

The Need

In 2015, nearly 10,000 children in Saginaw and Bay counties were involved in Children's Protective Services investigations. Of those children, more than 1,300 were confirmed as victims of abuse or neglect.

Source: datacenter.kidscount.org

The Solution

Our CAPE programs reach thousands of people in the Great Lakes Bay Region.

- Nearly 2,400 elementary, middle and high school students participate in educational programs.
- More than 850 professionals are trained to act on behalf of abused or neglected children by reporting suspicions of abuse.
- Countless others are reached through newsletters, information fairs, parades, television/news coverage, and campaigns such as Pinwheels for Prevention® and National Child Abuse Prevention Month.
- Nearly all programs are available at no cost, with the exception of the Safe Baby infant simulator program.

CAPE is funded with the help of United Way and the Michigan Children's Trust Fund. The majority of our funding is from private donors who are committed to the prevention of child abuse.

Learn

The CAN Council helps prevent child abuse and neglect through education, awareness, intervention and advocacy programs.

Donate

Make a contribution to help support the CAN Council and its programs.

Volunteer

As a CAN Council volunteer, you can help prevent child abuse.

Speak Up

Report child abuse to Children's Protective Services:
(855) 444-3911



Bay County

715 N. Euclid Avenue
Bay City, MI 48706
(989) 671-1345 • Fax: (989) 671-2365

Saginaw County

1311 N. Michigan Avenue
Saginaw, MI 48602
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cancouncil.org



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#15255C REV 01/18



Parent & Community Education

PARENT SUPPORT PROGRAMS

Using the evidence-based curriculum of “Make Parenting a Pleasure,” “Incredible Years” and “Strengthening Families,” parents are able to enhance their parenting skills. **“Make Parenting a Pleasure,”** a 12- to 16-session collaborative parenting series for highly stressed parents of children ages 0 to 8, covers topics such as nurturing, self-care, understanding stress, managing anger, communication and listening skills, child development, and alternatives in discipline. **“Incredible Years,”** a 14- to 20-week program for parents of children ages 3 to 6 or 6 to 12, covers topics like effective praise and encouragement, motivating children through incentives, establishing routines and household rules, and effective limit-setting. **“Strengthening Families,”** a seven- to 10-week program for parents of children ages 10 to 14 – who also participate in the program – covers topics including love and limits, making house rules, encouraging good behavior, and using consequences. Each program session runs two hours – for a total of 14 to 40 hours of programming, depending on the program. **We also offer a variety of additional single-session parenting workshops.**

STATE-MANDATED REPORTER TRAINING

This two-hour Michigan Department of Health and Human Services workshop was created for all professionals who work with children. The workshop outlines the legal responsibilities of professionals, identifies signs of abuse, reviews the reporting process, and introduces the purpose of the CAC (Children’s Advocacy Center) and CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocate) programs.

DARKNESS TO LIGHT

This 2.5-hour presentation seeks to help adults protect children from sexual abuse. Video clips from adult survivors of child sexual abuse are included. The purpose is to equip adults with simple, proactive steps to protect children from sexual abuse.

BABY BASICS

This hourlong workshop teaches childcare professionals and community members how to reduce preventable infant mortality. It focuses on prevention of shaken baby syndrome/abusive head trauma, as well as on safe sleep practices.

SAGINAW COUNTY COMMUNITY BABY ACADEMY

The Baby Academy offers a variety of helpful child-rearing resources for parents, grandparents, caregivers and childcare professionals. Participants attend breakout sessions to gain valuable insight on a variety of parenting-related topics and how to be the best parent or caregiver possible. The annual event also features booths promoting products and services for children and families.

Student Education

PHONE ETIQUETTE

Sexting is one of the fastest-growing trends with our youth. CAN Council offers a one-hour sexting presentation for teenagers, which addresses the legal penalties and social embarrassments of sexting. The free presentation is designed for teenagers, but parents are always welcome to join as well.

cancouncil.org/cape

SAFE BABY

The Safe Baby program (formerly Baby Think It Over) provides students with age-appropriate information about fetal alcohol syndrome, safe sleep, shaken baby syndrome and drug addiction; how frustration can lead to abuse; and the realistic expectations of parenthood. The students take an infant simulator home for the weekend, and its treatment is recorded to evaluate care.

SAFER-OLDER-SMARTER (SOS)

Utilizing presentations and an interactive coloring book, the program teaches second-grade students effective, basic personal-safety skills. An average of 1,500 students receive the presentation during the school year.

BERENSTAIN BEARS

This program uses the book “The Berenstain Bears Learn About Strangers” by Stan and Jan Berenstain to familiarize young children with the concept of strangers, including who would be considered a stranger and what to do if they encounter strangers. After reading the book to a class, a CAN Council prevention education coordinator will talk with students about what they learned, ask them questions for comprehension and cover additional safety information related to encounters with strangers.

Other presentations regarding child sexual abuse, mandated reporting, identifying and reporting abuse, and prevention education are provided by CAN Council Great Lakes Bay Region upon request.