**National Children’s Alliance 2016 Leadership Conference: Hill Day Talking Points**

Introduce all group attendees

Thank Senators/House Members/Aides for their help in fully funding the Victims of Child Abuse Act the past **FOUR** years (FY13, FY14 and FY15 budgets at $19 million. FY16 at $20 million.)

* Thank the Senators that signed Senator Coons/Blunt CAC FY17 funding letter. *A list is included.*
* Thank the House Members that signed Reps. Fitzpatrick/Costa CAC FY17 funding letter. *A list is included.*

Thanks Senators/House Members/Aides for keeping VOCA funding at the higher level – effectively $2.66B in FY16. (FY15 funding VOCA/CVF at $2.36B.)

Thank Senators/House Members/Aides for voting for the Justice for Victims of Trafficking Act (JVTA) last year. There is $2 million set-aside for CACs (the only set-aside), so their yes vote was also a vote in favor of CACs!

In Senate visits:

* Thank Senators for joining a bipartisan letter to AG Lynch clarifying the use of VOCA funds to pay for Forensic Interviews and Forensic Medical Exams in CACs. *(A copy of the letter is included in your packet.)* Discuss the impact this clarification has made in your individual state. **In the coming months, more action will be taken on VOCA, so it is important to discuss the impact VOCA dollars have on local CACs.**
* Ask Senators/Aides to support the Senate CJS Appropriations bill, which includes **$21 million for Victims of Child Abuse Act funding**, including a $1 million pilot project to develop a better coordination between CACs and military installations. **Also urge them to release as high a mark as possible for Crime Victims Fund (and as close to last year’s effective amount of $2.66 billion.)**
* Ask Senators/Aides to consider supporting effort to overhaul the Victims of Crime Act/Crime Victims Fund to ensure CACs, and other service providers, continue to have the resources needed to serve child abuse victims.
* Ask Senators/Aides to consider working with Sens Cornyn and Klobuchar on pushing DOJ to implement JVTA.

In the House visits:

* Ask House Members/Aides to support the FY17 CJS Appropriations bill, and specifically the Senate level of **$21 million when the FY17 CJS bill** is conferenced. **Also urge them to release as high a mark as possible for Crime Victims Fund (and as close to last year’s effective amount of $2.66 billion.)**
* Ask House Members/Aides to consider supporting effort to overhaul the Victims of Crime Act/Crime Victims Fund. This effort is being led by Reps. Poe and Costa.
* Ask House Members/Aides to join Reps. Poe, Maloney, Wagner and Beatty in urging DOJ to implement JVTA.

In all visits, offer to work with Congress on the Child Abuse Prevention Treatment Act (CAPTA) reauthorization. Discuss the recent report from the Commission to Eliminate Child Abuse Deaths and the recommendations NCA/CACs will help champion. (A summary is also included in the Member of Congress folder.)

In all visits, discuss CACs and the impact of federal funding to both the Chapter and the CAC. (Incorporate state and local statistics.) And, invite the Senator/Representative, or their staff, to visit your CAC during one of the upcoming recesses. Thank them for their time and support.