

WEST VIRGINIA CHILD ADVOCACY CENTERS

"CACs are the most important advancement in fighting crimes against children in the last 20 years."

- Captain Jim Sizemore, Testimony to WV Select Committee on Crimes Against Children, 2013

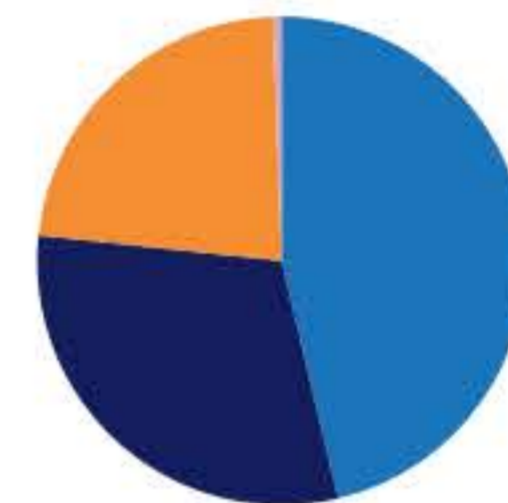
THE CHILDREN



36% of the 2863 children served at WV CACs last year were too young to attend grade school

THE OFFENDERS

Children are almost always victimized by someone they know and trust.



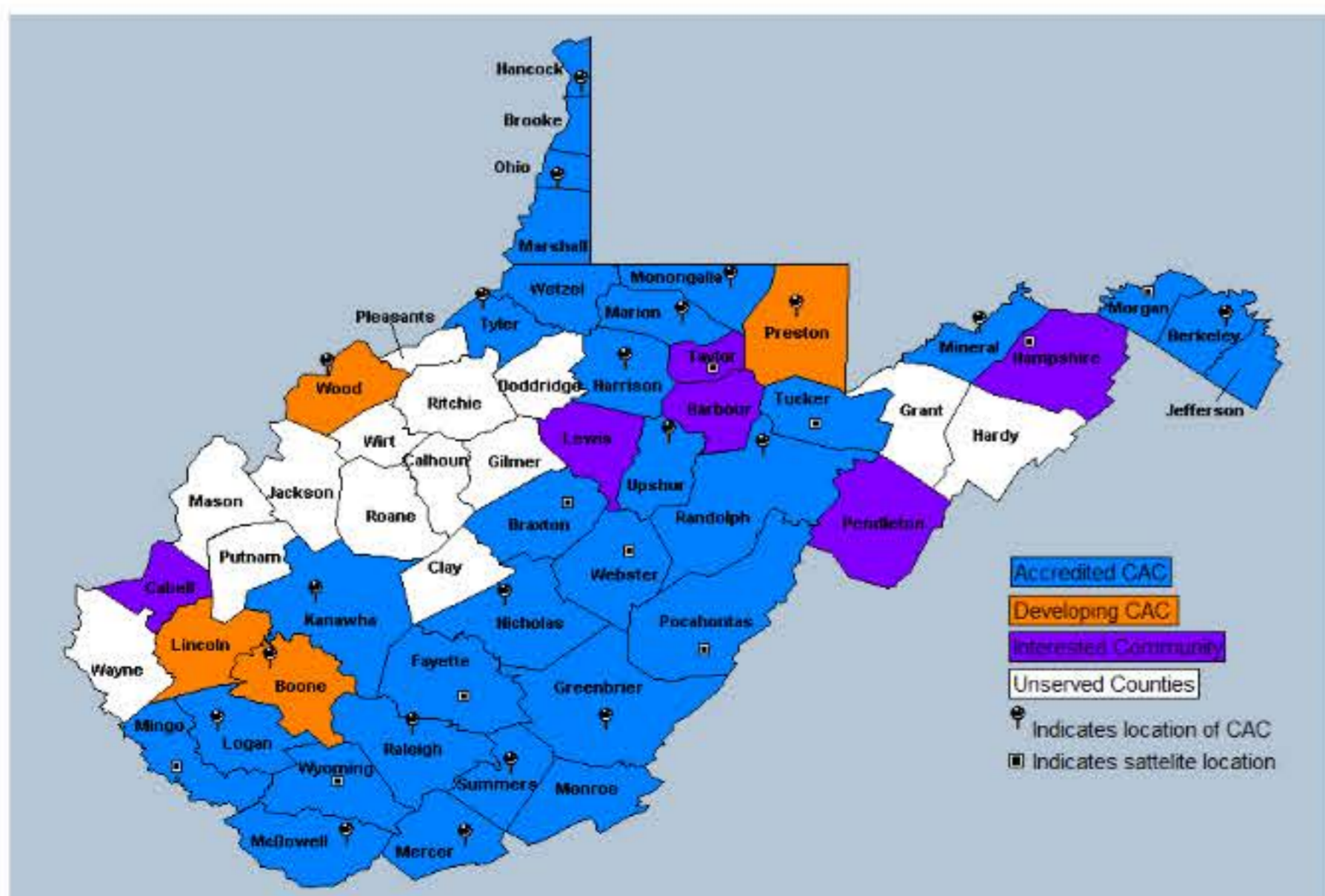
INCREASED SERVICE



60%

WV CACs are seeing 60% more kids annually than in 2009

THE UNDERSERVED



DEEPENING OF SERVICE

In addition to providing a forensic interview, many CACs have been working to provide:

- ✓ evidence-based mental health services
- ✓ medical services
- ✓ extended forensic evaluations
- ✓ evidence-based child abuse prevention programs
- ✓ intensive family advocacy

CACs now provide services for abused children where they did not exist.

Until every child in WV has access to this full array of services...

we cannot rest.

WE NEED YOUR HELP

It matters to West Virginia

Research has established a **clear connection** and **correlation** between child abuse and many of our state's primary budget drivers:



SUBSTANCE ABUSE



HEALTH CARE COSTS



CORRECTIONS



WORKFORCE

A PUBLIC/PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP

Traditional child abuse investigation:

3949



Child abuse investigation in CAC community:

2902



CACs produce a cost savings of over \$1000 per case, or nearly \$3 million last year alone.

We respectfully request a restoration of **\$200,000** to the CAC appropriation, for your help in building **private partnerships**, and restoring all the **Kids & Families Funding**



With your help last year, CACs increased private sector contributions by 36%



We need your continued help to make these private sector connections



Talk to your finance chair about the importance restoring the Kids & Families Funding