



**Child Abuse Prevention Services, Inc.**  
Asheville, NC

**Mission:** Working to increase awareness, reduce/prevent child abuse, strengthen families, and assist children and families who have experienced abuse.

**Vision:** To set the standard(s) in child abuse prevention and treatment in striving for Excellence; and, that all children – our most precious yet most vulnerable asset – can have a safe, healthy childhood and the opportunity to reach their potential.

**Programs / Services:**

- Child Abuse Prevention/Personal Safety Education/Outreach, a highly interactive research based program, which reaches 7,500 children K-4, and not only educates but empowers them with skills to protect themselves, to develop support systems, and to recognize, resist, and report abuse. And, we've added internet safety, cyberbullying and bullying. This program also provides adult training to several hundred childcare providers, including all Head Start staff on Recognizing and Responding to Abuse, and 'Stewards of Children'. And, includes community outreach programs as "How to Talk to Your Children About Child Abuse", "What Do I Say Now", etc.
- Crisis Intervention/Counseling for Children and Families who have experienced abuse with immediate access following the devastating trauma of disclosure of abuse. Children and non-offending parents receive the support and opportunity to stabilize, get through the horrific crisis of abuse, and learn new ways of coping. This program also includes non-offending parents support groups, assertiveness training, information on children's personal safety, and serves several hundred individuals yearly. Many of the children are so young that this includes much art, play and sand tray therapy and now includes Trauma Focused Cognitive Behavior Therapy as well as family centered, solution focused, and various trauma recovery treatment modalities including abuse focused therapy and trauma focused cognitive therapy (TFCBT).
- Parenting Education/Parent-Family Skills Training wherein parents learn strategies/techniques to increase parenting skills, decrease crisis situations, strengthen families, and raise safe, healthy, motivated children. It is based upon the premise that parents and children learn most effectively through choices and consequences of their actions.

**Scope of the Problem:**

According to Prevent Child Abuse North Carolina, there were over 5 million children reported as abused/neglected in the US last year, with over 125,000 in North Carolina and over 4,000 in Buncombe County. The Child Health Report Card from Action for Children and the NC Institute of Medicine has for years given the state D's and F's in child maltreatment stating if it were a communicable disease, child abuse and neglect would be an epidemic in North Carolina. More recently they gave a C rating and hopefully that improvement can continue. Research indicates that 1 in 5 children will be abused, half will be under age 6.

Tragically 4 children will die every day from abuse or neglect. But child abuse is preventable, and that is why it is so important to increase awareness, encourage reporting, and to have prevention, education, and counseling programs like CAPS!

**Affiliations:**

Child Abuse Prevention Services, Inc. is a professional affiliate of Prevent Child Abuse North Carolina, and locally is involved in the Child Protection Team, Asheville / Buncombe Coalition to Prevent Family Violence, and Children's Community Collaborative. CAPS has developed programmatic and fundraising partnerships / collaborations with other agencies and community groups and is a participating United Way agency.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION** or to become a supporter or donor call 254-2000 or email [caps@childabusepreventionservices.org](mailto:caps@childabusepreventionservices.org)  
We are located in Ste. 152 of the Community Service Center/United Way Building, 50 S. French Broad Avenue, Asheville, NC 28801.

[www.childabusepreventionservices.org](http://www.childabusepreventionservices.org)

*There is no excuse for abuse!*

*All kids deserve a safe, healthy childhood! Child Abuse Prevention is Everyone's business!*