



FOOTHILLS

A publication of the Foothills Child Advocacy Center

VOLUME 1 | ISSUE 4 | OCTOBER 2009



October Tastings for a Cause at Whole Foods Market to Benefit Foothills Child Advocacy Center

This October, Foothills will be the beneficiary of the Whole Foods Market's 5 @ 5 Wine Tasting program known as *Tastings for a Cause*. Each Friday from 5 PM to 7 PM, Whole Foods customers are able to taste five different wines paired with healthy dishes. For only \$5.00, each customer will be able to proceed to five stations throughout the store, each with a different wine and complementary dish. All of the money collected at the Fridays 5 @ 5 wine tastings in October will be donated to FCAC.

**Friday, October 2, 9, 16,
and 23 at 5:00 PM**

Our thanks to the Junior League of Charlottesville for providing the volunteers to serve at this event.

Why Don't Children Tell?



When 8 year old Kayla would visit the home of her best friend, Susan, Susan's Uncle Joe, who also lived in the house, took an interest in her. He would make comments about what she was wearing or how beautiful her hair was. Uncle Joe would always volunteer to watch the girls if Susan's mother had to go somewhere. He would also volunteer to take the two girls to the mall or the movie theater, and he would always buy them both a little something. One time, while at a gas station, Susan had to go to the restroom, and Kayla and Uncle Joe were left alone in the car. Uncle Joe put his hand on Kayla upper thigh and commented, "You are going to drive all the boys crazy when you get a little older." Kayla felt uncomfortable and embarrassed, but didn't want to say anything, because she was afraid her mother wouldn't let her go over to Susan's house any more. One night,

while Kayla was having a sleep-over at Susan's house, Kayla woke up to Uncle Joe's hand inside her panties. She was frozen with fear and couldn't move or make a sound. Kayla was too afraid and ashamed to tell anyone. Every time Susan asked her to her house, she made up excuses as to why she couldn't come.

There is only approximately a 10% chance that Kayla would ever tell anyone about the abuse that happened to her. **Why don't children tell?**

- Often times they seek to protect familiar perpetrators, especially family members.
- They yield to the offenders request for secrecy.
- They assume responsibility and blame themselves.
- They feel ashamed and embarrassed.
- They fear threatened or imagined negative outcomes.

If Kayla told a mandated reporter such as a teacher, counselor or doctor, by Virginia law, they would have to report the abuse to the authorities. If she told her parent, neighbor or friend, they would not have to report the abuse. Statistics show that even when a child tells, oftentimes the abuse is never reported to law enforcement or Child Protective Services. If the abuse was reported to the authorities, Kayla would come to the Foothills Child Advocacy Center for a forensic interview, and she and her family would receive the help they need.

Meet the Board of Directors *(second in a series)*



Dr. Rob Trundle

Current Board of Directors and Staff

Chair: Shelly Jackson

Vice Chair: Kim Vierbuchen

Secretary: Rob Trundle

Treasurer: Gretchen Ellis

At Large: Judy Randle

Director: Dave Chapman

Director: Liz Ramirez-Weaver

Director: Martha Campbell

Director: John Walenten

Program Coordinator: Jennifer Kline

Office Administrator: Jane Tirrell

As a Pediatrician, **Dr. Rob Trundle**, a founding Board member, knows that Foothills Child Advocacy Center offers physicians “a lot of peace of mind knowing that there are experts in the community who conduct assessments for child victims in a supportive, calm, quiet, and child-friendly place.” Rob is a partner at Pediatric Associates, a practice that places a strong emphasis on service to the community, and his enthusiastic participation on our Board as secretary personifies that value.

In addition to his medical expertise, Rob brings a variety of life experiences to the Foothills Board. A Virginia Beach native, he is a graduate of Dartmouth College, where he majored in Spanish and Psychology. He spent his junior year working with refugees in San Francisco’s Mission District. He also lived in Salamanca, Spain and then taught high school Spanish for four years in Newport News. Then he

decided that he would better serve the community by becoming a physician. He spent a year taking the prerequisite science courses at Virginia Commonwealth University, before enrolling at the University of Virginia Medical School, where he also completed his residency. Rob studied with Dr. Kent Hymel, a renowned expert in child abuse and victimization. This sparked Rob’s interest in protecting children, which is manifested in his commitment to Foothills.

Rob and his wife, Sarah, are the proud parents of two girls and a boy. In his little spare time, Rob enjoys white water kayaking, coaching his children’s soccer teams, and photography. Rob describes Foothills as “a great organization, small and lean, providing a much needed service.” He hopes to provide an example by giving time and financial resources to this unique and much needed cause.

Foothills Makes a Move



Foothills Child Advocacy Center (FCAC) has moved from their location on 10th Street into a newly renovated building with Children Youth, and Family Services (CYFS) at 1000 E. High Street. The Board of Directors and staff are very excited about the new space and with being located in the same location as one

of our multidisciplinary team members to whom we refer children for counseling. FCAC leases two offices, an observation room, and an interview room from CYFS and shares the waiting room, conference room, bathrooms, and kitchen. The arrangement is working very well for both agencies.

Our new location continues to provide a comfortable, private, child-friendly setting that provides a safe space for child victims of abuse and assault to talk about what happened. Please come by and see us.

The Facts About Sex Offenders

Who sexually abuses children?

- In as many as 93 percent of child sexual cases, the child knows the person that commits the abuse.
- Up to 50 percent of those who sexually abuse children are under the age of 18.
- 88% of cases of child sexual abuse are never reported to the authorities.

(Hanson, R.F., Resnick, H.S., Saunders, B.E., Kilpatrick, D. G., and Best, C. Factors related to the reporting of childhood sexual assault. Child Abuse and Neglect, 1999, 23,559-569).

FCAC Statistics from 2008

Sexual abuse suspect's relationships to their victims

Brother	9
Cousin	6
Father	13
Grandfather	1
Mother	8
Mother's boyfriend	9
Neighbor	3
Other known person	47
Step-brother	1
Step-father	4
Stranger	1
Uncle	3
Unknown	1
Total	106

31 offenders were under 18 years of age.

What is a Multidisciplinary Team?

A functioning and effective multidisciplinary team (MDT) is the foundation of a Child Advocacy Center (CAC). An MDT is a group of professionals who represent various disciplines and work collaboratively from the point of report to assure the most effective coordinated response possible for every child. A coordinated, MDT approach facilitates efficient gathering and sharing of information, broadens the knowledge base with which decisions are made by including information from many sources, and improves communication among agencies. From each agency's perspective, there are also benefits to working on an MDT. More thorough and shared information, improved and timely evidence gathering, and the involvement of the prosecutor from the beginning stages of the case may contribute to a more successful outcome. An MDT response also fosters needed education, support and treatment for children and families that may enhance their willingness to participate and their ability to be effective witnesses.

MDT interventions, particularly when provided in a neutral, child-focused CAC setting, are associated with less anxiety, fewer interviews, increased support, and more appropriate and timely referrals for needed services.

The Foothills MDT was formed in 2004, and has been growing ever since. We now have representatives from fourteen agencies on the MDT. Representatives from agencies on the Charlottesville/Albemarle MDT include Charlottesville and Albemarle Police Departments, Departments of Social Services, Victim/Witness and Commonwealth Attorney's Offices, Piedmont Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA), Children, Youth and Family Services (CYFS), Sexual Assault Resource Agency (SARA), Region Ten, UVA Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners (SANE), and Foothills CAC. The MDT members meet once a month to review the open cases of child sexual abuse and severe physical abuse. Seven MDT members are trained child forensic interviewers.

A Gift From BAMA Works Helps Foothills Expand Services to Outlying Counties

On June 1, 2009, the Charlottesville Area Community Foundation (CACF) Governing Board awarded Foothills Child Advocacy Center a \$5,000 Bama Works Fund grant as recommended by Dave Matthews Band in support of non-profits in the Community.

The \$5,000 grant will be used to expand forensic interview services to victims of child abuse who live in areas surrounding Charlottesville/Albemarle, which presently do not have access to other Child Advocacy Centers.

Our Mission

Foothills Child Advocacy Center will provide a system where intervention and prosecution in cases of child abuse/neglect and victimization are well-coordinated and effective in a child and family friendly environment which is as non-traumatic to children as possible and which contributes to prevention of child victimization and the safety of all children.



FOOTHILLS CHILD ADVOCACY CENTER

Please choose to support the Foothills Child Advocacy Center

Donor Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

My gift to the Foothills Child Advocacy Center: \$ _____

My check/cash is enclosed
(Please make check payable to Foothills Child Advocacy Center).

I would like my gift to remain anonymous: _____

*The Foothills Child Advocacy Center is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization.
All donations are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.*

Please visit us at www.foothillscac.org

Site provided by Cold Spring Design (www.ColdSpringDesign.com)

- Do not tolerate child abuse.
- Educate yourself and your community about the realities of child abuse and victimization by attending Stewards of Children Prevention Program.
- Talk about child abuse. Children continue to be abused/victimized at an alarming rate and need adult voices to speak for them. For more information on how to talk to your children about child abuse call (434) 971-7233.
- Honor and respect children.
- Get involved with Foothills CAC.
- Make a donation.

How Can I Help?



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