



FREEDOM
begins with



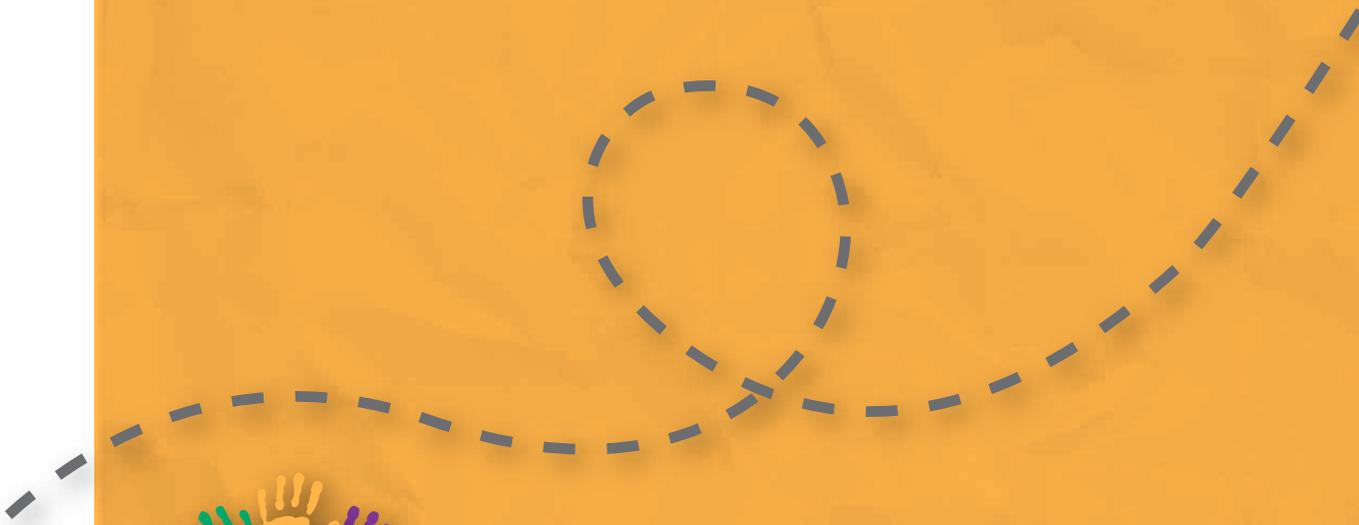
FLIGHT



2016
ANNUAL SUMMARY



Children's
Advocacy Project





OUR MISSION

The Children's Advocacy Project is a team of committed agencies and individuals who work together to provide coordinated forensic and comprehensive services for alleged victims of child abuse and neglect in order to minimize trauma to children, to break the cycle of abuse and to foster a more effective and efficient community response to child maltreatment.



A Letter from our Executive Director

Dear Friends,

I am proud and excited to introduce myself as the new Executive Director of the Children's Advocacy Project. It is a great honor to join this amazing team and have the opportunity to be part of such an important organization. Since I began in August, 2016, I have been able to witness the amazing work of the team of staff as they strive to provide a safe and child friendly atmosphere for child victims of abuse. The tremendous work they do for these kids is possible because of the generosity and support of partner agencies and members of the communities we serve. Thank you for recognizing the important work we do.

I have always had a soft spot for abused, neglected, and at risk children. I have spent the last 22 years working primarily in the non-profit arena, advocating for at-risk, abused and neglected youth in various levels of residential settings, most recently holding the position of Executive Director. I have always found my work to be rewarding and humbling, and am excited to be able to expand my horizons in this position. When I am not working, you will most likely find me running around with my two amazing kids supporting their sporting events and other endeavors.

I strongly believe we, as a community, must continue to focus on the importance of doing everything we can to recognize abuse and help the victims of trauma. Children are a precious gift that we must protect and help. I am thankful to be working with the Children's Advocacy Project where the children have the chance to tell their stories in such a safe environment. I look forward to the next year as we continue to grow and help the children we serve.

Thank you for your dedication to the Children's Advocacy Project!



Stacy M. Nelson, Executive Director



Helping Dreams Take Flight



3,039

Children have bravely completed a Forensic Interview since opening



307

Forensic Interviews Conducted in 2016



738

Individual Counseling Sessions

18



Girls Group Counseling Sessions



460

Children Attended a CAP In-school Training



216

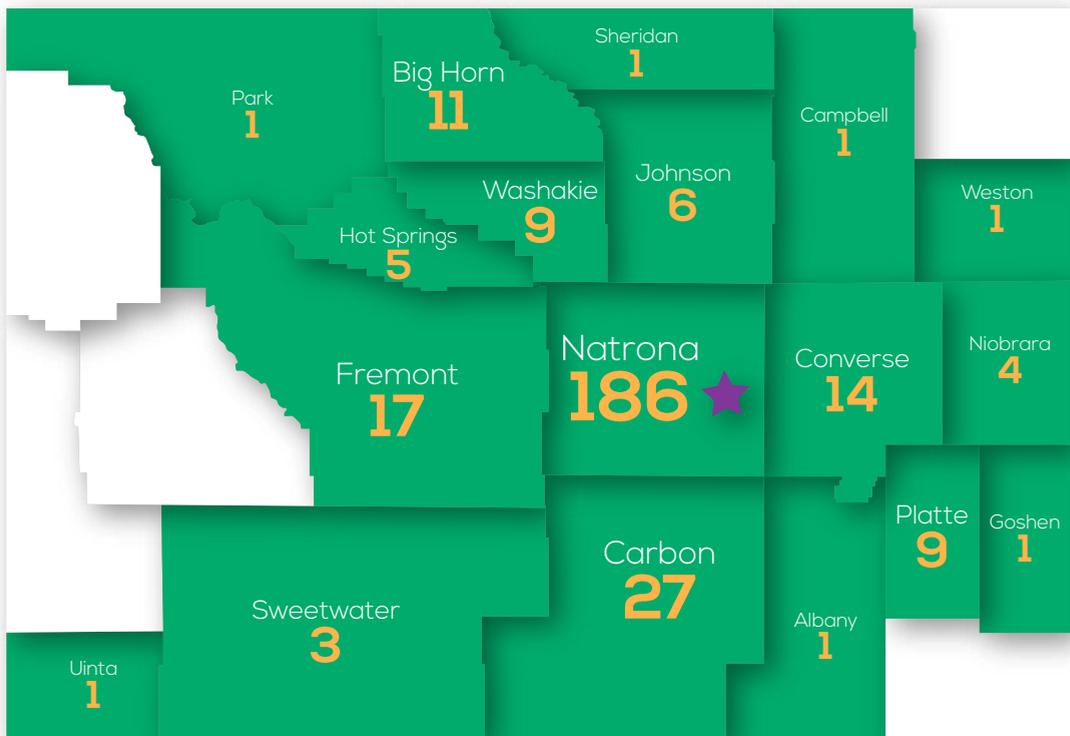
Adults Attended a CAP Community Training



PROUDLY SERVING WYOMING
Largest, Most Comprehensive, & Widely Used Child Advocacy Center in the State



Forensic Interviews Conducted by County



Other Courtesy Interviews:

FBI: 2, Colorado: 2, North Carolina: 1,
Montana: 4, Ohio: 1, Oklahoma: 1, Utah: 2



You really are brave enough to take this flight



Lexi loved going with her paternal grandfather anywhere. He called her his “special girl.” Her brothers called her grandpa’s “favorite” and “precious princess.” Her grandfather often took her to ride the 4-wheeler with him to go check the irrigation pipes on the family ranch or check the fence line. If he had to go into town for tools or supplies, Lexi got to ride along in the pickup, bumping along the dirt roads by his side.

Lexi was 8 years old the first time anything happened. Lexi and her brothers were allowed to make a tent in the family room and stay up watching movies because it was the weekend. Sometime after they had fallen asleep, Lexi’s grandfather quietly woke her up and asked her if she wanted to come have some cake with him. She got up and followed him upstairs to the kitchen. After having cake and milk, her grandfather asked her if she wanted to do something nice for him, since he did something nice for her. Lexi agreed and her grandfather told her to sit on his lap and kiss him on the lips until he told her to stop. Before sending her back to bed, he told her that this was “their little secret.” She couldn’t tell anyone because, if the boys found out, they’d have to stop.

The secret treats and kissing continued for some time. Lexi looked forward to special times with her grandfather. Sometimes he would buy her ice cream when they went into town and she’d sit on his lap in the truck. Sometimes he would dry her off with a big, fluffy, towel after a bath. Sometimes he did things that she didn’t like as much, but she loved her grandfather and wanted to make sure she’d always be his special girl.

By the time Lexi was 10, she didn’t like being her grandfather’s special girl anymore. Sometimes he did things that hurt her. She started looking for excuses to not go anywhere alone with him. Her grandfather would tell her how sad this made him that he missed her, Lexi would feel bad and start going. The first time he raped her, she told her mom and dad.

Her mom and dad were understandably upset. How could her grandfather do something like this to his special girl? “Are you sure?” “Did you make it up?” Lexi insisted she was telling the truth. To complicate matters, Lexi’s family was living at the ranch. If these things really happened, it meant that Lexi, her parents and her brothers would have to find a house and move to town. Then her mom told her that they had to call the police and, if she told them what she told her parents, her grandfather would go to jail.

After interviewing Lexi’s family, she was referred to the Children’s Advocacy Project for a forensic interview. During the interview, Lexi recanted and told the interviewer that none of it was true and the investigation was dropped. The DFS investigator and law

enforcement educated Lexi's parents about the reasons children recant and stressed the importance of supporting Lexi and reporting if she ever made a disclosure in the future.

Lexi's family felt uncomfortable remaining on the ranch. They bought a house and moved into town. Most weekends, Lexi and her brothers stayed at her grandparent's. Her brothers had strict orders to keep an eye on Lexi and not let her be alone with her grandfather. Soon, however, the special treatment began again. First, her grandfather bought her a tablet. Then, tickets to the rodeo for the two of them. There were other gifts and opportunities that came about that never included Lexi's brothers. The boys felt powerless to guard their sister and scared to tell their parents what was happening. For Lexi, it was just like before the rape; she was grandfather's special girl once again. Her grandfather began engaging in sex with Lexi on a regular basis again. She didn't mind so much anymore.

When Lexi was 12, she was at a sleep over and her friend Sasha's mother heard Lexi describe sexual intercourse to her daughter in great detail. Sasha's mother was alarmed by what she heard and called the school counselor, who took Lexi aside the following Monday and asked about the conversation. Lexi broke down in tears. She begged the counselor not to tell, and stated she wanted to die because her family would hate her if her grandfather went to jail.

Lexi was brought back to CAP for a forensic interview based on the new disclosure. This time, in an interview that lasted more than three hours, Lexi provided detailed episodes of abuse that occurred before and after her family moved off the ranch. She provided enough information that her grandfather was interviewed by law enforcement within hours. Lexi's grandfather initially denied the allegations, but after failing a polygraph confessed not only to sexually abusing Lexi, but also another child many years before.

Lexi spent several years in counseling overcoming nightmares, intrusive thoughts, and self-blame. Her family never really accepted that the abuse had occurred and her only real support system was the school counselor she initially disclosed to, her maternal grandmother, also a survivor, and the CAP staff. She does well in school and has several close friendships. She still has "bad days" when she wishes she hadn't had to trade her family for the truth. She has many more good days than bad. Lexi graduated high school in 2016 and plans to become a large animal veterinarian. She has little contact with her parents or her brothers.

The other child, Marlee, now an adult, was contacted by law enforcement. She corroborated the grandfather's confession and added details of her own abuse experience. Marlee did not disclose the abuse as a child and eventually turned to drugs and alcohol to ease the nightmares and flashbacks and help her feel "normal." Eventually, the substance abuse took over. In 2005, she voluntarily entered a treatment facility and faced her past. Today, Marlee is an addictions counselor in Minnesota. She returned to Wyoming to testify in Lexi's grandfather's trial.

Based on the information provided by Lexi during her forensic interview, Marlee's testimony and his confession, the grandfather was sentenced to no more than 40 years at the Wyoming State Penitentiary. If he remains in good health and serves his full sentence, he will be 85 when he is released from prison.



Until you spread
your wings, you
have no idea
how far you'll fly.

-Unknown



1 in 4 Girls &



1 in 6 Boys will be



Sexually Abused
before Age **18**.

Only

38%

of child victims
disclose that
they have been
sexually abused.



90%
of sexual
abuse victims
know their
perpetrator



Four children
die every day
in the U.S.
because of
abuse

A report of
child abuse is
made every
ten seconds



1,825

children are abused
or neglected each
day in the U.S.



one-quarter of abuse
victims were younger
than 3 years old.



Who We Are



The CAP team is made up of x full-time staff, x contractors, and x partner agencies working together to ensure the highest quality of services are available to child victims in and around our community.

Child Advocate:

Works closely with families, orienting them into the program, providing education on the forensic interview and investigation process, and helping them navigate through the often unknown world of legal and prosecutorial process

Forensic Interviewer:

Highly trained in the protocol of conducting forensic interviewing of children, conducts and unbiased interview that is a fact finding mission, formulating open-ended questions that allow the child to tell their story in a developmentally appropriate manner

Executive Director:

Ensures that partner agencies have strong working relationships with one another, adequate funding is available to meet the program goals and that the public is educated on the prevalence of child abuse and sexual abuse

Counselor:

Licensed Clinical Social Workers who have received additional training on counseling child victims of crime, provide therapeutic counseling services at CAP

Office Manager:

Maintains office services by organizing office operations and procedures, assists in office efficiency and client scheduling.

Partner Agencies:

Natrona County Sheriff's Office, Casper Police Department, Mills Police Department, Evansville Police Department, District Attorney's Office, Department of Family Services, Child Protective Services

What We Do



Child tells that they are being hurt by someone they know



Child goes to emergency room and receives a Sexual Assault Exam



Child receives a Forensic Interview at CAP that is monitored by the Multidisciplinary Team to ensure it is legally sound and developmentally appropriate



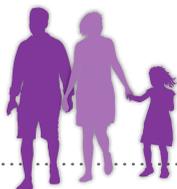
Children's Advocacy Project, District Attorney's Office, Law Enforcement, and the Department of Family Services are all notified and begin working together on a joint investigation



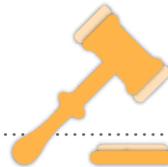
The victim is referred to a counselor to help them deal with the trauma, manage panic attacks, nightmares, and practice assertive communication skills



Family or caregivers receive support and information from CAP's Child Advocate



CAP continues to provide counseling and checks in with families frequently to offer support



The Team has helped to put together a sound case in court. CAP helps the child prepare a victim impact statement

Year in Review

January:

Ryan Ogden, 21 from Casper, sexually abused a 9 year old girl has been sentenced to five to ten years in prison. The victim was interviewed at CAP.

February:

William Hall of Casper admits to sexually abusing four girls beginning in 1999. He faces 14 child sexual abuse charges. The most recent victim was interviewed at CAP.

April:

Jeremy Morgan, 40, pleads guilty to two counts second-degree sexual abuse of a minor after forcing a 10 year old to inappropriately touch him.



May:

Shaun Hamilton sentenced to 56 years in prison for sexually abusing two girls. He was found guilty of five child sexual abuse charges for raping two girls.

July

Joshua Winters, 33, makes first court appearance after kidnapping a 5 year old boy from a Casper bowling alley and sexually assaulting him. Winter could face life in prison.

August:

Casper woman admits in court she broke her baby's arm last year when she became frustrated while changing the infant's clothing.

September

Brandtly Bedsaul, 19, was arrested after he had raped and strangled a young girl in the front lawn of the Casper home where he lived. He is charged with attempted homicide, first-degree sexual assault of a minor, aggravated assault.

November:

Gillette man, Donald Fotz is found guilty of killing his girlfriend's 2 year old son.





February

Ryan Townsend of Casper is charged with felony child abuse after throwing his 8 year old stepson to the floor and choking him. The victim was interviewed at CAP, along with the victim's brother.

March:

Registered Sex Offender, Daniel Forgey of Riverton, uses Facebook as an attempt to solicit children for an inappropriate training class will serve five to six years behind bars.

May:

19 year old Casper man, Austin Barelle, is facing criminal charges for having sex with two girls between the ages of 13 and 15. Both were interviewed at CAP

June:

A 19 year old Shoshoni teen faces felony charge for impregnating a 12 year old girl. He is charged with first-degree sexual abuse of a minor and could face 50 years in prison. The victim was interviewed at CAP.



September:

Casper Man, Daniel Fisher, is facing felony charges for striking his stepdaughter in the face with a shoe. The girl was interview at CAP

September:

Bar Nunn man accused of raping the 16 year old girl who was babysitting his children pleads no contest to third-degree sexual abuse of a minor.

October:

Justin Ross is charged with aggravated child abuse, after beating his 2 year old daughter and throwing her against a wall, causing a fractured skull, broken ribs and bruising.

November:

Casper Couple, Austin and Paula Draper, are arrested after being suspected of abusing their children and installing an alarm system to prevent children from escaping.

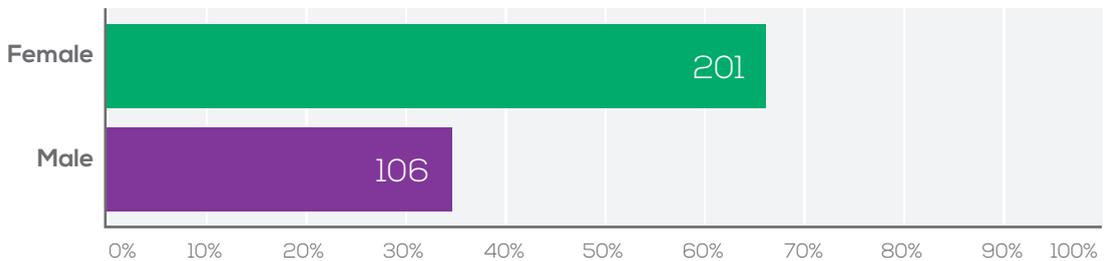


An airplane takes off against the wind

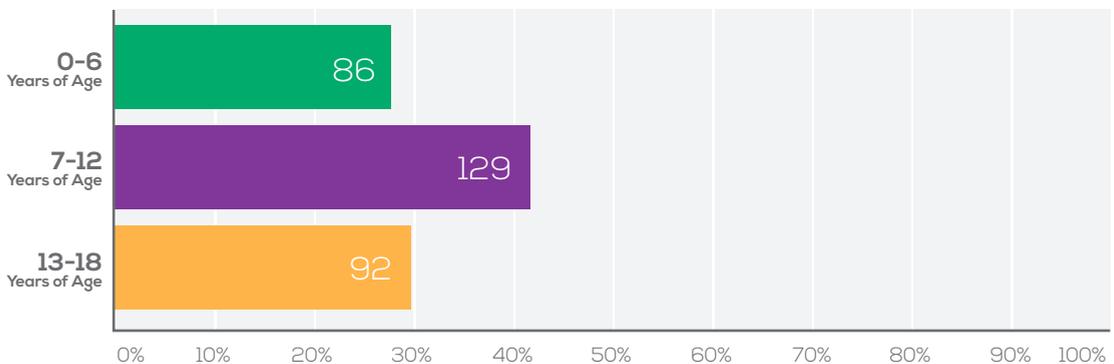
-Henry Ford



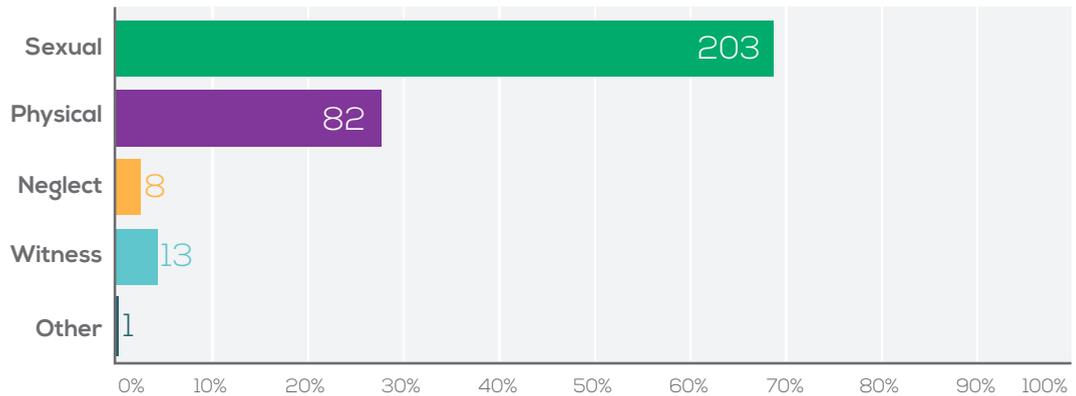
GENDER OF VICTIMS



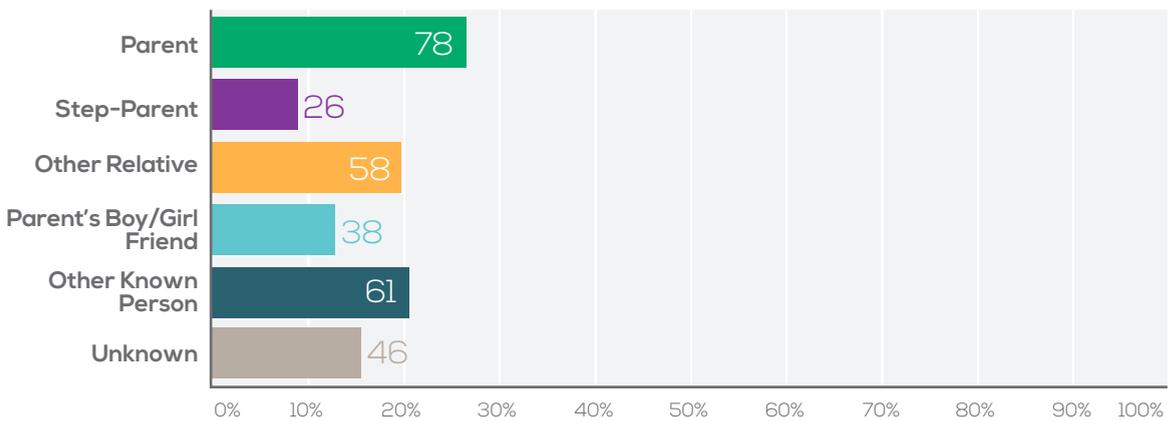
AGE OF VICTIMS



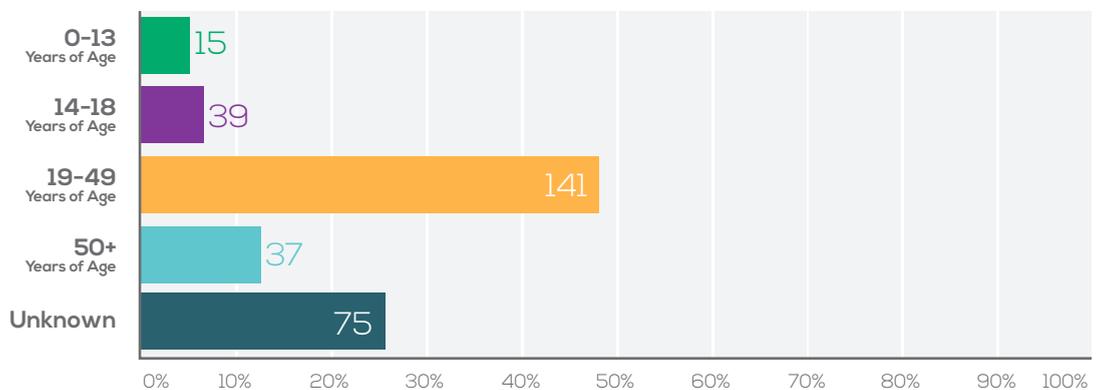
TYPES OF ABUSE



RELATION OF SUSPECT



AGE OF SUSPECTS



2016 EVENTS

CAP's Night of Giving

251 Attended Event,
57 Silent Auction Items,
10 Live Auction

Shoot Trap for CAP

17 Heavy Hitter Teams,
9 Rec. League Teams,
Total of 130 Shooters

**2016 Total Raised:
\$61,759.05 For CAP Services**





A SPECIAL THANK YOU

Thank you to all of our dedicated supporters for investing in the Children's Advocacy Project, investing in the belief that no child should be without the services needed to heal from abuse, and working together to create a world that better responds to and helps prevent child abuse.

Annual Budget

FUNDING SOURCES

VOCA Federal Funding	\$149,741.00
Program Income	\$76,790.00
Natrona City & County Funds	\$71,000.00
Fundraising Income	\$58,000.00
Wyoming Community Foundation	\$50,000.00
Other City & County Funds	\$44,500.00
United Way	\$40,000.00
Donations	\$30,000.00
McMurry Foundation	\$20,000.00
Community Action Partnership	\$17,900.00
National Children's Alliance	\$9,000.00
	\$566,031.00

EXPENSES

Salaries & Benefits	72.0%
Contract Services	6.0%
Training & Travel	5.9%
Building (Utilities, Phone, Internet, Insurance, Housekeeping)	4.4%
Equipment & Supplies	3.5%
Printing & Postage	1.4%
Accounting	1.4%
Meetings, Memberships, Dues	2.0%
Advertising, Website, Education	2.0%
Legal Services	1.4%
	100%



It's opener,
out there,
in the wide,
open air.
-Dr. Seuss



We would like to extend our sincerest gratitude for your part in supporting CAP's Mission.

THANKS

A MILLION!



The Great Untamed Wines & Meads	Sunsations Tanning Salon	Greg & Shelly Cook
Feeding Laramie Valley	Texas Roadhouse	Horseshoe Bar
Gear Up & Get Out	Aspen Creek Massage	La Cocina
Gourmet Gift Baskets	Dancing Sheep Yarn & Fibre	Michael Steele
Nicholas & Kelly Zimmerman	El Marko Lanes	Nicolaysen Art Museum
Night Heron Books & Coffeehouse	Hair of the Dog	Pottery By You
The Crowbar & Grill	Lead Country Club	Rich & Cori Burton
Library Sports Grille & Brewery	Starbucks West	Robert Adams
Om On the Range	Wyoming Athletic Club	Sherwin Williams
T Bee S Pollination	Coal Creek Tap	Durbin Street Golf
Toy Town	Five Guys Burgers	Guadalajara
Trish & Matt Randels	Outback Steakhouse	Girl In Air
Wagner's	Starbucks East	The Occidental Hotel
Binnie Butter	The Shop For Him	Rosemary Bartle And Tara Fairbanks
Jump Craze	Bid's Place	Wyo Potter
Shane Cates	Tomahawk Lake Country Club	Cowboy Joe Club
The Front Porch	Cadillac Cowgirl	Lander Country Club
Jeffrey's Bistro	Artisan Alley	Prana & Fit 24
The Wyoming Dinosaur Center & Dig Sites	Applebees	The Flour Bin
Jade Elephant Beads	Buffalo Golf Club	All Creatures Veterinary Hospital
Sams Club	Great Harvest Bread Company	Dr. Ken Morse
Butterfly Pavilion	K9 Corral	Carissa Marak
Ashley Delach	Papa Murphy's	Dream Upon a Princess
Charlie T's Pizza	Star Plunge	Fine Dining Restaurant Group
Cold Stone Creamery	Walmart	Mineral Palace Hotel & Gaming
Fantastic Sams	Casper Cigar Company	Powder River Armory
Olive Garden	Clarke & Holly Turner	Hampton Inn & Suites Riverton
Paintrock Animal Clinic	Dianna Roby	Barker-Ewing Jackson
Petco	Moving Casper LLC	Hole River Trips
Pizza Hut	Rootz Salon	Wind River Casino
Vintage Body Care	The Beacon	Ridley's Market East
Brown & Gold Store	Total Elegance Boutique	Science Zone
Casidy Mittelstadt	Douglas Golf Club	The Vita Sana Company
Denver Museum of Nature & Science	Blimpies	Mallory Frye
Justin & Carrie Maki	Casper Curbside Recycling	Digital Blues Print Shop
Nancy Neubert	Dan's Meat Processing	Primetime
Rib & Chop House	NStyle Nails and Spa	Western Divers LTD
Sandwich Bar	Elitch Gardens	Crazy Pedaler
Silver Fox Steakhouse	Yumwiches	Complete Nutrition
Surf Wyoming	Dustin & Baleigh Hite	Dr. Fermento's
Backwards Distillery	\$100.00 - \$299.00	Erik Mayes, LMS
HQBBQ	Anna Sensen	Shirts & More
Modern Nails	Art 321	The Wort Hotel
Seasons of The Earth	Bill Shade	WLC Engineering Surveying
	Casper Events Center	Wyoming Anglers
	Fischer Auto Body	

Patrick & Darcie Holscher
 Sheila Hahn-Harris
 Sierra West
 American Girl
 Cheyenne Frontier Days
 Rob Barnosky
 Brian & Kerrie Green
 Budweiser
 Chris & Tiffany Elhart
 Computer Logic
 DBS Casper Beverage
 Galles Greenhouse
 Grabar Voice & Data
 Huber Plumbing & Heating
 Kids Works
 Killmer & Associates
 Living Well Counseling, LLC
 Lost Arrow Archers
 Mercer Family Resource Center
 Natrona Co Farm
 & Ranch Bureau
 Natrona County Shooters 4-H
 Platte River FOP
 Platte Valley Bank
 Townsend Justice Center
 WIDC-Frontier CDC
 Wind City Physical Therapy
 Medical Skin Care
 Frosted Tops
\$300.00 - \$499.00
 Big O Tires
 Bud & Vickie Ross
 Chris Hadlock
 Decker Auto Glass
 Heather Ross
 Holiday Inn Sheridan
 Keefe's Flowers
 Nate's Flowers
 RJ's Carpet Cleaning
 Saratoga Resort & Spa
 The Snob Shoppe
 Three Crowns Golf Club
 Keyhole Outdoor Living
 Wyoming Office Products &
 Interiors
 Casper Gymnastics Center
 Bahr Lodge Labs
 Kalico Kat Quilt Shop



You have made our YEAR!

Nowoodstock
 YMCA
 Ramkota Hotel Center
 Casper Animal Medical
 Casper Country Club
 Corner Upholstry
 Jackson Hole Golf
 Mike & Meegan Steinberg
 Twin Pines Lodge & Cabins
 Wyoming Skin Care
 Kaitlin Bays
 S N S Outfitters
 Poetic Images Photography
 Flannigan's Furniture
 Brad & Natalia Follensbee
 GNT Signs and Services
 Wyo Elements
 Extremedies
 Riddles
 White's Mountain Motors
\$500 and Over
 Dallas Camp
 Fitness One
 Grooms & Harkins
 Gun Powder Therapy Heavy
 Hitter Team
 Huberth & Carissa Marak
 International Brotherhood of
 Electrical Workers
 Peak Asset Managers
 Plains Tire & Battery
 Roxy Skogen
 Superior Signs
 Wyoming Casing Service
 The Club @ Devil's Tower
 Wyoming Blinds & Shutters
 ANB Bank
 Hat Six Travel Plaza
 Modern Electric
 Old Baldy
 PGA National Resort and Spa
 Palm Beach
 Williams, Porter, Day
 & Neville PC
 Wyoming Behavioral Insitute
 Hilltop National Bank
 Lifetime Health & Fitness
 Center
 Tom Lukas Artwork
 Foss Motors
 Paradise Valley Country Club
 Zimmerman Family Foundation
 Cloud Peak
 Priceless
 Casper Fire Fighters
 Casper Police Department
 Ed & Linda Toohey
 Fleur & Jeremy Tremel
 Pam Jones
 Wyoming State Crime Lab





**If you would like to make a donation
or if you have any questions about
our services, please contact us:**

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childrensadvocacyproject.org • [facebook.com/childrensadvocacyproject](https://www.facebook.com/childrensadvocacyproject)**