

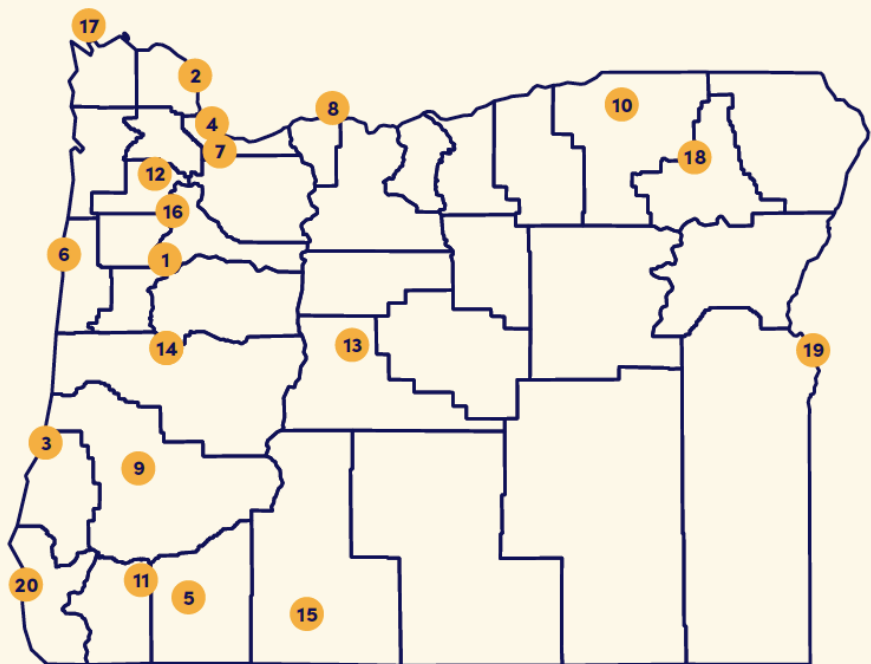
# Children's Advocacy Centers

Requesting 6M increase in the 2021-2023 biennium



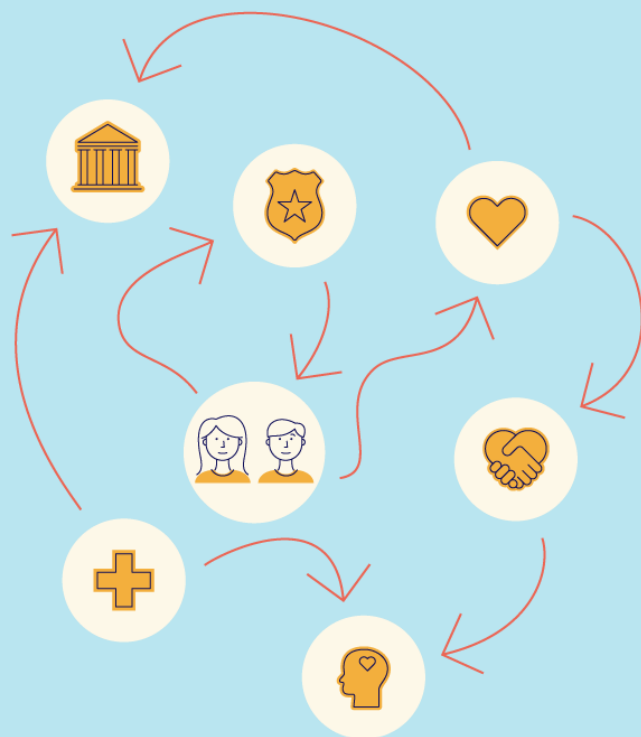


# Our 20 Children's Advocacy Centers (CACs)

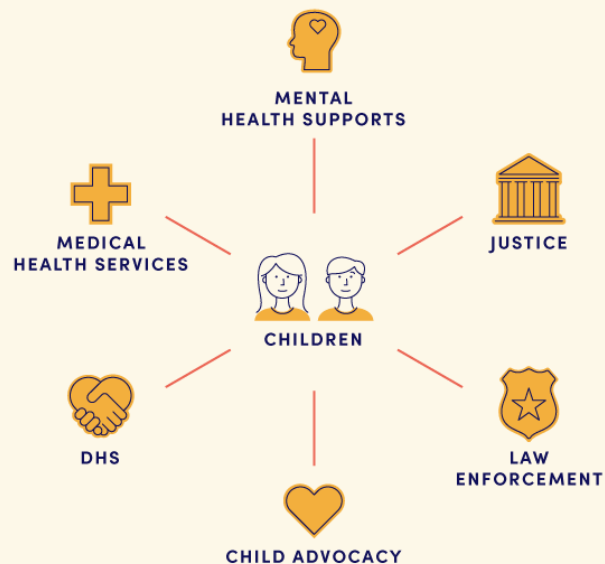


- 1. ABC House**  
*Linn, Benton Counties*
- 2. Amani Center**  
*Columbia County*
- 3. Bay Area Hospital Kids' HOPE Center**  
*Coos County*
- 4. CARES Northwest**  
*Multnomah, Washington Counties*
- 5. Children's Advocacy Center of Jackson County**  
*Jackson County*
- 6. Children's Advocacy Center of Lincoln County**  
*Lincoln County*
- 7. Children's Center**  
*Clackamas County*
- 8. Columbia Gorge Children's Advocacy Center**  
*Serves 5 counties*
- 9. Douglas CARES**  
*Douglas County*
- 10. Guardian Care Center, CAC**  
*Umatilla County*
- 11. Josephine County Child Advocacy Center**  
*Josephine County*
- 12. Juliette's House**  
*Yamhill, Polk Counties*
- 13. KIDS Center**  
*Deschutes, Jefferson, Crook Counties*
- 14. Kids FIRST**  
*Lane County*
- 15. Klamath-Lake CARES**  
*Klamath, Lake Counties*
- 16. Liberty House**  
*Marion, Polk Counties*
- 17. The Lighthouse for Kids**  
*Clatsop County*
- 18. Mt. Emily Safe Center**  
*Serves 5 counties*
- 19. STAR Center**  
*Malheur County*
- 20. Wally's House**  
*Curry County*

## WITHOUT CHILDREN'S ADVOCACY CENTERS



## WITH CHILDREN'S ADVOCACY CENTERS



## The CAC Model

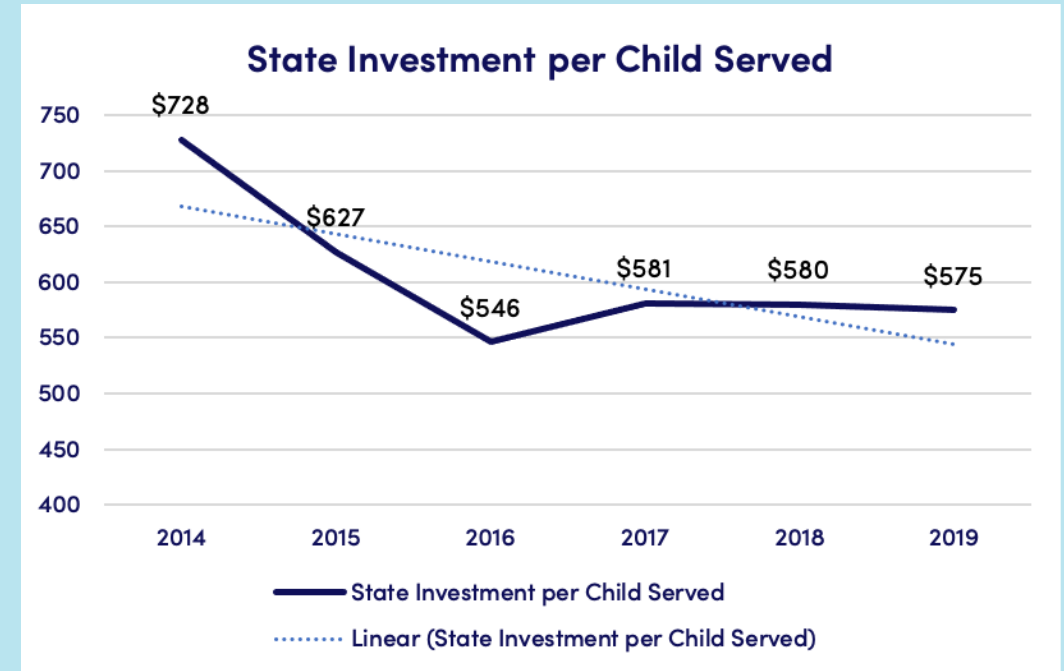
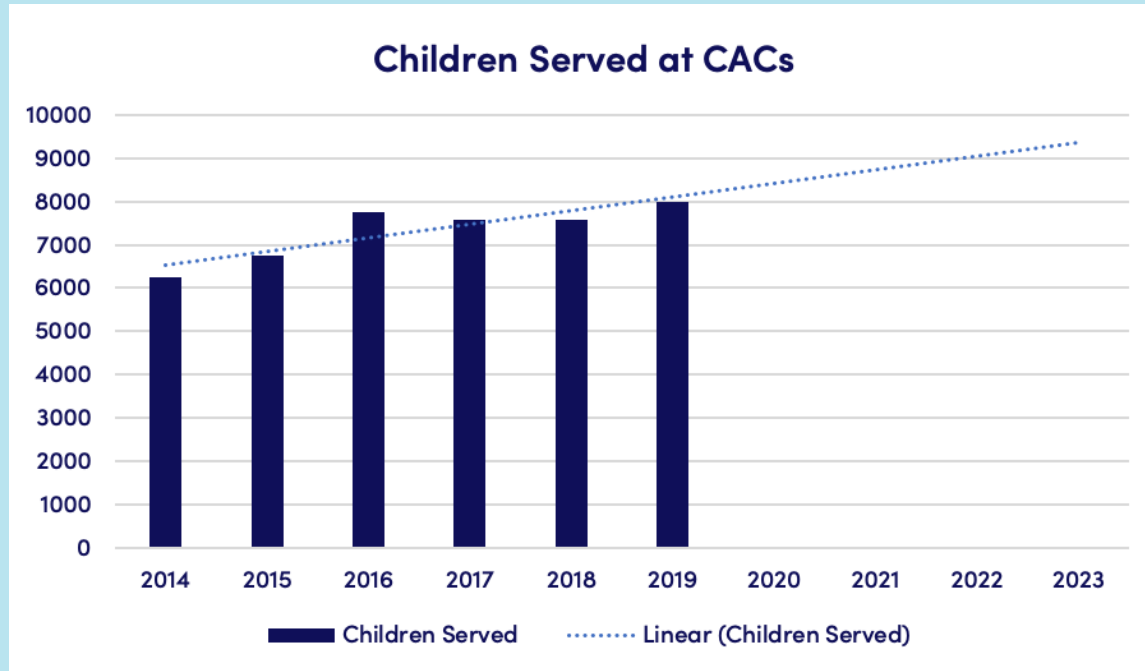
- Brings communities together to respond to child abuse allegations
- Minimizes trauma
- Diverts children from emergency rooms and police stations
- CACs provide specialized medical exams, forensic interviews, family advocacy, therapy and prevention services
- Only 55% of children referred were seen in person from Jan-Nov '20

# Medical Exams and Forensic Interviews

- Every county is assigned a designated medical provider (DMP), often working as a staff member in a children's advocacy center (CAC)
- DMPs are responsible for both "ruling in" and "ruling out" child abuse
- DMPs provide in-person Karly's Law exams within 48 hours and review photos and notes if unable to see the child in-person
- Child welfare relies on the expertise of CAC medical providers through consultations and detailed medical record reviews to help them make safety decisions



# Service and Funding Trendlines



CACs were also notified last week of an upcoming cut to Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) funding



# Our 2021 Legislative Ask

- Invest 6M in CACs
- State funding makes up 17.8% percent of CAC budgets, this 6M increase would bring state funding to 28% of CAC budgets
- Funding would maintain staffing and assessment slots for children
- Funding would stabilize CACs during an anticipated rise in cases, and ensure there is no breakdown in supportive services to child protective services, law enforcement, prosecution, and others
- Ensuring access to CACs will help keep kids safe and avoid unnecessary removals, when there is an alternative explanation for injury