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

Protect Teens from Internet Danger
(see inside cover)
Protect Teens from Internet Danger

With the evolution of the Internet and on-line chat rooms have come serious concerns about the safety of our community's teenagers.

Reliance on this form of communication provides little opportunity for teenagers to determine the validity and intentions of people with whom they are having contact.

As a normal developmental stage, teenagers strive to achieve a sense of affiliation with same age youth, driving them away from family and towards peers in an attempt to solidify their identity. Generally, teens can be too trusting of other young people, while suspicious of adults telling them to be cautious. This combination can lead to disastrous ramifications for teens communicating on the Internet. Especially vulnerable are kids who are having difficulty solidifying a peer group or don’t feel they can really be themselves with their current friends.

Their attempt to find affiliations, especially romantic ones, combined with an inflated sense of trust, can result in serious consequences.

Many teenagers post their profiles on websites such as “My Space.” They often attempt to present themselves in ways that attract other teens. Pictures and profile descriptions featuring lewd and suggestive pictures are posted with the hope of impressing other like-minded rebellious teens. There is often reference made to alcohol or drug use, sexual preference and even criminal activity. These posted profiles often don’t reflect a teen’s true self.

Problems arise when those surfing the web assume these inflated profiles are true. Subsequent on-line communication is often full of sexual innuendo and suggestive comments. Many teens think this sexual banter is harmless and isn’t meant to be taken seriously. However, for those interested in sexual contact, it is a lure to get sex into the discussion.

Too often, teens arrange to meet these Internet contacts in person. Additionally, they meet without letting other friends or family members know what they are doing.

At the JPCC we have found that younger girls are “hooking up” with 20–22 year-old men. The girls are flattered that these older men want to be with them, as they seem so nice and caring in their on-line communication. Girls falsely think that through their Internet contact they really know this person they are meeting, leading to a false sense of security.

We have seen the tragic face of this misguided notion. Teen girls come to the Center after their misfortunes to convey the abuse they endured: circumstances that include being duped and intoxicated, leading to sexual exploitation.

Parents need to become aware of their teenager’s communication on the Internet. They should ask their children with whom they are in contact and share information about the dangers involved. Additionally, parents should check their sons’ and daughters’ profiles on-line to see exactly how they are representing themselves. For more information, check out our website at www.prandicenter.com

Michael C. Grogan, Ph.D.
JPCC Project Director
Marcie had just turned 15 when she and her friend Alicia created their profiles on a local Internet bulletin board. Within minutes of completing their posting, the girls received an Instant Message from Jason who wanted to “hang out” with them.

Alicia communicated with Jason and “really enjoyed the e-mails they shared.” She believed he was a great guy and since he was 21 his experience enabled him to better understand how she felt about things. She was flattered an older guy would be interested in her. Jason indicated that he and his friend Paul would like to “hook up” with Alicia and Marcie.

The night before they were to meet, Jason emailed Alicia to ask her if she and Marcie wanted something to drink when they met. Trying to sound grown-up, Alicia said they liked Tequila, although neither she nor Marcie had ever tasted it.

The girls met Jason and his friend Paul at a local hang out. “They seemed like great guys,” Marcie said, so they agreed to go to Jason’s house. The guys drank shots of Tequila and eventually coaxed the girls into drinking. After about an hour both girls were extremely intoxicated.

Paul took Marcie into one of the bedrooms. She was having trouble walking and fell onto the bed, barely conscious. Paul proceeded to take her clothes off and have sexual relations with her. A similar scenario followed between Jason and Alicia.

The next day Marcie, deeply distressed, told her mother what happened. Her mother indicated she felt Marcie had been raped. They called the police and set up a SART* exam and an interview at the JPCC.

Marcie arrived at our Center dressed in jeans and a plaid shirt, long brown hair draping her shoulders. She wouldn’t make eye contact and appeared shaken and embarrassed. During the course of the interview, it became clear that Marcie, like so many other young teen girls, had believed an older guy could be trusted and really cared about her. He had seemed so nice.

Marcie is currently undergoing counseling at Family Service Agency’s Childhood Trauma Program.

The police contacted Alicia’s parents; however, they refused to have her interviewed.

* Sexual Assault Response Team
Dangers of Sexual Solicitation of Students Over the Internet

Michael Grogan, JPCC Project Director, and School Resource Officer Jennifer Welch, Novato Police Department, presented “The Dangers of Sexual Solicitations of Young Students Over the Internet” to the Marin County School and Law Enforcement Partnership.

Grogan and Welch alerted school and law enforcement officials to the risks that teens take on websites such as “myspace.com.” The JPCC acts as a countywide resource for sexual assault prevention and provides a comfortable location to investigate these distressing cases.

Child Forensic Interview Training and Support Program

Those who conduct our interviews at the Center are all specially trained law enforcement officers and social workers. In order to increase and improve their interview techniques, a specialist reviews interviews monthly and gives pointers on ways to enhance skills. Interviewing child victims is a difficult job and our goal is to provide the best interview possible to each child who comes to our facility. These trainings increase interviewer’s confidence and enhances the quality of the interviews conducted at the Center.

Addressing Childhood Trauma: New Developments

On September 14, 2005 the JPCC sponsored a conference in partnership with the Greater Bay Area Child Abuse Prevention Council Coalition, Family Service Agency and CATTA*. The presentation by Dr. David Corwin was titled, Addressing Childhood Trauma: New Developments. Trainings such as these are provided on an annual basis. The JPCC Steering Committee feels it is essential to educate professionals about the ramifications of abuse for children and how best to respond. Dr. Corwin discussed short and long-term effects of child abuse on health and behavior, new research findings, improved diagnostic instruments assessments, and the best forms of treatment to help children heal.

*Child Abuse Training and Technical Assistance Center
**Threat Assessment**

The JPCC helped facilitate training for social workers who investigate cases of child abuse. Ritch Ginnodo, former Marin County Sheriff's Lieutenant and Novato Police Officer, teaches at the police academy and was called upon to assist social workers on how to assess potential threats when entering a client’s home. Over this past year various social workers have been in situations where their lives were in danger. Ritch provided them with the tools and resources to better protect themselves.

**Other News…**

Family Service Agency of Marin celebrates 60 Years of Service to Marin County.

Last fall, more than 300 guests joined the festivities at SPELLBOUND, a 1940’s Hollywood gala that netted over $100,000 to support FSA’s community services.

For 60 years, FSA has been our county’s largest provider of outpatient mental health services, substance abuse treatment, family education, crisis intervention, child abuse treatment and prevention, and social services to Marin children, adults, and families in need.

**Italian Street Painting Festival**

For the fifth year Chris (Devlin) Grogan represented the JPCC at the annual Italian Street Painting Festival. This year she created a black & white portrait of Jackie Kennedy holding “John- John.” It took her about 12 hours to complete the painting. Like most of the street painters, her biggest challenge was kneeling on the pavement for hours on end over two consecutive days. “It’s truly a labor of love,” Chris said. Thank you for a job well done!
LAST OCTOBER Ed Berberian, Marin County District Attorney; Robert Doyle, Marin County Sheriff; and Mary Jane Burke, Marin County Superintendent of Schools, alerted elementary school principals about a countywide project. The project included sending resource packets to all elementary school teachers providing them with information about detecting and reporting child abuse. In addition, teachers were given coffee mugs with the inscription, "Teachers shaping the lives of our children." The research for the materials was done by Family Service Agency Therapist, Tracie Eddington-Bailey. Members of the Soroptimist International of Marin County collated over 1,400 packets. Local police departments, district attorney, Health & Human Services, and Family Service Agency Staff delivered the packets to schools. It was a wonderfully coordinated effort!
Cyndy Doherty, Marin Child Abuse Prevention Council
Marin Advocates for Children
Ring Mountain School

Cindy Baxman, Tiburon P.D.
Reed Elementary School
Bel Aire Elementary School
Greenwood School
Saint Hilary’s Elementary School

Lisa Blair, San Anselmo P.D.
Brookside Elementary School
Wade Thomas Elementary School
St. Anslem School

Betty Wood,
Family Service Agency
Brandeis-Hillel Day School

Sandra Ramirez-Griggs,
Health & Human Services
Laurel Dell Elementary School
Bahia Vista Elementary School

Paula Glodowski, Health & Human Services
Bolinas Stinson Elementary
Lagunitas Elementary School
San Geronimo Elementary School
Inverness Elementary School
Tomales Elementary School
West Marin School
Nicasio Elementary School

Barry Heying, Director, Ross P.D.
(not pictured)
Ross School

Soroptimist International of Marin County
Marla Martin, Evelyn Dean,
Hazel Barbano, Cathy Tobin,
Colleen Finney, Jo-Ann Giunti,
Cate Orman, Paula Kamena,
Terry Hennessy, Louise Pagone,
Nelligrey Wells, Naomi Vasilieff

Phil Torres, Fairfax P.D.
Manor Elementary School
White Hill Middle School
Saint Rita Elementary School

Jennifer Welch, Novato P.D.
Hamilton Elementary School
Loma Verde Elementary School
Lu Sutton Elementary School
Lynwood Elementary School
Olive Elementary School
Pleasant Valley Elementary School
Rancho Elementary School
San Ramon Elementary School
Novato Charter School
Marin Christian Academy
North Bay Christian Academy
Good Sheppard Lutheran School
Our Lady of Loretto School
April Child Abuse Prevention Month
Awards Luncheon for Children’s Champions

REBECCA SANFORD, HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES, recounting the establishment of the JPCC and doing the first interview.

DON FLETCHER, NOVATO P.D. Award recipient for his leadership in child abuse investigation, pictured with Chief Joseph Kreins, Novato P.D., Officer Jennifer Welch and Ed Berberian, District Attorney.

CHARLIE MEAD, for his invaluable service as a JPCC Steering Committee Member

MARIN COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY ED BERBERIAN presenting an award to CAROL SEWELL who was responsible for the CHAT grant, which provides treatment services to children and family members.
Over 100 people enjoyed the beautifully decorated Falkirk Mansion as we celebrated and acknowledged those who distinguished themselves this past year.

Congratulations to the Children’s Champions Award recipients for their extraordinary efforts on behalf of our community’s most vulnerable members!

Marianne Gabelman, Family Service Agency, for her creativity and talent in raising much-needed funds for the agency’s community programs.

Earl Titman, Novato P.D., for his outstanding skill as a Child Forensic Interviewer and First Responder Instructor.

Tom Boyd, San Rafael P.D., for his six years of exceptional service on the JPCC Steering Committee.

Anna Maria Munoz (with Elinor Marcelous) Health & Human Services, for her dedication and work with Latino Families.

Robert Doyle, Sheriff (with Pete Arrigoni) for his strong leadership in creating stability for the JPCC.
Working together to protect children...

You’re only as good as the TEAM you belong to!
LEADERSHIP CIRCLE:
$10,000 or more
Marin Community Foundation
Milagro Foundation
Soroptimist International of Marin County

CORNERSTONE PARTNERS:
$5,000 or more
The Brownstone Foundation

COMMUNITY PARTNERS:
$1,000 - $3,000
Peter & Patricia Arrigoni
The Peter & Patricia Arrigoni Fund
of Marin Community Foundation
The Donald O. Collins Foundation

TREASURED FRIENDS:
Under $500
Jeff Archer
On Behalf of Kathy Laughlin
Louis Bartolini
Jonathan Bean
Ed Berberian
Thomas Boyd
Sylvia & Wallace Chipman
Carolyn M. Crabtree
Colleen Finney
Lianee R. Gioia
Shirley & Jeff Graves
Michael Grogan & Chris Devlin
Chief Michael Grogan, NYFD
James W. Henderson
Bette & Milton Holloway
In Honor of Jack & Theresa Canezian’s 40th Anniversary
Paula Kamena
In Memory of:
Frances Finnegan
Lisa Freschi Grau
Angelina Malonchi
Ray S. Moore
Dolores E. Lawson
Tim Little
Elinor Marcelous
George McBride
Charles Mead
Jerry & Ellie Mednick
Kathryn Mitchell-Ball
Sharon Morphy
Kellie Moore
Mark Nelson
Nelson Staffing Solutions
On Behalf of Felicia Spencer
Col. & Mrs. Arthur S. Olson
Gimi Sessi
Carol J. Sewell
Scott Sibbald
Joseph & Sparkie Spaeth
Sumiko Stafford
Phil & Robyn Torres
Laura & Jim Turner
Teresa L. Varela

We Salute Our Dedicated Staff and Volunteers

POLICE DEPARTMENT REPRESENTATIVES:

BELVEDERE POLICE DEPARTMENT:
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
Sergeant Phil Torres

MARIN COUNTY SHERIFF’S OFFICE:
Sheriff Robert Doyle
Lieutenant Rick Navarro
Sergeant Ken Frey
Detective Lisa Lellis
Detective Lisa Chapman

MILL VALLEY POLICE DEPARTMENT:
Chief Robert Ritter
Detective Jacqueline Graf

NOVATO POLICE DEPARTMENT:
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Sergeant David Jeffries
Detective Sophie Winter
Officer Jennifer Welch

ROSS DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY:
Barry Heying:
Public Safety Director

SAN ANSELMO POLICE DEPARTMENT:
Chief Charles Maynard
Detective Anthony Boehle
Officer Lisa Blair

SAN RAFAEL POLICE DEPARTMENT:
Chief John Rohrbacher
Captain Jeff Franzini
Detective Raul Aguilar
Sergeant Jonathan Bean

SAUSALITO POLICE DEPARTMENT:
Chief Scott Paulin

TIBURON POLICE DEPARTMENT:
Chief Matt Odetto
Sergeant Dave Hutton
Detective Cindy Baxman

TWIN CITIES POLICE DEPARTMENT:
Chief Phillip Green
Detective Patrick Torres
Officer Patty Monge

HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES:

CHILD PROTECTIVE SERVICES:
Raul Munoz
Program Supervisor
Anna Maria Munoz
Social Worker
My Huynh
Social Worker
Jennifer Atkin
Social Worker

SAN ANSELMO POLICE DEPARTMENT:
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Officer Lisa Blair

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Jennifer Atkin
Social Worker

STEERING COMMITTEE:
ED BERBERIAN
Marin County District Attorney
CAPTAIN MIKE KELLER
San Rafael Police Department
CAPTAIN TIM LITTLE
Marin County Sheriff’s Office
ELINOR MARCELOUS
Program Manager:
Health & Human Services
CHARLES MEAD
Executive Director:
Marin Advocates for Children
CAPTAIN SCOTT SIBBALD
Novato Police Department

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

MARIN COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY’S OFFICE:
Lori Frugoli
Deputy District Attorney
Paul Haakenson
Deputy District Attorney
Michael McBride
District Attorney Inspector
Patty Stafford
District Attorney Inspector
Robert Guidi
District Attorney Chief Inspector

MOLLY MILLER
Social Worker
Paula Godowski
Social Worker
Rebecca Sanford
Social Worker

COMMUNITY HEALTH & PREVENTION SERVICES:
Sparkie Spaeth
Manager
Rebecca Smith
Health Planner/Evaluator

CHILD ABUSE TREATMENT TEAM:
Peggy Toth
Program Administrator
Helen Donahye
Finance Officer
Lourdes Quesada
Mental Health Worker
Tracie Eddington-Bailey
Mental Health Worker
Soledad Espinola
Mental Health Worker
Mary Anne McDonough
Victim Witness
Yolanda Johnson
Victim Witness
Anna Macias
Victim Witness
You can help!

We welcome all contributions, including cash, charge 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.

Photographer: Janice Hughes  Volunteer Webmaster: Gene Pennington