



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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ADRIENNE OPDYKE SELECTED AS DIRECTOR OF CAPC

CONOVER -- The Board of the Children's Advocacy and Protection Center of Catawba County has selected Adrienne M. Opdyke as the CAPC's new director.

CAPC Board Chair Julia Allen said: "Adrienne is no stranger to our organization, having most recently served very ably as our interim executive director. Her passion for bringing about healing and justice for our community's abused children and broken families is obvious to all who cross her path. On behalf of the board of directors, we welcome Adrienne into her new role and are excited to have her guidance as the CAPC moves forward into a bright future."

Opdyke served as a victim's advocate and multi-disciplinary team facilitator at the CAPC since September 2006. In this position, she facilitated a professional team approach to the investigation of reported child sexual abuse cases in Catawba County. She has conducted forensic interviews, scheduled child medical evaluations and served as an expert witness in child abuse court cases.

Opdyke is also a trained facilitator in the Stewards of Children: Darkness to Light program, providing training for adults in Catawba County so they can become informed about how to prevent, recognize and respond appropriately to child sexual abuse.

"We are blessed to have someone with Adrienne's skills and talents to step into this role and lead the Children's Advocacy and Protection Center," said John Eller, director of Catawba County Social Services. "She is well known as an expert in the field and has formed a strong relationship with our law enforcement officers, district attorney's office, and social services."

Before joining the CAPC in Catawba County, Opdyke served as director of the Gingerbread House, the Burke County child advocacy center, from 1999 to 2006. In that position, she was responsible for the day-to-day operation and management of the CAC.



She earlier served as a social worker and family life specialist for South Mountain Children's Home in Nebo, N.C.

Opdyke earned her bachelor's of social work degree in 2006 from Appalachian State University. She has also received advanced training in the field of forensic interviewing at the National Children's Academy Training Center in Huntsville, Ala.

She previously served as a member and chair of the Children's Protection Council of Catawba County before it merged with the county's CAC.

The CAPC was founded in 1998 as the Children's Advocacy Center. In 2011, it merged with the Children's Protection Council to become the CAPC. The agency has recently moved to a new location at 4360 County Home Road, Conover, across the road from the main Sipe's Orchard Home entrance.

The CAPC is a non-profit organization that works to prevent and respond to child sexual abuse and serious physical abuse. It coordinates the efforts of Catawba County Social Services, law enforcement, and the District Attorney's office.

More information about the CAPC is available on its website at catawbacountycapc.org. You may call the center at 828-465-9296.

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