

History

The Amy Schulz Child Advocacy Center was founded in 1990 by Dennis Schulz, in memory of his daughter, Amy. Amy was abducted, sexually assaulted, and murdered. After Amy's death, Dennis learned that nearly half a million children are reported as victims of sexual abuse each year. Though few are murdered by the perpetrator, most victims experience significant distress or lifelong trauma. Dennis' goal is to ease the pain of child sexual abuse and to prevent other children from experiencing the trauma of sexual abuse.

Nearly half a million children are reported as victims of sexual abuse each year.

To Report Child Sexual Abuse 24 Hours a Day Call 1-800-25-ABUSE or your local law enforcement agency

The Amy Center Provides Valuable Services in Our Communities:

- To date we have provided advocacy services to over 5,358 children and their non-offending family members in Clay, Clinton, Hamilton, Jefferson, Marion, Washington and Wayne counties.
- To date we have presented the Prevention Education Program to over 157,167 children and teens plus 19,133 adults.
- We conduct an average of 180 forensic interviews per year.

We partner with:

- **Illinois Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS)**
- **National Children's Alliance**
- **Children's Advocacy Centers of Illinois (CACI)**
- **The Illinois Attorney General**
- **The Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority (ICJIA)**
- **United Way of South Central Illinois**
- **...plus, local law enforcement in each of our seven counties and other local children's service agencies**

THE AMY CENTER



The Amy Schulz Child Advocacy Center and our partners are the front-line responders to reports of sexual abuse, as well as reports of severe physical abuse of children. We provide children with a safe place to share their story in their own words with experts who will listen to them, protect them and help them heal.

The Amy Schulz Child Advocacy Center

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Who We Serve

The Center serves a seven county region of South Central Illinois: Clinton, Marion, Clay, Washington, Jefferson, Wayne and Hamilton counties. Except for our Stewards of Children program which requires a small fee, the CAC's services are free of charge to every client and the CAC is a not-for-profit charitable organization.

Advocacy Services

- The Amy Center is modeled after other advocacy centers from around the country, and accredited by the National Children's Alliance.
- All CACs share the goal of teamwork and limiting the trauma to child sexual abuse victims.
- Working closely with the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services, law enforcement agencies and state's attorneys, the Amy Center support services, court, medical and mental health advocacy and case coordination for child sexual abuse victims.

...a warm, friendly and home-like environment just for children

...an advocate assigned to each child to act on behalf of the child's best interest

...a child victim sensitive interview room

...a comprehensive referral system to provide therapy and support services

Prevention Education Services

- The Amy center teaches it's self-developed "Body Boundaries" Program, as well as "Bullying Prevention" and "Healthy Relationships." These programs are offered to preschool through high school students. The curriculum is designed to teach children about patterns of abuse, how to avoid unwanted attention and touches, why bullying is dangerous and to give practical instruction for those who are being victimized.
- A parent guide has also been developed to assist parents in keeping their children safe including internet safety and techniques used by offenders including "grooming." Other tips include how to recognize signs of abuse or potential danger.
- Erin's Law mandates that schools educate children on sexual abuse; how to prevent, stop and report it. The Body Boundaries program meets all criteria of the law and more.

Donate

Thanks to generous organizations and individuals like you, all Amy Center services are free of charge to every client, every time. That means cost will never get in the way of the healing services they need. Your donations make it possible for children and families to get the vital support and resources they need to heal from child sexual abuse.

We welcome the opportunity to host you for a tour. Seeing our child-friendly center can be the best way to understand the impact your gift makes on children and families healing from abuse. Call the Center to schedule a private individual or group tour today.

To make a donation or volunteer your time to help us help the children, phone 1-618-244-2100.

Center Objectives

- Reduce the number of interviews the child victim must endure; and coordinate and deliver services in an expeditious manner
- Support services will be provided for the victims and the victim's family
- Conduct forensic interviews in a non-institutional setting
- A comprehensive Prevention Program on child abuse is offered to children in pre-school through high school
- Provide training and public speakers