 2) Reduce systemic trauma to the child abuse victim
- 3) Increase prosecution and conviction rates
- 4) Provide a therapeutic system for healing and wellness for child abuse victims
- 5) Create a CAC Multidisciplinary Team to improve collaboration and cooperation between multiple systems and meet NCA accreditation standards

#### PHASE I OBJECTIVES

- Identify forensic system partners
- Map current forensic systems
- Identify role and responsibilities for improved collaboration, communication and information sharing among child abuse forensic system partners objectives
- Develop data collection tools
- Create a CAC Multidisciplinary Team to improve collaboration and cooperation between multiple systems and meet NCA accreditation standards

### **PHASE II OBJECTIVES**

- Identify therapeutic system partners
- Map current therapeutic system
- Identify role and responsibilities for improved communication, collaboration and data sharing among system partners to support the healing and well-being of child abuse victims
- Develop data collection tools
- Onboard CAC Multidisciplinary Team members to create a child-focused wholistic child advocacy systems approach

# San Luis Obispo County Child Advocacy Center

### National Children's Alliance Standards

- 1. Multidisciplinary Team (MDT)
  - Law Enforcement
  - Child Protective Services
  - Prosecution
  - Medical
  - Mental Health
  - Victim Advocacy
  - Children's Advocacy Center System
- **2.** Cultural Competency and Diversity (Recommendation: establish CAS as the coordinator of Cultural Competency and Diversity)
- 3. Forensic Interview (CAIT)
- 4. Victim Support and Advocacy (Victim Witness)
- 5. Medical Evaluation (SART)
- **6. Mental Health-Wellness** (Behavioral Health and Community Based Organizations)
- **7. Case Review** (Full MDT representation should be at the Case Review, as well as the forensic interviewer, irrespective of which agency employs him/her)
- **8.** Case Tracking (Recommendation: establish CAS as the coordinator of Case tracking)
- **9. Organizational Capacity** (Recommendation: establish CAS as the coordinator of Organizational Capacity)
- **10.Child Focused System** (Recommendation: establish CAS as the coordinator of Child Focused System)

Putting Standards into Practice, A Guide to Implement the 2017 Standards for Accredited Members, National Children's Alliance