



Appalachian Children's Center, Inc.
P.O. Box 1373
Ellijay, GA 30540
706-273-2225



Appalachian Children's Center, Inc.

A Children's Advocacy Center

Serving Fannin, Gilmer and Pickens Counties

P.O. Box 1373 Ellijay, GA 30540

Telephone: (706) 273-2225 Fax: (706) 273-2250

Love Shouldn't Hurt

2008 ANNUAL REPORT

Visit our Website at:

www.appalachianchildrenscenter.org

Appalachian Children's Center, Inc.

MISSION STATEMENT:

The mission of the Appalachian Children's Center, Inc. (ACC) is to be an advocate for the safety of all children and to reduce the trauma of child abuse victims and their families by facilitating a multidisciplinary team approach to prevention, detection, investigation, prosecution, and treatment of child abuse in the Appalachian Judicial Circuit.

The ACC is a nonprofit children's advocacy center serving Fannin, Gilmer, and Pickens Counties. The ACC was formed to: provide immediate support and assistance to child victims and their families that may include advocacy, crisis intervention, forensic interviewing, forensic evaluations, counseling and/or emergency shelter services and to increase public awareness of child victimization.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS-2008

Dr. Cindy Hall, President
 Jean Fernandez, Treasurer
 Leslie Bechtel, Secretary
 Larry Bryant, Vice President

Greg Arp	Will Beattie
Tammy Daniels	Dave Garner
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 Judge John Worcester-Holland
 Judge Frank Fulford
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 Dianne Scoggins, CASA

DONOR APPLICATION

You are invited to support victims of child abuse and neglect by becoming a membership donor. Please help us break the cycle of abuse. Donors will be added to the mailing list and will receive a copy of our newsletter.*

- Student Limited Income Membership \$25
- Individual Membership \$50
- Family Membership \$100
- Business Membership \$250
- Corporate Membership \$500
- Other _____

*If there is a month/year on your mailing label, that is your most recent annual renewal date.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

Please Cut this Form Out and Mail to:

Appalachian Children's Center, Inc.
P.O. Box 1373
Ellijay, GA 30540

Meet the ACC Staff

Program Director: Sue Kilburn

Finance Director: Kristen Lewis

Victim Services Coordinator: Bobbie Jo Cash

Clinical Director: Dr. Meredith O'Leary

Therapist: Nancy Chancey, LCSW

Doctoral Interns: Jeremy Johnson
Melissa Moore

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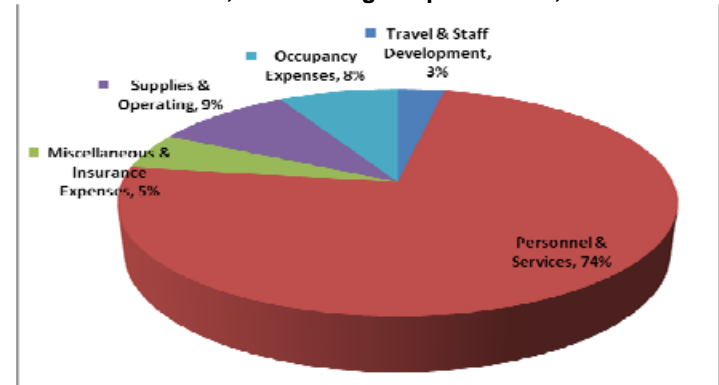
Email: acc@ellijay.com

Website: www.appalachianchildrenscenter.org

This program is supported in part by Children's Advocacy Centers of Georgia through appropriations from the Georgia General Assembly; Georgia Department of Human Resources, Promoting Safe and Stable Families Program; and the Victims of Crime Act, Victim Assistance Grant Program.

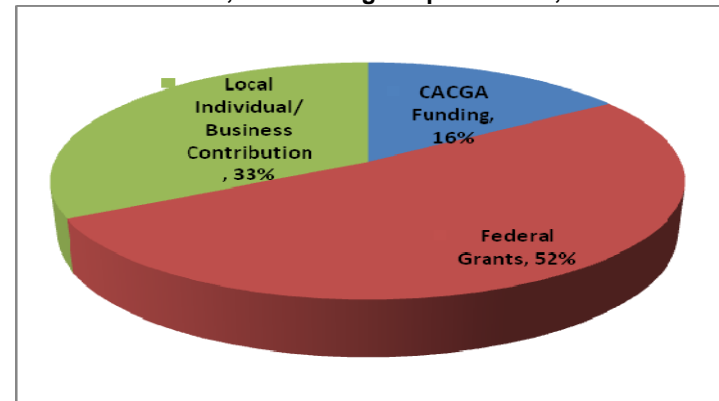
2008 EXPENDITURES

October 1, 2007 through September 31, 2008



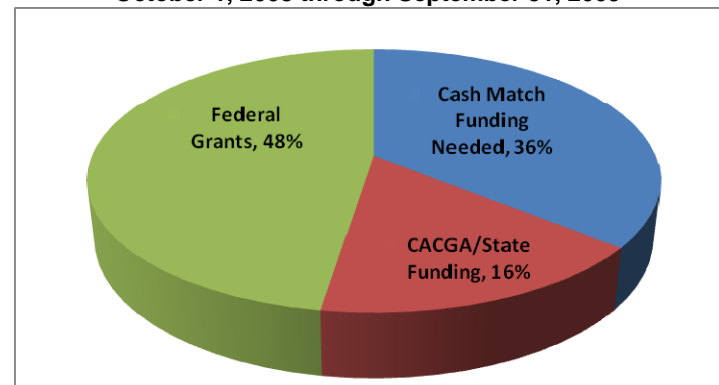
2008 REVENUE

October 1, 2007 through September 31, 2008



2009 DEFICIT

October 1, 2008 through September 31, 2009



2008 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

2008 ACC STATISTICS

Over the past year, the ACC served 333 children. Of those children, 74 were from Fannin County, 151 were from Gilmer County, and 93 were from Pickens County. The ACC also provided services to counties outside the Appalachian Judicial Circuit to 15 children. Of all children served by the ACC, 120 were male and 213 were female. The numbers served categorized by age are as follows: 0-10 (185 children), 11-15 (105 children), and 16-18 (40 children). The ACC provided 8,181 TOTAL services to children and families this year.

FORENSIC INTERVIEWS & EVALUATIONS

A forensic interview is a recording of a child's disclosure of abuse in a child-friendly, non-threatening environment; often used so that a child is not subjected to repeatedly discussing the events of their abuse. The ACC conducted 145 Forensic Interviews this year. The ACC served the following counties with forensic interviews: Cherokee (3), Fannin (27), Gilmer (70), Habersham (1), Lumpkin (2), Out of state (3), Pickens (34), Union (4), and Walton (1). A forensic evaluation is an extended assessment of a child when the child is too young or too frightened to be able to fully disclose their experiences on an initial forensic interview; performed in a child-friendly, non-threatening environment. The ACC conducted 2 Forensic Evaluations this year. The ACC served the following counties with Forensic Evaluations: Fannin (1) and Pickens (1).

VICTIM SUPPORT/ADVOCACY

The ACC provides support and advocacy to a client throughout the entire investigative and legal process. We attend court proceedings with children and their families as well as providing expert testimony in cases. This past year, we provided 73 victim support and advocacy services.

MULTIDISCIPLINARY TEAMS (MDT)

The ACC coordinates and facilitates the MDT meetings. MDTs of Fannin, Gilmer, and Pickens Counties meet monthly to review crimes against children cases. By bringing together professionals and agencies as a team, we are able to create a child-friendly approach to alleged child sexual and severe physical abuse cases. The goal is to ensure that children are not further victimized by the very system designed to protect them. Throughout the year, the ACC staff had contact, meetings, or correspondence with MDT members. Those contacts include: Fannin (125), Gilmer (322), and Pickens (157).

ACC CLINICAL PROGRAM UPDATE

Two of the ACC's most important services, therapy and support groups falls under the ACC's Clinical Program. The ACC provided children and families with 976 FREE therapy sessions this past year, 102 Child/Family Assessments, 73 children and teen support group sessions, and 165 non-offending caregivers received support through group and education sessions.

CHILD ABUSE AWARENESS MONTH

April is the National Child Abuse Awareness Month, and each year we participate in the child abuse awareness month activities in Fannin, Gilmer and Pickens counties. For information on Child Abuse Prevention/Awareness in your community please contact your local Prevent Child Abuse/Awareness Committee.

THE FUTURE

As we move into the future, we promise to fulfill high standards and best practices as we serve children who have been hurt. We have considerable work ahead of us, but we are committed to meeting the needs of child victims and their families. As always, our organization thanks you for your continued support. It is hoped that 2009 will be a safe and peaceful year for children and families.

Regards,
Sue Kilburn, Program Director