



IDAHO NETWORK

of Children's Advocacy Centers





What is a
**CHILDREN'S
ADVOCACY
CENTER?**

CACs coordinate the investigation, treatment and prosecution of child abuse cases by utilizing multidisciplinary teams of professionals involved in child protective and victim advocacy services, law enforcement and prosecution, and physical and mental health.

-OJJDP

What is a **CHILDREN'S ADVOCACY CENTER?**



01

Child-Focused Facility

Trauma-focused, comfortable and safe - designed to make the process of sharing their account feel the most comfortable.

02

Child Forensic Interview

Trained professionals interview the child with non-suggestible strategies while partners in law enforcement, child protection services, and medical and mental health provider team members observe and contribute to a collaborative investigative process - while the interview is recorded with specialized equipment.

03

Support & Services

Children only have to tell their account one time at a CAC, and the child and the family have a supportive team to help them through the process.

Without CACs



With CACs



Value of a MDT

The Children's Advocacy Center Model is proven to provide better outcomes for children and abuse investigations AND has economic implications for significant cost savings to the state.

Research

Maryland Children's Alliance partnered with the University of Maryland to determine the financial value of the multidisciplinary team response to child maltreatment

Findings

Research found that the average cost to the state for one child who was not served by a MDT was nearly 3 million dollars versus the significant savings of one child maltreatment case being investigated with a MDT/CAC partnership costing just shy of 4,500.

Bottom line estimates of the research state that cost for MDT response to child maltreatment was **.15%** the cost of a child not served by the MDT. Findings of the research state that for every \$1 the state invests in MDT response to child maltreatment the return on the investment are estimated to be \$663.



Child Forensic Interview Room at Bright Tomorrows CAC - Pocatello

2,296

Number of children served by
Idaho's CACs in 2023

85%

of offenders were someone the child
knew (parent, stepparent, relative,
parent's boyfriend/girlfriend, or other
known person) - only 15% were
someone not known to the child

71.6%

were sexual abuse
cases in 2023

Children's Advocacy Center **ACCREDITATION**

Ensuring continual improvement of the high-quality care children and families deserve through rigorous national standards of accreditation:

- Multidisciplinary Team
- Cultural Competency
- Forensic Interview
- Victim Support and Advocacy
- Medical Evaluation
- Mental Health
- Case Review
- Case Tracking
- Organizational Capacity
- Child-Focused Setting



NATIONAL
CHILDREN'S
ALLIANCE[®]

DEFINED IN IDAHO CODE

Title 16 - Juvenile Proceedings
Chapter 16 - Child Protective Act

(11) "CHILD ADVOCACY CENTER" OR "CAC" MEANS AN ORGANIZATION THAT ADHERES TO NATIONAL BEST PRACTICE STANDARDS ESTABLISHED BY THE NATIONAL MEMBERSHIP AND ACCREDITING BODY FOR CHILDREN'S ADVOCACY CENTERS AND THAT PROMOTES A COMPREHENSIVE AND COORDINATED MULTIDISCIPLINARY TEAM RESPONSE TO ALLEGATIONS OF CHILD ABUSE BY MAINTAINING A CHILD-FRIENDLY FACILITY AT WHICH APPROPRIATE SERVICES ARE PROVIDED. THESE SERVICES MAY INCLUDE FORENSIC INTERVIEWS, FORENSIC MEDICAL EXAMINATIONS, MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES AND OTHER RELATED VICTIM SERVICES.

Idaho's **CACS**

Sandpoint
**LillyBrooke Family
Justice Center**

Twin Falls
**St Lukes CARES Magic
Valley**

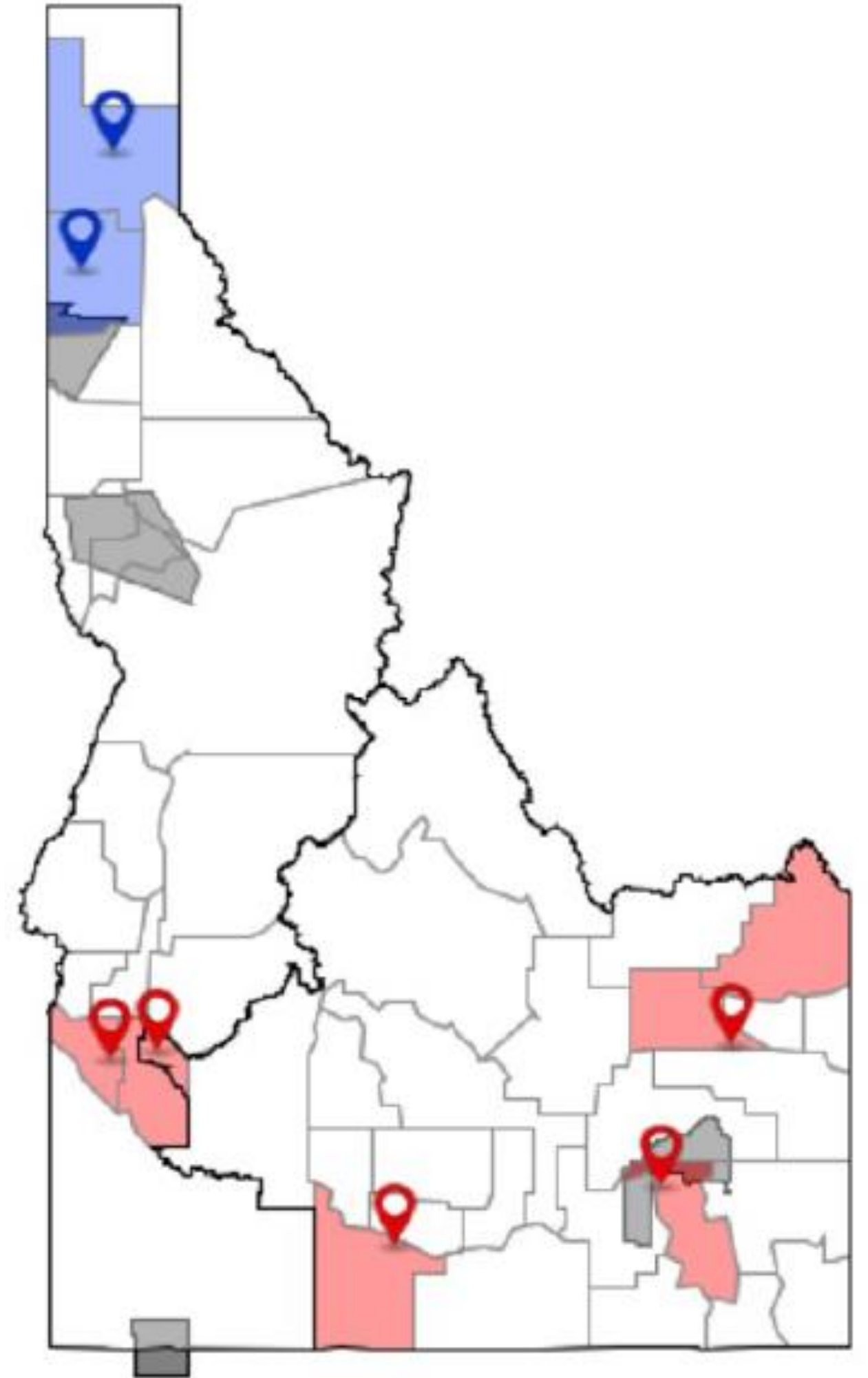
Coeur d'Alene
**Safe Passage Children's
Advocacy Center**

Pocatello
**Bright Tomorrows
Children's Advocacy
Centers**

Nampa
**Nampa Family Justice
Center**

Rigby
**Upper Valley Children's
Advocacy Center**

Boise
St Lukes CARES



DEVELOPING

The Idaho Network of CACs is working to support the accreditation process and development of new CACs in Idaho.



Visit a CAC

Each Idaho CAC has its own personality, but all are driven by a passionate mission to help the children of Idaho



Bright Tomorrows CAC



St Lukes CARES Boise



Safe Passage CAC



LillyBrooke Family Justice Center

Mobile CACs



Mobile CAC - St Lukes CARES - Boise

Mobile CACs bring the services to the rural communities of Idaho to serve the counties and MDTs that don't have dedicated resources to the child forensic interview and collaborative investigation processes.



Mobile CAC - Upper Valley CAC - Rigby

FORENSIC INTERVIEW ROOM



MDT OBSERVATION ROOM



MDT Observation Room - Bright Tomorrows CAC, Pocatello

MEDICAL & MENTAL HEALTH



Family Counseling Room - Bright Tomorrows CAC, Pocatello



Medical Room - St Luke CARES Magic Valley, Idaho Falls

notable
PROSECUTION

Idaho has the highest rates of report and prosecution in the counties served by Children's Advocacy Centers - noted in the 2022 Child Sexual Abuse Statistics from the Office of the Attorney General

FY2022 CASES IN
TEN MOST POPULATED COUNTIES

TABLE 4

County	Population	Adult	Juvenile	Total
Ada	494,967	78	35	113
Canyon	231,105	87	17	104
Kootenai	171,362	51	0	51
Bonneville	123,964	55	7	62
Twin Falls	90,046	92	34	126
Bannock	87,018	80	26	106
Madison	52,913	7	2	9
Bingham	47,992	42	17	49
Bonner	47,110	72	5	77
Nez Perce	42,090	62	7	69

Idaho's Kids **NEED CACS**

