

# LISTENING TO SMALL VOICES

VOLUME I 2012



To promote awareness of child abuse and neglect, to prevent its occurrence, and to provide a multidisciplinary team approach to intervention in cases of serious physical and/or sexual abuse



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## From The Director's Desk



**Cleone Brock**  
Executive Director

There are so many exciting things going on at the CAC. We will start using Closed Circuit TV in the courtrooms at the Justice Center so the Children under the age of 16 will not have to be in the same room with their perpetrator. This is the hardest part of a criminal trial for the child. Can you even imagine a precious 7 year old child having to tell about unspeakable acts in front of her father or step-grandfather or grown cousin? I have often watched this happen. It is painful just to observe the face and the demeanor of the child. It will still be very hard for the child to testify about what happened to them. But now the child will tell about their trauma in judge's chambers or a conference room. The child will know she/he will not see the offender. What a huge relief to that child. We could not have purchased this equipment without you. How can I thank you for the hundreds of children most likely thousands over time that will be spared being re-victimized by seeing the offender again. The CAC has had the dream of providing closed circuit to Lee County Courtrooms for many years. How wonderful to see a dream come true!

We are also looking forward to this year's Dancing Stars of East Alabama benefit. The couples are practicing, our website is open for Voting and the contest is on! Please go to the website at [www.dancingstarsofeastalabama.com](http://www.dancingstarsofeastalabama.com) and see who is dancing, read their bios and see their video, it is very entertaining.

We are also getting prepared for April is Child Abuse Prevention month. Our Mayoral Proclamation signing will be on April 2. The theme for this year is "The Power of One".

*J. Cleone Brock*

**"Safety and security don't just happen, they are the result of collective consensus and public investment. We owe our children, the most vulnerable citizens in our society, a life free of violence and fear."**  
Nelson Mandela



Cleone Brock, Director pictured with Amalia, a 7th grader from Auburn. Amalia painted this entire wall at the CAC for a project for Girl Scouts.



Ashley Lee, Family Advocate and Katrina Ryan, Administrative Assistant accepting lots of "Build A Bear" stuffed bears donated to the Center by Cross Connection Church in Auburn. These bears were distributed to children for Christmas and during Center visits.



The Child Advocacy Center was recently visited by Congressman Mike Rogers. Congressman Rogers is a member of East Alabama's Third Congressional District. It was an honor and a pleasure for the staff of the CAC.

### UPCOMING EVENTS

February 23rd @ 11:30- Learning & Lunch  
 Speaker: Micah Melnick, BigHouse Foundation  
 Please call (334) 705-0770 to reserve a spot.

March 22nd at 6:00 p.m. -Dancing Stars of East Alabama Benefit  
[dancingstarsofeastalabama.com](http://dancingstarsofeastalabama.com)

April 2nd @ 3:00 p.m. -Mayoral Proclamation Signing for April, Child Abuse Prevention and Awareness Month

## **WELCOME NEW FAMILY ADVOCATE INTERN!!!**

"Hello, my name is Tara Truitt and I reside in Lanett, AL. I am a single parent of three wonderful boys, ages 6, 3, and 2 (They keep me busy!) I enjoy spending time with family and friends, vacationing at the beach, reading, and going to church. I graduated from Lanett High School. I received an Associate in Science Degree from Southern Union State Community College. I received my Bachelors in Social Work from Auburn University. Currently, I am pursuing my Masters in Social Work from the University of Alabama. I was provided the opportunity to do my internship at the Child Advocacy Center. I am really enjoying the learning experience and opportunity to work with children and families. Upon graduation, my plan is to continue to focus on a career working with children and families."

**Protecting Your Children:**  
**Advice From Child Molesters.....**

**“Why Don’t Child Molesters Get Caught?”**

- I like children, I am sexually aroused by children.
- I trick myself into thinking it’s not a big deal.
- If I have enough practice, I can become very skillful, and I am a good liar.
- I desensitize children to nudity. I leave the bathroom door open so they can see me.
- I make it look like an “accident”, a “mistake”, or a “misunderstanding. It isn’t.
- I use situations like tucking them in at night, or touch them while they are sleeping.
- I confuse them by telling them that “all families do this.” I know they don’t.
- After I start, I will be able to maintain the child’s cooperation and silence.
- I make them feel responsible for what I am doing. I make them distrust you.
- Sometimes they hide what I’m doing to them because they love me and I make it fun.
- I offer them special things they can’t get otherwise, they need me.
- I make them think that you won’t believe them.
- I warn them that they will be the one who gets punished. I might threaten them.
- I tell them that they will be put in foster care, and they won’t get to see you again.
- I tell them that I will go to prison and it will hurt their little brother if I have to go away.
- I make them feel sorry for me so they will protect my secret. I am selfish.

This information was taken from a brochure that was developed by a group of child molesters who were in treatment at the Center for Behavioral Intervention. The brochure was prepared as part of a community service project.

How many more stories of child abuse do we have to see on TV, read about in the newspaper and hear about on the radio? What can **YOU** do to help? Help a child escape the nightmare they are living in.

Make it easy for your children to talk to you. Believe them when they do. Make a tax-deductible donation to the Child Advocacy Center of East Alabama and you will be helping children in our community. This means children you may know, love or stand beside in the grocery store..... Your donation makes the help possible.

*COLLAGE is an Adult Survivor of Child Sexual Abuse support group that meets each Tuesday night from 6 -7:30 p.m. at the Child Advocacy Center, located at 1810 Corporate Drive in Opelika. This group is for survivors of child sexual abuse. Please call before you come (334) 705-0770.*

**BREAK THE CYCLE OF SILENCE. LET THE HEALING AND THE PREVENTION BEGIN TODAY.**



**CAC WISH LIST:**

Snacks-Individually wrapped chips/crackers  
Pretzels, Capri Sun  
Drinks, Copy Paper,  
Coloring Books,  
Beanie Babies

**Visit us online at:  
[www.cacea.net](http://www.cacea.net)**

A very special "Thank You" to everyone who donates to the Child Advocacy Center. You are giving hope to a child in need.

**CAC BOARD MEMBERS**

**Yarbi Cound-*President***  
**Julia Pipes-*Vice President***  
**Anne May-*Treasurer***  
**N. Shane Yarborough-*Secretary***  
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**Dr. Charles Greenleaf**  
**Wesley McCollum**  
**Ben Taylor**  
**Beth Vaughan**  
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**334-705-0770**  
**[www.cacea.net](http://www.cacea.net)**

**Our Mission:**

**To serve sexually and physically abused children in order to achieve healing and justice.**



**JUNIOR LEAGUE OF LEE COUNTY**  
*Women building better communities*

