

## Child-friendly Environment

- There is an observable difference when children and their families are served in a child friendly environment.
- **“This was fun, can I come back tomorrow?”**  
*child victim’s statement after forensic interview*

## Forensic Interview

- Conducted by professionally trained, experienced child interviewer
- Objective, neutral, non-leading interviews that bear scrutiny from outside agencies.
- State of the art recording equipment to decrease the number of child interviews thus lessening the re-traumatization of the child.

## Advocacy

- The child and family are supported from the very beginning of child’s disclosure, through the investigation and judicial phases and through recovery.
- Families are referred to needed community resources (housing, medical and mental health services, victim’s compensation)
- Liason between agencies, service providers and the family.

## Prevention

- Facilitate *Darkness to Light’s Stewards of Children*.
- *The Period of PURPLE Crying* is offered to parents/caregivers of newborn babies.
- The TBCAC staff is available to speak to service groups or at community events.



**The Traverse Bay CAC is located at  
121 East Front Street, Suite 301  
Traverse City, MI 49684**

**For more information contact:**  
Brooke Netz, Executive Director  
231.929.4250 or toll free at 877.929.4250  
TBCAC@traversebaycac.org

### TBCAC BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Shelley Kester, Chair  
*Attorney*

Nate Alger, Vice-Chair  
*Under Sheriff Grand Traverse Sheriff's Office*

Deb Blashill, Treasurer  
*Hospitalists of Michigan*

Joseph Hubbell, Secretary  
*Leelanau County Prosecuting Attorney*

For a complete listing of the TBCAC Board of Directors as well as the Prevention Council Board of Directors please visit our website at:  
[www.traversebaycac.org](http://www.traversebaycac.org)



TRAVERSE BAY  
*Children's Advocacy Center*  
ABUSE PREVENTION AND INTERVENTION

**Traverse Bay Children's Advocacy Center**  
121 East Front Street, Suite 301  
Traverse City, MI 49684  
(231) 929-4250 • fax (231) 929-4255  
Toll free: 877-929-4250

[www.traversebaycac.org](http://www.traversebaycac.org)  
TBCAC@traversebaycac.org

## OUR MISSION

The mission of the Traverse Bay Children's Advocacy Center is to protect children by providing prevention and multi-disciplinary intervention in investigation, assessment and treatment of child sexual and physical abuse in an environment that is child sensitive, supportive and safe.





## The Traverse Bay Children's Advocacy Center

- Helps lessen the trauma experienced by abused children.
- Provides a warm, child-friendly setting where children can be interviewed.
- Supports the child and family through the judicial process.
- Provides referrals to community resources.
- Informs and educates families about the criminal justice process.
- Keeps families updated on the status of their cases.
- Reduces the need for multiple interviews.

### Who Needs a Forensic Interview?

- A child making statements of severe physical abuse.
- A child making statements of sexual abuse.
- A child making statements of witnessing a violent crime or act.

*You can look at a scar and see hurt,  
or you can look at a scar and  
see healing.*

*~Sheri Reynol, "A Gracious Plenty"*



## Thank you to our donors:

The TBCAC of Grand Traverse, Leelanau and the Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians is now open to serve children who have made allegations of sexual abuse or severe physical abuse. The CAC is a result of the hard work and collaboration of community members, with a special thank you to support from the Biederman Foundation, United Way of Northwest Michigan, Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians, Rotary Charities and Grand Traverse County Sheriff's Office.

## HELP THE CHILDREN OF NORTHERN MICHIGAN

Your **tax-deductible donation** to TBCAC, a non-profit organization, will make a difference in a child's life. With your support we can help the children of our local communities towards a brighter future.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Detach and mail with your check made payable to:

TBCAC  
121 East Front Street, Suite 301  
Traverse City, MI 49684

Or visit us online at [www.traversebaycac.org](http://www.traversebaycac.org) to make an online donation via credit card



## Multi-Disciplinary Team

- The MDT approach fosters collaborative efforts.
- Increases the safety, services and support to the child and family.
- Increases conviction rates of perpetrators.
- Includes: Law Enforcement, Department of Human Services/Child Protective Services, Prosecuting Attorney, Forensic Interviewer, Family Advocate, Medical and Mental Health and others related to the case.

## Medical and Mental Health

- Refer child victim's for medical exams as necessary for assessment and documentation.
- Provide trauma focused therapy and make referrals to local mental health providers