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Child Abuse Network News



*Stop the hurt...
begin the healing*

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Special Events:

- ✓ **CAN Film Festival**
November 5, 2006
- ✓ **Aspen Athletic Club Triathlon**
December, 2006

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Inside this issue:

Barbara's Briefings2
 Service Statistics2
 Our Wish List2
 Donor "Thank You" 3
 Special Events..... 4

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CAN Staff:

- Executive Director** – Barbara Findeiss
- Development Director** – Nancy Hatfield
- Managing Director** – Rose Perry
- Forensic Interviewer** – Jayna Mayer
- Mental Health Specialist** – Melissa Gantz
- Team Coordinator** – Lisa Todd
- Administrative Asst.** – Melanie Copeland

**ARE WE WALKING THE TALK?
WHAT THE NUMBERS TELL US**



Greg Burn

In the last issue of *Child Abuse Network News* we talked about the challenge of capturing, reporting and obtaining up-to-date information on child abuse statistics with the promise to follow up on the numbers associated with this tragic epidemic.

We want to believe that the abuse stories we read and hear about in the media are isolated and out of the ordinary. What would it say about us as a society if we allowed such crimes against children to become a systemic cancer that routinely destroys lives at many different levels?

Unfortunately, the cancer of abuse prevails:

- The American Academy of Pediatrics confirms more than 2.5 million cases of child abuse and neglect being reported annually.
- A 1998 Boston University School of Medicine study shows that one in four girls and one in eight boys will be sexually molested before they are 18 years old, with the median age of abuse being nine years old.
- A University of Michigan study places the number of adult Americans who were victims of childhood sexual abuse at 60 million.
- According to the Oklahoma Department of Human Services, in FY2005 they received 61,613 reports on families and determined after screening that 36,605 reports had allegations that met the definition of abuse and neglect and required investigation or assessment.
- During the past year, the Child Abuse Network, Inc. provided services to nearly 2,700 children from 29 of Oklahoma's 77 counties. This represents a 12% increase in the number of services provided in 2005 and a 25% increase in the number of children served. The majority (92%) of all services were provided to children from Tulsa County.
- According to the National Institute of Mental Health, the typical child sex offender molests an average of 117 children in their lifetime, but others will commit many more. Case in point, Dean Schwartzmiller of Seattle was arrested last year at the age of 63 with detailed records in his home of more than 36,000 assaults committed over several decades. What criminal wouldn't love to have victims who actually pay attention to their instructions to keep things a secret and, more than that, are made to feel that the crime is somehow their fault?

The 36,605 Oklahoma reports involved 50,194 children – 6,095 of whom were from Tulsa County. For both the state and Tulsa County, approximately 20% of the children involved in investigations were confirmed to have been abused!

FY 2005 Confirmed victims of child abuse:
Oklahoma: 13,328 children
Tulsa County: 1,209 children

It is rare for victims to report or share their stories of abuse as secrecy and intense feelings of shame may prevent children, and adults aware of the abuse, from seeking help. However, few such as media mogul, Oprah Winfrey, and Olympic athlete, Chris Witty, have braved the personal

challenge of disclosure to tell their stories in an attempt to make a difference. Unfortunately, disclosure is rare as millions of other victims will never report what happened to them and carry an unimaginable lifetime burden.

While the victims of child abuse will bear the emotional weight of this trauma, society will bear the financial burden. There are tangible consequences associated with child abuse and neglect. We'll address those consequences and the financial fallout of child abuse in the next issue of *Child Abuse Network News*.

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Skip Teel
President

A Message from the President of the Board and the Executive Director

On August 17th, President Bush signed the Pension Protection Act of 2006. This act created Section 1201, which allows a tax-free distribution from an IRA to go directly to a designated charity to further their mission.



Barbara Findeiss
Executive Director

Individuals who are 70 ½ and older may contribute IRA gifts to a qualified charity, such as the Child Abuse Network, Inc. Donor advised funds or supporting organizations do not qualify.

The provision provides an exclusion from gross income for certain distributions of up to \$100,000 from your IRA or Roth IRA account, which would otherwise be included as part of your income.

Tax-free distributions from your IRA to your favorite charity

Unfortunately, this Bill will only be in place until December 31, 2007, so time is critical. On behalf of the Child Abuse Network family, we ask that you consider an IRA rollover gift today. For more information on the new IRA rules, contact your IRA trustee or administrator.

Barbara Findeiss, Executive Director
Skip Teel, President of the Board

2006 CAN Services Statistics

April through June

New children served at CAN

Ages of these children were:

➤ 0-6 years	220
➤ 7-12 years	124
➤ 13-18 years	54

These children were seen for:

➤ Sexual Abuse	204
➤ Physical Abuse	112
➤ Witness to Violence	1
➤ Other	43
➤ Neglect	82

Children may have been seen for more than one type of abuse.

Our Wish List

We respectfully request that all items for the children are new. Thank you for your understanding.

FOR THE CHILDREN:

- 13" TV with VCR & DVD for Teddy Bear room
- Backpacks
- Disposal Baby Bottles/Formula
- Children's Outfits (size 0 to 10 years)
- Children's underwear and socks (various sizes)
- Children's pajamas (various sizes)
- Children's Video Movie Tapes (VCR)
- Drawing pads, sketchbooks, stickers
- Large Easel Pads (for children's interviews)
- Highlight Magazine subscription
- Snacks- Packs of Crackers, Juice Boxes
- Stuffed Animals (new only-please)
- Holiday Window Clings for Holiday Decorating

FOR THE CENTER:

- Microphone & portable P.A. (amplifying) system
- Blank DVD-R **Verbatim** Data Life Plus
- Easel stands (both floor and desk size) for sign displays
- Tulsa World Newspaper Subscription
- Newsletter underwriters
- US Postal 1st Class Stamps (rolls)
- Colored Paper - Neon Colors - for Copier
- Copy Paper - regular white
- Coffee Carafe(s) Coffee Cups/Plastic Cups
- Cash donations for CAN's programs

**Heartfelt "Thanks" to the following individuals and organizations for their contributions:
April 1, 2006 – June 30, 2006**

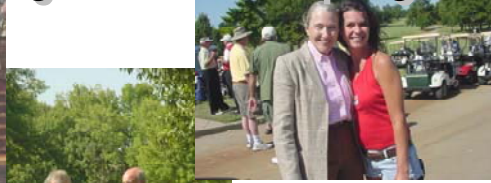
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**We apologize if we have mistakenly omitted your name. Please let us know.*

Suture's folks having fun and helping children



Thank you to all who made this year's tournament a great success.



Awareness Before Court Grant

The Children's Medical Charities Association (CMC) has awarded CAN a \$4,000 grant to help fund support materials for our **Awareness Before Court** program. We are grateful for their support of this very important program.

CMC earns its grant money by selling new and gently used household goods and clothing at its upscale thrift shop at 1125 S. Utica Ave., Tulsa.

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**Child Abuse Network
2829 S. Sheridan
Tulsa, Oklahoma 74129**

**Phone: 918-619-4550
Fax: 918-619-4579**

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begin the healing

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Tulsa, Oklahoma 74129**

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www.childabusenetwork.org

**CAN is Tulsa's
Children's
Advocacy Center**



NATIONAL
CHILDREN'S
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**10th ANNUAL
CAN FILM FESTIVAL
IMAX THEATRE
NOVEMBER 5, 2006
ALL PROCEEDS BENEFIT
THE CHILD ABUSE NETWORK**



CAN **Film Festival**
Benefiting The Child Abuse Network

December ^{1st Annual}
Event **Aspen Athletic Club
Triathlon**

