

WHAT CAN I EXPECT FROM THE CHILD ADVOCACY CENTER?

We understand that it is a very difficult time for you. Any hint or suspicion of abuse of your child causes many strong and confusing emotions. The process of determining what happened to your child and how to proceed may seem overwhelming. It is our job to work together to reduce the number of times your child will have to be interviewed to ensure that your family receives swift, necessary support. As such we have put together commonly asked questions by parents to help make this process move as smoothly as possible. Should you have any additional questions, please do not hesitate to contact Stacey Rubinfeld, Ph.D, CAC Coordinator at (203) 573-0264 x 321

MEMBER AGENCIES

<i>CT Department of Children & Families</i>	<i>203-759-7000</i>
<i>CT State Police, Troop A</i>	<i>203-267-2200</i>
<i>Community Mental Health Affiliates, Inc.</i>	<i>203-596-9724</i>
<i>Office of State's Attorney</i>	<i>203-236-8148</i>
<i>Office of Attorney General</i>	<i>203-805-6322</i>
<i>Office of Probation</i>	<i>203-419-4442</i>
<i>Safe Haven of Greater Waterbury</i>	<i>203-753-3613</i>
<i>Superior Court, Juvenile Matters</i>	<i>203-596-4186</i>
<i>Waterbury Youth Services System, Inc.</i>	<i>203-573-0264</i>
<i>Wellmore Behavioral Health</i>	
<i>for Children and Families</i>	<i>203-756-7287</i>
<i>Connecticut Children's SCAN Program</i>	<i>860-837-5890</i>

We also work together with all local Law Enforcement Agencies involved



CHILD ADVOCACY CENTER OF GREATER WATERBURY

*Working Together To Help Your Child:
The Interview & Investigation Process*



NATIONAL
CHILDREN'S
ALLIANCE®
ACCREDITED MEMBER



VISIT OUR
WEBSITE

WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF MY CHILD HAVING A CAC INTERVIEW?

- All the necessary professionals are present at the interview, thereby facilitating the CAC goal of having as few interviews as possible.
- Interview takes place in a non-threatening environment
- Services for your family will be better coordinated.
- You will meet all the professionals involved in the investigation and have the opportunity to ask questions.

HOW DOES THE INTERVIEW WORK?

- Your child will be interviewed by a team member who is a trained forensic interviewer.
- Other team members observe through a one-way mirror.
- Video documentation of the interview is standard practice.

WHAT SHOULD I TELL MY CHILD?

- Explain to your child that he/she/they will be meeting with someone to talk about what happened to them.
- It is important to tell your child the truth, however, **do not tell your child what to say.**
- Tell your child that the person with whom they will be meeting sees children all the time and their job is to make them feel safe.
- Some children may need to be reassured that they are not in trouble and they are not going to this meeting because they have done something wrong.

MEDICAL EVALUATION

- A physical examination is offered and conducted by a licensed medical practitioner trained in forensic medical examinations.
- This examination like all of our services is free of charge and is in the best interest of the child and their needs.
- This examination would happen on site inside of Waterbury Youth Services.



WHAT IS MY ROLE DURING THE INTERVIEW?

- You will meet the person who will be talking to your child during the interview.
- From our experience, it is important for the interviewer to talk with your child alone.
- While your child is being interviewed, you will have the opportunity to talk with an advocate from Safe Haven.
- Because this is an investigation, the team members must carefully observe, assess, and document the interview. They will be available to respond to your questions and concerns following the interview.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN AFTER THE INTERVIEW?

- The professionals on the team will meet briefly to discuss the information disclosed in the interview.
- Members of the team will then meet with you to discuss information about your child's interview, answer questions or concerns you may have, and recommendations they may have.
- Your child's case will be discussed in conference with the team to ensure that you and your child receive all necessary services.
- Your child's case may be referred for prosecution.