



CHILD ADVOCACY CENTER

RESTORING HOPE & FACILITATING HEALING:

Jeremy came to One Place when he was 10 years old and suffered significant injuries at the hands of his abusive father. While his physical wounds healed, the trauma of abuse remained. The One Place Child Advocacy Center (CAC) intervened in Jeremy's life providing the care, treatment, therapy, and long-term support he needed to regain his confidence, overcome his trauma, and heal to live a full and happy life.

The CAC provides hope and healing to children from birth to age 17 who have experienced the trauma of physical and sexual abuse, serious neglect, and violence. For more than a decade, the CAC has stood as a pillar and community resource, responding in times of crisis and advocating for our most vulnerable youth.

THE REALITY OF CHILD ABUSE:

- ◆ **Nationally:** More than **600,000 children** are abused each year in the US. **One in seven children** have experienced child abuse or neglect in the past year.
- ◆ **North Carolina:** From July 2022 to June 2023, a total of **117,412 children** had investigated reports of abuse and neglect in North Carolina.
- ◆ **Onslow County:** More than **2,000 children** are evaluated each year for abuse and neglect in Onslow County.
- ◆ **One Place:** In January 2024, One Place served more children in one month than it had in any other month, since its founding in 2010.

The need for services to identify, treat, and support abused and neglected children is urgent.

OUR HOLISTIC TRAUMA-INFORMED MODEL:

The One Place CAC is the only child advocacy center in Onslow County with comprehensive staff and services for children who have experienced abuse and neglect. Without One Place, children and families would have to travel nearly two hours to the nearest CAC for critical services, making multiple trips to different providers, and wait extended periods of time for services that are often urgent and time sensitive.

The CAC model provides a powerful environment where law enforcement, child protective services, prosecution, and medical and mental health professionals are gathered quickly and comprehensively to support a child and their family. A holistic and coordinated approach ensures that the child and family receive the care and support that they need to heal.

IMPACT:

On average, the CAC annually serves more than **900 children** and their associated family members including siblings, parents, and non-offending caregivers, and since opening in 2010, more than **3,600 children** have been treated. A significant number of these children -- **42%** -- are members of military families. At a vulnerable time, the CAC is there for the child and their advocates.

"The staff put my child as the priority in all manners. She is very shy when in a new environment but was comfortable here."

- Caregiver

Children treated through the CAC have gone on to live fulfilling lives. Laura was just 15 when she received services at The One Place Child Advocacy Center. Today, she is pursuing a degree in social work so she can provide support and assistance to other vulnerable children, just like the CAC team did for her.

"When I went there to take my interview, I was anxious. Everything changed as soon as I walked in -They made me feel comfortable, brave, and ready to tell what happened. The Child Advocacy Center is important; it made a huge change in me and helped me a lot in my life."

YOU CAN HELP US END CHILD ABUSE:

Being on the frontlines of care for victims of child abuse and neglect requires significant funding. It costs about **\$7,400** to provide comprehensive services to one abused and/or neglected child. Services include forensic interviews, comprehensive medical exams, mental health treatment, victim advocacy, and outreach.

The cost of specialized services continues to increase due to fractured medical and mental health systems. Given the consistent increase in cases month over month in the CAC since January 2024, we expect to evaluate more and more children each year.

One Place is building a new facility that will help meet more community needs. In fact, this facility is slated to double the CAC's capacity for serving victims of abuse and neglect with additional medical suites, forensic interview rooms, and mental health treatment space. There is an average two-week wait for children to receive vital, time-sensitive appointments at the CAC.

All services provided at the One Place Child Advocacy Center are at no charge to the child and their family. Government funding and partial reimbursement from community partners covers a portion of the provided services. The rest must come from generous donors. **There is an average funding gap of more than \$1M each fiscal year.**

Your gift allows the CAC to provide the highest quality of care to mitigate trauma and ensure positive, lifetime outcomes for children and their families. Investing in children today is a sound investment in the future of our community.

**HELP VICTIMS OF CHILD
ABUSE AND NEGLECT TODAY:**
www.oneplaceonslow.org/donate-today

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