

Monthly Mission Moment

with The Children's Assessment Center



June 2024

A Message from our Executive Director

It's crucial to teach kids about internet safety, especially during the summer when they may have more unsupervised screen time. Take a moment to educate yourself on things to watch out for as a parent and ways to talk to your children about internet safety. **By being proactive and involved, you can help ensure your kids have a safe and enjoyable online experience during the summer and beyond.**

Sincerely,

Kerry McCracken, J.D.

Executive Director at The CAC



Digital Safety Tips

Keep all computers, games, and other digital devices in a common area in the house.

Learn more about the sites/apps your child is using, and read the terms and conditions before agreeing to their use.

Monitor your child's online accounts and review your child's digital use and history. Use these opportunities to teach them about potential digital dangers and digital safety.

Be a good role model for your child and model good digital behavior.

Establish rules or guidelines for your child's digital use, regarding the length of time they are allowed on the computer and other digital devices, and regarding the use of age appropriate approved websites and apps.

Check out our website, NetSmartz, and the Monique Burr Foundation website for more tips on Internet Safety.

CAC Child Safety
Resources

NetSmartz

Monique Burr Foundation

"If you aren't talking to your children, someone else online might be; predators lurk in cyberspace. With tech-facilitated crimes against kids rising, it's crucial to discuss internet safety. Set your kids up for success with age-appropriate apps & safeguards."

Lt. Freddy Croft,
*Houston-Metro Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC) Task Force
Commander*



Spirit of Fall
**Sporting Clay
Tournament**
Benefitting
The Children's Assessment Center
Presented by:
GORDY & SONS
OUTFITTERS
Friday, September 6th
Greater Houston Sports Club

Save the Date for our 4th Annual Sporting Clay Tournament
presented by Gordy & Sons Outfitters.

Event
Website

Your participation in our Spirit of Fall Event enables us to serve the children in our community who have experienced child sexual abuse. Last year, we served over 6,000 children and families, empowering their healing journey and pursuit of justice. Thank you for being part of the solution to end child sexual abuse and sex

trafficking.

For event information or questions about Spirit of Fall, please contact Mystic Guzman, Special Events Coordinator, at Mystic.Guzman@cac.hctx.net or (713) 986-3320.



**Host a School Supply Drive
to support our annual
Back to School event!**

**Please drop off all donations at
The CAC by Friday, July 26th.**

Our goal again this year is to collect school supplies for 1,000 clients of The CAC that are returning to school in the fall! We encourage you to host supply drives at your organizations, churches, and workplaces to collect as many donations as possible. **Please drop off all donations at The CAC by Friday, July 26th.** Thank you for your support!

Volunteers needed! To volunteer with us at our Back to School events, please email our Volunteer Coordinator, at yaren.zamarripa@cac.hctx.net.

[Amazon
Wishlist](#)

Need our support or have any questions? Email us at CACActivityCenter@cac.hctx.net.

Upcoming Trainings Hosted by The CAC

July 11th

Darkness to Light:
Stewards of Children

July 18th

Darkness to Light:
Bystanders Protecting Children
from Boundary Violations

July 23rd

Darkness to Light:
Commercial Sexual Exploitation
of Children

July 24th

Darkness to Light:
Talking with Children about Safety
from Sexual Abuse

At The CAC, we believe that prevention happens through education.

Visit our Events Calendar to sign up for a training and to learn more about the virtual trainings we offer at The CAC. Check out all of our trainings [here](#).



The Children's Assessment Center
Advocates of The CAC

SAVE THE DATE

Informational Cocktail Hour

July 25, 2024 | 6:30pm - 8:30pm

The Children's Assessment Center

Advocates for The CAC (ACAC) is dedicated to sharing The CAC Mission through volunteering, networking, and advocating against abuse. **Join us for hors d'oeuvres & cocktails while learning more about ACAC. A tour of The Children's Assessment Center will be provided.**

To RSVP, please email Yaren Zamarripa at yaren.zamarripa@cac.hctx.net.





Project Safe Childhood Act

This week, we hosted Senator John Cornyn, Jen Newton and Cassie Kahr from National Center for Missing and Exploited Children, leaders from the Houston-Metro Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC), leaders from the Harris County District Attorney's Office's Human Trafficking / Child Exploitation and Adult Sex Crimes Division, and survivors of internet crimes at The CAC for a conversation about the Project Safe Childhood Act and combatting online child sexual exploitation. **Working together, we can create a safer community for children in Harris County and across the nation.**

Arianne



Clinician and Forensic Interviewer
2 years and 10 months at The CAC
(5 years and 1 month at another advocacy center!)

What is your motivation for the work that you do at The CAC?

As an interviewer, I am humbled every time I listen to a child tell their story. When I think about the amount of courage, resilience, and strength it takes for a child to speak to someone they just met about intimate details about some of the worst days of their life, I remember why I do this work. In my role as a clinician, I have the privilege of listening to children explain the impact this abuse has had on them. Most people don't realize the power of listening. When a child tells me, "You made this easier for me to talk about," I feel a sense of pride and motivation. There is no work more rewarding than facilitating healing.

CAC
Staff
Highlight

The mission of The CAC is to provide a professional, compassionate and coordinated approach to the treatment of sexually abused children and their families and to serve as an advocate for all children in our community.



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