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Child Abuse Network News

*Stop the hurt...
begin the healing*

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Special Events:

- *You CAN Be A Kid Again*
- *Pennies From Heaven*

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THE FALLOUT OF ABUSE:

WHO BEARS THE BURDEN?

In recent issues of *Child Abuse Network News* we talked about the challenges of capturing up-to-date statistical information and the staggering number of children who have fallen victim to abuse and neglect with a promise to discuss the tangible consequences and financial fallout from this tragic epidemic. While the victims of child abuse and neglect pay a terrible price in terms of their own physical and emotional health, society bears the financial burden.

Child abuse and neglect have a devastating impact on society, not only in terms of the trauma caused to the maltreated individuals, but also in economic terms. Economic costs include the funds spent each year on child welfare services for abused and neglected children as well as the large sums dedicated to addressing the short- and long-term consequences of abuse and neglect.

For years, the tragic consequences of child abuse and neglect have been recognized. Numerous scientific studies have documented the link between the abuse and neglect of children and a wide range of medical, emotional, psychological and behavioral disorders. For example, abused and neglected children are more likely to suffer from depression, alcoholism, drug abuse and severe obesity. They are more likely to require special education in school and to become juvenile delinquents and adult criminals.

...abused and neglected children are less likely to be school-ready and more likely to exhibit behavior disorders...

Studies have shown that abused and neglected children are less likely to be school-ready and more likely to exhibit behavior disorders, to become teen parents and juvenile criminals, and to abuse alcohol and drugs. These consequences can become more pronounced as abused or neglected children grow into adulthood, making them more likely to become adult criminals and to develop chronic illnesses.

It is conservatively estimated that child abuse and neglect cost our society more than \$258 million every day, nearly \$94 billion each year. The annual costs are equivalent to \$1,461.66 per U.S. family. These staggering costs encompass both direct and indirect costs associated with child abuse and neglect. The estimate

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includes the direct costs associated with intervening to help and treating the medical and emotional problems suffered by abused and neglected children, as well as the indirect costs associated with the long-term consequences of abuse and neglect to both the individual and society

at large.

(continued on page 3)

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Executive Director

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A Message from Executive Director

CAN Film Festival Celebrates Event Milestones

On November 5th, the Child Abuse Network held its longest running fundraiser, the CAN Film Festival. Despite the overcast and cold weather, everyone was in high spirits.



Gentle Jesters and friends

Families were treated to an IMAX movie and kid-inspired food created by the culinary talents of the Renaissance Hotel. The giggles were infectious thanks to our long-time friends, Gentle Jesters, who clowned around, created amazing balloon animals and had everyone line dancing to the tunes of our other loyal supporters, the Just in Time Party Band.



Barbara Findeiss
Executive Director

A very special highlight was the celebration of the event's tenth anniversary. To mark this significant milestone, Kathy and Marcus Hilti graciously hosted a gathering of supporters and friends at their home to honor the occasion. It was a lovely evening enjoyed by all.



Chuck Buland, Bonnie Henke, Kathy Hilti, and Frazier Henke



Sherril Harris, Robyn Brooks, Nancy Hatfield, Kayce Cox, and Pam Cox



The success of this event might be measured by its record-breaking number of sponsors, or sold-out ticket sales, or that it exceeded the gross revenue records from previous CAN Film Festival events. I prefer to mark its success in the faces of the children and their parents who clearly enjoyed a family event for a great cause.



Jodie Benner, Michael Graves, Kathleen Page, Steven McGrath, Carol McGrath, and Barbara Findeiss



SACS Volunteers
So many volunteers helped make the festival a fabulous family event.

(Fallout continued)

Total direct costs are estimated at \$66,806,430 per day. These direct costs include hospitalization, chronic health problems, mental health care, child welfare system, law enforcement and the judicial system. Whereas indirect costs such as special education, mental health, juvenile delinquency, lost productivity to society and adult criminality are estimated at \$190,938,452 daily.

It is important to note that the benchmark estimates in the study are based on data from the mid-1990s and are now ten years old. All of the costs cited by the study have increased significantly since that time.

It will take time, rigorous financial analyses and commitment among prevention advocates to promote a greater understanding of what is known about the financial costs of maltreatment and to encourage continued examination and comparison of these costs with the benefits of prevention.

Although the cost of child abuse and neglect can now be conservatively calculated, the cost of human suffering as its result is incalculable. Effective healing programs, such as those provided by the Child Abuse Network, not only lessen the suffering and trauma experienced by children and their families but also hold the potential to greatly reduce the financial impact to society. ■



2006 CAN Services Statistics

July through December

New children served at CAN

Ages of these children were:

0-6 years	438
7-12 years	250
13-18 years	97

These children were seen for:

Sexual Abuse	438
Physical Abuse	230
Witness to Violence	10
Other	71
Neglect	183

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

PENNIES FROM HEAVEN CAMPAIGN

Special PENNIES FROM HEAVEN "Banks" will be available for your donation at numerous locations in this area from March 21st through April 30th.

Family and friends of SKYLA BROOKS (June 5, 1998-March 21, 2000) and the Child Abuse Network, Inc. (CAN) Staff, Board and volunteers who seek a safer world for all children appreciate your support.

Our Wish List

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

FOR THE CHILDREN:

- Backpacks**
- Disposable Baby Bottles/Formula**
- Children's Outfits (size 0 to 10 years)**
- Children's underwear and socks**
- Children's Video Movie Tapes (VCR)**
- Children's Video Movie DVDs**
- 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 Decorating**

FOR THE CENTER:

- Digital Camera**
- Microphone & portable P.A. (amplifying system)**
- Blank DVD-R Verbatim Data Life Plus**
- Easel stands (floor or desk) 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**

can

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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CAN is Tulsa's
Children's
Advocacy Center



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Mark the date!

Friday, March 23rd - Patron Party at the
Tulsa Air and Space Museum 7:30 p.m.

Tickets: (21 & over) \$50.00 or
(under 21) \$35.00 each.

Call 619-4583 to order advance tickets.

Entertainment, Live & Silent Auctions, Food, and Fun

Saturday, March 24th FAMILY CARNIVAL-
Union Multipurpose Activity Center (UMAC)
from 12 noon to 5 p.m. Tickets: \$5.00

*Games, Food & Fun! Open to the Public
Advance tickets available.*



**Fun for the
whole family**

**Heartfelt “Thanks” to the following individuals and organizations for their contributions:
July 1, 2006 – December 31, 2006**

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