



Lakeshore Regional  
**Child Advocacy Center**  
Sheboygan

# Growing. Thriving. Serving.

The Capital Campaign  
to Build a Child Advocacy  
Center in Sheboygan County





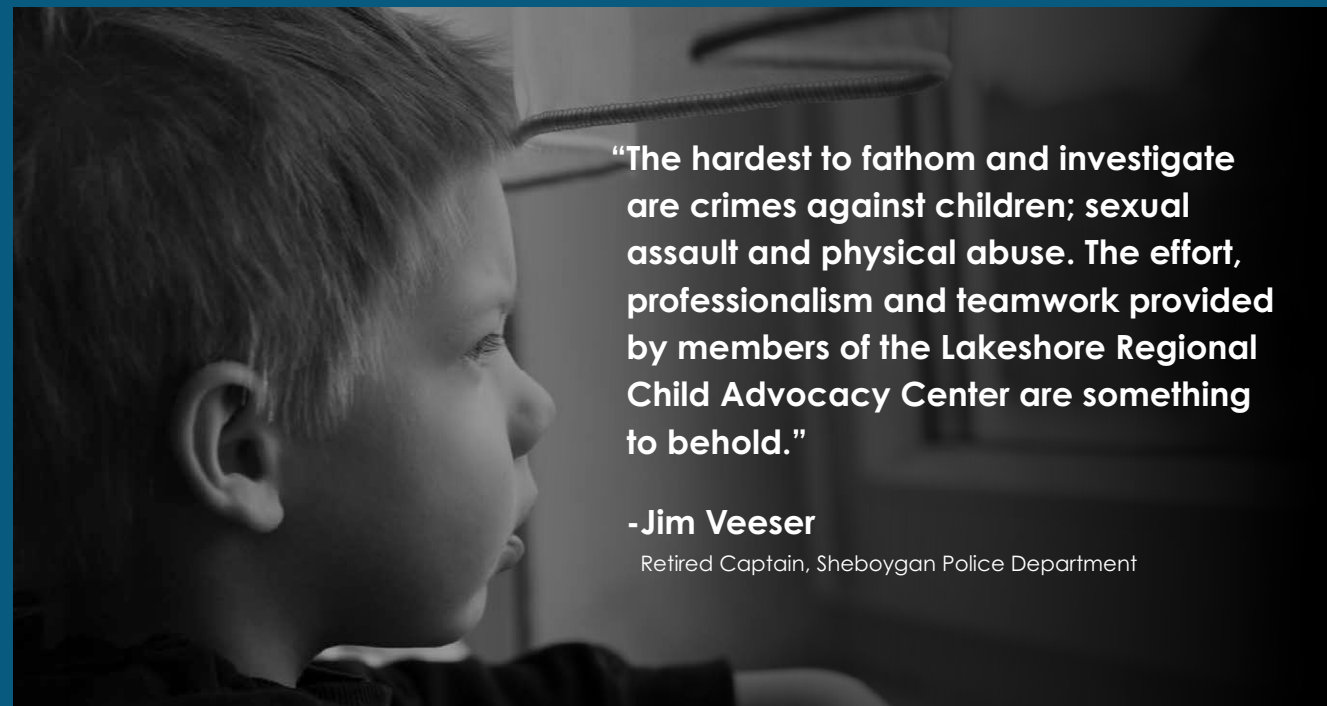
The Lakeshore Regional Child Advocacy Center (LRCAC) is a community-based, child-friendly, and trauma-informed organization that coordinates a multidisciplinary response to children, adolescents, and vulnerable adults suspected to be victims or witnesses to crimes. In one location, the LRCAC brings together child protective services investigators, law enforcement, forensic interviewers, prosecutors, family advocates, medical experts, and mental health professionals to provide a coordinated, comprehensive response to victims and their caregivers.

## 6-year-old Noah

It was just before dawn on a cold Wisconsin night when 6-year-old Noah grabbed his little sister and ran from his home. But it was not a home. It was a battlefield between his mother and father fueled by drug-induced rages of yelling, fighting, objects crashing, and complete chaos. Amid the putrid smoke inside the house, a frightened Noah grabbed his sister and, once outside, ran to a neighbor's house to find safety. The neighbor reassured him and his little sister they would be alright. She dialed 911, and a social worker and several police officers arrived shortly thereafter.

That night Noah and his sister slept in the safety of a foster home and, the next day, were taken to the LRCAC. Kind faces greeted them as they settled in with snack and activities, before meeting with the forensic interviewer and later examined by a board-certified child abuse pediatrician.

Noah and his sister are but one case of hundreds that cross the threshold of the LRCAC each year.



**“The hardest to fathom and investigate are crimes against children; sexual assault and physical abuse. The effort, professionalism and teamwork provided by members of the Lakeshore Regional Child Advocacy Center are something to behold.”**

**-Jim Veaser**  
Retired Captain, Sheboygan Police Department

# Growing

Since the LRCAC initiative launched in Port Washington in the summer of 2015, more than 3,500 children, adolescents and their families have received services. The launch of this endeavor meant a strengthened commitment to collaborative, trauma-informed services for the families of Ozaukee and Washington counties. The LRCAC service area grew quickly to include Sheboygan and Manitowoc counties. While we work hard to serve the needs of all four counties, Sheboygan County has exceeded the number of cases we expected. In the past few

years, Sheboygan County has routinely accounted for 40 percent of those seen at the LRCAC. To address this, we opened a satellite location within the Sheboygan Police Department in 2020. However, this is a temporary solution to a growing need for a stand-alone Child Advocacy Center (CAC) in Sheboygan. A stand-alone CAC will combine resources and expertise of staff to offer victims consolation, engagement, intervention, and hope for better days in one safe, neutral, and family-friendly setting.

**“CAC interviews have been invaluable to the successful prosecution of cases and care of child victims and witnesses. I encourage the use of the LRCAC as much as possible.”**

**-Joel Urmanski**  
District Attorney, Sheboygan County

To meet the needs in Sheboygan County, the Lakeshore Child Advocacy Center is embarking on a \$2.5M capital campaign to fund a CAC located in a building adjacent to the new Uptown Social Senior Center at 1817 N. 8th Street. Sheboygan law enforcement, city leaders and social services have all endorsed this project and, with your help and support, we know we can make this life saving center a reality.

## Sheboygan Child Advocacy Center Capital Campaign

Three-year operating budget	\$1,545,000
Construction costs	\$800,000
Furnishings/finishing costs	\$155,000

**\$2.5 Million**



# The Lakeshore Child Advocacy Center Sheboygan County

Located next to the newly opened Uptown Social senior activity center at 1817 N. 8th Street, the Sheboygan LRCAC will encompass 5,600 square feet to allow safe, accessible services in the heart of the community.



The space for the Sheboygan Child Advocacy Center will feature a reception area and trauma-informed waiting room, two private family rooms, two advocacy/counseling rooms, two forensic interview rooms, and several observation rooms. The space will also include a medical room, lab, patient restrooms with showers, and offices for staff. Additionally, there will be meeting space for collaborative partners, a lunchroom, and a large training room. Security provisions include internal and external fob entry systems, security cameras, and specialized equipment for recording interviews. Extra storage will be included for donations and comfort items for children and families.

# Thriving

“Bringing comfort, forging hope.”

Among other services, our child advocacy centers provide:

## Child and Family Advocacy

Child abuse and family violence can be devastating to victims and their families. Our advocates walk alongside the whole family to help everyone find the guidance, resources, and healing they need. In addition, the LRCAC:

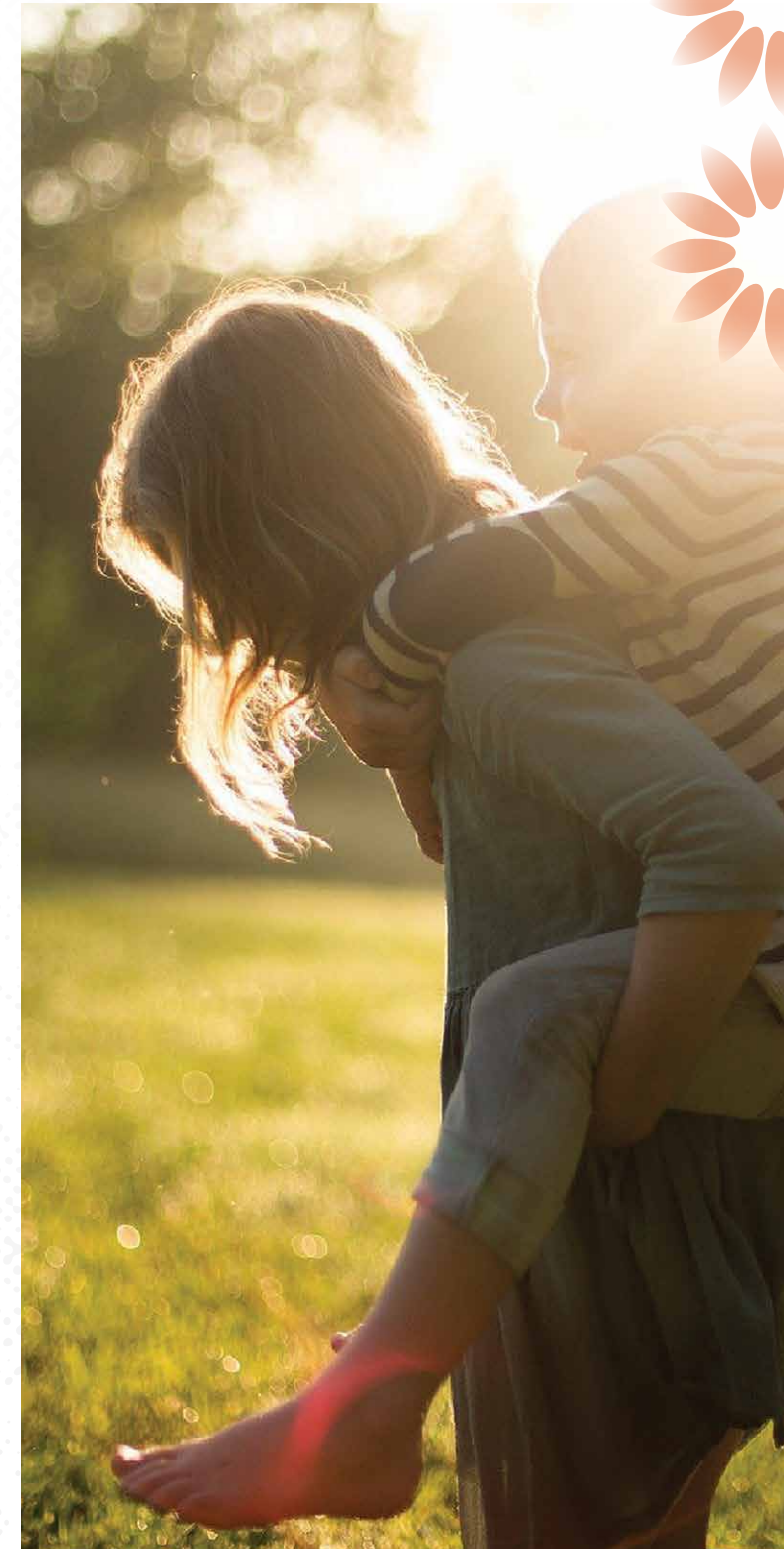
- Serves as a “link” between the victim and their family and the multidisciplinary team
- Helps the family understand the roles of each involved agency
- Ensures the family understands the process and how they move through it
- Provides information for an array of community resources and options for counseling and therapy for children and their protective caregiver
- Educates families about the dynamics of child abuse, disclosure processes, and long-term effects of potentially traumatic experiences

## Forensic Interviews

Forensic interviews give law enforcement and child protective services the information they need to conduct thorough investigations without requiring abuse victims to repeat and relive their stories throughout the investigation. The goal of each interview is to minimize traumatic impact, maximize legally defensible information, maintain the integrity of the investigative process, and minimize any contaminating effects.

## Medical Providers

By partnering with Children’s Wisconsin, our medical services provide survivors with the examinations they need without the stress, intensity, and chaos of other settings. Experts in child abuse pediatrics complete comprehensive physical abuse exams, sexual abuse exams, neglect exams, and drug-endangered child exams. Completing thorough medical exams, collecting evidence, and providing sound documentation is a complex and arduous process. To prevent survivors from experiencing further trauma, LRCAC provides these exams in a peaceful, non-threatening environment made specifically for children and adolescents.



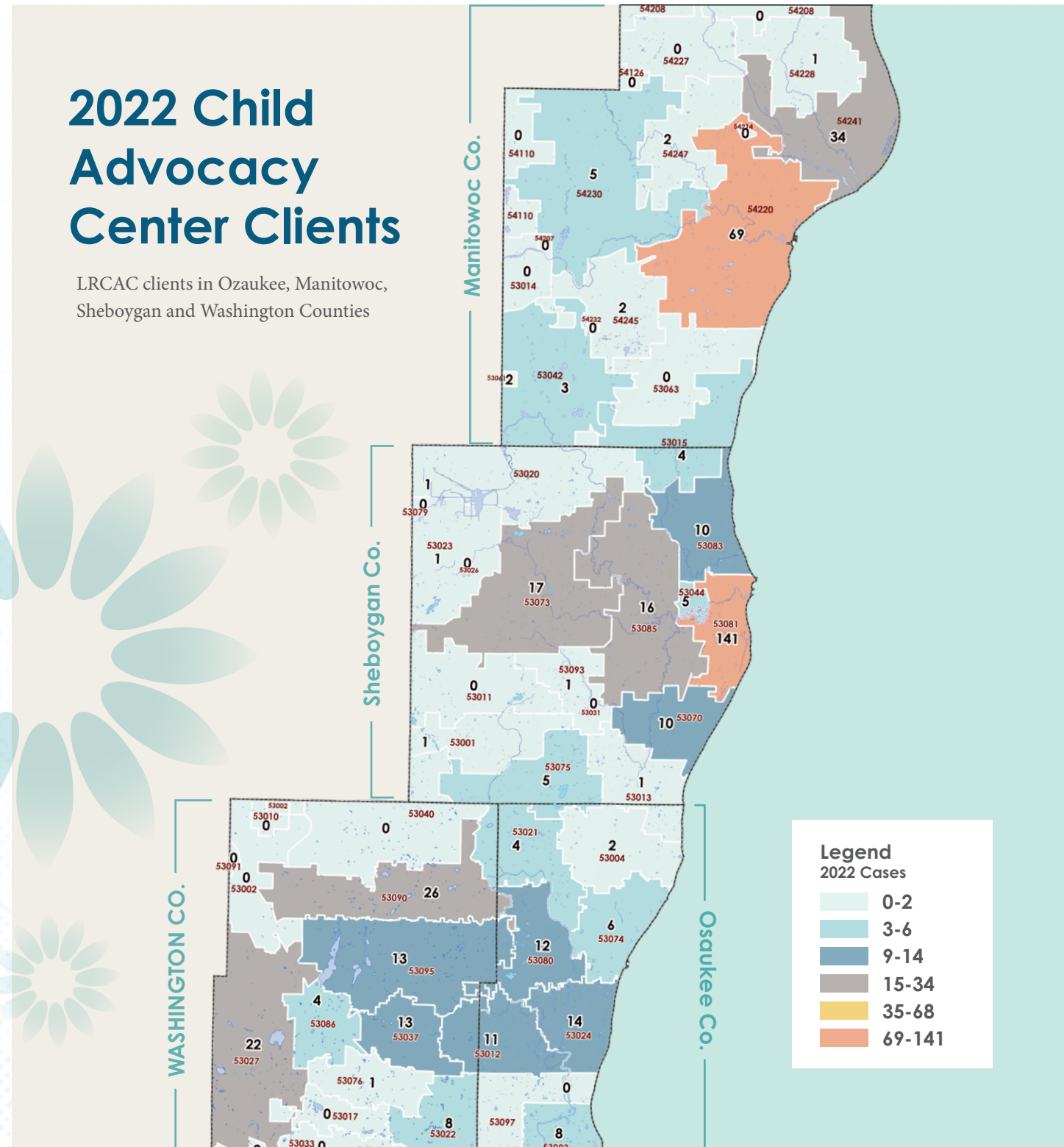


# Serving

“You cannot put a price on the value of comfort and courage.”

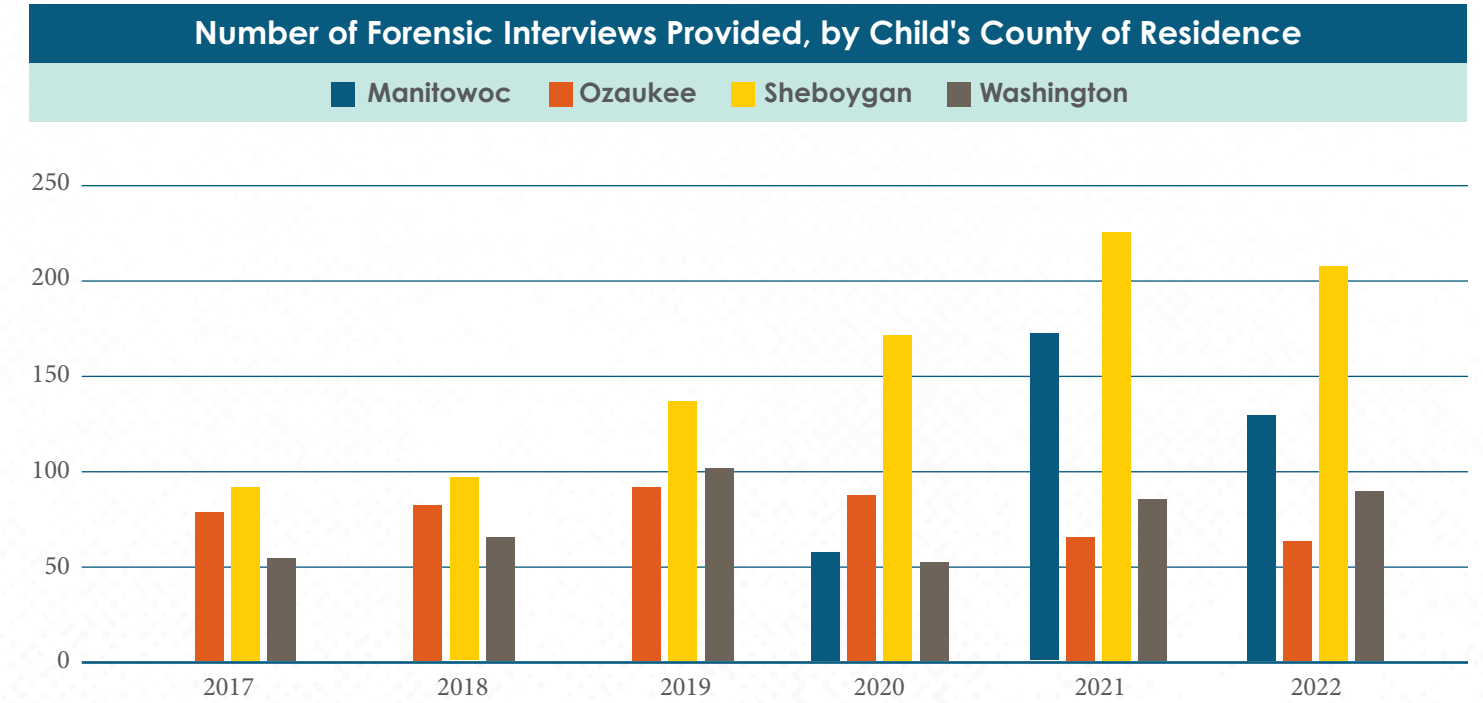
## 2022 Child Advocacy Center Clients

LRCAC clients in Ozaukee, Manitowoc, Sheboygan and Washington Counties



## Why is this work so important?

The demand for CAC services in Sheboygan County accounts for 40 percent of all patients seen at all LRCAC locations, and more than Washington and Ozaukee Counties combined. This is despite the fact that Sheboygan County is not the largest county in our service region.



Please consider a gift to this worthwhile campaign

By supporting the LRCAC, you support the thousands of children and adolescents impacted by crimes.



For more information please see our website: [lakeshorecac.org](https://lakeshorecac.org)



Lakeshore Regional  
**Child Advocacy Center**

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