

Our Commitment

The Children's Advocacy Center of Northeast Michigan is committed to protecting children and supporting families. We offer an environment that is child-focused, supportive, and safe.

Our Role

Helping children and their families requires an approach that addresses the physical, emotional and legal dimensions of abuse. It requires a coordinated response from professionals to reduce stress throughout the investigation and intervention process. The Children's Advocacy Center works in partnership with necessary agencies; police, prosecutors, social workers, advocates, medical and mental health professionals, and other specialists to coordinate a plan of action. We strive to provide high-quality, specialized services for abused children and their families in the comfort and convenience of our child-friendly location.

CONTACT US

Children's Advocacy Center of
Northeast Michigan
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Alcona Health Center, a non-profit federally qualified health center (FQHC), serves as the umbrella organization for the Children's Advocacy Center of Northeast Michigan (CAC-NEMI). Through this partnership, CAC-NEMI gains access to expanded services.

**If you suspect child neglect or
abuse SPEAK UP!
24 Hour Help Line –**

1-855-444-3911

*Michigan Department of Health and Human Services
In case of emergency dial 911.*



Serving Alpena, Presque Isle,
Alcona, Montmorency Counties



**Backed by
National Children's Alliance®
Accredited Member**

Our Services

Multi-Disciplinary Team Investigation (MDT)

A prompt, interagency response to gain knowledge and clarity about the child's experience. This minimizes the number of times and people who must directly interview a child. It also allows families to meet all of the professionals involved with the child and provides an opportunity to ask questions.

Forensic Interviews

A fact-finding developmentally appropriate conversation with the child conducted by a specially trained interviewer.

Family Advocacy

Support and advocacy are provided to assist families in obtaining needed services and to help throughout the court process. We work with area agencies to find services to meet the needs of the child and family.

Medical Services

A specialized medical provider is available to conduct a medical exam for the child or consult with the family on any questions or concerns they may have.

Mental Health Services

Referrals will be provided for services based on the specific needs of the family.

FAQs: Visiting the CAC

May I sit with my child during the interview?

Caregivers are not permitted to sit with their children during the interview. Although it is often difficult for children to talk about what has happened, most children are comfortable separating from their caregivers to talk with a Forensic Interviewer.

May I sit with the Team during the interview?

Caregivers are not permitted to sit with the Team during an interview. Team members need to focus on observing, assessing, and documenting the interview. Caregivers will be able to meet with the Team after the interview to hear about the interview process and ask any questions.

What should I tell my child about visiting the CAC?

Children are more comfortable when they are informed on what to expect. It is important to explain that they will be talking with someone about what has happened, and that the interviewer's job is to talk with children - it's something they've done many times before. Do not tell children what to say but encourage children to tell the truth. Some children may need to be reassured and told that they have done nothing wrong.

FAQs: Visiting the CAC

May I be with my child during the medical exam?

YES. You are able to be with your child during the medical exam. The Medical Provider will meet with the caregiver first to go over the child's medical history. Teens may prefer to meet with the Medical Provider alone.

Will this be the only time my child will have to speak about what happened?

Participation in this interview does not mean that your child will never have to speak about the incident(s) again. The Team will consult with you about the decision to prosecute the case and discuss the court process. Also, some children choose to continue to speak about their experiences with family and friends and should be encouraged to speak with counselors as a way to address their thoughts or feelings about what had happened.

