



Kentucky River CAC

Fall 2021

What a privilege and an honor it is to continue to serve as the Executive Director of such a vital agency in our community. The year 2020 brought with it many challenges, but here at the Care Cottage we met those challenges head on. We continued to provide our services (with safety measures in place) as an essential organization, so that the path to healing could begin for the many children, who have walked through our doors after experiencing trauma. It was also a year of transformation for the Care Cottage. The entire exterior was renovated to appear more welcoming to the children and families, who are referred here.

Sadly in 2021, our numbers continue to increase. Fortunately, we have been able to hire staff and expand our services to meet the needs of clients and their non-offending family members. We are also excited to announce that we will soon start construction on an addition to our building. This will allow us to provide more education and training opportunities to professionals and community members, as well as space to provide additional therapy options, such as trauma-informed yoga. We hope to continue to be able to grow to meet the needs of our community and ask that you remember us when seeking a place to donate to.

I invite you to attend our drive-thru Open House from 11am - 2pm on October 21st, so that you can see our beautiful center for yourself and meet our amazing Care Cottage staff. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me. I am ALWAYS happy to talk to others about the Care Cottage!

Sincerely,

Pamela Carey
Pamela Carey

Fall

Board of Directors

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Staff

Executive Director/
Forensic Interviewer:
Pamela Carey, M.Ed., LPCC-S
Forensic Interviewer:
Jeffrey Combs, M.Ed, LPCC-S
Victims Advocate:
Victoria Halcomb, BSW
Victim Advocate Assistant:
Brandi Noplis
Case Manager:
Polly Thornsberry
Physician:
Dr. Robin Whitaker, DO



Services offered

Our services for child victims of sexual abuse include:

- ◇ Forensic Interviews
- ◇ Medical Exams
- ◇ Advocacy
- ◇ Counseling
- ◇ Case Management
- ◇ Community Education

Our referrals come directly from Law Enforcement and Social Services.

Care Cottage Mission:

The mission of the Kentucky River Child Advocacy Center is to provide a comfortable, safe environment where children who have victims of sexual abuse and their non-offending caregivers may receive services from each agency involved in the investigation and prosecution of these cases. We strive to provide a location where investigations may be performed in as timely manner as possible and to link children and families to services they may need both immediately and in the future.

As fall comes around, so does the beginning of school and Back-to-School Bashes. This year the Care Cottage was invited to celebrate going back to school with Mountain After Hours Clinic and the Hazard School System. These events gave the Care Cottage the opportunity to provide school supplies to children in the area, as well as provide information on the Care Cottage, consent, abuse, prevention, and how to get help. The Care Cottage was also able to provide information to students on the effects of drugs, alcohol, and vaping. Pantosaurus was able to join us at the Hazard Independent Schools event and was a huge hit with the kids and teens alike.



The global pandemic has impacted everyone. The Care Cottage is no exception. While cases of sexual abuse have risen only 10%, physical abuse numbers have increased by 83% and neglect has risen 650%. Educators account for approximately 30% of all child abuse reports. Children were isolated in their homes due to the pandemic and Care Cottage number reflect the negative impact this has had on the children we serve. To help combat these increases in numbers, the Care Cottage is proud to provide the following training to the community and community partners at no cost. These trainings can be completed in person or virtually with our victim's advocate Victoria Halcomb. Contact her at victoria@carecottage.org to schedule a training.

Darkness to Light: Stewards of Children

Darkness to Light: Recognizing & Reporting Child Abuse & Neglect

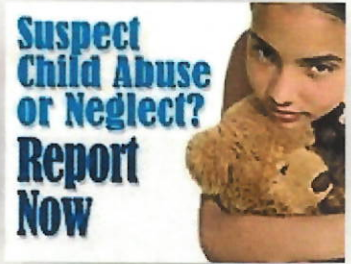
Talking with Children about Safety from Sexual Abuse

Healthy Touch for Children & Youth

Bystanders Protecting Children from Boundary Violations & Sexual Abuse

Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children

PANTS: The Underwear Rule (grades K-4)



1-877-597-2331



New Amazon Program Enables Shoppers to Easily Donate to Their Favorite Nonprofits

Kentucky River Child Advocacy Center

What information do I need to **MAKE A REPORT?**

NECESSARY INFORMATION

- Child's name, address, and age
- Parents' name and address
- Nature of the abuse

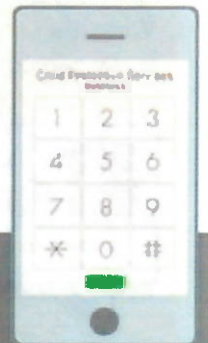
HELPFUL INFORMATION*

- Perpetrator's name
- Details of the abuse

*If the child does not readily supply this info, do not continue to question or investigate. It could retraumatize the child and contaminate the investigation.

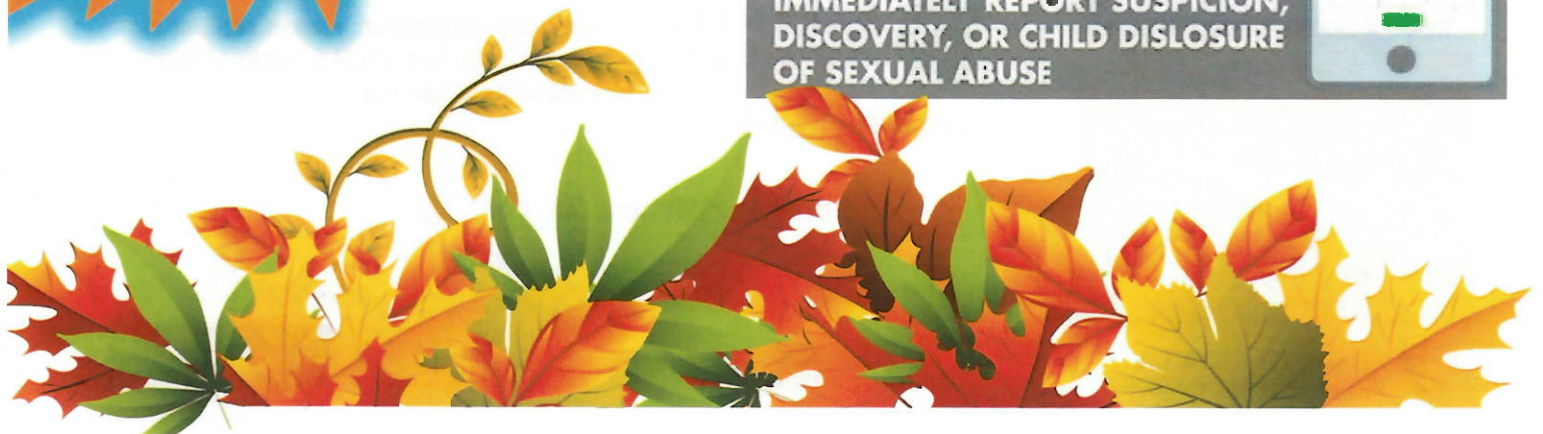
DID YOU KNOW?

You may add to your report or follow up on status with child protective services at any time.



IMMEDIATELY REPORT SUSPICION, DISCOVERY, OR CHILD DISCLOSURE OF SEXUAL ABUSE

Transportation assistance available for Leslie County, Owsley County, & Perry County



Introducing....



In July, the Care Cottage welcomed Polly Thornsberry as their Case Manager. Polly has experience with the Care Cottage. She completed a practicum here in 2020. Polly has spent the past five years tutoring children with the Hindman Settlement School. She also completed a year of AmeriCorps. Polly and the Care Cottage staff are excited to add this new service to our center to help us better serve our clients



What We Do.....

At the Children's Advocacy Center, we strive to meet the unique needs of every child and provide support through compassionate, individualized care. The Center offers comprehensive services to the family as a whole to promote healing and prevent future harm. The path to hope and healing starts here.

Care Cottage
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Hazard, KY 41701



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KEEPING OUR CHILDREN SAFE

What is Stewards of Children?

Stewards of Children® is a prevention training that teaches adults how to prevent, recognize, and react responsibly to child sexual abuse. The program is designed for organizations that serve youth and for individuals concerned about the safety of children. It is the only nationally distributed, evidence-informed program proven to increase knowledge, improve attitudes, and change child protective behaviors.

This training is listed on the Kentucky Department of Education's Professional Learning Bulletin Board



or (606) 487-9173.

Schedule an Event!

For more information, please contact Victoria Halcomb, Victim's Advocate at victoria@carecottage.org

Funding Provided In Part By:

