



How Can You Help?

- Reporting abuse when you see or hear it.
- Participating in local events hosted by the CAC, Dove House Advocacy Services, and other abuse-prevention/-response programs.
- Donate to support the Jefferson County CAC work to provide safety, justice, and healing for all children in our county through scanning this QR Code:



- Scan code
- Choose donation amount
- Select Campaign: "Child Advocacy Center"

Or go to <https://www.olympicpeninsulaymca.org/donate>

How to Report Child Abuse:


1. Call 911 and the Department of Children, Youth & Families at 1-866-ENDHARM (1-866-363-4276), Washington State's toll-free, 24 hour, 7 days-a-week hotline.


2. When calling, please provide as much information as possible. The more accurate information you provide, the better equipped professionals will be to assess the child's safety:

- Name, birthdate, and address of the child.
- Name, address, and phone number of the child's parent or guardian.
- The nature and extent of the abuse or neglect.
- Any evidence of previous incidents.
- Identity of the perpetrator.
- Any other information which may be helpful to establish the cause of the child's abuse or neglect.

Jefferson County Children's Advocacy Center Hosted by the Olympic Peninsula YMCA

Contact Children's Advocacy Center Team Director:

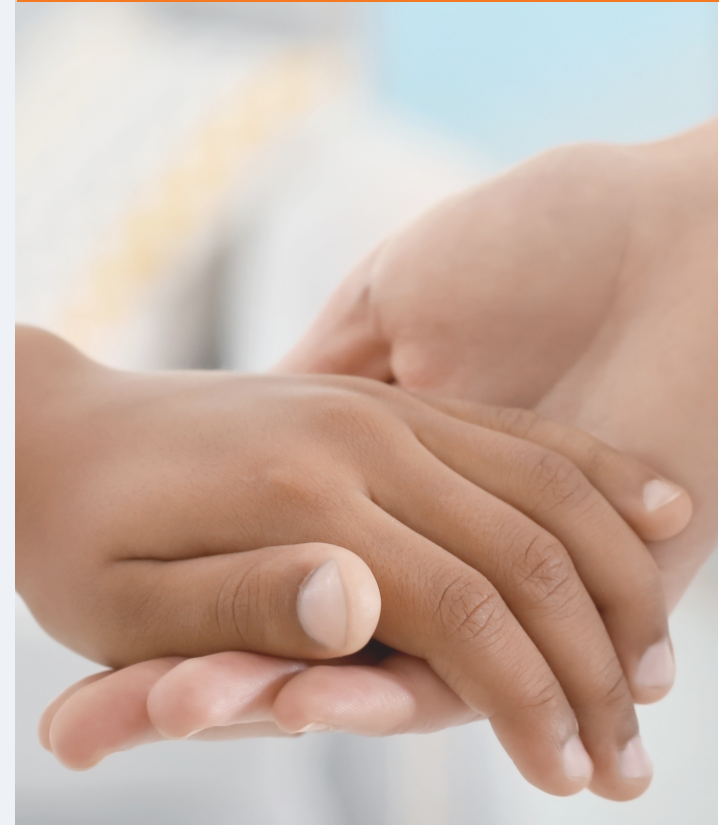
 cacdirector@olympicpeninsulaymca.org

 www.olympicpeninsulaymca.org/child-advocacy



Jefferson County Children's Advocacy Center

Hosted by the Olympic Peninsula YMCA



"Providing Safety, Justice, and Healing for
the Children of Jefferson County"

What is a Children's Advocacy Center?

Children's Advocacy Centers (CACs) provide coordinated, trauma-informed care where children who experience violence, and their non-offending caregivers, receive support to stop abuse and begin the process of healing.

The multidisciplinary team (MDT) approach used by CACs brings together all local professionals needed to offer comprehensive services to children impacted by violence. The MDT collaborates throughout the investigation and prosecution process providing the most relevant resources and compassionate support to children and their families.



Jefferson County CAC and MDT

In January 2021, the MDT approached the Olympic Peninsula YMCA to be the host for all CAC-related work. Currently, the Y and community partners are working to develop an accredited CAC where Jefferson County children who experience abuse, and their caregivers, can come for safety, healing and justice.

Jefferson County has an active MDT that meets monthly to review all active cases of child abuse. The team members work closely, and in a highly confidential manner, to make sure that each child receives the care and support they need and deserve. Referrals, support, and therapy are available regardless of the status of the case.

Services Provided:

- Child forensic interviews
- Care coordination
- Case collaboration
- Referrals for other services
- Mental health therapy

FAQs

Q: How does Washington State define child abuse?

A: RCW 26.44.020 (1) defines abuse and neglect as injury, sexual abuse, sexual exploitation, negligent treatment or maltreatment of a child under circumstances which indicate that the child's health, welfare, and/or safety is harmed.

Q: Can anyone make a referral to the CAC?

A: No. It is important that Law Enforcement or Child Protective Services (CPS) are the lead in making a referral. If you suspect that a child is being abused, please contact Law Enforcement by dialing 911, or CPS at 1-800-ENDHARM.

Q: Will it cost to use CAC support services?

A: No. The Jefferson County CAC is a grant and donation-funded program. The services will be provided free of charge.

Q: Can the CAC help children even if their case is not prosecuted?

A: Yes. The CAC model is all about helping children and their non-offending caregiver(s) receive comprehensive services. Referrals, support, and therapy are available regardless of the status of the case.

