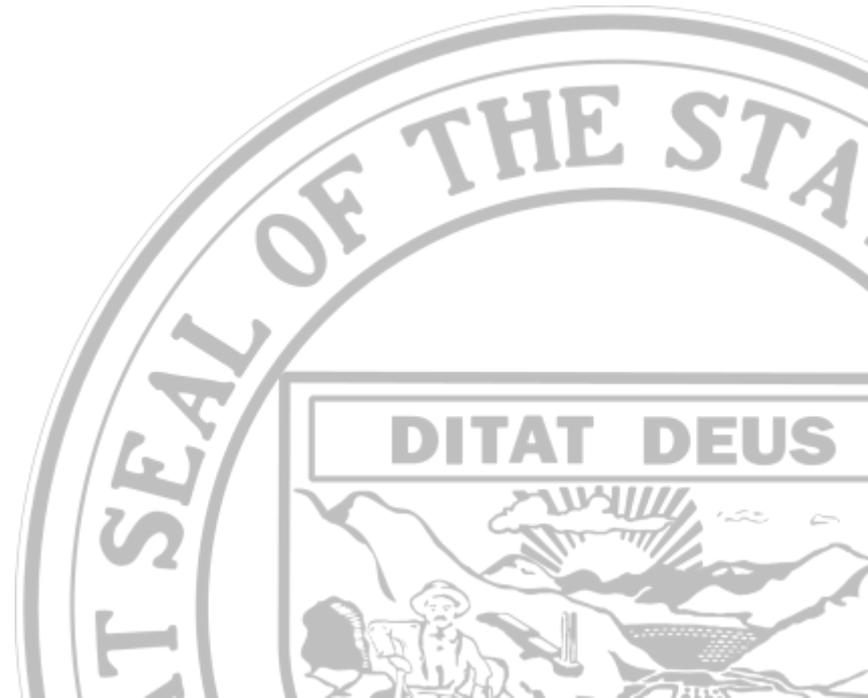
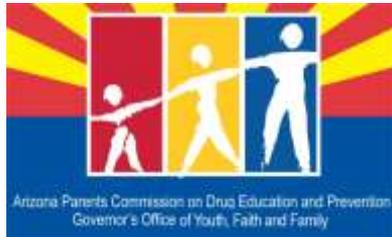


# Arizona Parents Commission on Drug Education & Prevention

## March 15, 2023

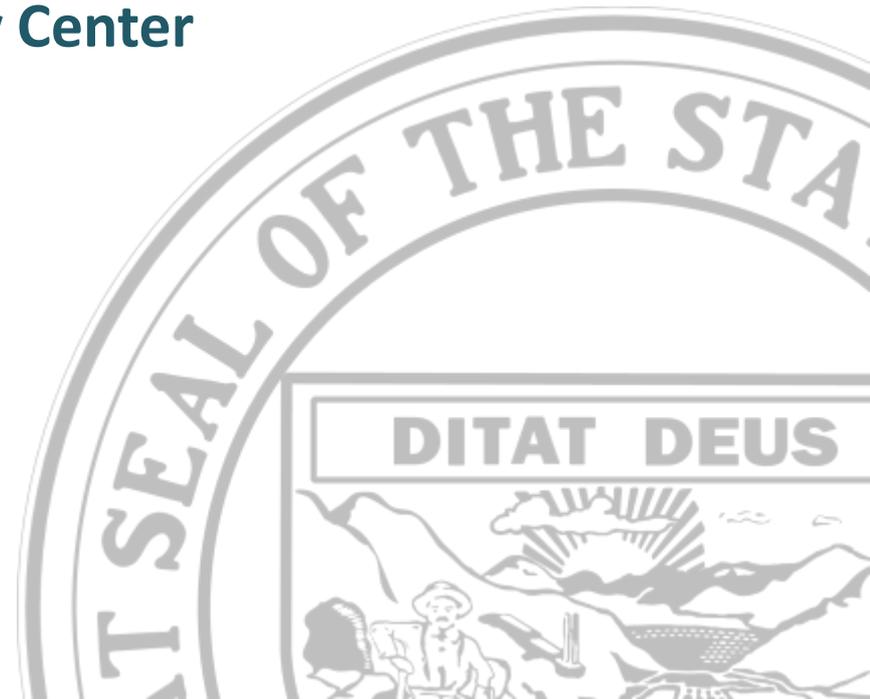
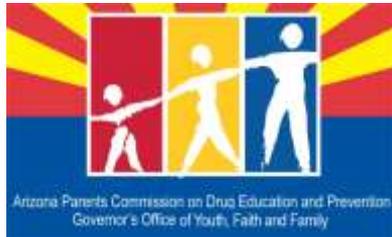


Arizona Parents Commission on Drug Education & Prevention

**Southern Arizona Children's Advocacy Center**

*Crystal Narcho, MSW*

*Director of Family Support & Prevention*





**CHILDREN'S  
ADVOCACY  
CENTER**

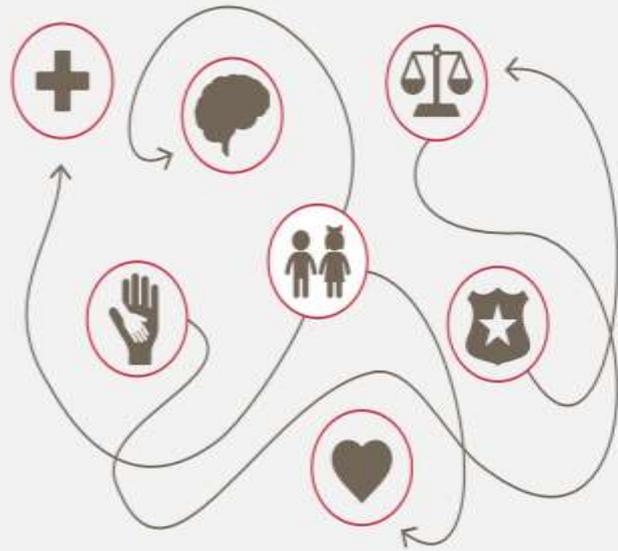
OF SOUTHERN ARIZONA

# Child Abuse Prevention Awareness

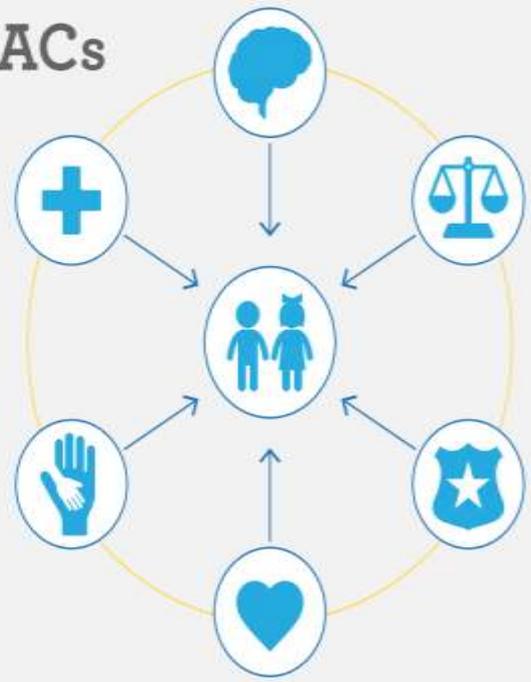
# Agenda

- ▶ The CAC Model
- ▶ Community Partners of MDT
- ▶ Trends
- ▶ Our Programs

## Without CACs



## With CACs



*Our mission is to provide a **safe, compassionate,**  
**healing** environment for children who have  
been a victim or witnessed a crime.*



# Our Partners



Law Enforcement



Child Welfare Agency



Banner  
Health.

Medical Team



Prosecution

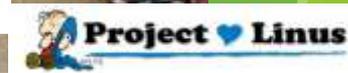


Victim Services  
Division  
Pima County Attorney's Office



Crisis Intervention

## Non-Profit Community Partners



Donors

# What are some of the causes of child abuse?

- ▶ Isolation and lack of support
- ▶ Stress- financial, job, medical
- ▶ Unrealistic expectations
- ▶ Low self-confidence
- ▶ Disability or mental illness
- ▶ Drug, alcohol or gambling problems
- ▶ Lack of parenting skills
- ▶ Past childhood experience

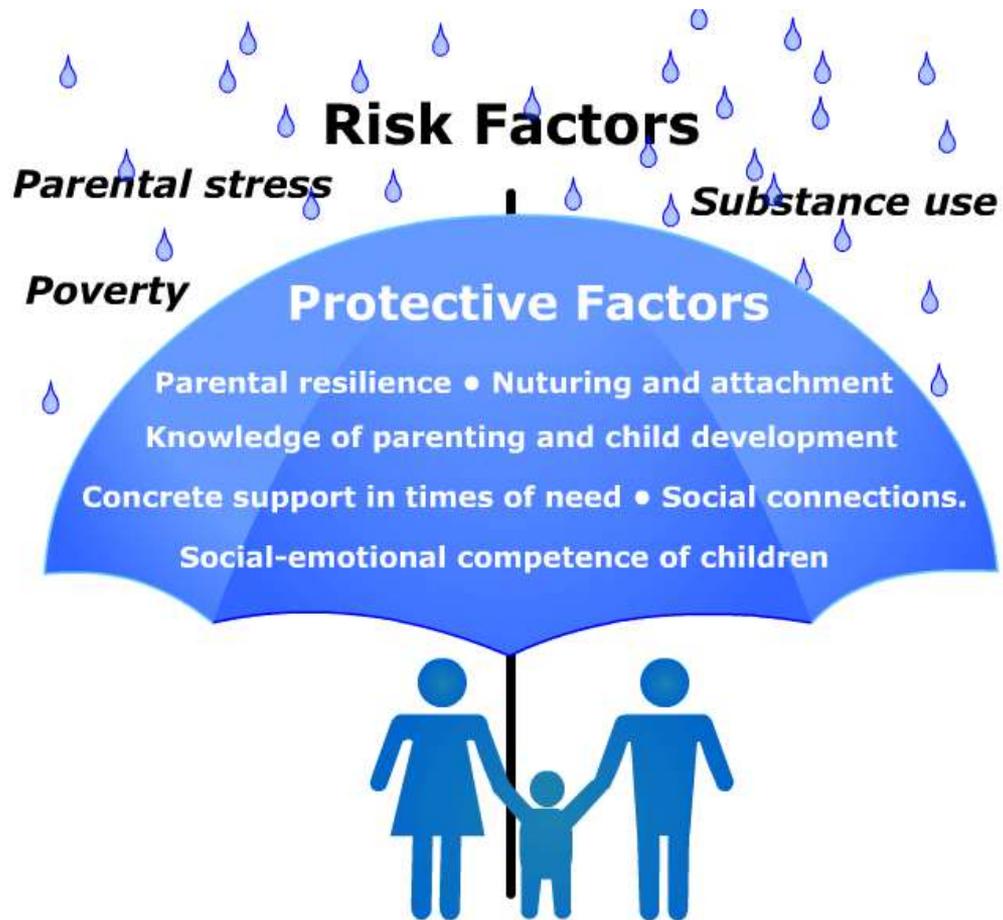
## Recent Trends at our CAC

- ▶ Child on child abuse
- ▶ Authority figures
- ▶ Witness of violence
- ▶ Intense

# THE EFFECTS OF CHILD ABUSE

- 1 Impaired brain development
- 2 Poor physical health
- 3 Psychological issues
- 4 Relationship issues
- 5 Substance abuse
- 6 Behavioral issues
- 7 Abusive to others





# Our Programs

**INVESTIGATION SERVICES:**  
FOR VICTIMS & OUR PARTNERS' INVESTIGATIONS

**FAMILY SUPPORT & PREVENTION  
PROGRAM:**  
PRIMARY & SECONDARY

**SURVIVOR EMPOWERMENT PROGRAMS:**  
YOUTH & FAMILY

**ADMINISTRATIVE PROGRAMS:**  
HUMAN RESOURCES, FINANCE, DEVELOPMENT

# Our Programs

## INVESTIGATION SERVICES: FOR VICTIMS & OUR PARTNERS' INVESTIGATIONS



Forensic Interviews



Medical Evaluations

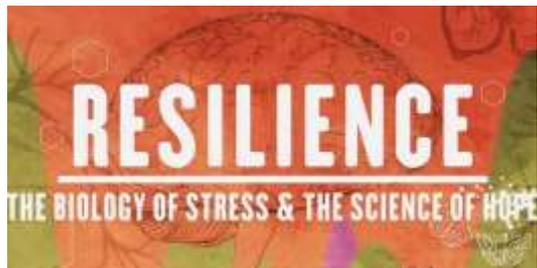


Family Advocacy

# Our Programs

## PRIMARY PREVENTION PROGRAMS

### MANDATED REPORTER TRAININGS



### 5 PROTECTIVE FACTORS

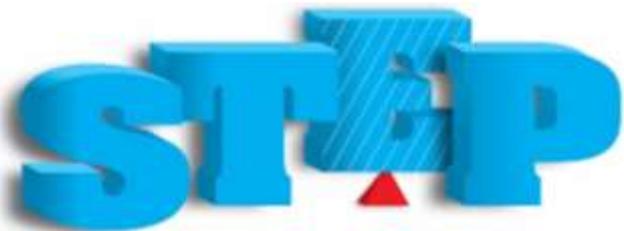
FOR PREVENTING RISK OF CHILD ABUSE.

SOURCE: Prevent Child Abuse America



# Our Programs

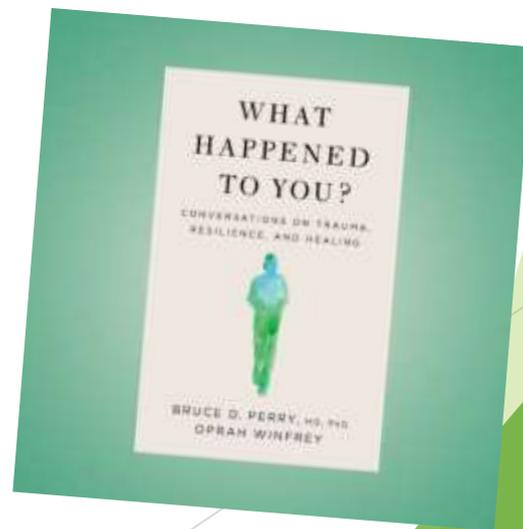
## SECONDARY PREVENTION PROGRAMS



Support, Tools, &  
Education for Parents  
Program (STEP)



**GUIDING  
GOOD CHOICES**



# Our Programs

## SURVIVOR EMPOWERMENT PROGRAMS

FAMILY ADVISORY BOARD  
(FAB)



VOICES Council

# Our Programs

## ADMINISTRATIVE PROGRAMS

Finance



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

MANAGEMENT TEAM

Development



Human Resources

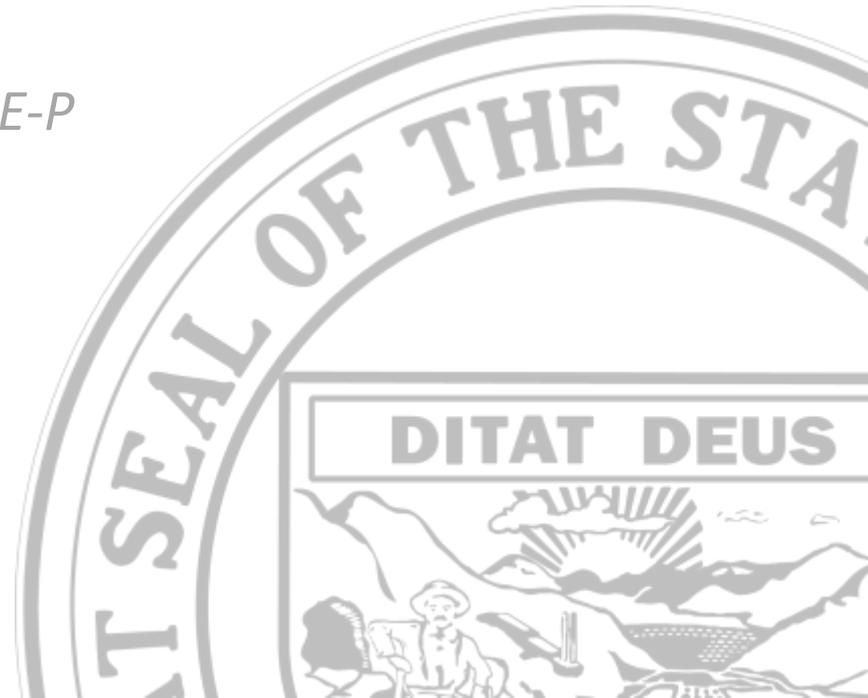
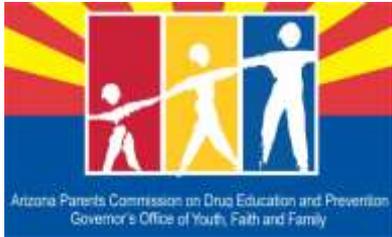
QUESTIONS??



# Arizona Parents Commission on Drug Education & Prevention

## **Safe Child Center**

*Susann Clinton, NP, AFN-BC, SANE-A, SANE-P*



# Safe Child Center

## at Flagstaff Medical Center

Arizona Parents Commission on Drug Education and Prevention 3/15/2023

Education funded by a grant from the Governor's Office of Children Youth and Families

Susann Clinton RN, FNP, AFN-BC, SANE-A, SANE-P

Medical Forensic NP, Safe Child Center Lead, Children's Justice Coordinator  
for Coconino County

BSW Intern: Sydney Bartels



**Northern Arizona  
Healthcare**



NATIONAL  
CHILDREN'S  
ALLIANCE®



# Objectives

- Gain knowledge about Child Advocacy Centers
- Understand factors that put kids at risk for abuse



*All drawings in this presentation  
were created by children seen at  
SCC*

# What is a CAC?



# Child Advocacy Center= Child Friendly



Kids are sometimes scared when they come to SCC. Having a child friendly environment and welcoming staff helps the child feel at ease.

# Interview Room



# Child Friendly



# MDT Interaction at SCC



# Comfort Items



Safe Child Center is a CAC

- Medical forensic exams
- Family Advocate Services
- Behavioral Health Services
- Forensic Interviews

# MDT Investigations



# MDT Investigations

- Role of Law Enforcement
- Role of Prosecution
- Role of DCS
- Role of VWS
- Role of CACs

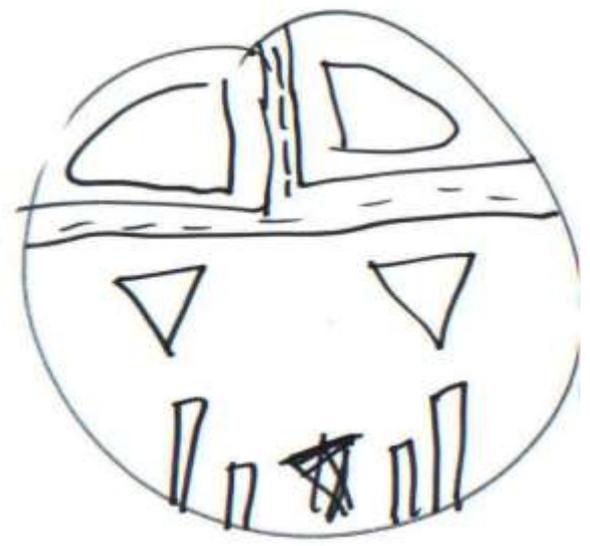
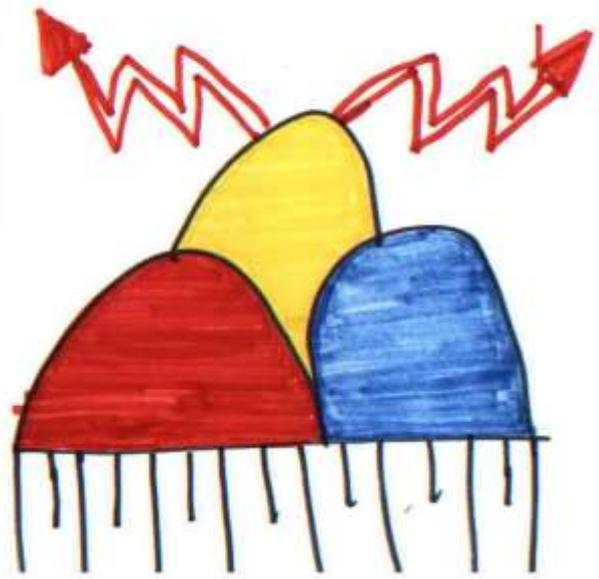


# Efficacy of CACs

- Higher rate of patient satisfaction
- Dramatic increase in prosecutions
- Faster criminal charging decisions
- CAC investigations are 36% less expensive
- Higher rates of coordinated investigations
- Children served in CACs were more likely to get medical services

# Long Term Impact of Abuse and Exposure to Violence

- General health care costs 36% higher due to multiple health problems
- Overall survivors have lower wages
- Suffer from difficulties with attachment, regressive behavior, anxiety and depression
- They are more prone to dating violence
- Higher incidence of delinquency and involvement in child welfare systems
- Tendency to perpetuate the cycle of violence



## Safe Child Center Service Area

- We see children/families from Coconino and surrounding counties about 350 kids a year
- 60% of our cases come from reservation lands including Navajo, Hopi, Yavapai/Apache, and Havasupai
- Navajo Nation is the largest reservation in the US. It is 27,000 square miles in Arizona, New Mexico and Utah. It is home to 250,000 people.
- Havasupai is located in Havasu Canyon which is part of the Grand Canyon. It is about 514 acres and home to approximately 730 people.

## Risk Factors for child abuse

- Poverty
- Care givers with drug and alcohol abuse issue
- Communities with high rates of violence

# Prevalence of Risk Factors on Reservations

- Poverty level in the US 11.6% (2021 Census)
- Poverty level on reservations can be as high as 35-63%
- Poverty level on the Navajo Reservation is 35.8% (2020)
- On the Navajo Nation, unemployment for 2021 was 10.4%, compared to the rate for Arizona at 7.0% and the national unemployment rate at 6.8%.
- Native Americans represent 1.7% of our total population but have much higher rates of substance abuse compared to other ethnic and racial groups (Kaliszewski, 2022)
- Compared to other racial/ethnic groups in the U.S., American Indians/Alaska Natives (AI/ANs) have the highest rates of alcohol, marijuana, cocaine, and hallucinogen use disorders<sup>1</sup> and the second highest methamphetamine abuse rates.

## Prevalence of Risk Factors on Reservations

- Violent crime on the rise on the Navajo Nation. From 2010-2016, over 44.1 percent of calls to the Navajo Department of Public Safety (NDPS) involved violence, and alcohol underlies almost all of this violent crime.
- The violent-crime rate on the Navajo Nation is six times the national average, and in some towns, like Tuba City, Kayenta and Chinle, the per capita violent-crime rate is much higher than that.

## Parental Protective Factors to Prevent Child Abuse

- Caregivers who create safe, positive relationships with children
- Caregivers who practice nurturing parenting skills and provide emotional support
- Caregivers who can meet basic needs of food, shelter, education, and health services
- Caregivers who have a college degree or higher and have steady employment (CDC)

# Parental Protective Factors to Prevent Child Abuse

- Drug and alcohol abuse impairs parents and guardians from developing the protective factors to help prevent child abuse.
- Poverty is a deterrent to helping parents employ protective factors.
- High rates of violent crimes makes the community dangerous requiring more oversight from parents.
- These documented risk factors are embedded in the communities and make it difficult for parents to build protective and stable homes and relationships for their children.



# Mandated and Discretionary Reporters

- Who: Any person who reasonably believes that a minor is or has been a victim of abuse
- Mandated Reporters: Required by statute to report
- Ethical decision
- When: Mandated reports immediately and discretionary reporters\_ no time limits
- Minimal information needed:
  - name, age, and gender of child and other family members
  - address, phone numbers, and/or directions to child's home
  - parents' place of employment
  - description of suspected abuse or neglect
  - current condition of the child
- How to report: Call Law Enforcement or DCS if the person abusing the child has care and custody of the child
- DCS Hotline\_ Arizona Child Abuse Hotline
- [1-888-SOS-CHILD \(1-888-767-2445\)](tel:1-888-SOS-CHILD)
- Local LE Office for an immediate response and they will notify DCS

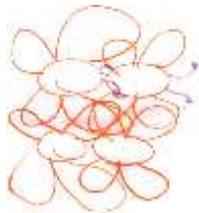
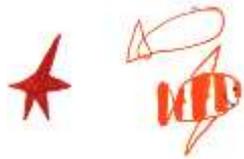
When in doubt, call Law  
Enforcement



# Safe Child Center

- Where the voice of a child gets the attention it deserves.





# Questions?

