



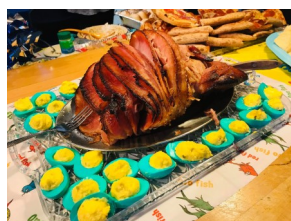
## Kentucky River CAC

Summer 2019



## OPEN HOUSE

April is Child Abuse and Sexual Abuse Prevention month. April is also the month that the Care Cottage hosts its Annual Open House for the community, so that local businesses and citizens may know and understand the work that the Child Advocacy Center provides to our community. In April 2019, the Care Cottage hosted its 3rd Annual Open House. Over 50 people attended to gain information and knowledge on the role of the Care Cottage and what services are provided to the community.



### Board of Directors

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Executive Director/  
Forensic Interviewer:  
Pamela Carey, M.Ed., LPCC  
Victims Advocate:  
Victoria Halcomb, BSW  
Physician:  
Dr. Robin Whitaker, DO  
Administration Assistant:  
Sharla Stacy  
Trauma-Informed Therapy: Provided in partnership with MCCC



# OUTREACH

## Services offered

Our services for child victims of sexual abuse include:

- ◇ Forensic Interviews
- ◇ Medical Exams
- ◇ Advocacy
- ◇ Counseling
- ◇ Community Education

Our referrals come directly from Law Enforcement and Social Services.

## Care Cottage Mission:

The mission of the Kentucky River Child Advocacy Center is to provide a comfortable, safe environment where children who have victims of sexual abuse and their non-offending caregivers may receive services from each agency involved in the investigation and prosecution of these cases. We strive to provide a location where investigations may be preformed in as timely manner as possible and to link children and families to services they may need both immediately and in the future.

The Care Cottage participated in many outreach programs this summer.

- ⇒ April 5th the Care Cottage set up an information and outreach booth in Leslie County in honor of Child Abuse Awareness month.
- ⇒ April 8th the Care Cottage joined the Rising Center and Mayor Donald "Happy" Mobelini in signing a proclamation proclaiming April as both Child Abuse Awareness Month and Sexual Assault Awareness Month.
- ⇒ April 17th Care Cottage staff and DCBS specialized investigation personnel worked with the Kindergarten class of Roy G Eversole to plant pinwheels in front of the school followed by an Easter egg hunt. The pinwheel is the national symbol for child abuse prevention. It has come to serve as the physical embodiment, or reminder, of the great childhoods we want for all children.
- ⇒ The Beaver STLP team has chosen the Care Cottage as their project to help prevent child abuse. They arrived at our Open House on April 16th to present a donation in the amount of \$1500, which included much needed supplies for the Care Cottage as well. Please check out their Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/STLPnewbeginning/> to see all of the wonderful things these girls are doing.
- ⇒ April 25—26 The Care Cottage was invited to the Berea College Appalachian Fund Affiliates Gathering in Berea KY to present information on who the Care Cottage is and what role we play in the community, as well as make many networking connection within the community.



# 1st Annual Trauma Conference

April 12, The Care Cottage in collaboration with The Rising Center hosted the 1st Annual Trauma Conference at LKLP in Hazard, Ky. Speakers included Holly



Combs, LPA whose presentation focused on the co-occurrence of sexual violence and substance abuse. Seleslie Harris, Prevention Educator, presented the Green Dot Training that highlighted violence prevention strategies. Victoria Halcomb, Victims Advocate of the Care Cottage presented the Stewards of Children: Darkness to Light Child Sexual Abuse Training. This workshop was made possible by funding provided by Perry County ASAP & Perry County UNITE. Door prizes donated by Karma Spa and Salon, Merle Norman, The Decorating Center, and The Mercantile on Main.

## What We Do.....

At the Children's Advocacy Center, we strive to meet the unique needs of every child and provide support through compassionate, individualized care. The Center offers comprehensive services to the family as a whole to promote healing and prevent future harm. The path to hope and healing starts here.



1-877-597-2331



**New Amazon Program Enables Shoppers to Easily Donate to Their Favorite Nonprofits**

Kentucky River Child Advocacy Center

Transportation assistance available for Leslie County, Owsley County, & Perry County

**400,000 children** are sexually abused each year.



That means **1 in 10** children faces the horror of sexual abuse.



**90%** of victims are abused by someone they **know** and **trust**.  
→ **60%** are **acquaintances** like teachers, neighbors, or community leaders.  
→ **30%** are immediate or extended **family**.  
**Only 10%** are **strangers** to the child.

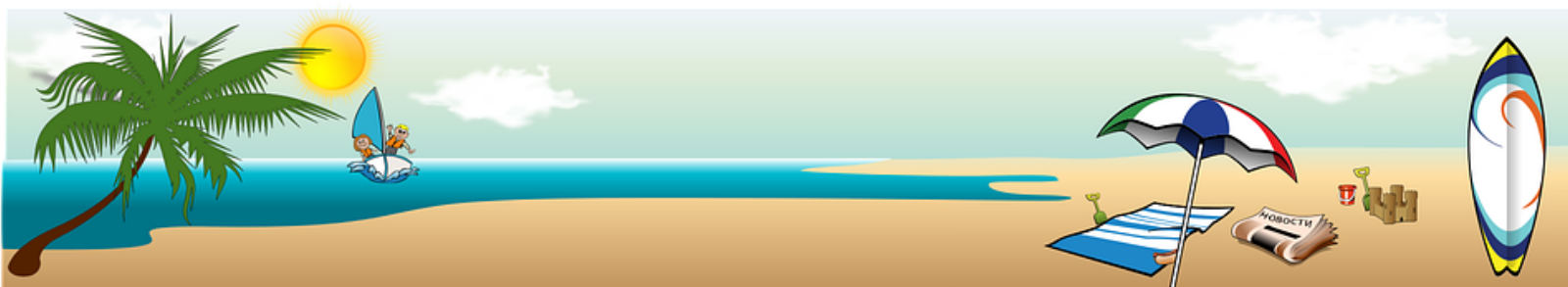
**A reactive approach does not work.**

**Only 31%** of children tell someone within the first year.  
**Only 55%** of reported incidents are investigated by CPS.  
**Only 29%** of reported incidents lead to police arrests.

Many sexually abused children suffer **trauma** severe enough to negatively impact their adult lives. They're **3x more likely** to abuse **drugs** or **alcohol**, and **2x more likely** to **drop out** of school.

D2L.org/Statistics

**SOME-THING MUST BE DONE**



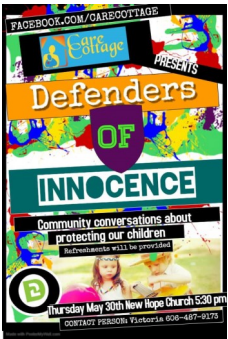
## SPARK "Light the way" Rally

The Care Cottage joined SPARK ministries in Hazard, KY in May to shine a light on mental health, substance abuse issues, and recovery in our community as part of the SPARK "Light the Way" Rally in downtown Hazard. Care Cottage staff set up information on the correlation between childhood trauma, mental health, and future substance use as part of our outreach and awareness. Many people, who passed by our table, stopped to speak to staff making comments such as, "I wish a center like this would have been available when I was a child. My life may have turned out entirely different" and "This information is so interesting, I never thought about my addiction stemming from my childhood problems."



## Defenders of Innocence

Community partners paired with the Care Cottage at New Hope Church to provide information and awareness to the community about child sexual abuse, how to identify and correct situations, and what services are in our area to help those who have been abused. This event was concluded with the Stewards of Children: Darkness to Light training presented by authorized facilitator Victoria Halcomb.



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## KEEPING OUR CHILDREN SAFE

### What is Stewards of Children?

*Stewards of Children®* is a prevention training that teaches adults how to prevent, recognize, and react responsibly to child sexual abuse. The program is designed for organizations that serve youth and for individuals concerned about the safety of children. It is the only nationally distributed, evidence-informed program proven to increase knowledge, improve attitudes, and change child protective behaviors.

This training is listed on the  
Kentucky Department of Education's Professional Learning Bulletin Board

### Schedule an Event!

For more information, please contact  
Victoria Halcomb, Victim's Advocate at  
[Victoria@carecottage.org](mailto:Victoria@carecottage.org)  
or (606) 487-9173.



### Funding Provided In Part By:

