

# CHILDREN'S ADVOCACY CENTER

*of suffolk county*

October 2009 Newsletter

## How Do We Know...?

**How do we know whether a child's sexual behavior is natural and healthy or a reason for concern? If there is reason for concern, then what should we do?** In response to these important questions, the CAC and its partner agencies have been collaborating to educate ourselves and to improve our response to children ages 12 and under who are displaying sexual behaviors.

Curiosity and exploration are a normal part of every child's development, but some sexual behavior requires adult attention and intervention. And, sometimes, young children with concerning sexual behavior "fall through the cracks" in the system. This means that opportunities for critical and effective intervention may be missed.

To assist caregivers and professionals, the CAC has developed a

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brochure entitled, [Understanding Children's Sexual Behavior](#). In addition, [Guidelines for Responding to Children's Sexual Behavior](#) was developed for professionals to assist them in the initial assessment and information gathering process when responding to a child with concerning behavior.

For more information, guidance, or to get involved contact: Sharman Nathanson, CAC Mental Health Coordinator at 617-779-2139 or [sharman.nathanson@state.ma.us](mailto:sharman.nathanson@state.ma.us), or visit [www.suffolkcac.org](http://www.suffolkcac.org).

## The CAC Welcomes New Board Members!

The Children's Advocacy Center of Suffolk County is pleased to welcome new members to its Board of Trustees. Working in partnership with the CAC and the Suffolk County District Attorney's Office, the CAC board assists us in our mission to provide comprehensive services to child abuse victims and their families.

**Gary Graham, *President***  
**Peter Flaherty, *Vice President***  
**Lisa Rosenbaum, *Treasurer***  
**Rachel van der Voort, *Secretary***

**Daniel Cence**  
**Beth Epstein**  
**Amit Kanodia**  
**Shahana Basu Kanodia**  
**Maggie Sahlman**  
**Suzanne Rothschild**

Ex-Officio  
**District Attorney Daniel F. Conley**

For more information, please [click here](#).



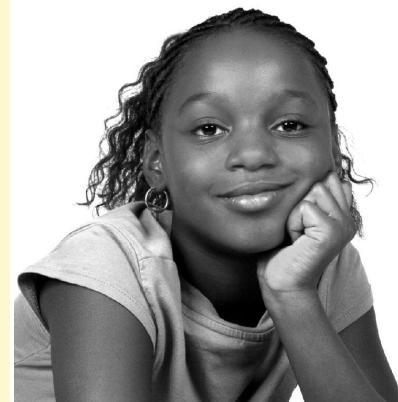
**2010 COMECC  
Campaign is  
Underway!**

*The Commonwealth of  
Massachusetts  
Employees Charitable  
Campaign (COMECC)  
affords state  
employees the  
opportunity to support  
nonprofit  
organizations.*

*Consider making a  
difference in the lives of  
children exposed to  
violence in Suffolk  
County.*

**Click here** for more  
information or to make  
a pledge.

**(CAC COMECC  
Code: 111229)**



**Thursday October 15th**

**9:30am - 11:30am**

## **Preventing Exploitation of Girls: Starting the Conversation**

Lisa Goldblatt Grace, Director

The My Life My Choice Project, Justice Resource Institute

Please visit our [website](#) for more information about location and directions.

### **Upcoming Seminar Series Speakers:**

Thursday November 12th, 9:30am - 11:00am

**Meg Stone, Project Impact: Self Defense Programs for Trauma Survivors, including Youth**

Thursday December 10th, 9:30am - 11:00am

**Betsy McAllister Groves, Child Witness to Violence Project: Child Parent Psychotherapy for Family Violence (CPP-FV)**

The CAC Seminar Series is offered free of charge.  
No registration necessary.

## **CAC Programs & Services**

Multidisciplinary Team  
Investigations

Forensic Interviews

Advocacy

Medical Services

Mental Health Program

Support to End  
Exploitation Now (SEEN)

Child Fatality Review  
Team (CFRT)

Outreach & Training

## **Team CAC Runs the Boston Marathon**

**Runners for the Children's Advocacy Center of Suffolk County went the distance for children ... 26.2 miles to be exact!**

We would like to congratulate all of the participants in the 113th annual Boston Marathon, with a special thanks to **Chris Adams, Thayer Christodoulo, Caren Donovan, David Fredette, Elizabeth Green, Barrett Hyde, Allison Sable and Jamie Viggiano** for their fundraising efforts. ([Click here](#) for individual runner stats and results!)

The CAC was proud to have the support of 8 runners in the 113th Boston Marathon, and we hope to grow this tradition in the 2010 race.

**Interested in joining the 2010 CAC team CAC?**

Please continue to check our website for updates.

**How Can I Help??  
[Donate Here](#)**



**Smiles In Suffolk**

***Helping Kids Who  
Are Hurting***

The Victim Witness Advocates in the Child Protection Unit of the Suffolk County District Attorney's Office work everyday with children who have been hurt. Please **click here** to make a child smile when they need it most.

Join Our Mailing List!

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**Healing Starts Here.**

The Children's Advocacy Center of Suffolk County is a program of the Office of Suffolk County District Attorney Daniel F. Conley, in partnership with the Children's Advocacy Center of Suffolk County Inc., a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization.

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