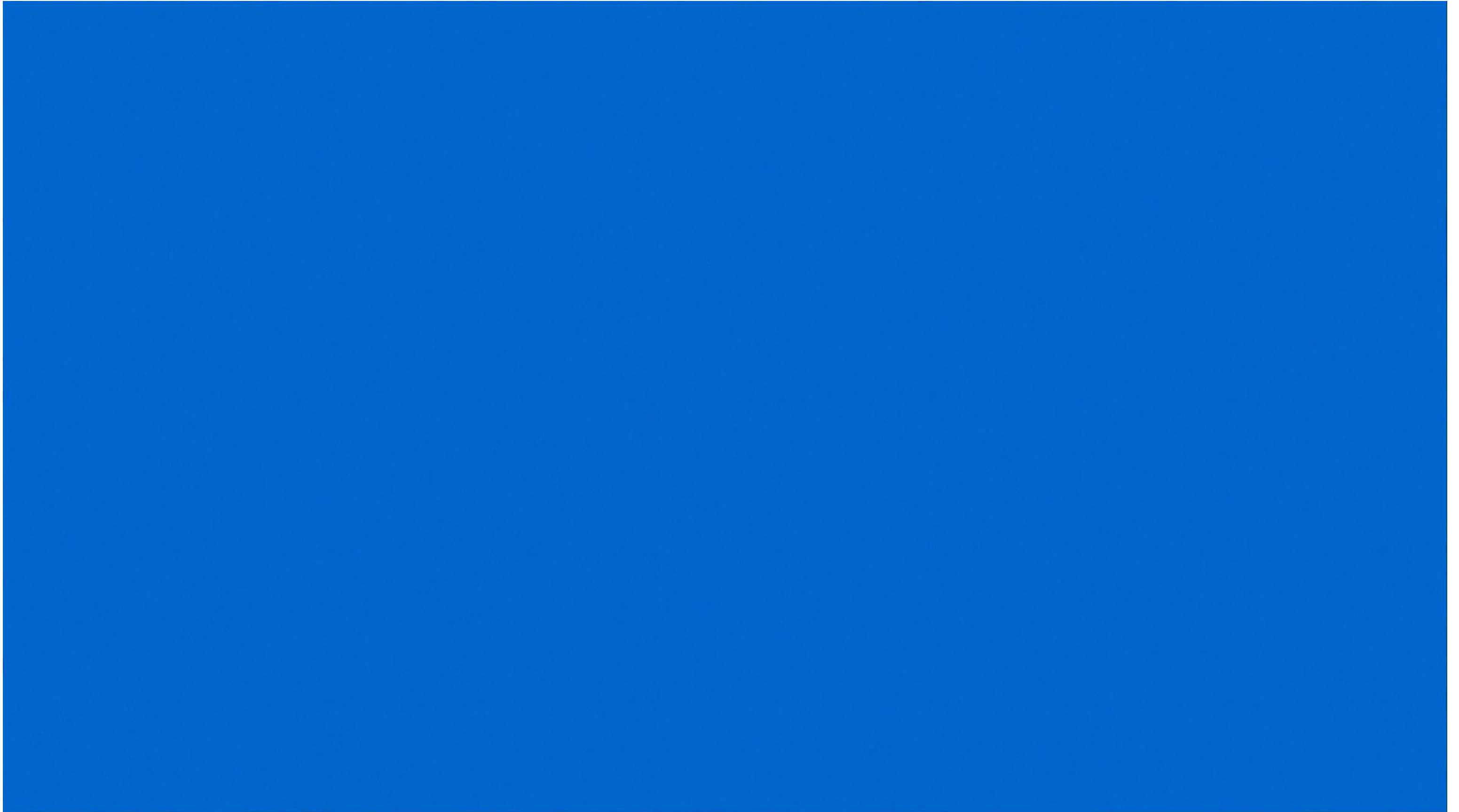


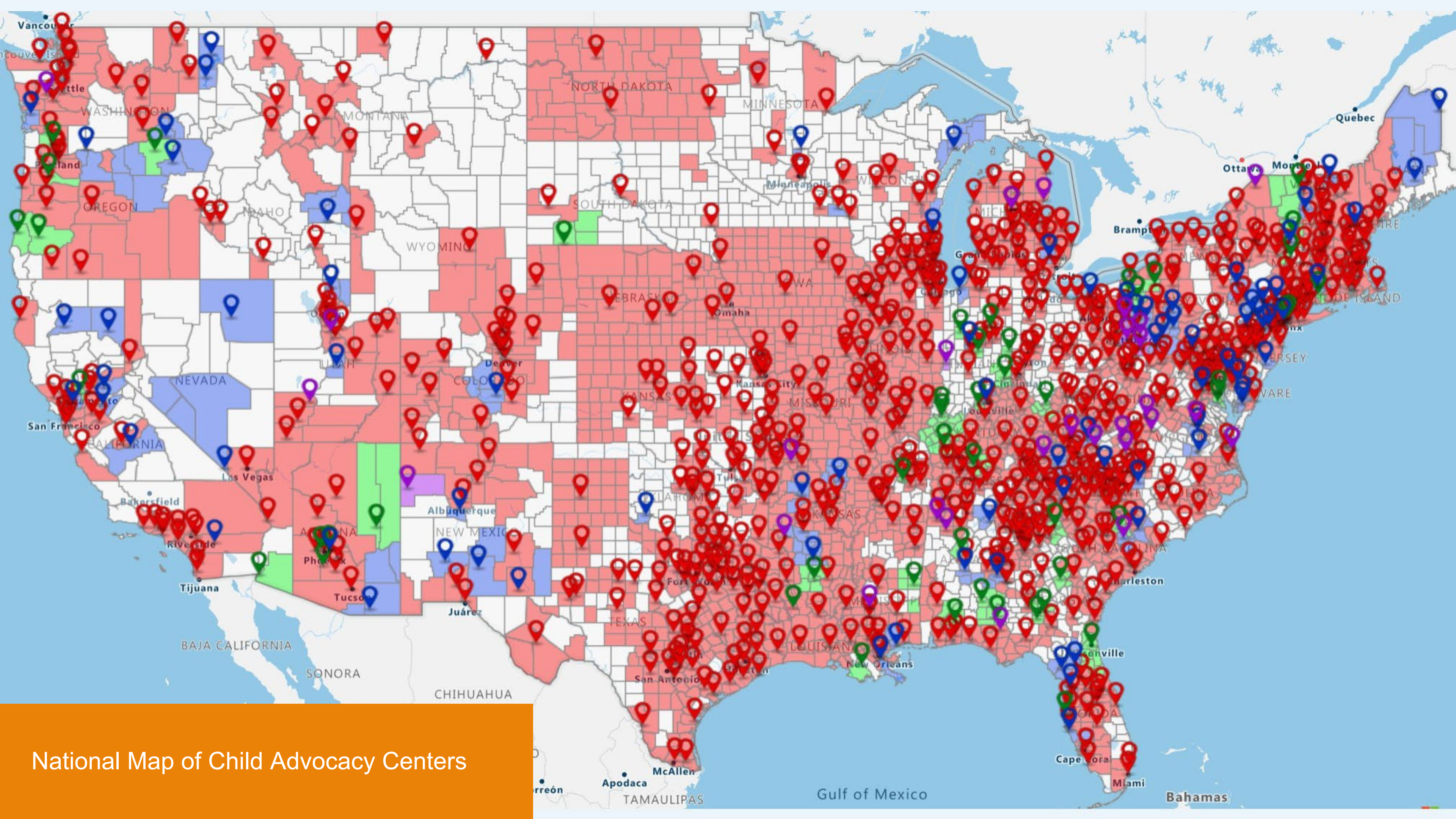


# Children's Justice Center of King County

Protecting children,  
strengthening communities

## WHAT IS A CAC?

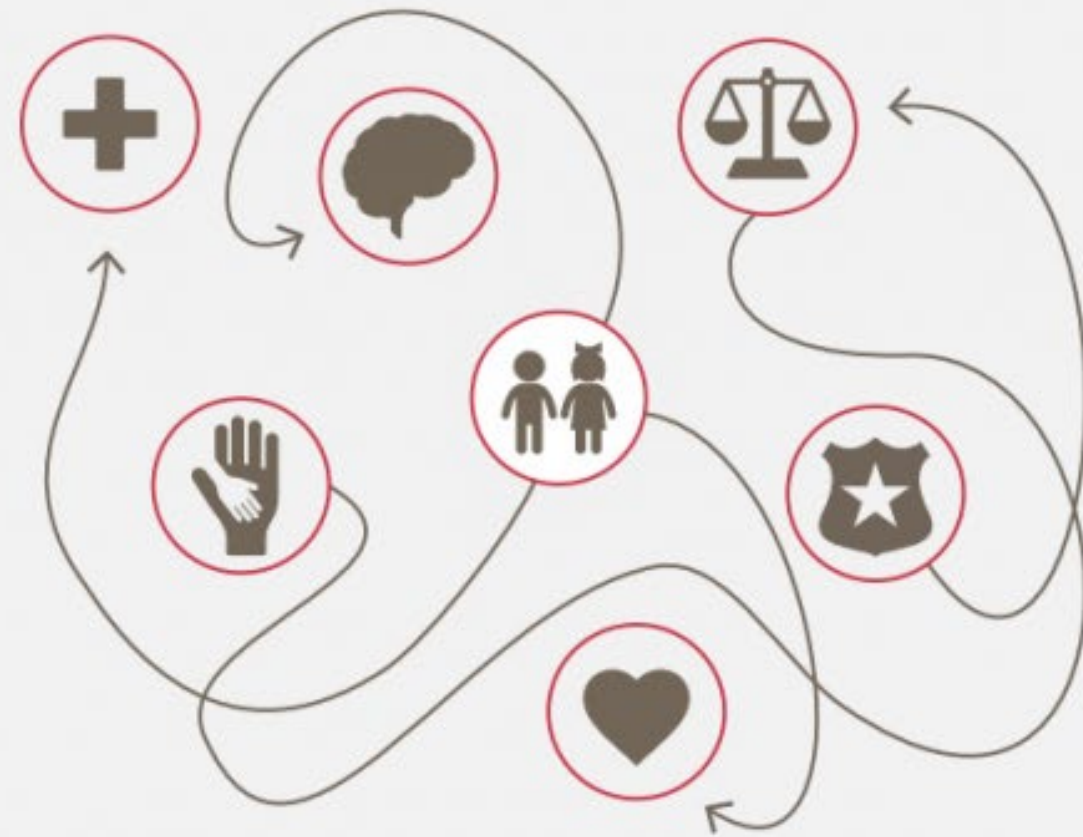




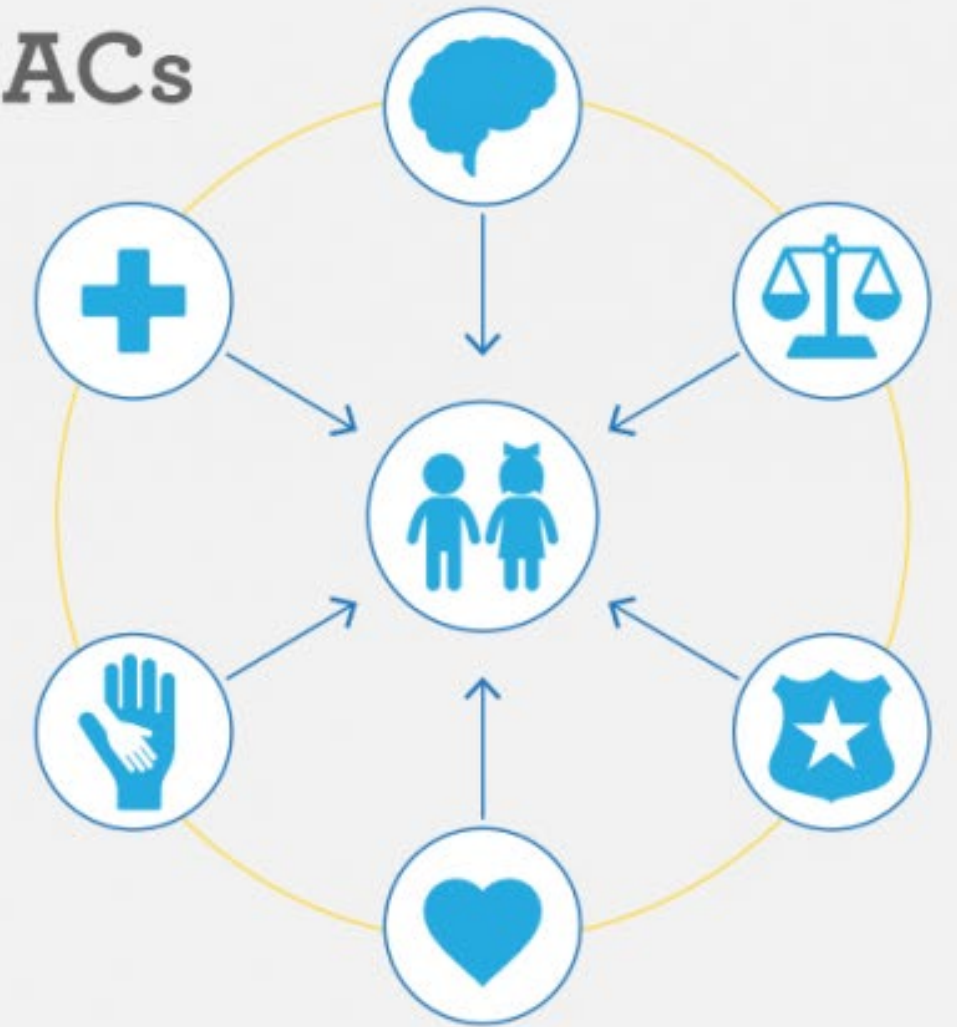
National Map of Child Advocacy Centers

# Importance of CACs

Without CACs



With CACs



A close-up photograph of a hand holding a single white puzzle piece. The puzzle piece is the central focus, with the word "collaboration" printed in a bold, dark blue, serif font across its middle. The hand is positioned on the left side, with fingers gripping the piece. The background is a soft, out-of-focus light blue-grey.

**collaboration**

King County  
Special Assault  
Protocol

# Main Components of the Protocol

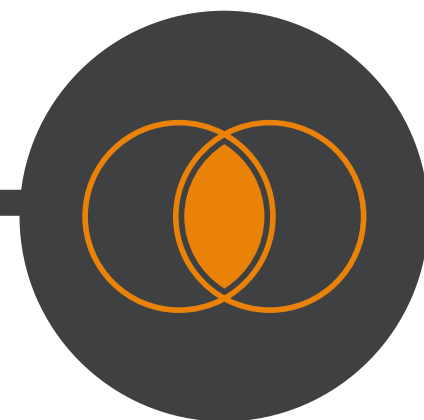
- Definitions
- Coordination
- Protective Custody
- Child Sexual Abuse Investigations
- Child Physical Abuse and Neglect Investigations
- Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children (CSEC) Investigations
- Adult Sexual Assault Investigations
- Out of County Cases
- Medical and Forensic
- MDT (Multidisciplinary Team) Staffing
- Appendices

# Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children (CSEC)



## Highlights :

- This section has been reorganized to highlight the differences between CSEC investigations and other investigations of child sexual abuse.



## Notable Differences:

- Placement following recovery
- Outline of specialized victim services
- Role of PAO
- Role of CJCKC



## Check Out:

- An informational Video about Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children available from the CJCKC
- The CJCKC's CSEC 201 Training

# Children in CSEC Cases

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Who are the victims and what are they experiencing?

- Children who are often overlooked and misunderstood.
  - Children experiencing chronic and complex trauma.
  - Children who may not be connected to supportive interventions.
- 







Forensic Interviews  
in CSEC  
Investigations

# Forensic Interview

A formal, investigative interview  
of a child, teen or vulnerable  
adult which is:

- Sensitive to the individual's development, culture and emotional state
- Intended to elicit as much, and as accurate, information from the individual as possible
- Based in the science informing forensic interviewing
- Conducted by a trained, authorized interviewer
- Neutral and objective
- One of many pieces of information / evidence gathered during an investigation

# Stages of the Forensic Interview

- Introduction
- Instructions
- Narrative Event Practice
- Transition
- Substantive
- Closure

# AGE APPROPRIATE INTERVIEW QUESTIONS

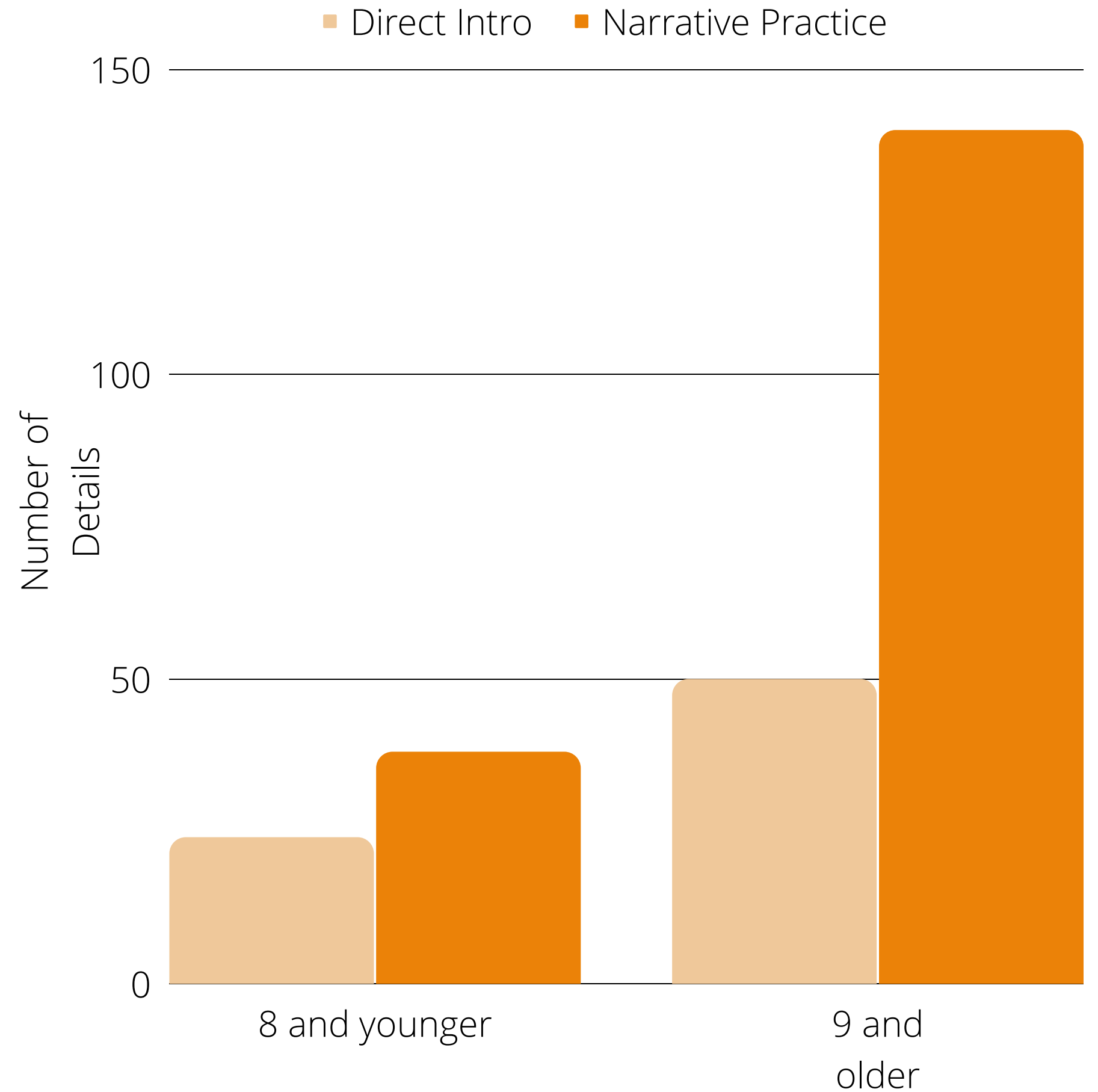
	Concrete				→	Abstract		
Age	Who	What	Where	1x/>1x	How	Sequencing	When	# Times
3								
4								
5-6								
7-9								
10-12								
13+								

Question type most developmentally normative children may be able to answer	Question type some developmentally advanced children may be able to answer
-----------------------------------------------------------------------------	----------------------------------------------------------------------------

# Rapport and Engagement

Narrative Practice Rapport Building  
and Productivity

Sternberg et al., 1997



# Referring Children and Teens for Forensic Interviews in King County



# Referring for a Forensic Interview

1

## AGES

- 4 through 15 years
- 3 yr olds with outside corroboration
- 16+ yr olds with vulnerabilities or delays

2

## ALLEGED CRIME

- Sexual abuse
- Sexual exploitation
- Felony-level physical abuse
- Witnesses to homicide, violence, abuse of another child

3

## LAW ENFORCEMENT

- Referrals from police only
- CPS, medical providers, concerned parents, therapists cannot directly refer

4

## SCHEDULED OR EMERGENT

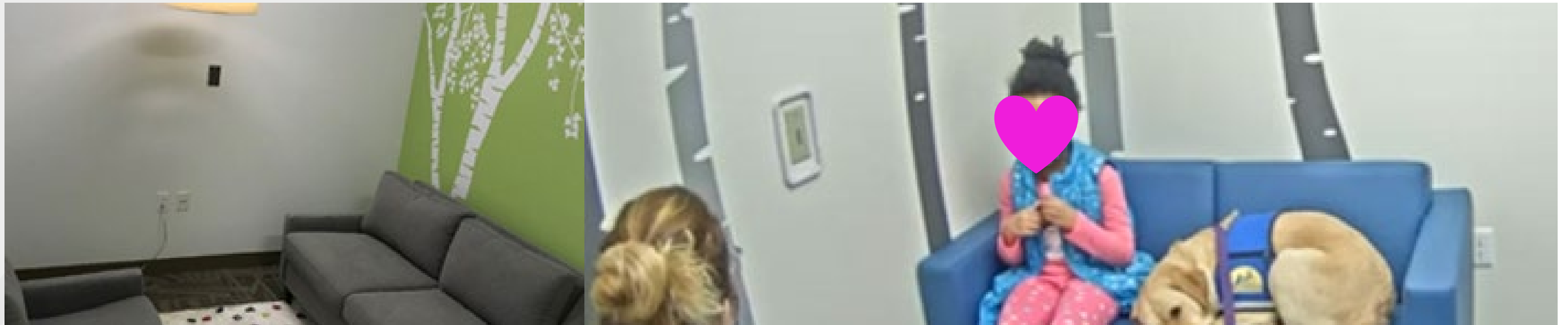
- Non-emergent appointments usually scheduled within approx. 1 week
- Same-day or after-hours interviews arranged as needed

# Interview Locations

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North King County:  
Children and Family Justice Center  
1211 E Alder Street  
Seattle, WA 98122

South King County:  
King Co Sexual Assault Resource Center (KCSARC)  
707 S Grady Way, Suite 300  
Renton, WA 98057





# Forensic Interviews can happen off-site as well!

- POLICE PRECINCT
- HOSPITAL OR MENTAL HEALTH FACILITY
- SCHOOL
- OTHER SAFE LOCATION, REMOVED FROM ANY SAFETY THREATS AND DISTRACTIONS



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For non-emergent interviews, please email the interviewer in your half of King County:

- North of I-90: Shana MacLeod  
shana.macleod@kingcounty.gov
- South of I-90: Alyssa Layne  
alyssa.layne@kingcounty.gov

Include in your e-mail the child's age, any special needs and a summary of the allegations/concerns.

- For example: What appointment times do you have available for a 13-yr-old Spanish-speaking female who may have been trafficked during a recent 8-day runaway episode?

For emergent interviews, or to talk through whether to do an interview immediately or wait until the next business day, please call our emergency line:

- 206-200-6308

# How to Make a Forensic Interview Referral (Police Only)

FORENSIC  
INTERVIEW

Please bring any evidence!

We can decide how/whether to introduce it.



# Possible Benefits to Forensic Interviews in CSEC Investigations

# CSEC victims are children

- 
- Deserving of the child victim/witness response system
  - Language and communication are still developing
- 




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# Disclosing about CSEC is a process.

- Many interviewees are NOT actively disclosing prior to forensic interview
- Incremental disclosure is very common
- A single interview session usually insufficient
- Attempting to paint a child into a corner usually backfires



# Neutral Interviewer and Location



Distrust of law  
enforcement /  
CPS

Physical distance  
from possible  
offenders, family,  
etc.

Natural linkage to  
other support  
services

- Advocacy
- Medical
- Counseling

Child-friendly  
environment

A photograph of two young women sitting on a grey couch. The woman on the right has large, curly brown hair and is wearing a white long-sleeved shirt. She is looking off to the side with a thoughtful expression, her arms crossed. The woman on the left has dark, curly hair and is wearing a light blue long-sleeved shirt. She is looking down, also with her arms crossed. The background is a plain, light-colored wall. An orange rectangular box is overlaid on the center of the image, containing white text.

# Challenges and Considerations



CHALLENGES AND  
CONSIDERATIONS

Perception of victimization

Criminal Liability

Negative History with the System

# Sensitivity to **blame** and **judgement**

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Passive voice / purposeful language choices

Avoidance of stereotype induction

Uninformed interviewer / interviewee is the expert

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# Manipulation Dynamics

Fear of the offender

Fear of the system

Concern for other victims

Criminal activity

Substance use

Trauma bond

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# Remedy: Time and Patience



# Case Example

King County Sheriffs Office  
Detective Meyer

CJCKC Forensic Interviewer  
Shana MacLeod



CASE EXAMPLE

INCIDENT INFO

OFFENSE CODE  
 INC\_INFO\_GENERAL INFORMATION REPORT  
 OFFENSE LOCATION  
 [REDACTED] VANCOUVER, WA 98684

INVOLVED PERSONS

INVOLVEMENT	NAME	HOME ADDRESS	DOB / ESTIMATED AGE RANGE	RACE	SEX
R-2, P-3	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED] VANCOUVER, WA 98660	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
R-1, P-4	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED] VANCOUVER, WA 98606	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
P-2	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
P-1	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED] VANCOUVER, WA 98606	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]

for review.

al runaway and sexually active. Over the past 12-16 months, there has been some mention of that has yet to be determined. I have spoken with [REDACTED]'s grandfather, [REDACTED] on re: [REDACTED] and his wife have custody of [REDACTED] and she is currently living with them 021. I spoke M [REDACTED], along with Clark County Probation Counselor, Dianne Montalvo. away from the home and [REDACTED] had found some photos of [REDACTED] on on their "I- n imagine of what appear to be [REDACTED] and a male, believed to be [REDACTED] (15 years old) in a d to this report. The age difference between the two is 3 years and 3 months.



# Vancouver Police Report

CASE EXAMPLE

# Echo Glen





# Interview at Echo Glen



A group of diverse professionals are gathered around a wooden table in a meeting room. In the foreground, a woman with curly hair and glasses, wearing a beige blazer, is smiling and pointing towards a laptop screen. A man with glasses and a beard, wearing a brown sweater, is looking at the screen. Other people are visible in the background, some looking at the laptop. The room has a corkboard with sticky notes on the wall and a potted plant in the corner.

# Multidisciplinary Team

A group of professionals from various disciplines who work collaboratively to promote a thorough understanding of case issues in order to ensure the most effective system response possible. Our MDT's primary purpose is to ensure the health, safety, and well-being of the children we work with.



Thank you!



# Our Team

## Norene Roberts

Multidisciplinary Team  
Coordinator and Facilitator  
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