Our Vision

Provide a child-friendly forensic interview center that offers new hope to children who have been the victims of sexual abuse, physical abuse, or who have witnessed domestic violence. Interviews are conducted in a comfortable, safe atmosphere by a team of highly trained professionals to ascertain the truth on behalf of the child and the suspect. Care is taken to ensure follow-up services are provided to aid in the healing process.

Additionally, JPCC provides information, training and consultation to parents, teachers, law enforcement officers, medical and mental health professionals.

JPCC is a partnership between Marin Public and Private Agencies

FAMILY SERVICE AGENCY OF MARIN
MARIN ADVOCATES FOR CHILDREN
MARIN COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY’S OFFICE
MARIN COUNTY HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES
MARIN COUNTY POLICE CHIEFS ASSOCIATION
MARIN COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

New Interview Protocol Helps Younger Children

Read story on page 3
Message from Michael Grogan, Ph.D.
Jeannette Prandi Children’s Center Director

Eight years ago the JPCC welcomed the first boys and girls to our child-friendly interview center. Our founding vision was to provide safety and hope to child victims, and to ascertain the truth about allegations of abuse. The JPCC’s commitment to this vision remains strong. Our Center’s partnership continues to rigorously monitor the quality of interviews, ensuring the most accurate understanding of what a child has experienced.

The JPCC’s newest program, the Extended Forensic Interview, stretches the current single interview to multiple (4) interviews. Many children have difficulty disclosing their experiences in one session. This new approach gives children the opportunity to get to know the person inquiring about often frightening and painful circumstances.

The Center also continues our quest to educate parents, teachers and students about the potential Online dangers for tweens (pre-teens) and teens. Stay posted for news about our 2008 conference that will be sponsored by the JPCC, the Marin County Office of Education, and the School Law Enforcement Partnership.

In addition, we are expanding the use of the Center to county and police agencies investigating Elder Abuse. Seniors who have been victimized find the Center an inviting and comfortable place to be interviewed.

On behalf of the JPCC, I offer my gratitude to our Partnership members, and our volunteers and donors who selflessly serve our community and work to keep children safe.

Congratulations Ed Berberian!

Marin County District Attorney Ed Berberian, a JPCC Steering Committee member, was sworn in by retired Judge William Stephens as the new president of the Marin Bar Association. Ed is a strong advocate for the JPCC and requested the proceeds from his installation dinner be donated to the Center. Almost $2,000 was raised to benefit the JPCC. Thank you to all!

Welcome aboard to the JPCC Steering Committee!

Captain Jim Berg, Novato Police Department, replaces Captain Scott Sibbald, who retired in December

Heather Ravani, Child Welfare Director, replaces Elinor Marcelous, who retires this Spring
New Interview Protocol Helps Children

Not every child visiting the Center is able to discuss what happened to him or her in the first interview. This is especially true for young children who have little experience speaking at length with adults.

To address this issue, the National Child Advocacy Center (NCAC) in Huntsville, Alabama developed a research-tested model that extends the forensic interview into more manageable segments. Whereas the typical single interview process involves rapport building and assessment of memory and language skill, an extended interview allows one or two sessions just to get to know the child. During the course of these sessions, the child’s language proficiency and ability to understand the importance of telling the truth are assessed. After the child feels some comfort with the interviewer, he or she addresses the child’s alleged victimization.

The JPCC is initiating the Extended Forensic Interview program - developing the protocol and clarifying the methods to be employed. It is our hope to provide the most viable and comfortable environment possible for children, especially as they struggle to disclose often painful and traumatic experiences.
COMMUNITY AND PROFESSIONAL TRAINING

JPCC Spring Conference Explores New Interview Techniques

Nationally known author Dr. Hewitt Ph.D. addressed the challenges of attaining definitive information in forensic interviews with young victimized children. They have not yet developed an extensive vocabulary, nor are they as able to reconstruct memories as easily as older children. Their memory capabilities are not any worse; rather their ability to articulate those memories has not yet fully developed. Dr. Hewitt discussed the ‘scaffolding’ technique that provides a structure for youngsters to better express their experience.

Juvenile Justice Class at College of Marin

JPCC Project Director and Lori Frugoli, Marin County Deputy District Attorney assigned to the JPCC, visited Professor Walt Kosta’s Juvenile Justice Class at the College of Marin. Students were shown our Center’s informational DVD created by John Aliotti of the District Attorney’s Office.

Trainings Enhance Understanding of Child Victims

The JPCC sponsored two trainings for law enforcement and Marin County Health & Human Services personnel this past spring entitled How Could This Happen? The Child Sexual Abuse Accommodation Syndrome and Mental Health Implications for the Victim of Child Sexual Abuse. The panel included JPCC Project Director Michael Grogan, Community Mental Health Worker Thomas Rath, Children’s Service Supervisor Rebecca Sanford, and Social Worker Juan Funes. In addition, Bill and Angela, two adult survivors of child sexual abuse, joined the panel.

International Child and Family Maltreatment Conference

Ronda Reese, San Rafael Police Department; Goeff Iida and Leon Kousharian, DA’s Office; and Melissa Hinkle, Novato Police Department, at the San Diego International Child and Family Maltreatment Conference. Clinicians from Family Service Agency of Marin’s Childhood Trauma Treatment Program also participated in the conference.
Children’s Champions Breakfast
draws Community Leaders

Last Spring community leaders gathered for breakfast to discuss Internet Safety for kids. Those present included Judge Paul Haakenson, Marin County Superintendent of Schools Mary Jane Burke, Sheriff Bob Doyle, District Attorney Ed Berberian, Director of Health & Human Services Larry Meredith, Marin Youth Commissioners Katie Conklin & David Rothschild, Assistant to Supervisor Mc Glashan Maureen Parton, Captain Mike Keller of the San Rafael Police Department, and Lieutenant Dave Jefferies, Novato Police Department. Committee members expressed concern about Teen Internet use and proposed a coordinated effort to educate parents, teachers and students about the risks.

School Law Enforcement Partnership

JPCC’s Project Director provided a summary of concerns indicated at the Children’s Champions Breakfast to the School Law Enforcement Partnership. Members agreed to work in conjunction with the JPCC’s efforts in educating the community about this critical issue.

600 Middle School Students Participate in Peer Summit

Over 600 middle school students attended the Sixth Annual Peer Summit. One workshop Social Networking Sites: Proceed with Caution was presented by Charlie Mead, Executive Director of Marin Advocates for Children, JPCC Steering Committee member Victoria Cappuccio from the Marin Youth Commission, and JPCC Director Michael Grogan. The informative workshop was highly rated among students.

Laura Dell Elementary School

JPCC Project Director conducted a presentation on Internet Safety to 4th & 5th grade students at Laura Dell in San Rafael.

Lagunitas Middle School

Responding to parents’ concerns at Lagunitas Middle Schools about their children’s Internet usage, JPCC Project Director provided education to the parents about potential issues and strategies regarding Online activities of their sons and daughters.

“Cyber-Safe Kids, Cyber-Savvy Teens” Conference

The JPCC and the Marin Office of Education co-sponsored a conference featuring Nancy Willard, author of Cyber-Safe Kids, Cyber-Savvy Teens. Ms. Willard reviewed issues facing children, including cyber-bullying and the ramifications that result from such online harassment.
April Child Abuse Prevention Month

Luncheon Honors Children’s Court

District Attorney Ed Berberian and Former District Attorney Paula Kamena mark the establishment of the Paula Freschi Kamena Award of Excellence

Honoree Judge Paul Haakenson, first recipient of the Paula Freschi Kamena Award of Excellence
Champions

Captain Tim Little, Sheriff’s Office, recognizes Detective Lisa Chapman for her excellence as a Forensic Interviewer.

Marin County Superintendent of Schools Mary Jane Burke awards Marin Catholic Principal Don Ritchie for his leadership in addressing Teen Internet Safety.

Honoree Molly Miller, Health & Human Services, honored for her outstanding work interviewing five young victims, which led to a lengthy conviction for the perpetrator.

Honoree Katie Conklin, Marin Youth Commission, honored for her work on Internet Safety in conjunction with the JPCC.
Two Stars Honored for...

Excellence in Service and Dedication to Our Community’s Children and Families

Members of Marin County law enforcement, and public and private agencies gathered at JPCC’s December holiday party to honor their best and brightest, and to celebrate the season.

Mary Anne Mc Donough, Coordinator of Victim Witness services, was honored for her dedicated work on behalf of the Latino community, and also for all those who have suffered victimization.

Captain Mike Keller, San Rafael Police Department, presents award to retiring Captain Scott Silbald, Novato Police Department, for his work on the JPCC Steering Committee, and for 35 years of outstanding service to the Novato community.

Soroptimists Collen Finney, Paula Kamena and Cathy Tobin join in the holiday festivities at Falkirk Cultural Center.
JPCC Represented at 2007 Italian Street Festival

Chris Grogan, a well-known and accomplished artist, and manager at Family Service Agency of Marin, executes her superb skills on behalf of the JPCC at the San Rafael Italian Street Festival.

Bay Kids Toy Project

Brandon Bay, a seventh-grader at Miller Creek Middle School, created and operates the Bay Kids Toy Project. The Project provides stuffed animals to organizations serving children.

Brandon’s generosity and thoughtfulness is much appreciated!

Brandon Bay donates a box full of Teddy Bears to the JPCC
It Takes a Team…to Protect a Child

Working Together for Justice and Restoration of the Family

Haley Mears, H&HS, West Marin

Jennifer Welch, Novato P.D.

Rosie Hernandez, Health & Human Services

Lisa Holton, SRPD

Tim Mattos, D.A.

Toby Miller, Twin Cities P.D.

Laura Estrada-Shepherd, H&HS

Cindy Hunter, Tiburon P.D.

Kit Mitchell, D.A.
Sincere Appreciation to Our Supporters

LEADERSHIP CIRCLE: $1,000 or more
Soroptimist International of Marin County
Peter and Patricia Arrigoni
The Peter and Patricia Arrigoni Fund of Marin Community Foundation
Donald O. Collins Foundation
Marin County Bar Association with Edward Berberian
Neil and Kathy Hennessy

COMMUNITY PARTNERS: $500 or more
The Sessi Company
Lori Frugoli
Nancy Zaharin
Lou Bartolini
Jim and Laura Turner

TREASURED FRIENDS:
Under $500
Marin Academy
Benvenuto Salon
Serenity Knolls
Tamalpais Bank
Jonathan Bean
Mrs. Edna Borges
In memory of Mary Cattaneo
Mr. and Mrs. Wallace B. Chipman
Linda Christman
Rosemarie Colorado
Vera Cook
Richard and Irma Douglas
Charles and Colleen Finney
Constance Govi
Jeff and Shirley Graves
Frank and Joan Grogan
Chief Michael Grogan, NYFD
Lawrence and Karen Grogan
Michael and Christine Grogan
Gary L. Gross, M.A.
James W. Henderson
Mike Hogin
Janice Hughes
Paula Kamena
In memory of Jack Guttenberg
Mike Keller
George Lagomarsino
In memory of Alvin Lendelli
Dolores E. Lawson
In memory of Alvin Lendelli
Judy Le Marr
Tim and Janice Little
Michael and Dorothy Magruder
Charlie and Margie Mead
Kellie Moore
Heather and Ron Ravani
Thomas and Dorothy Ruppanner
Ron and Sandy Spurrell
Sumiko and Patricia Stafford

Hats off to Our Dedicated and Professional Team

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ED BERBERIAN
Marin County District Attorney
CAPTAIN JIM BERG
Novato Police Department
CAPTAIN MIKE KELLER
San Rafael Police Department
CAPTAIN TIM LITTLE
Marin County Sheriff’s Office
CHARLIE MEAD
Executive Director
Marin Advocates for Children
HEATHER RAVANI
Child Welfare Director
Health & Human Services

JPCC STAFF:
MICHAEL C. GROGAN, Ph.D.
JPCC Project Director

MARIN COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY’S OFFICE
Lori Frugoli
Deputy District Attorney
Tim Mattos
District Attorney Inspector
Patty Stafford
District Attorney Inspector
Robert Guidi
District Attorney Chief Inspector

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Chief Mark Campbell
Sergeant Chris Pool
CALIFORNIA HIGHWAY PATROL
Commander Bob Morehen
COLLEGE OF MARIN
POLICE DEPARTMENT
Chief Charles Lacy
FAIRFAX POLICE DEPARTMENT
Chief Ken Hughes
Officer Andrew Lyssand
MARIN COUNTY SHERIFF’S OFFICE
Sheriff Robert Doyle
Captain Rick Navarro
Sergeant Ken Frey
Detective Lisa Chapman
Detective Ryan Petersen
MILL VALLEY POLICE DEPARTMENT
Chief Robert Ritter
Detective Lindsay Hayes
NOVATO POLICE DEPARTMENT
Chief Joseph Kreins
Lieutenant Dave Jeffries
Sergeant Keith Heiden
Detective Jennifer Welch
Detective Sophie Winter
SRO Melissa Hinkle
ROSS DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY
Barry Heying
Public Safety Director

SAN ANSELMO POLICE DEPARTMENT
Chief Charles Maynard
Officer Ryan Dunnigan
SAN RAFAEL POLICE DEPARTMENT
Chief Matt Odetto
Captain Jeff Franzini
Sergeant Jonathan Bean
Sergeant Al Plombo
Detective Lisa Holton
Detective Ronda Reese
SAUSALITO POLICE DEPARTMENT
Chief Scott Paulin
TIBURON POLICE DEPARTMENT
Chief Michael Cronin
Detective Cindy Hunter
TWIN CITIES POLICE DEPARTMENT
Chief Phillip Green
Detective Toby Miller
Officer Patty Monge

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Raul Munoz
Supervisor
Rebecca Sanford
Supervisor
Molly Miller
Social Worker
Rosie Hernandez
Social Worker
Juan Funes
Social Worker
Laura Estrada- Shepherd
Social Worker

Haley Mears
Social Worker
Ponta Ghofrani
Social Worker

COMMUNITY HEALTH & PREVENTION SERVICES
Sparkie Spaeth
Manager
Rebecca Smith
Health Planner Evaluator
Rocio Hernandez
Mental Health Worker

CHILD ABUSE TREATMENT TEAM
Kit Mitchell
Project Director
Peggy TOTH
Program Administrator
Helen Donahue
Financial Officer
Allen Peters
Director of Finance
Betty Wood
Clinical Supervisor
Lourdes Quesada
Mental Health Worker
Christina Walker
Mental Health Worker
Casey Adams
Mental Health Worker
Nancy Lambert
Mental Health Worker
Anna Macias
Victim Witness Advocate
You can help!

We welcome all contributions, including cash, credit card, stock, and car donations. Please join us in protecting the health and safety of our community’s children.

Matching Gift Program
Check with the Human Resource Department at your workplace about doubling your gift through the Corporate Matching Gift Program.

United Way Campaign
Designate Jeannette Prandi Children’s Center on the United Way pledge form.

Corporate Support for Employees Who Volunteer
Companies often give to non-profits where their employees volunteer or have a special interest.

Remember JPCC in your Will
Express your support through a bequest. Usually bequests state a dollar amount or a specific item of property.

For more information about contributing, please contact our director, Dr. Michael Grogan at (415) 499-3750.

Jeannette Prandi Children’s Center
JPCC Interviews 2007
Total Interviews 456

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Photographer: Janice Hughes  Volunteer Webmaster: Gene Pennington  Editor: Marianne Gabelman

ANNUAL REPORT SPRING 2008

Family Service Agency
~OF MARIN~

555 Northgate Drive
San Rafael, CA 94903-3680

Jeannette Prandi
Children’s Center

A Safe Haven for Kids

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prandicenter.org
(415)499-3750
Fax (415)473-5911

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