



THE CHILDREN'S ADVOCACY CENTER
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PRESS RELEASE

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Children's Advocacy Team Named Champions of Children

The Catawba County Partnership for Children recently named the Children's Advocacy Center's Multidisciplinary Team as one of the 2008 Champions for Children Award recipients.

The Multi-Disciplinary Team is composed of mental health professionals, medical professionals, a sex offender treatment worker, and representatives from Law Enforcement, the Department of Social Services, Victim Advocacy, the District Attorney's Office, and the Children's Advocacy Center.

The team embraces a multidisciplinary approach to the investigation, prosecution, and treatment of criminal child abuse cases. During the past year, they have interviewed over 240 children, conducted numerous interviews and interrogations related to each case, and performed 120 medical examinations and 65 mental health assessments. In 2007, 81 prosecution summaries were submitted with 25 indictments. In addition, the team meets twice a month to review each case, in order to promote a thorough understanding of case issues and assure the most effective response system possible.

The Champions for Children award was established in 2002 to honor agencies, early-childhood educators, and community individuals who strive to make Catawba County a better place for young children and their families. It was designed to celebrate those who educate the community, advocate for young children, and encourage the support of children's issues. Recipients of this honor must be creative, visionary, collaborative, and resourceful, and have accomplished extraordinary good in Catawba County for the benefit of the early-childhood community.

Other recipients of the award include: Leonor Tobar, a parent-educator with Catawba County Schools' Parents As Teachers program, Vonda Krueger, director of The Sandbox Child Care Center, and Wendy Secrest, a pre-kindergarten teacher at Catawba Elementary School.

To learn more about the Children's Advocacy Center or to donate a brick in honor of your family, contact Deborah Johnson at (828)465-9296.

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Attachments:

team.jpg: Members of the Multi-Disciplinary Team

