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A safe place for children to be heard and helped

Welcome! Irniamta Ikayurviat, Children's Advocacy Center (CAC), located in Bethel, work with the Law Enforcement and Office of Children Service on allegations of child abuse and maltreatment. Interviews are done in the center, where a trained Forensic Interviewer will conduct the interview with your child. Travel will be paid for to fly to Bethel if the child and caregiver are coming from a village.

Before your child is interviewed the multidisciplinary team will brief the process of the interview to the caregivers, then a trained forensic interviewer interviews your child. You as a parent/cargiver can request that it be done in Yup'ik if that is the child's primary language. Parents and Caregivers wait in the family room as the child is interviewed. CAC advocates are here to make the process of investigating child abuse as comfortable as possible for you and your child(ren). If a medical exam is needed, an advocate may accompany the family throughout the process.

If it is required that you need to spend the night in Bethel we will be able to assist with meals, lodging and transportation. CAC does referrals to agencies such as YKHC behavioral health, CAC's Mental health clinician natural helpers in your community. We can also assist with legal service. If the case goes to trial, we can accompany families to court hearings, trials and grand jury.

Children's Advocacy Center Staff are here to assist in making this process as comfortable and less traumatic as possible for you and your child(ren).



Agencies and resources we work with

Alaska State Troopers 543-2294
Bethel Police Department 543-3781

Office of Children's Services / O.C.S.
543-3141

Village Police Officers
ICWA workers

YKHC 543-6000
Behavior Health 543-6100

Elders,
Faith Leaders

School officials



Taking care of yourself

It is difficult when dealing with trauma, it can be stressful and although you are taking care of others you also need to make time to take care of yourself. Your well being is very important. Make time to do something just for you and plan to do it regularly...some things that you may be able to do are going for a walk, taking a steam, have lunch with a friend, subsistence or crafts, read or listen to music...always make time for yourself



Reporting abuse and neglect

<p>To report suspected abuse or neglect call your local law enforcement or the Office of Children’s Service (OCS).</p> <p>Alaska State Troopers: 1-800-478-9112 or 543-2294</p> <p>Bethel Police Department: 543-3781</p> <p>OCS: 1-800-557-3141 or 543-3141</p> <p>We all have a responsibility for the safety and well being of our children</p>	<p>What OCS and Law enforcement wants to know when you make a report:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Name, age, date of birth, gender, race and current address of the child • Present location of the child • Names, addresses and phone numbers of parents and siblings • Nature and extent of the problem • How the child is doing at this time • Name of person harming the child • Your name and address (can be left out if reporting anonymously) • Did you see the abuse happening and when did the abuse happen • Is the child or other children safe now • Does the child’s family know about this report? 	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Mandated Reporters:</u></p> <p>Alaska law (AS.47.17.020) defines those required to report to OCS/AST about suspected child abuse and neglect as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local village health aides • All school staff • Social workers • Village police and VPSOs • Local tribal/city council • Child care providers • ICWA and behavior health aide <p><u>Any person</u> with reasonable cause to suspect a child is at risk of harm can file a report to OCS/law enforcement.</p>
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You can call CAC for assistance in reporting Child Abuse Local: 543-3144 Toll Free: 1-888-543-3144

Outreach & October Events for CAC/TWC

October 3rd – Peace walk, to show our support for the survivors of Domestic Violence. - TWC. CAC, AVCP, Kuskokwim Campus,. Bethel Police Department, Alaska State Troopers and community members walk from the Culture Center to TWC for peace.

October 27th at 7 pm - Candle light vigil will take place at Tundra Women's Coalition, to remember those who have experienced domestic violence.

October is domestic violence awareness month.

Notes for the reader: Local contact numbers

<p>Village Police officers and contact Numbers:</p> <p>Local Clinic and on-call Health aide numbers:</p> <p>Local tribal/city council office and members:</p>	<p>Radio Talk show will also take place from 10 am – 12 pm on October 26th so listen and call in and tell us what you are doing for the month of October</p>
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We would like to thank Kuspuk School district for inviting TWC/CAC fo do presentations in the schools and the community. We would also like to extend our gratitude to the school plane and Dan for getting us safely to the schools in the district The generosity of the communities was heartfelt. Quyana Cakneq!!