



COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO HEALTH AGENCY
PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT
PROVIDER HEALTH ADVISORY

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SLO County Child Advocacy Center Supports Children Affected by Abuse

The Child Advocacy Center (CAC) of San Luis Obispo County offers a range of specialized services to support children and families affected by abuse and neglect. The CAC was designed to make finding care in some of the darkest moments as compassionate and efficient as possible—offering enhanced cross-agency collaboration and a private, comfortable space for families to receive support.

Key services provided by the CAC include:

- **Child Forensic Interviews:** These interviews are conducted in a neutral, fact-finding manner by trained professionals to minimize trauma for the child. They take place in a supportive environment and are observed by a multidisciplinary team, including law enforcement, child welfare workers, and prosecutors.
- **Forensic Medical Exams:** Specialized pediatricians perform medical exams to assess and treat injuries or signs of abuse and neglect. These exams are the work of the County Public Health Suspected Abuse Response Team (SART).
- **Family Advocacy Services:** Family advocates work closely with non-offending family members to provide emotional support, guidance, and referrals to community-based services. They also follow up with families to help them navigate challenges during the healing process.
- **Mental Health Services:** Expert mental health professionals address both immediate and long-term effects of trauma for children and their families.
- **Connection to care:** Advocates can refer families to follow-up healthcare and support as appropriate.

A multidisciplinary team of staff from the Center for Family Strengthening and the County of SLO Health Agency operates the CAC in collaboration with law enforcement, child welfare services, medical professionals, and victim advocates to ensure a comprehensive and trauma-informed approach.

If you'd like to learn more or need assistance, please visit our website (slocounty.gov/departments/district-attorney/child-advocacy-center) or call 805-781-4980.



Scan to see a
**three-minute
video** about
the CAC.

Public Health Department

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www.slopublichealth.org