



At The Amy Center, we work to ensure all abused or neglected children's voices are heard and valued. We believe every child deserves advocacy and protection.

At our center, we prioritize comfort and support as we provide a safe place for children who have alleged sexual or physical abuse to tell their story. We work closely with other involved departments and entities to seek compassion, healing, and justice - all in the best interest of the child.



OUR SERVICES



Child & Family Advocacy

Our advocates work closely with the child clients and their non-offending family members to offer help, support, guidance, and comfort as they navigate the process of alleging, disclosing, prosecuting, and overcoming abuse.



Forensic Interviews

Our specially trained forensic interviewers partner with multi-disciplinary team members from law enforcement, child protection, and state's attorneys to conduct proper interviews to determine what the child has endured and to be used in the investigation process.



Prevention Education

Empowering children through prevention education is at the core of our mission. We offer prevention education programs to all schools within our coverage area to help students of all ages identify, interrupt, and/or prevent all types of abuse including sexual, physical, verbal, emotional, and neglect.

WHAT IS A CAC?

A Child Advocacy Center provides a child-focused, trauma-informed, and multi-disciplinary team approach to child abuse investigations. Our center offers a child-friendly, safe location for children to receive a forensic interview following the report of alleged abuse.

We support children and their non-offending family members through the disclosure process and provide services in order to promote healing for child sexual abuse victims and child physical abuse victims, as well as children who have witnessed violent trauma such as homicides or domestic violence.



1 in 10 children will be sexually abused before their 18th birthday. We provide a safe place for child victims to tell their story.

CONTACT US!

618-244-2100
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THE AMY CENTER
 THE AMY SCHULZ CHILD
 ADVOCACY CENTER, INC.



AMY'S STORY

Our center is named after Amy Schulz. When Amy was just 10-years-old, she was abducted, sexually assaulted, and murdered. Amy was a beautiful, spunky, and innocent child who was out for a walk down the lane to call her puppy in for dinner. Upon her death, her father, Dennis, was devastated to learn how many other parents were affected by similar tragedies. Through his fortitude, he founded The Amy Schulz Child Advocacy Center in 1990 to ensure resources were available to children who were able to survive abuse and deserved healing.



In addition to our advocacy, victim-sensitive interviews, and prevention education services, we operate a comfort closet that provides each child that walks through our doors with a bag full of hygiene items, blankets/quilts, books, toys, etc.

We hope to provide hope, healing, and comfort to child victims throughout Southern Illinois in Amy's memory. Her legacy lives on through the hundreds of children served each year at The Amy Center.

HOW YOU CAN HELP

The Amy Center is a registered 501(c)(3) not-for-profit that relies completely on grant funding and private individual & corporate donations.



Talking to children about all types of abuse and about how to stay safe may be uncomfortable, but it's so important.

The Amy Schulz Child Advocacy Center never charges a fee for services or referrals. No child, nor their family, ever has to pay for the care, guidance, and assistance they receive at our center.



START HERE

To learn more about how you can be a part of our mission

MONETARY GIVING

Consider a monetary gift to our center by signing up for recurring, scheduled donations or providing a one-time gift. Your generosity truly helps us make a difference in the lives of local, abused children.

ITEM DONATION

We are always in need of new items for our comfort closet. Consider hosting a collecting drive at work or a birthday party themed around giving.



We believe every child deserves a safe & happy childhood.



SPEAK UP

If you notice something that seems wrong or suspicious regarding a child's well-being and safety, please make an anonymous hotline call to 800-25-ABUSE (800-252-2873)



ADVOCATE TO EDUCATE

Tell your children's school administration that you want to see The Amy Center in your schools presenting our evidence-based prevention education curriculum.

SUPPORT

Help us share flyers about events and fundraisers. Follow us on social media and share news and statistics that affect our communities. Consider a fun sponsorship.

SPREAD THE WORD

Bring us up to friends and family, as well as civic and social clubs in your community. The more people that know about us, the more of an impact we can have.

