





## CHILDREN'S RESPONSE CENTER

Services for Sexual Assault and Traumatic Stress  
Overlake Hospital Medical Center South Campus  
925 116th Avenue NE, Suite 211 Bellevue, WA 98004-4601

*Managed by the Center for Sexual Assault and Traumatic Stress  
— Harborview Medical Center*

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Pitch In...

Team Up...

### Annual Fundraising Luncheon

April 1, 2004 – Meydenbauer Center–12 Noon

Keynote Speaker  
Phil Smart, Sr.

Emcee  
Ken Schram  
KOMO TV News

Presenting  
Title Sponsor

The Moyer Foundation



*Helping, one day at a time*

**.....To Heal a Child's Heart**

# CHILDREN'S RESPONSE CENTER

SERVICES FOR SEXUAL ASSAULT AND TRAUMATIC STRESS

# NEWS

## Stories of Recovery: The Role of Children's Response Center

Editor's Note: Names and identifying information have been changed to protect confidentiality.

Nancy was 7 years old when police searched her home due to suspicion of drug-related activities. During the search, police officers also found child pornography that included Nancy as a victim. Her parents were arrested. Child Protective Services (CPS) placed Nancy in a foster home when no extended family members were willing to care for her. CPS then referred Nancy to Children's Response Center for evaluation, counseling and advocacy services. During individual and group counseling sessions, Nancy told details of sexual abuse by her father. The counselor, as required by law, provided the statements specific to the abuse to the police as they conducted their investigation. Over the months, as counseling progressed and Nancy felt safe to talk about her experiences in her parents' home, Nancy began to understand the meaning of personal safety, sexual abuse and the fact that this was a crime. Tragically, she had grown up not knowing that her abuse was not normal.

Nancy's parents were prosecuted and Nancy needed to testify in court. She experienced tremendous stress as she prepared to discuss her sexual abuse and her parents' crime before all those present in the

courtroom, including her parents. To help her, Nancy attended King County Kid's Court to learn about the court system and specific skills for coping with stress. With the support of the CPS caseworker, Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA), foster parent and the counselor, Nancy did an excellent job in telling her experiences and answering the questions. The counselor also testified during the trial regarding statements Nancy had made during the course of her counseling. Nancy's parents were convicted. For the sentencing, Nancy wrote a letter to the judge and asked for further protection from her parents. The Judge honored her wish and granted a No Contact order between Nancy and her parents until she becomes an adult.

Nancy was a victim of sexual abuse and child pornography. She courageously told, testified in court,

and today continues a healing journey in a new home where she has a childhood again. Nancy has suffered from the loss of her birth parents but she learned there are different kinds of families: foster families, adoptive families and blended families. She is learning the true meaning of a family – one where people are loved and cared for, but not exploited. Since her birth parents are no longer available to care for her, Nancy has developed a strong bond and attachment with her foster parent, whom she has been with for almost two years. An adoption plan is in place. Nancy has adjusted well and she and her new parent continue to work together in family counseling. As she grows older, Nancy may want to return to individual counseling if she experiences symptoms or needs to further explore what

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happened to her, in light of her increased maturity. (This is always an important consideration for parents of children abused at a young age.) Now, Nancy has a chance for a bright future with a loving parent and a home free from sexual victimization

"Jessica" was an eight year-old immigrant from another country, who was referred to the Center by the police because of statements she had made that her paternal grandfather had sexually abused her. Her parents were seen with an interpreter several times over the course of Jessica's treatment; Jessica speaks English, so no interpreter was required for her.

Initially, her mother was very concerned about Jessica, but her father did not want to believe that abuse had happened. Jessica was afraid to talk about the abuse because she feared her father would

send her back to the country from which they had emigrated. Gradually, her father accepted the possibility that abuse had happened. Jessica's parents then reassured her that it would be okay to talk in counseling about anything she wished to express. Very gradually, Jessica began to provide details of the abuse, some of which she had not previously told her mother. Her favorite means of communicating this information was writing on the computer.

Jessica had been extremely fearful and hesitant when she first came to counseling, and she expressed the opinion that she was somehow a bad child. As Jessica began to provide more information, her fears began to resolve and she became much more confident-appearing and sure of herself. She no longer felt she was bad, and began to feel proud of herself for telling about the abuse and getting the help she

needed. Jessica learned effective safety skills, and two sessions were held where her siblings were invited in so they could be taught the skills, also. By the end of her counseling, Jessica was feeling supported by her parents, self-confident, and happy. Although her grandfather had apparently left the country and so was not held accountable in our justice system, Jessica fully believed her parents would protect her from any future possible encounters.

Both of these children represent what all those who work daily on behalf of abused children hope for.....stopping the abuse, supporting the child in their recovery, facilitating participation in the justice system as appropriate, helping to ensure a supportive and loving family life for the child is resumed, and accountability for perpetrators of abuse. Children's Response Center staff and volunteers remain committed to these goals. ■

## Children's Response Center

### SERVICES:

Crisis Intervention  
 Assessment and Evaluation  
 Individual/Family  
 Recovery Counseling  
 Specialized Treatment Groups  
 Legal Advocacy  
 Medical Advocacy  
 General Advocacy  
 Information and Referral  
 Consultation  
 Community Education  
 Professional Education  
 System Coordination  
 Prevention  
 Parent Child Interaction  
 Therapy (PCIT)

### ADVISORY BOARD

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### STAFF

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Susan Peterson, LICSW

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Gayle Zeller, MA  
*Prevention and Education*

### Linda Hueckstedt

*Program Support Supervisor*

### Dana Wilson

*Patient Services Representative*

### Mary Ann Carlson

*Volunteer Coordinator*

### Kelli Bustos

*Social Work Intern*

### NEWSLETTER

### CONTRIBUTORS:

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*Editor*

Mary Ann Carlson

Debbie Doane

Lisa Olsen

Gayle Zeller

## Volunteer Profile

April Schoen became aware of Children's Response Center when she accepted an invitation to the annual, "To Heal A Child's Heart" fund-raising luncheon in 2001. She attended at the request of a friend and Center volunteer, Deborah LaHaela and was moved to offer her help as a volunteer.

Since that luncheon April has been involved as a Fundraising Committee member. She has created decorations for the tables at the annual luncheon and has been involved with planning the event. April has provided supervision for siblings of children attending recovery groups and staffed resource and volunteer fairs.

April is usually the first to accept when a call for volunteer assistance

goes out. April continues to lend her time and talents because she enjoys working with the staff and other volunteers.

Mary Ann Carlson, the Center's volunteer coordinator, recalls talking to April's references when she applied to volunteer. Consistently she was cited for her reliability, responsibility, and resourcefulness. According to Carlson, "April has continued to demonstrate these characteristics and she is a delight to work with. Children's Response Center is fortunate to have her as a volunteer."

A native of Seattle, April lives in the Queen Anne area and works as a travel consultant. She enjoys time with her friends, baseball games, and of course, travel.

Thank you, April, for your important contributions of time and talent to Children's Response Center. ■



APRIL SCHOEN, Children's Response Center Volunteer

## Volunteer Core Training

Children's Response Center held the annual Volunteer Core Training seminar on Child Traumatization on November 8, 2003. The educational seminar, held at Overlake Hospital Medical Center's Education and Training Center, included the following presentations:

"Indicators of Child Maltreatment"  
Gayle Zeller, MA  
Children's Response Center

"Mandated Reporting of Child Abuse"  
Evie Shively, MSW  
Division of Children and Family Services  
DSHS Children's Administration

"Legal Advocacy"  
Nicki Bynum, MSW  
Children's Response Center

"Profile of the Sexual Offender"  
Gerald Hover, PhD  
Department of Corrections - Twin Rivers

"Sex Offender Community Notification"  
Detective Andrea Alexander  
King County Sheriff's Office

"Child Abuse and Domestic Violence Investigation Process"  
Detective Anne Harding, Redmond  
Police Department, Linda Webb, King  
County Prosecutor's Office

"Therapy and Treatment for Child Victims of Sexual Abuse and Traumatization"  
Connie Au, LICSW and Susan Peterson, LICSW, Children's Response Center

Volunteers and staff from Children's Response Center, Youth Eastside Services (YES), Harborview Medical Center, HopeLink, and Eastside Domestic Violence Program (EDVP) attended the half-day seminar. If you are interested in volunteering with Children's Response Center, please contact Mary Ann Carlson at (425) 688-5130 or [macson@u.washington.edu](mailto:macson@u.washington.edu). ■

# Prevention and Education Update

Children's Response Center continuously provides a variety of educational opportunities in the community for the prevention of child maltreatment and child sexual abuse.

## PREVENTION INITIATIVES

The Center is engaged in a number of prevention initiatives. A sampling of those efforts is described below:

The Center is partnered with Home Alive, a Seattle based self-defense organization, to launch a pilot program for parents and children to learn and practice safety skills together. The program focuses on safe and unsafe touching and learning skills to prevent or stop unsafe touching.

The Center is working with King County Boys and Girls Clubs. One initiative is to develop an educational program on preventing sexual abuse for the parents of children who attend the clubs. A second initiative will focus on creating an interactive workshop on dating safety and relationship skills for the middle and high school youth who participate in the Club's programs.

Through the KidSafe initiative, the number of professionals receiving training on the identification and reporting of child abuse is increasing.

Parent workshops to increase safety in the home are also being offered.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

Numerous prevention education opportunities are scheduled for the upcoming months.

March

March 29

The Center, in collaboration with the King County Sex Offender Management Team, will provide training at the annual Children's Justice Conference in a workshop entitled "Under the Microscope: A Look Into Successful Child Sexual Abuse Case Collaboration."

April

Child Abuse Prevention Month marks its 21<sup>st</sup> anniversary.

The Center will have an ongoing display at the Crossroads Mini-City Hall in Bellevue. The display offers information on the prevention of child abuse.

The Center will have an ongoing display at the Barnes & Noble Bookseller's Store in downtown Bellevue. The display offers information on the prevention of child abuse.

The Center will have an ongoing display at the Lake Forest Park Towne Center, Third Place Commons. The display offers information on the prevention of child maltreatment.

April 9

The Center will participate in a panel with other agencies in a segment for KTBW, the Trinity Broadcast. The panel focuses on recognizing Child Abuse Prevention Month and efforts in our communities to prevent child abuse.

April 10

The Center will participate, in collaboration with the Washington

Coalition for the Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect, in a resource and activity fair at the Seattle Center House, 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

April 11 – 17

Sexual Assault Awareness Week marks Washington state.

April 17

"Safety Saturday." Children's Response Center, in collaboration with the King County Sexual Assault Resource Center and the Harborview Center for Sexual Assault and Traumatic Stress, will offer workshops at various locations in King County, focusing on the prevention of sexual assault for children, youth and adults.

April 18 – 24

National Crime Victims' Rights Week marks the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Crime Victims Fund.

April 21 – 23

The Washington Coalition of Sexual Assault Programs will hold their annual conference at the Double Tree Inn, Bellevue. This marks WCSAP's 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

There are many opportunities to become involved in the prevention of sexual assault and other violence. The Children's Response Center and many other agencies will hold events throughout Washington state in the upcoming months. Please contact the Center at (425) 688-5130 to learn more about the events in King County listed above, or contact the Washington Coalition of Sexual Assault Programs at (360) 754-7583 for events in your area. ■

# Staff Spotlight

NICOLE BYNUM

Nicole Bynum is Children's Response Center's social worker/legal advocate. Nicole assists children and their parents/caretakers in navigating the criminal justice system. She attends interviews, meetings, and court hearings with the child. In addition to tracking cases and providing information to the family, Nicole also provides resources and referrals.

Nicole has been with the Center for 9 months. Prior to joining the Center, she served for 2 years as the domestic violence legal advocate for the Attorney's Office at the City of Kent. She holds a masters degree in social work from the University of Hawaii and a bachelors degree in psychology from Western Washington University.

KELLI BUSTOS

Kelli Bustos is an MSW intern and will be with the Center until June 2004.

In addition to working with individual children/families, Kelli is currently co-facilitating a group for sexually abused girls. She will soon co-facilitate a group for teen girls and a parent's group.

Kelli received a bachelors in psychology from the University of Washington and is currently enrolled in the MSW program at the University of Washington.

For two years, Kelli worked at the Ryther Child Center as a residential counselor. Last year, she interned at the DSHS Children's Administration office in Lynnwood where she worked in Family Reconciliation, Child Welfare, and Child Protection Services. ■



NICOLE BYNUM, MSW  
Legal Advocate



KELLI BUSTOS  
Social Work Masters Intern

## Center Introduces New Brochures

Generous donations from GA Creative (formerly GA Design), John L. Scott Foundation, Lockwood Foundation, and Bellevue Rotary Foundation were used to develop and print new collateral materials for Children's Response Center.

The Center's director Debbie Doane and board member Beverly Jacobson worked closely with Cami Pelosa, senior designer at GA Creative to develop the new brochures.

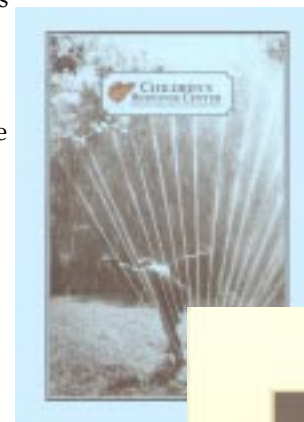
"We wanted to create a cohesive, identifiable look for Children's Response Center," explained Beverly Jacobson. "Cami's expertise and experience with non-profit organizations was evident throughout the creative process. Our new

materials beautifully convey the Center's vision and mission and commitment to helping children."

"Funds were specifically solicited for the creation of the new materials which are needed for fundraising and community and client education."

The centerpiece of the materials is an informational folder describing the Center's mission, services and strategies along with other background information.

Photographs of children appear on all brochures that explain the Center's services and activities in more detail. These can be packaged for varying audiences or readers. The folder and brochures are designed to fit into a pocketed folder that will be produced at a later date. ■



# Holiday Adopt a Family Program

During the recent holidays, the spirit of the season was alive and present in our community. The generous support of the community made the wishes of twenty-one struggling families served by the Center a reality.

Children's Response Center thanks these individuals and organizations for their generosity:

Peggy Albritton  
 Art Institute of Seattle Student  
 Housing  
 Bellevue Square Gap Kids  
 Employees  
 City of Bellevue Information and  
 Technology Employees  
 City of Bellevue Transportation  
 Department Employees  
 City of Bellevue Utilities and  
 Engineering Department  
 Employees  
 Diane Lin  
 Financial Security Group  
 Employees  
 Redmond Town Center Gap  
 Employees  
 Gotta Dance Studio and families  
 Harland Financial Solutions  
 Employees

HouseValues Employees  
 Costco-Issaquah IS Accounting  
 Team Employees  
 Kistler-Morse Corporation  
 Employees  
 The Limited – South Center  
 Employees  
 PCL Construction Employees  
 Mike and Mary Redmond  
 Safeco Surety Western Regional  
 Office Employees  
 Spacelabs Employees  
 Starbucks Coffee Company – SCCO  
 Finance Employees  
 Karen Sutton  
 United Way of King County –  
 Eastside  
 The Wilkison Family ■



CITY OF BELLEVUE EMPLOYEES made holiday wishes come true this past holiday season

## Barnes & Noble Holiday Giving

For the second year, during the holiday season, the downtown Bellevue Barnes & Noble Booksellers partnered with Children's Response Center on fund-raising and educational efforts.

Fund-raising activities included a voucher customers used to

earmark funds for the Center. Center staff and volunteers held a holiday gift-wrapping day for donations to the Center. Barnes & Noble set up a giving tree for customers who wished to purchase books for the Center. Children's Response Center is grateful to Gail Paul and the staff of the downtown Bellevue Barnes & Noble. Their com-

passion and willingness to work with the Center provided crucial information on the prevention of child sexual abuse to the community. ■

## Public Funders

Children's Response Center is fortunate to partner with the state, county and a number of East and North county municipalities to address child abuse and sexual victimization.

The Center thanks the following funders for their investment in services for children and families impacted by abuse and for support of prevention initiatives:

- Washington State Office of Crime Victim Advocacy (OCVA)
- King County Women's Program
- Cities of Bellevue, Bothell, Clyde Hill, Issaquah, Kenmore, Kirkland, Mercer Island, Redmond, Shoreline, and Woodinville. ■

## “Getting It Together” for Children

Over 130 multi-disciplinary professionals attended “Getting It Together: Collaborations for Children Impacted by Domestic Violence Conference.” *The event was held at the Overlake Hospital Education and Conference Center on October 23.*

King County Executive Ron Sims welcomed conference participants and applauded the progress made on improving services and response systems for children affected by domestic violence. The keynote speech, delivered by Gary Benton, detailed the impact domestic violence has on children and child development. His talk included examples from his own clinical practice of nearly 30 years in the domestic violence field.

A panel from DSHS, Casey Family Partners, and the Spokane County DV Consortium discussed a model multidisciplinary project developed

for engagement, assessment, and intervention for families exposed to domestic violence. Several best practices in King County were presented including the South County YWCA’s “Children and DV Intervention Program”; Children’s Hospital’s “Universal Screening Project for Identification of DV in Homes of Patients and Families Seen in Inpatient and Outpatient Settings”; the King County Sheriff’s Office’s “Protocol for Training for Children and DV Response”; and the Seattle District Court’s “DV Court.” Attendees met in small groups and discussed future action items to implement the information presented.

The conference was sponsored by King County Women’s Program, King County DV/CPS Best Practices Work Group, and Children’s Response Center / Harborview Medical Center. ■

## Conference Opening Highlights Important Initiatives

To open the “Getting It Together” conference, the Aetna Foundation, represented by executive director Suzanne Daley and medical director Dr. Donald Storey presented a \$25,000 grant to Children’s Response Center for its KidsSafe violence prevention initiative.

KidSafe provides culturally appropriate training to childcare, education, social service and health care providers on child abuse identification and reporting practices. The Center collaborates with Partners Against Violence on the KidSafe initiative. The Aetna grant for 2004 enables the partnership to expand to include Consejo and the East Cherry YWCA who will also deliver the training. ■



KING COUNTY EXECUTIVE RON SIMS provides welcoming remarks to conference attendees.



AETNA FOUNDATION’S Dr. Donald Storey, Medical Director, and Suzanne Daley, Executive Director, are joined by Keith Cernak, Executive Director of Partners Against Violence.