

Studies indicate a strong link between adverse childhood experiences, such as abuse, and adult onset of chronic illness, including heart disease, diabetes, depression, suicide and more.⁵



Experts estimate



children are sexually abused before their 18th birthday.³

BE SOMEONE

Everyone has a responsibility to make our community a safer place for children. Child abuse is a community-wide issue, requiring each of us to help protect and advocate on behalf of all children.

Without proper intervention, treatment and support, child abuse victims can go on to experience a variety of negative outcomes and the cycle of abuse continues. Children are resilient. Project Harmony is the place where healing begins.

⁴ Safe Horizon "Child Abuse & Incest"

⁵ National Children's Advocacy Center nationalcac.org



Our Mission

To protect and support children, collaborate with professionals and engage the community to end child abuse and neglect.



Child Advocacy Center

One Child. One Voice. One Vision.
Be Someone.

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One Child. One Voice. One Vision. BE SOMEONE.

Project
Harmony
Child Advocacy Center



KNOW THE FACTS

More than



90%

of sexually abused children are abused by someone known by the child or family.¹

Approximately

5

children die every day because of child abuse.²



3.3
MILLION

children witness domestic violence in their homes each year.³

¹ Darkness to Light d2l.org

² ChildHelp "Child Abuse Statistics and Facts"

³ childhelp.org



Reimagining the System: Response, Treatment & Prevention

Project Harmony intends to end child abuse at all levels – we are known for our response, we are shaping treatment and we are committed to leading child abuse prevention. We provide a safe place where children can use their voices without fear and begin to heal.

Our comprehensive services include:



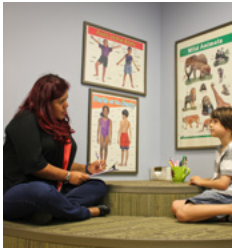
Triage Center

Project Harmony’s Triage Center serves as a welcoming, child-friendly location for children in immediate need of alternative family placement or refuge. Each child is greeted by professionals and provided with a light meal, clothing, medical exam and a backpack with pajamas and hygiene items until a caregiver is secured. The Triage Center is not an overnight facility.



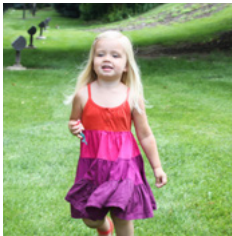
Medical Exams & Foster Care Health Screenings

Our pediatrician and nurses are specially trained in medical examinations to evaluate children suspected to have been abused or neglected. We also provide screening health exams for youth entering the child welfare system.



Forensic Interviews

Forensic interviews lessen the number of times a child has to share their story, which helps limit any additional trauma. Staff specially trained in forensic interviewing of children can conduct legally sound interviews when requested by law enforcement or child protection services.



Child & Family Advocacy

Advocates provide support to families throughout investigation and court processes. They assess the needs of children and caregivers and provide referrals for counseling and various community resources.

Case Coordination

Our Case Coordination team facilitates child welfare case reviews, develops investigation protocols and arranges training opportunities for case professionals and interested community members. We convene 11 multidisciplinary child abuse and neglect investigation and treatment teams, consisting of prosecution, law enforcement, social services, mental health, medical, and other child welfare professionals. This collaborative approach strives to ensure children are not further victimized by the systems intended to protect them.

Connections

Our community-wide prevention program links children and families to early intervention mental health services. *Connections* works with school and medical professionals to identify children in need of services. We match children with community therapists who are trained in evidence-based practices and provide ongoing follow-up to families, referral sources and providers.

Mental Health

Project Harmony provides evidence-based mental health services directly to children and families who are evaluated for abuse and/or exposure to violence. Services are offered on site and by referral to community providers who have the experience and training to treat traumatized children.

Training & Community Education

The *Training Institute* offers specialized training for law enforcement and legal, child welfare, medical, education and child care professionals. We also provide community education. At the Training Institute, we engage professionals and our community by increasing awareness on issues regarding child abuse, such as how and when to report, fostering child and family engagement and recognizing trauma. We facilitate learning opportunities to expand the use of evidence-based practices to achieve optimum results for our families. All Project Harmony training promotes collaborating through a multidisciplinary approach to child abuse practice.

Ending Child Abuse Together

Child abuse is a fact in our community, discriminating against no one and impacting thousands of lives each year. Boldly focused on ending this cycle, Project Harmony has reimagined how communities can come together – leveraging resources to respond to, treat and ultimately prevent child abuse.

Project Harmony’s nationally recognized, collaborative, child-focused approach works to ensure children are not further victimized by the systems intended to protect them. We’ve brought multiple agencies working in these systems together into one place – where they can coordinate and communicate most effectively and tackle child abuse as a team.

- Child Saving Institute
- Lutheran Family Services
- Nebraska Health & Human Services/ Child Protection Service Initial Assessment and Child Abuse Hotline
- Omaha Police Department Child Victim/ Sexual Assault Unit

This powerful model means that Project Harmony is the resource for child abuse services and training in the Omaha metro area and surrounding communities. We help community members protect and support the most vulnerable among us – restoring courage, facilitating healing and empowering community members to be someone in the life of a child.

Be someone in the life of a child.

If you suspect a child is being abused or neglected please call:

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|---|--|
| Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services
Child Abuse Hotline
1.800.652.1999 | Iowa Child Abuse Hotline
1.800.362.2178 |
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Project Harmony is a member of the National Children’s Alliance.

Contact Us

For more information about tours, presentations, support opportunities or your role in ending child abuse, visit www.projectharmony.com or email info@projectharmony.com.