

Southeast Alaska Family Evaluation (SAFE) Child Advocacy Center (CAC) is seeking to contract with local medical professionals (registered nurses, nurse practitioners, physicians, physician assistants) to join our multi-disciplinary team (MDT) to provide specialized medical evaluation and treatment to children. Payment is processed monthly through an invoice.

### **What is a Child Advocacy Center?**

Child Advocacy Centers (CACs) are child-focused programs that coordinate between law enforcement, child protection, prosecution, and other professionals responsible for responding to child maltreatment. CACs support thorough investigations, a reduction of trauma experienced by children and families, empowering non-offending parents to protect and support their children, and more.

### **Southeast Alaska Family Evaluation (SAFE) Child Advocacy Center**

SAFE CAC, a program of Catholic Community Service (CCS), is an accredited member of the National Children's Alliance and member of the Alaska Children's Alliance. Our services include forensic interviews, medical examinations, family advocacy, mental health therapy, referral for services, and community outreach and education.

### **What is the purpose of a multi-disciplinary team (MDT)?**

A MDT is a group of professionals from specific and distinct disciplines that collaborate from the point of report and throughout a child and family's involvement with the CAC. The core MDT must be composed of representatives from law enforcement, child protective services, prosecution, medical providers, mental health providers, victim advocates, and CAC staff.

MDTs coordinate investigations and service delivery to mitigate potential trauma to children and families, to keep open the lines of communication and maintain transparency and foster trust, and to help optimize a quality response overall, while preserving and respecting the rights of the clients, and the mandates and obligations of each agency.

The SAFE CAC MDT meets the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of each month from 8:30-10:00am.

## **Medical Professional Service Deliverables**

- Be available as part of a medical team, to take calls 24/7 to coordinate with multi-disciplinary team to provide appropriate medical advice and response as the situation dictates. The preliminary pediatric sexual assault examinations will be conducted using digital photography. Photographs taken will be given to a representative of the law enforcement agency assigned to investigate the case. Level I pediatric forensic assault examinations that include vaginal or rectal bleeding or require immediate medical treatment will be conducted at Bartlett Regional Hospital. All other medical exams will be conducted at the Child Advocacy Center. SAFE CAC delivers an average of 1-2 exams per month, 2-5 hours per exam and associated documentation.
- Educate the child and family regarding all aspects of the medical examination and outcomes.
- Complete all documentation including, but not limited to, labs, aftercare instructions, medical history, evidence forms, and charting in medical records at the conclusion of the medical exam.
- Evaluate, document, diagnose and address medical conditions resulting from abuse and differentiate medical findings that are indicative of abuse from those which may be explained by other medical conditions.
- Seek expert review by an “advanced medical consultant” for all findings deemed abnormal or “diagnostic” of trauma from sexual abuse.
- Assess the child for any developmental, emotional, or behavioral issues needing further evaluation and treatment and make referrals as necessary.
- Attend a minimum of one MDT meeting per month, making recommendations regarding mental health and other services to address trauma related to the abuse/assault in coordination with other members of the MDT/CAC.
- Share findings of medical evaluations with the MDT in a routine, timely and meaningful manner.
- Train MDT Members and CAC staff regarding the purpose and nature of the medical evaluation for suspected sexual abuse.
- Complete required initial and ongoing training including reviewing, contributing to, and following SAFE CAC Policy and Procedures.
- Participate in quarterly medical team meetings.
- Participate in ongoing clinical supervision and/or consultation. The Alaska Children’s Alliance hosts a monthly clinical consultation call.
- Provide court testimony in civil, juvenile, or criminal cases as requested with a subpoena.

## Medical Professional Education/License Requirements

- Child Abuse Pediatrics Subboard eligibility or certification; or
- Physicians without board certification or eligibility in the field of child abuse pediatrics, advanced practice nurses, and physician assistants with minimum training below; or
- Nurses without advanced practitioner training have a minimum training below.
- Licensed to practice in Alaska
- Must have business license and professional liability insurance.

## Training and Ongoing Consultation Requirements

- **Nurses trained or willing to be trained as sexual assault nurse examiners (SANEs):** Those without advanced practitioner training must also have a minimum of 40 hours of coursework specific to the medical evaluation of child sexual abuse followed by a 16-hour competency-based clinical preceptorship with an experienced provider in a clinical setting, where the SANE can demonstrate competency in performing exams.
- **Physicians without board certification or eligibility in the field of child abuse pediatrics, advanced practice nurses, and physician assistants:** minimum of 16 hours of formal didactic training in the medical evaluation of child sexual abuse.
- Be trained to use CortexFlo imaging equipment.
- Must participate in ongoing clinical supervision and/or consultation. The Alaska Children's Alliance hosts a monthly clinical consultation call that meets this requirement.
- Must demonstrate completion of continuing education in the field of child abuse consisting of a minimum of eight contact hours every two years. Attending the Alaska Conference on Child Maltreatment fulfills this requirement.
- Must be familiar and stay up to date with published research studies on findings in abused and non-abused children, sexual transmission of infections in children, and current medical guidelines and recommendations from national professional organizations such as the American Academy of Pediatrics Committee on Child Abuse and Neglect, the American Professional Society on the Abuse of Children, and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Must pass multi-state background check including fingerprinting through the Alaska Department of Health Background Check Unit (ref. 7 AAC 10.905 Barrier crimes and conditions).

To learn more, email [jobs@ccsjuneau.org](mailto:jobs@ccsjuneau.org) or visit: [ccsak.org/safechildadvocacycenter](http://ccsak.org/safechildadvocacycenter)