

WHY COME TO THE CHILD ADVOCACY CENTER

Without a Child Advocacy Center (CAC), a child may have to retell the worst story of their life — again and again — to doctors, police, lawyers, and others.

They might be questioned in a police station where they feel scared or think they're in trouble, or asked confusing questions by someone who doesn't realize how delicate the situation is.

At the CAC, a child tells their story once, in a calm, child-friendly space, to a specially trained interviewer who asks questions gently and respectfully. Then a team of professionals — from law enforcement, child protection, medical, mental health, and victim advocacy — works together to decide how best to help.

The CAC is a bridge to wellbeing, connecting children and families with the care and support they need — all in one safe place.



MHACG
MHA of Columbia-Greene

Your bridge to wellbeing

REACH & Child Advocacy Center
24 Hour Emergency Helpline

518.943.4482

Get in Touch



P: 518.828.4619
F: 518.828.1196



info@mhacg.org
www.mhacg.org



713 Union Street
Hudson, NY 12534



www.mhacg.org



Illuminating Hope,
Igniting Change.

CHILD ADVOCACY CENTER

Helping kids rise above the darkness of abuse. Because kids deserve the wonder of childhood.

REACH & Child Advocacy Center
24 Hour Emergency Helpline

518.943.4482


MHACG
Child Advocacy Center

ABOUT THE CAC'S SERVICES

The Child Advocacy Center provides a safe, welcoming space where children and families can begin to heal.

Our coordinated team approach simplifies the process of care, treatment, and justice for children who may have experienced abuse.

Advocacy

Victim advocates provide compassionate support through every step of the process — offering crisis intervention, education, ongoing guidance, court preparation, and referrals to community resources that meet each family's unique needs.

Counseling & Therapy

Licensed mental health professionals offer on-site counseling and therapy for children and their family members. These services help build coping skills, strengthen family connections, and support recovery from trauma.



Child Support Groups

Trauma-informed therapists lead age-appropriate groups that help children heal, connect, and rebuild trust in a safe, supportive setting.

Family & Caregiver Support Groups

Caregivers receive education and encouragement from trained facilitators, learning about the dynamics of abuse, how to support their child's recovery, and how to prevent future victimization.

Medical Exams

Every child can receive a compassionate, non-invasive medical exam from a provider specially trained in the evaluation of child abuse. These exams are focused on reassurance, safety, and care — helping children know that their bodies are okay and that they are safe.

Forensic Interviewing

Specially trained professionals conduct interviews in a child-friendly, non-threatening environment. Each interview is designed to gather accurate information in a legally sound, respectful way that minimizes trauma and ensures the child only needs to share their story once.

PREVENTION & EDUCATION

We believe that preventing child abuse starts with education, awareness, and community involvement. Every caring adult can make a difference.

Knowing how to recognize, respond to, and prevent child abuse can change a child's life forever. We provide education and support outreach for:

- » Abuse Prevention
- » Responding to a Disclosure
- » Child & Infant Safety
- » Childhood Trauma
- » Mandated Reporter Training

WHERE TO FIND US

Columbia County:

946 Columbia Street
Hudson, NY 12534
518.697.3320

Greene County:

455 Main Street
Catskill, NY 12414
518.943.4482

“I can't tell you what I felt in that moment. It was incomprehensible. We were met by an advocate who was kind, understanding, and reassuring. We left in much better shape than when we arrived.

- Recipient of CAC Services