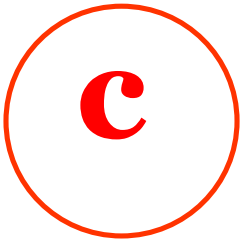




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Child Abuse Network News

*Stop the hurt...
begin the healing*



Our Medical Team: Going the Extra Mile

By Jaime Vogt

The Multidisciplinary Team (MDT) is a collaborative effort among multiple agencies in our community that work together to investigate, and sometimes prosecute, child abuse allegations. The MDT consists of the Children's Advocacy Center (CAN), the medical team, police, child welfare and the District Attorney's office. The focus of this article is the Medical Team.

They provide valuable consultations to the investigators as well as immediate feedback to the families regarding the health of their children.

Special Events:

- ✓ IREM Fashion Show
 - ▲ Friday, Sept. 12, 2003
 - ▲ Southern Hills Marriott
- ✓ 2003 Sutures Golf Tournament
 - ▲ Tuesday, Sept. 16, 2003
 - ▲ Stone Creek -- Page Belcher Golf Course

Not only does this allow the investigations to proceed in a timely manner it also gives parents the opportunity to respond to their child's physical and emotional needs more rapidly. One of the most important parts of the physical exam is for a child to hear, "Your body is healthy and just fine."

When children are involved in a physical or sexual abuse investigation one of the most feared procedures is the medical exam. This seems to be equally true for both parents and children. Part of the fear may stem from past experience in the doctor's office, uncomfortable exams, the possibility of shots or a lack of knowledge regarding the difference between adult and child exams. When families come to the JUSTICE Center, their concerns are addressed and their questions answered to ease their fears. They are given a tour of the child-friendly exam room that prominently displays an elephant-shaped exam table. State-of-the art medical equipment outlines the walls, but the children are more interested in the colorful animal décor and cellophane birds that hang from the ceiling. Upon completion of the exam all children get to choose a stuffed animal to take home.

While the medical personnel at the JUSTICE Center are highly trained in the art and science of medicine, they also have an in-depth understanding of the psychological impact trauma has on children and their families. There are many times they have recognized the need for mental health intervention and, with all agencies being co-located, have had the ability to access professional help immediately. The quicker support services can begin, the quicker the child and family can heal.

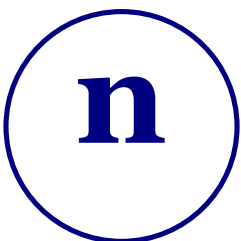


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The University of Oklahoma College of Medicine – Tulsa, Department of Pediatrics provides the Medical Team. There are three pediatricians, one nurse practitioner and an LPN that are based at the JUSTICE Center. Not only is it rare to have a staff this size with this kind of expertise to provide specialized exams for the children, it is also rare to have these professionals available under one roof.

One would think that the extensive qualifications of this medical team would be enough. To stop there, however, would be negligent for not pointing out the most valuable characteristics of this team. Every one of these professionals is driven by the desire to "help the kids". The long hours and the exhaustive preparation for trials, presentations, consultations, and continuing research are not for their own careers, but "for the kids".



To say that immediate access to these highly trained and skilled professionals is important to the investigations is an understatement.

Many times, after they have put in a full day of exams and are ready to go home, one more child comes in that needs an exam "now". They stay. Many times, on the weekend, a child in critical shape has been taken to the hospital and needs to be examined by a child abuse expert. They go. A District Attorney from a small county needs a consultation in a very specialized area. They stay late to provide the research. It all drains them of their own physical, mental and emotional resources, but "it's for the kids". And I don't think they'd have it any other way. ⚡

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Barbara E. Findeiss

**From the Desk of
 The Executive Director**

By: Barbara Findeiss

As a Children's Advocacy Center, the Child Abuse Network (CAN) is designed to:

- ♥ Reduce the trauma that young abuse victims experience from interaction with a confusing system of investigative and prosecuting agencies;
- ♥ Enhance the system's ability to respond to child abuse.

CAN is a "safe haven" for alleged child abuse victims. It is an objective, neutral agency that is not constrained by jurisdictions, City or County limits or other governmental boundaries. It is a place where medical exams, investigative interviews and mental health consultations are conducted in a child-friendly and child focused environment. 

2003 CAN Services Statistics

January through March

416 new children were served at CAN

Ages of these children were:

➤ 0-6 years	245
➤ 7-12 years	131
➤ 13-18 years	36
➤ Unknown	4

These children were seen for:

➤ Sexual Abuse	251
➤ Physical Abuse	146
➤ Neglect	29
➤ Witness to Violence	1
➤ Other	1

Heartfelt "thanks" to the following individuals and organizations for their contributions:

January 1, 2003 – March 31, 2003

Mr. and Mrs. David Adams	Merrill Lynch
David Alaback	Ann Metcalf
Anchor Stone Company	Michael Howard Financial Services
Anne S. Woolslayer Fnd.	Mary Mitchell
Robin Arnall	Murphy Mitchell
Art After Five	Nancy Moore
Sheila Asher	H.W. Mosley
Ellie Ashkarjazani	National Children's Alliance
Keith Bailey	Susan Neal
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Douglas Benshoof	Northeastern OK Driving School
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Eugene Bohlender	OU Tulsa – Central Billing Center
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Michael Huggins	Betty Weight
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Larsen Family	Williams Companies Fnd.
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Mark Lucas	Kyle Whiteis
Tami Manz	Andrea Woodruff
Philip Marshall	Pam Worthington
McDonalds	Zebco Corporation

Fashion Show

(All proceeds to benefit the Child Abuse Network)

IREM (Institute for Real Estate Management)

*“Color Their World”
and
Silent Auction*

Friday, September 12, 2003
6:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.

Southern Hills Marriott
1902 East 71st

Cost
\$40 per person
\$375 for table of 10

Dress
Business Attire

Reservations and/or information call 477-2403 [x](#)

Feeling Lucky? Suture’s 8th Annual Golf Tournament

Kerry Tunnell, Dan Pollard and Dave Ingram, co-owners of Suture’s Bar and Grille are hosting their 8th Annual Golf Tournament on Tuesday, September 16, 2003 to benefit the Child Abuse Network.

Tee time is noon at Stone Creek on Page Belcher Golf Course. There is space for 100 players or twenty-five teams of four. The entry fee is \$100 per person (hole sponsorships are available for \$100). The entry fee entitles you to 18 holes of golf, cart, “goodie bag” and drinks while playing. Following the tournament, team members and sponsors are invited to a banquet and an awards ceremony at Suture’s.

There will be a \$10,000.00 hole-in-one prize on one of the par threes, nearest the pin contests on other par threes, longest drive, plus 1st, 2nd and 3rd place prizes. Additional drawings will also be held at Suture’s for about 60 other prizes.

Proceeds will benefit the **Child Abuse Network (CAN)**, Tulsa’s only Children’s Advocacy Center.

For more information call Suture’s at 481-5007. [x](#)

You CAN Be A Kid Again – Patron Party



Friday Patron Party enjoyed by guests and volunteer committee members at Woodland Hills Mall.



You CAN Be A Kid Again 2003

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Saturday family fun event held at the Tulsa Fairgrounds Pavilion.

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Child Abuse Network
2829 S. Sheridan
Tulsa, Oklahoma 74129

Phone: 918-831-4550
Fax: 918-831-4579

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*Stop the hurt
begin the healing*

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CAN Do's

Ten Ways to Prevent Child Abuse:

Child Abuse Network
2829 S. Sheridan
Tulsa, OK 74129

Phone:
(918) 831-4550


Fax:
(918) 831-4579

CAN is Tulsa's

Children's

Advocacy Center

*CAN is a Charter
Member of The
National Children's Alliance*

1. Support activities that raise public awareness
2. Educate yourself and your child and encourage open conversations about the risk of child abuse
3. Report suspected child abuse or neglect 1-800-522-3511
4. Advocate services to help families
5. Speak up for non-violent TV programs for children
6. Contribute to child abuse prevention organizations
7. Help someone who is struggling with parenting responsibilities
8. Volunteer at a local child abuse agency
9. Support programs on child abuse
10. Promote programs in schools that teach prevention strategies 

Tulsa Horse Show Equus Grand Prix 2003



Sunday rider receiving award from the Tulsa Horse Show Board President, Beth Rumore



Area children enjoy the "Stick Horse" jumps.