



Pennsylvania's child protection reforms hit the 5 year mark

With the signature of a governor in December 2013, Commonwealth sought to "create a culture that promotes greater awareness, more accountability and better coordination."

December 19th - Five years ago this week, Governor Tom Corbett put his signature on the first of what eventually would be more than two dozen new laws enacted in 2013 and 2014 envisioned as creating or strengthening tools needed to better protect Pennsylvania's children and to promote *child safety*.

Five years later and there is growing grumbling (and some evidence) that the vision (and urgency) of 2013 and the reality (on-the-ground) in 2018 are quite mismatched.

Back in 2013, Corbett was surrounded by a sea of bipartisan state lawmakers as he signed the initial batch of laws intended to:

- Rework the definition of child abuse particularly around neglect and physical abuse (for the first time in nearly two decades).¹
- Establish who could be a perpetrator of child abuse placing the person's name (potentially forever) within the state child welfare database to be checked before a person can work or volunteer with children.
- Ensure mandatory expunction from the statewide database for certain youthful perpetrators (those placed in the database when they were under the age of 18). The expunction is to occur automatically when the individual reaches the age of 21 or five years from the date the youth was placed in the database.²
- Reaffirm the necessity of a child-centered and multidisciplinary team approach when interviewing a child and investigating a child abuse report.³
- Strengthen immunity protections for those reporting child abuse and due process provisions related to the mechanism and timing of how a person, named as a perpetrator, secures removal of their name from the statewide child welfare database.⁴

¹ Act 108 of 2013 -

<https://www.legis.state.pa.us/cfdocs/Legis/LI/uconsCheck.cfm?txtType=HTM&yr=2013&sessInd=0&smthLwInd=0&act=108>

² Act 117 of 2013 -

<https://www.legis.state.pa.us/cfdocs/Legis/LI/uconsCheck.cfm?txtType=HTM&yr=2013&sessInd=0&smthLwInd=0&act=117>

³ Act 123 of 2013 -

<https://www.legis.state.pa.us/cfdocs/Legis/LI/uconsCheck.cfm?txtType=HTM&yr=2013&sessInd=0&smthLwInd=0&act=123>

⁴ Act 119 of 2013 - <https://www.legis.state.pa.us/cfdocs/Legis/LI/uconsCheck.cfm?yr=2013&sessInd=0&act=119>

- Set forth an expectation that any court making a decision about child custody will review and weigh whether any party to the custody proceeding (or living with the child’s parent) has had a history with the child welfare system (e.g., child protective or general protective services).⁵
- Provide for a sentencing enhancement following a child pornography conviction.⁶
- Expand the criminal offense of aggravated assault based on the age of victim (e.g., a child under the age of 6) and Endangering the Welfare of Children (EWOC) related someone trying to intimidate or interfere during the course of a person attempting to report child abuse.
- Create a criminal offense related to filing a false report of child abuse and require that false reports be among the data elements contained (and checked) within the statewide child welfare database.⁷
- Make “substantive and editorial changes” to the Professional Educator Discipline Act.⁸

Corbett thanked legislators as he assured that these early pieces of legislation would “better equip our communities to protect children, and enhance the safety and security of the commonwealth’s children.”

Beverly Mackereth, who was serving as the Secretary of the Pennsylvania Department of Human Services (PA DHS), stipulated the new laws would “create a culture that promotes greater awareness, more accountability and better coordination between state and local government, law enforcement and health and child welfare agencies.”⁹

Today, many still struggle with what is meant by *child safety* and how to assess (let alone determine) that a child is *safe*. In other words, much has changed and yet there remains a struggle about the fundamental foundation of the work.

It would take until spring 2014 for legislation expanding the pool of persons legally required to report suspected child abuse and to be subject to training requirements to reach Corbett’s desk.¹⁰

Also delayed (a bit) was legislation setting forth the various types of data required to be included in the statewide database, including creating an expectation that counties and PA DHS would finally track and report on general protective services (GPS) - the “non-abuse” cases that involve children and families becoming known (over and over) to county agencies whose workforce and budgets are always under pressure due to these GPS cases.¹¹

Be a part of Pennsylvania’s Child Protection Check-Up!

Pennsylvania’s Center for Children’s Justice (C4CJ) invites you to share your insight about what you think has worked well, what’s proven a challenge and what needs a check-up 5 years after Pennsylvania enacted comprehensive child protection reforms.

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/CPcheckup>

⁵ Act 107 of 2013 -

<https://www.legis.state.pa.us/cfdocs/Legis/LI/uconsCheck.cfm?txtType=HTM&yr=2013&sessInd=0&smthLwInd=0&act=107>

⁶ Act 105 of 2013 - <https://www.legis.state.pa.us/cfdocs/legis/li/uconsCheck.cfm?yr=2013&sessInd=0&act=105>

⁷ Act 118 of 2013 -

<https://www.legis.state.pa.us/cfdocs/Legis/LI/uconsCheck.cfm?txtType=HTM&yr=2013&sessInd=0&smthLwInd=0&act=118>

⁸ Act 120 of 2013 - <https://www.legis.state.pa.us/cfdocs/legis/li/uconsCheck.cfm?yr=2013&sessInd=0&act=120>

⁹ <https://fox43.com/2013/12/18/governor-corbett-signs-child-protective-services-bills/>

¹⁰ Act 32 of 2014 -

<https://www.legis.state.pa.us/cfdocs/Legis/LI/uconsCheck.cfm?txtType=HTM&yr=2014&sessInd=0&smthLwInd=0&act=32> and Act 33 of 2014 -

<https://www.legis.state.pa.us/cfdocs/Legis/LI/uconsCheck.cfm?txtType=HTM&yr=2014&sessInd=0&smthLwInd=0&act=33>

¹¹ Act 29 of 2014 -

<https://www.legis.state.pa.us/cfdocs/Legis/LI/uconsCheck.cfm?txtType=HTM&yr=2014&sessInd=0&smthLwInd=0&act=29>

The laws (those enacted in 2013 and early 2014), by and large, did not take effect until December 31, 2014 allowing the state's 67 county child welfare agencies and all the partners in protecting children, including law enforcement and mandatory reporters, time to get up-to-speed on the reworked legal requirements.

Many would suggest that catch up remains the theory and reality - five years later.

The framework for the child protection legal reforms were set forth by an 11-member Task Force on Child Protection created by Corbett and the Pennsylvania General Assembly.

The Task Force and the legislation that would emerge often is cited as having been driven by the arrest of Gerald Sandusky, who would later be convicted for serially sexually assaulting many children whom he groomed and had access to through his work as a former Penn State football coach, founder of a non-profit known as the 2nd Mile that specifically sought out and served vulnerable children and because he was a foster parent in Pennsylvania.

The Task Force, however, evolved after, more than a year, in which diverse interdisciplinary stakeholders would regularly raise concerns about the capacity and operations of the state's child abuse reporting hotline - ChildLine and local child welfare agencies.



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Dear Governor Corbett and Leaders of the General Assembly:

Preventing child abuse and protecting children is a shared community responsibility.

Also following a repeated urging that Governor Corbett and state lawmakers create “an intentional time-limited and interdisciplinary Commission to Improve the Prevention, Identification and Treatment of Child Abuse.” The pitch was made that data (limited in its availability and reliability) demonstrated that Pennsylvania was a “statistical outlier in when and how it investigates and then substantiates child abuse.”

The diverse stakeholders calling for such a Commission noted that (at the time), Pennsylvania's rate (per 1,000) of children who were subject to a child abuse investigation was 8.3, while the national rate was 40.3. After investigation, the rate (again per 1,000 children) of confirmed child victims was 9.3 nationally and 1.4 in Pennsylvania.

Those urging an intentional focus on child protection stressed, in an April 2011 letter to policy makers, “The only immediate conclusion we can draw is that as a Commonwealth we must prioritize a greater understanding of and attention to the prevention, identification and treatment of child abuse.”

Today, Pennsylvania's per child rate for child abuse investigations and child victims remains complicated (when compared with national data).

Why PA is still an outlier was explored in the March 1, 2018 edition of the Children's Justice and Advocacy Report (***Child Maltreatment Report Once Again Casts Pennsylvania as an Outlier***). That CJAR dug deeper into the data and what Pennsylvania officials said about it to federal authorities responsible for annually publishing data and commentary about what the state of *child safety* looks like in the United States ([27th Child Maltreatment report](#)).

A big part of the complication - while Pennsylvania statute has set forth the concept of GPS (those “non-abuse” referrals) since the mid-1990s - the Commonwealth did not require its 67 county children and youth agencies to submit GPS data to the state. This guaranteed that for nearly 20 years there was no uniformly collected, analyzed and publicly reported GPS data. It was a big deal when the law and expectation changed in 2013-2014.

In the commentary Pennsylvania submitted to offer fuller context (within [27th Child Maltreatment report](#)), state officials acknowledged the “comprehensive package of child welfare legislative reforms” enacted between 2013 and 2015 and then stipulated that the discussion of PA in the federal Maltreatment report still does not yet include data related to Pennsylvania’s version of an “alternative response.”

As Table 1 (built upon data from the 2017 Child Maltreatment Report) illustrates, nationally the rate of children receiving an investigation or alternative response was 46.7 (per 1,000 children). By comparison, the rate reported for Pennsylvania was 15.0.

Table1: Children who received an investigation or alternative response¹²

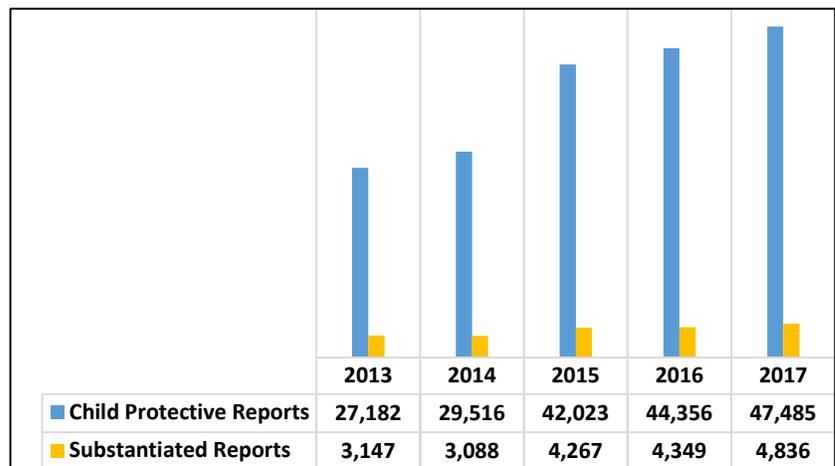
State	2012 (rate per 1,000 children)	2013 (rate per 1,000 children)	2014 (rate per 1,000 children)	2015 (rate per 1,000 children)	2016 (rate per 1,000 children)
National	42.5	42.8	43.9	45.2	46.7
Delaware	72.4	65.3	65.1	68.5	67.9
Maryland	23.3	21.9	23.3	22.9	23.7
New Jersey	37.4	37.5	37.5	37.3	37.2
New York	50.9	48.3	47.5	49.1	50.1
Ohio	38.5	39.0	38.8	38.8	39.8
Pennsylvania	8.6	8.6	9.3	13.7	15.0
West Virginia	96.5	102.9	104.2	120.0	139.8

Turn to Pennsylvania’s own annual child abuse publication and you find that in 2017, approximately 18 out of every 1,000 children in the Commonwealth were involved in a child abuse investigation and, after investigation, approximately 2 (per 1,000) children were confirmed victims.¹³ Those non-abuse or general protective services referrals that still involve the child welfare agency, but don’t trigger a formal child abuse investigation (versus an assessment of the child and family), had PA DHS reporting that approximately 45 out of every 1,000 children were the subject of a GPS referral. 19 per 1,000 children were the subject of a valid GPS referral, which hopefully opened the door for the child and family to be on a pathway to services and supports.

Again - so much - including the (reliability and comparison of) data is a complicated work-in-progress.

There is enough data, however, to confidently say that there has been recurring alarm, since 2013, about the pressure the reforms, placed on county child welfare agencies, law enforcement and other child protection partners.

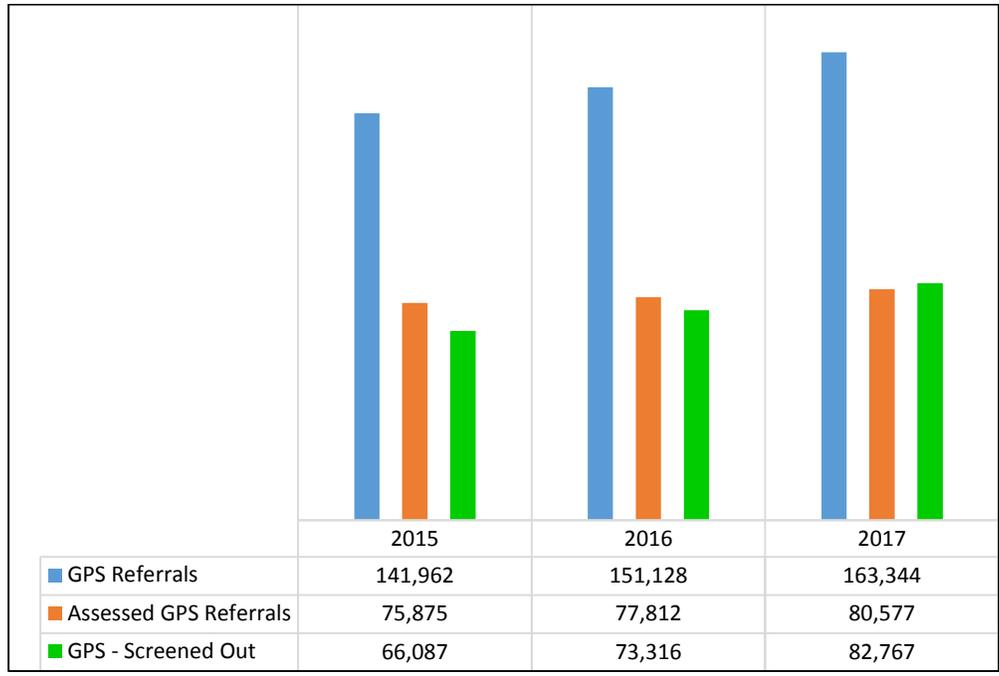
As the adjacent charts illustrate whether it is child protective (child abuse) reports or referrals for GPS, the last five years have been marked by buckets and buckets of child abuse reports and GPS referrals being sent to ChildLine and child welfare



¹² Created based on data in Table 3-1 Children Who Received an Investigation or Alternative Response, 2012-2016 included in Child Maltreatment 2016, page 29.

¹³ http://www.dhs.pa.gov/cs/groups/webcontent/documents/document/c_275378.pdf

agencies and police departments.¹⁴ The pressure has been intense and has combined with other harsh realities for children, families and the systems that seek to promote *child safety* most notably the opioid epidemic.



¹⁴ The source for the CPS and GPS charts was the 2017 Child Protective Services Report published by the Pennsylvania Department of Human Services and retrieved at http://www.dhs.pa.gov/cs/groups/webcontent/documents/document/c_275378.pdf.

A sampling of the view from Pennsylvania's counties

Source: Fiscal Year 2019-20 Needs- Based Plan & Budgets

Allegheny: "Intake investigations for children have been steadily rising, increasing about 30% from 2013-2014 to 2017-18, and 10% from 2016-17 to 2017-18 alone. DHS attributes this to passage of Pennsylvania's child abuse and mandated reporting reform legislation as well as the increase in families impacted by the opioid epidemic in Allegheny County. DHS anticipates this upward trend will continue."

Beaver: "Our intake data shows that the number of children/families assessed in FY 2017-18 increased significantly from the previous year. We continue to see an increase in referrals made to the agency following implementation of the CPSL changes three years ago. Although the number of children and families referred to the agency continues to increase, the number/percentage of reports that are substantiated remains relatively stable."

Bedford: "Factors contributing to the increase in Intakes are due to the changes that have occurred with CPSL especially the broadening of the definition of child abuse, who are Mandated Reporters and the failure to report for Mandated Reporters. The majority of intake calls deals with family mental health and drug use within the home with both the parent and child. The duplication of calls and referrals on the same cases continue to decrease from Childline, which implicates consistency in staff and training."

Carbon: "When the CPSL changed in 2015, CPS reports increased drastically due to mandated reporting trainings, change in abuse definitions and an overabundance of press supporting reporting child abuse. This did not however, change the percentage of reports indicated in Carbon County. On average, about 13% of CPS incidents are substantiated."

Centre: "Centre County continues to see a steady increase in the number of intake investigations each year. Although it is believed that this increase can still be attributed to the 2014 legislative changes to the Child Protective Services Law (CPSL) and the implementation of the Child Welfare Information System (CWIS) to a degree, there is growing concern that the impact can be more likely attributed to the impact the Opioid crisis is having on our population."

Crawford: "In December 2014, the Child Protective Service Law was revised and the criteria for what constitutes abuse, who qualifies as a perpetrator and definition/training for mandated reporters was changed. These changes has increased the number of intake families and children who are investigated. Another factor affecting the increase in investigations is accredited to the way that General Protective Service reports on cases opened for ongoing services are classified in the database system. The process for investigation of the concerns remains the same, but how the allegation is documented in the data system is different."

Delaware: "Intake has experienced a sixty percent increase in the number of investigations over the past five years. The changes in the CPSL as well as the opiate crisis would appear to be the dominant drivers for this increase."

Erie: "While the number of referrals to ECOCY have increased significantly since the changes in the CPSL, the increased complexity of the cases is equally weighty. The family demographics (number of children in a family, number of father's, etc.) continue to be a factor in this issue; however, the increase in complexity is largely due to an increase in the consequential clinical concerns of the families we serve. Many of the families have multiple significant identified risk factors such as addiction, generational sexual abuse, serious and persistent mental health diagnosis, etc."

Forest: "The County feels that the changes in the CPSL regarding mandated reporters have resulted in the significant increase in the number of intakes received by county child welfare agencies. In terms of placement, Forest County has been very fortunate to maintain so few placements for FY 17-18."

Northumberland: "Also as our charts show there is a significant rise in the number of Child Abuse Protective services. Another struggle for the Agency continues to be the increasing number of CPS and GPS reports being received. This has been a continuous upward trend since the changes were made to the Child Protective Services Law. Unfortunately we are unsure as to when these increases will level out. Since FY 13/14 we have had a 121% increase in CPS reports and a 99% increase in General Service referrals."

Venango: (addressing GPS) - "Presently, there is no specific guidance on how to define a screen-out of a referral and how they should be handled. As a result there is no consistency regarding what is considered a screen-out. What one county labels a screen-out may be identified as an assessment in another county."

Earlier this year, The Center for Children’s Justice (C4CJ) requested data from PA DHS that could be reviewed to determine (county-by-county) the types of abuse reported and substantiated by the age of child. PA DHS supplied the data and while it still is not ideal (in part because the age of the child is put forth in age groups versus individual age of the child), it still proves worthwhile. And the preliminary dive into it invites (make that demands) further study and open-minded dialogue.

Further data digging and questions will be reserved for another CJAR and as C4CJ undertakes its Pennsylvania Child Protection Check-Up work in 2019. For now, we encourage you to digest this preliminary look at the data and share your own insights and best thinking about what has happened, where to next.

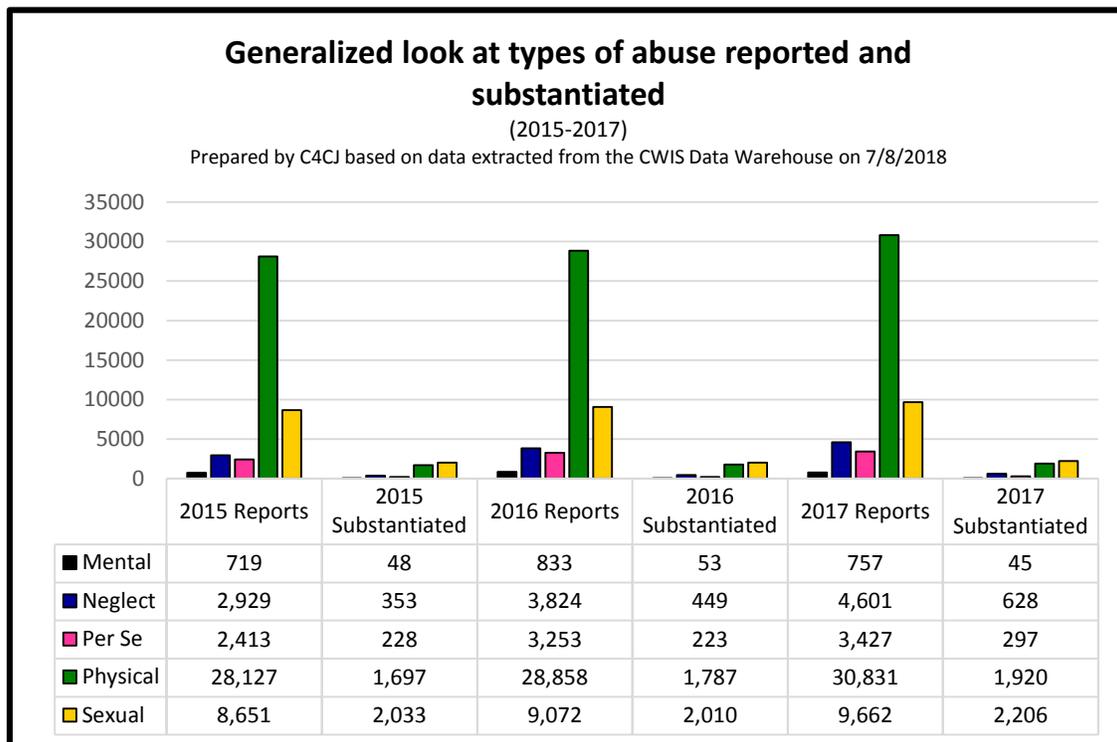
The child protective service related charts are based on data from the CWIS data warehouse extracted on July 18, 2018 and then supplied by PA DHS to C4CJ. A child can be the subject of multiple types of abuse within one report (e.g., bodily injury and sexual abuse).

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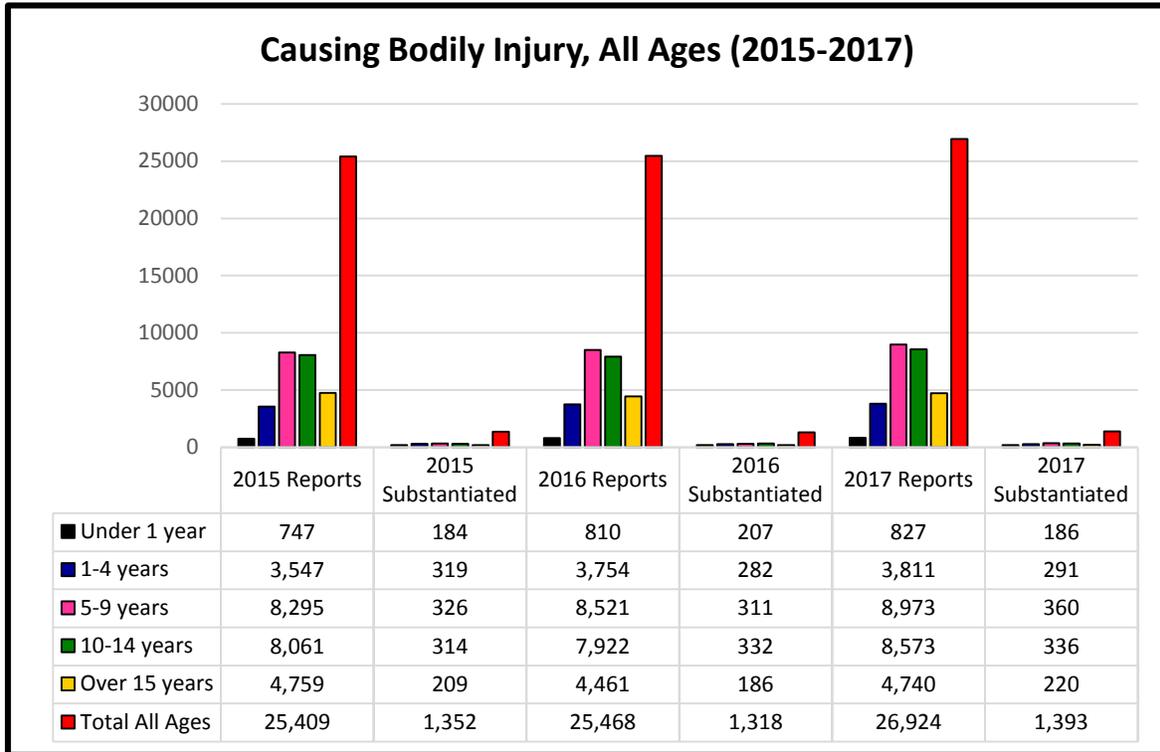
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/CPcheckup>

In this chart, C4CJ sought to generally group the different, yet related (e.g., causing bodily injury and reasonable likelihood of causing bodily injury) categories of abuse (e.g., neglect, physical, sexual) reported and then substantiated to look at the data from the overarching lens of abuse types affecting Pennsylvania’s children, without any distinction for age. The thought was let’s generally look at what types of abuse is being reported and substantiated (or not).

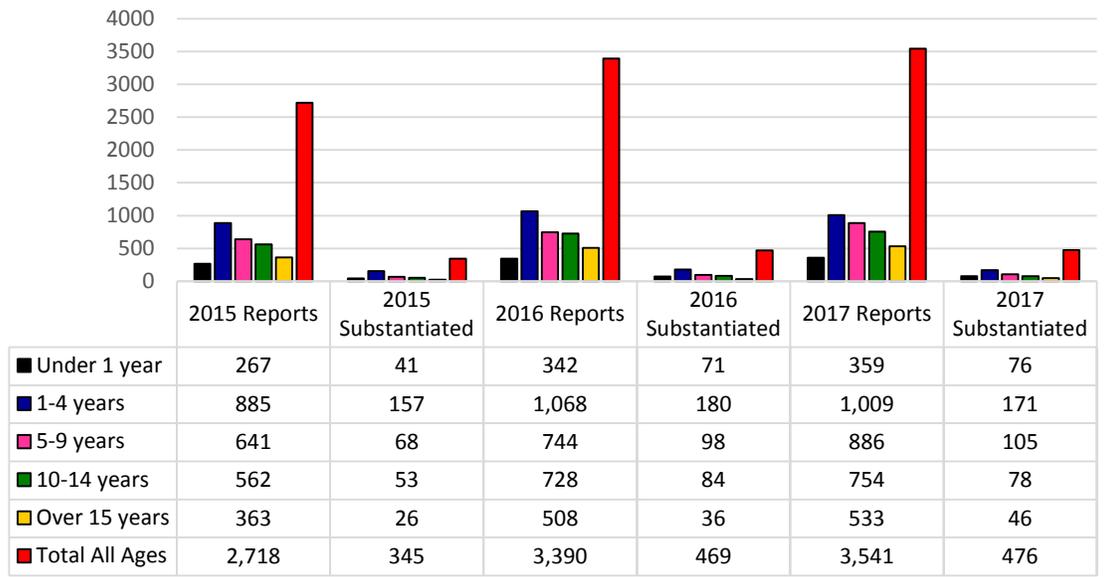


The definition of child abuse was amended to include: “Intentionally, knowingly or recklessly causing bodily injury to a child through any recent act or failure to act.” Bodily injury involves the child having some “impairment of physical condition or substantial pain” as compared to the previous “serious physical injury” definition that required a child experience “severe pain” or “significant” impairment and the existing crimes code definition of serious bodily injury (“a substantial risk of death or which causes serious permanent disfigurement or protracted loss or impairment of function of any bodily member or organ”).

Many still find fault (and concern) with Pennsylvania’s statute requiring that to determine if a child is abused (or not) is linked back to whether the child victim discloses and then stipulates the right pain threshold to get the box for child abuse checked.

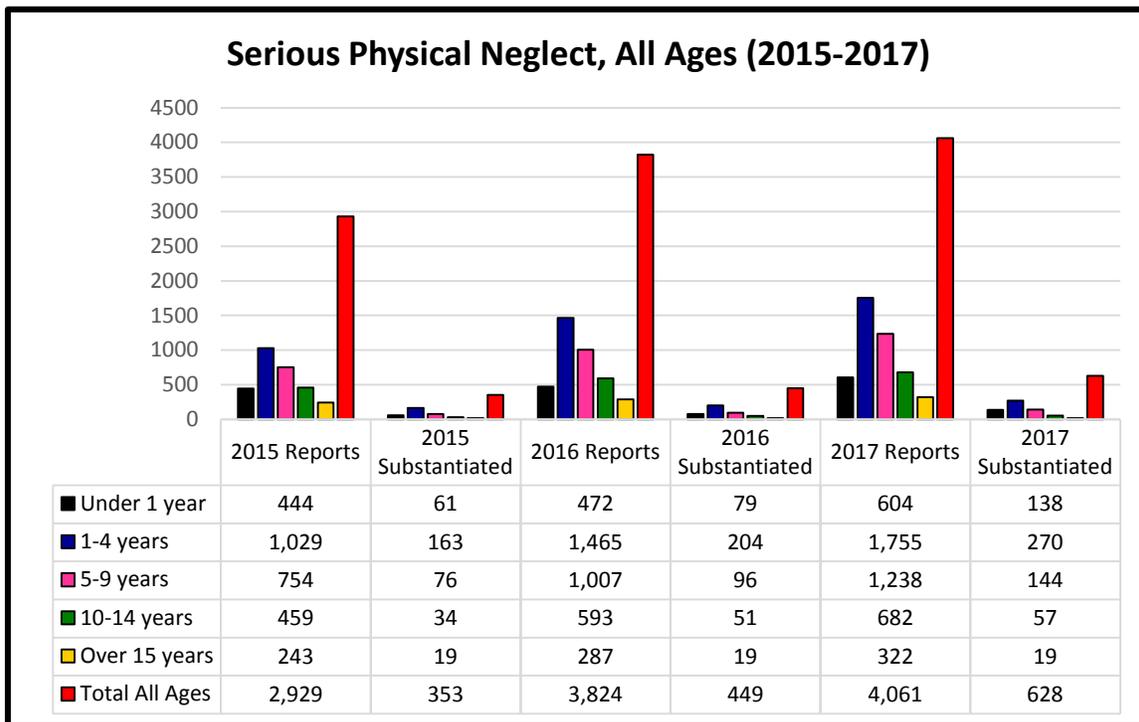


Creating a Reasonable Likelihood of Causing Bodily Injury, All Ages (2015-2017)



The reworked definition of “serious physical neglect” involved the addition of one word in 2013 - “egregious.” There was concern, through the years, that substantiating serious physical neglect required that the child be subjected to a situation that was “repeated or prolonged” overlooking a one-time situation that could, on its own, prove quite impactful to the child’s safety, health or life. Today then serious physical neglect “involves any of the following when committed by a perpetrator and “endangers a child's life or health, threatens a child's well-being, causes bodily injury or impairs a child's health, development or functioning:

- A repeated, prolonged or egregious failure to supervise a child in a manner that is appropriate considering the child’s developmental age and abilities.
- The failure to provide a child with adequate essentials of life, including food, shelter or medical care.”



With the 2013 enacted law, certain recent intentional or reckless conduct toward a child is considered per se child abuse, regardless of the level of injury inflicted. These include kicking, burning, biting, stabbing, cutting or throwing a child, unreasonably confining or restraining a child, forcibly shaking or slapping a child under one year of age and intentionally interfering with a child’s breathing.¹⁵

In October 2014, Frank Cervone, Executive Director of the Support Center for Child Advocates, wrote a guest opinion published in the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette ([In Pennsylvania, what used to be considered corporal punishment is now child abuse](http://www.post-gazette.com/opinion/Op-Ed/2014/10/19/In-Pennsylvania-what-used-to-be-considered-corporal-punishment-is-now-child-abuse))¹⁶ “Fortunately, the law in Pennsylvania is becoming clearer. With recent amendments to the definition of child abuse, there are some specific types of harm for which there is now an explicit line that cannot be crossed. For the first time in Pennsylvania history, corporal punishment of very young children has been declared child abuse per se, including forcefully shaking, slapping or otherwise striking a child under one year of age.”

That was an important (and timely) observation from Cervone. Still, today the implications of (and legal support) for what is broadly captured as “corporal punishment” in Pennsylvania is proving consequential (and sometimes deadly) for Pennsylvania’s children.

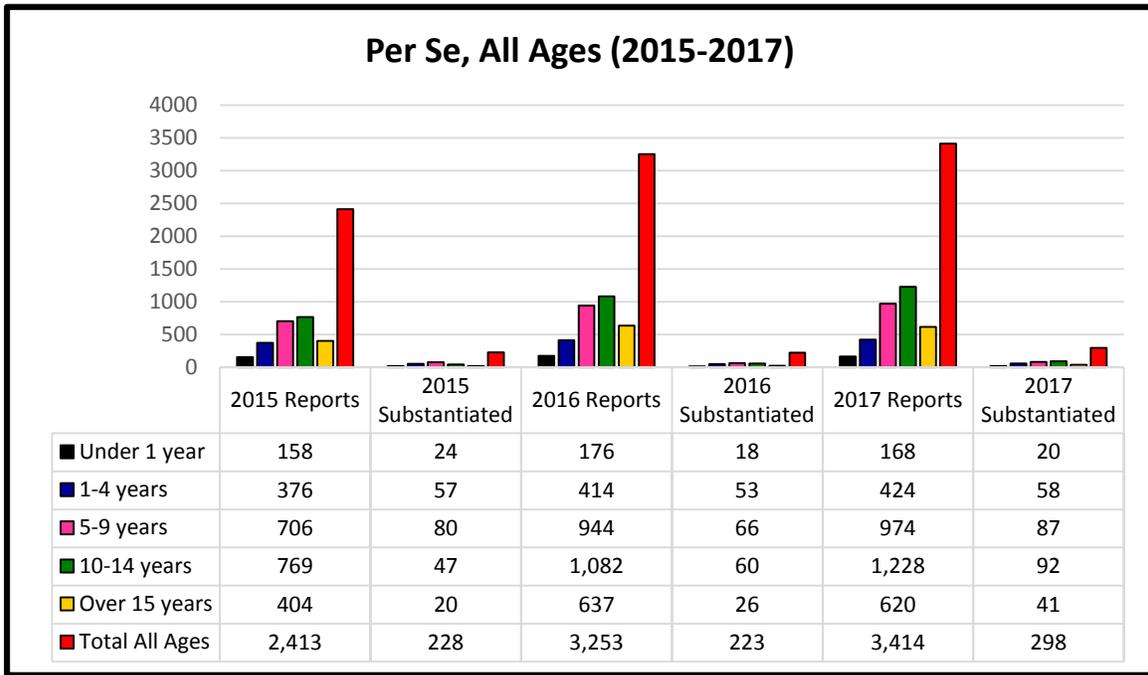
¹⁵ Task Force on Child Protection Report issued in November 2012, Page 29

¹⁶ <http://www.post-gazette.com/opinion/Op-Ed/2014/10/19/In-Pennsylvania-what-used-to-be-considered-corporal-punishment-is-now-child-abuse/stories/201410190066>

Per Se child abuse involves engaging in any of the following recent acts:

- Kicking, biting, throwing, burning, stabbing or cutting a child in a manner that endangers the child.
- Unreasonably restraining or confining a child, based on consideration of the method, location or the duration of the restraint or confinement.
- Forcefully shaking a child under one year of age.
- Forcefully slapping or otherwise striking a child under one year of age.
- Interfering with the breathing of a child.
- Causing a child to be present at a location while a violation of 18 Pa.C.S. § 7508.2 (relating to operation of methamphetamine laboratory) is occurring (only if law enforcement is investigating)
- Leaving a child unsupervised with an individual (other than the child's parent) who is required to register as a sex offender

Per Se, All Ages (2015-2017)

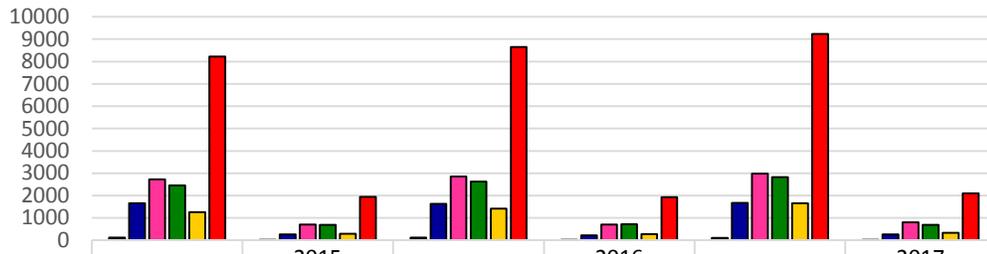


Pennsylvania has been ground zero for a focus on a justified and urgent alarm about the sexual abuse of children. Even as the Task Force on Child Protection was created and operated within the shadow of the Sandusky child sexual abuse trial, the 2013 rework of PA’s definition of child abuse was not heavily tilted toward sexual abuse. This was the reality, in part, because the law was seen as pretty well developed. Still, the Task Force did recommend changes writing:

“Sexual abuse or exploitation has been redefined to include further elaboration of what constitutes exploitation based on DPW regulations and the provisions of the Crimes Code. The list of crimes that constitute sexual abuse and exploitation is extended to include statutory sexual assault, but a limited exception to this inclusion is made in § 6311(g) dealing with consensual sex between teenagers. Rape crisis counselors have concerns that inclusion of statutory sexual assault as between teenagers as a form of reportable child abuse may have a chilling effect on young women who might otherwise seek counseling.”

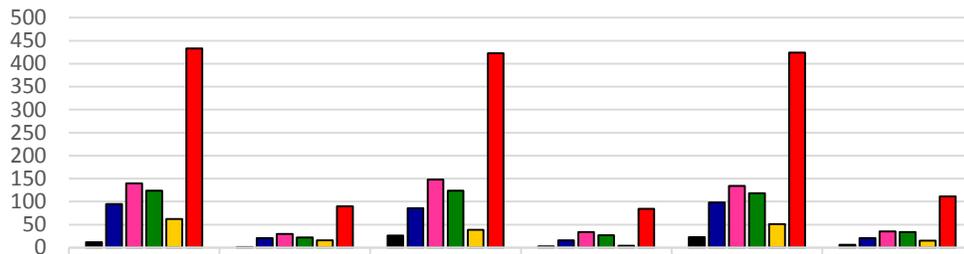
Eventually, lawmakers would amend the CPSL to stipulate that the definition of sexual abuse and exploitation “does not include consensual activities between a child who is 14 years of age or older and another person who is 14 years of age or older and whose age is within four years of the child's age.” Also added was the criminal offense of institutional sexual assault.

Causing Sexual Abuse or Exploitation , All Ages (2015-2017)



	2015 Reports	2015 Substantiated	2016 Reports	2016 Substantiated	2017 Reports	2017 Substantiated
■ Under 1 year	120	13	117	16	99	17
■ 1-4 years	1,657	257	1,635	218	1,675	259
■ 5-9 years	2,722	702	2,852	700	2,981	800
■ 10-14 years	2,457	687	2,627	722	2,823	692
■ Over 15 years	1,262	284	1,418	270	1,660	327
■ Total All Ages	8,218	1,943	8,649	1,926	9,238	2,095

Creating a Likelihood of Sexual Abuse or Exploitation , All Ages (2015-2017)



	2015 Reports	2015 Substantiated	2016 Reports	2016 Substantiated	2017 Reports	2017 Substantiated
■ Under 1 year	12	1	26	3	23	6
■ 1-4 years	95	21	86	16	98	21
■ 5-9 years	140	30	148	34	134	35
■ 10-14 years	124	22	124	27	118	34
■ Over 15 years	62	16	39	4	51	15
■ Total All Ages	433	90	423	84	424	111

As part of the 2014 agreement negotiated by PA [Senate Majority Leader Jake Corman \(R-Centre\)](#) between Penn State and the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA), Penn State paid \$48 million to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. This \$48 million was then “deposited into an endowment” established as a “separate trust fund in the State Treasury.” The road map Pennsylvania must follow to invest the \$48 million (and any earned interest) is set forth in [The Higher Education Monetary Penalty Endowment Act](#) (Act 1 of 2013).¹⁷ PA’s elected Treasurer

¹⁷<http://www.legis.state.pa.us/cfdocs/Legis/LI/uconsCheck.cfm?txtType=HTM&yr=2013&sessInd=0&smthLwInd=0&act=1>

makes endowment funding available to the PA Commission on Crime and Delinquency (PCCD) for the following purposes:

1. Programs or projects preventing child sexual abuse and/or assisting the victims of child sexual abuse;
2. Multidisciplinary investigative teams established by PA law;
3. Child advocacy centers;
4. Victim service organizations that provide services to children subjected to sexual abuse; or
5. Training of persons who are mandated by law to report child sexual abuse or to treat victims of child sexual abuse.

2017¹⁸	Total Children Served at a CAC	% and Number of Children Receiving Medical Exam/Treatment	% and Number of Children 6 years or younger	Type of Abuse – Sexual Abuse¹⁹	Type of Abuse – Physical Abuse²⁰	Type of Abuse – Neglect²¹
National	334,626	25.6% (n=85,748)	32.2% (n=108,028)	224,176	67,496	24,439
Pennsylvania	15,734	38.6% (n=6,087)	28.4% (n=4,469)	12,504	2,605	253

Year²²	Total Children Served	% and Number of Children Receiving Medical Exam/Treatment	% and Number of Children 6 years or younger	Type of Abuse – Sexual Abuse²³	Type of Abuse – Physical Abuse²⁴	Type of Abuse – Neglect²⁵
2017	15,734	38.6% (n=6,087)	28.4% (n=4,469)	12,504	2,605	253
2016	13,999	39.7% (n=5,562)	29.0% (n=4,060)	11,431	2,218	211
2015	13,617	36.7% (n=5,002)	30.2% (n=4,110)	11,194	2,085	170
2014	11,092	34.2% (n=3,804)	30.9% (n=3,435)	9,488	1,397	85
2013	9,525	% (n=2,992)	% (n=3,359)	8,085	1,088	287

Act 28 of 2014 provides a dedicated funding stream for Pennsylvania’s CACs and MDITs.²⁶ In enacting Act 28, the Pennsylvania General Assembly described CACs as “state-of-the-art treatment for victims of child sexual abuse and child abuse” and that such centers “bring together doctors, nurses, prosecutors, social workers and police in order to provide a unique and essential program of treatment and healing for child victims.”

¹⁸ <http://www.nationalchildrensalliance.org/cac-statistics/>

¹⁹ Children may be reported as having experienced multiple types of abuse making it difficult to reliably determine what percentage of the overall children served at the CAC were reported as a victim of certain types of abuse.

²⁰ Ibid.

²¹ Ibid.

²² <http://www.nationalchildrensalliance.org/cac-statistics/>

²³ Children may be reported as having experienced multiple types of abuse making it difficult to reliably determine what percentage of the overall children served at the CAC were reported as a victim of certain types of abuse.

²⁴ Ibid.

²⁵ Ibid.

²⁶ <http://www.legis.state.pa.us/cfdocs/Legis/LI/uconsCheck.cfm?txtType=HTM&yr=2014&sessInd=0&smthLwInd=0&act=28>

Act 28 imposed a ten dollar fee increase for a certified copy of a birth certificate. Seventy-five percent of the generated revenue is directed to PCCD annually to provide grants “for child advocacy centers and multidisciplinary investigative teams.” Over the last few years (at its December meeting), PCCD members have awarded Act 28 and endowment funding (as outlined in the chart below). **NOTE: this chart is not inclusive of all awarded endowment funding.**

County (if known)	PCCD Grantee ²⁷	Act 28 CAC/MDIT Development	Act 28 Accredited or Associate CACs	Endowment Funding to Support CACs
Adams				
• 2015	Adams County CAC		\$50,000	
• 2016	Adams County CAC		\$50,000	
• 2017	Adams County CAC		\$50,000	
• 2018	Adams County CAC		\$47,000	
Allegheny				
• 2015	Children’s Hospital of Pittsburgh - UPMC (equipment and training to improve victim services)		\$24,970	
• 2016	Center for Victims (Child advocacy at CAC UPMC Children’s Hospital)			\$48,657
• 2017	Children’s Hospital of Pittsburgh - UPMC		\$23,115	
• 2017	Center for Victims (Child advocacy at CAC UPMC Children’s Hospital)			\$36,493
• 2018	Children’s Hospital of Pittsburgh - UPMC (practice improvement)		\$47,000	
• 2018	Center for Victims (Child advocacy at CAC UPMC Children’s Hospital)			\$70,360
Allegheny				
• 2015	Sto-Rox Neighborhood Health Council, Inc. (regional CAC development)		\$25,003	
• 2016	Sto-Rox Neighborhood Health Council, Inc.		\$25,000	
• 2017	Sto-Rox Neighborhood Health Council, Inc.		\$25,000	
• 2018	Sto-Rox Neighborhood Health Council, Inc. (endowment funding for ACP nurse practitioner)		\$47,000	\$75,000
Armstrong				
• 2015	Helping All Victims in Need, Inc.	\$40,000		
• 2016	Helping All Victims in Need, Inc.	\$40,000		
• 2017	Kay’s Cottage Armstrong County CAC		\$50,000	
• 2018	Kay’s Cottage Armstrong County CAC		\$47,000	
Beaver				
• 2015	Sto-Rox Neighborhood Health Council, Inc. (satellite)	\$40,000		
• 2016	Sto-Rox Neighborhood Health Council, Inc. (satellite)	\$40,000		
• 2017	Sto-Rox Neighborhood Health Council, Inc. (satellite)	\$35,000		

²⁷ 2015 information extracted from the December 9, 2015 approved funding as noted at <https://www.pccd.pa.gov/AboutUs/Documents/Commission%20Awarded%20Grants/December%209,%202015.pdf>. 2016 information extracted from information within the December 14, 2016 minutes of the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency retrieved at <https://www.pccd.pa.gov/AboutUs/Documents/Commission%20Meeting%20Minutes/Minutes%2012-14-16.pdf>, 2017 information extracted from the December 13, 2017 PCCD materials retrieved at <https://www.pccd.pa.gov/AboutUs/Documents/Commission%20Awarded%20Grants/December%2013,%202017.pdf>

County (if known)	PCCD Grantee ²⁷	Act 28 CAC/MDIT Development	Act 28 Accredited or Associate CACs	Endowment Funding to Support CACs
• 2018				
Bedford				
• 2015				
• 2016	Bedford County Commissioners			\$47,000
• 2017	Bedford County Commissioners	\$30,883		\$31,200
• 2018	Bedford County Commissioners	\$30,000		
Berks				
• 2015	Children's Alliance Center		\$24,372	
• 2016	Children's Alliance Center		\$26,061	
• 2017	Children's Alliance Center		\$49,003	
• 2018	Children's Alliance Center		\$47,000	
Blair				
• 2015	Blair County Commissioners (MDIT Development, endowment funding for CAC Analysis Initiative)	\$38,521		\$65,266
• 2016	Family Services, Inc.		\$50,000	\$50,000
• 2017	Family Services, Inc.		\$50,000	\$40,000
• 2018	Family Services, Inc.		\$47,000	\$75,000
Bradford				
• 2015	The Children's House (Building a Healthy Future Starts with Today's Kids)		\$50,000	
• 2016	The Children's House (Enhance and Strengthen the Fidelity of Evidence)		\$50,000	
• 2017	The Children's House (The Road from Victim to Survivor and Enhance and Strengthen the Fidelity of Evidence)		\$50,000	\$36,521
• 2018	The Children's House (endowment funding for medical services advancement)		\$46,999	\$72,495
Bucks				
• 2015	Network of Victim Assistance (enhance CAC standards)		\$50,000	
• 2016	Network of Victim Assistance (enhance CAC standards)		\$50,000	\$50,000
• 2017	Network of Victim Assistance		\$50,000	\$40,000
• 2018	Network of Victim Assistance		\$47,000	\$17,089
Butler				
• 2015				
• 2016	Butler County Alliance for Children		\$50,000	\$49,972
• 2017	Butler County Alliance for Children		\$50,000	\$39,967
• 2018	Butler County Alliance for Children		\$46,999	
Cambria				
• 2015	Cambria County Commissioners	\$40,000		
• 2016	Cambria County CAC		\$49,972	\$50,000
• 2017	Cambria County CAC		\$49,700	\$39,794
• 2018	Cambria County CAC		\$46,968	
Centre				
• 2015	Centre County CAC - Program Support			\$100,000
• 2016	Centre County CAC - Building the CAC and MDITs Sustainability		\$50,000	
• 2017	Centre County CAC		\$50,000	

County (if known)	PCCD Grantee ²⁷	Act 28 CAC/MDIT Development	Act 28 Accredited or Associate CACs	Endowment Funding to Support CACs
• 2017	Centre County Women's Resource Center (Victim services at CAC)			\$40,000
• 2018	Centre County CAC (sustainability and reaccreditation, endowment funding for coordination of CAC services and victim advocacy)		\$47,000	\$75,000
• 2018	Centre County Women's Resource Center (Victim services at CAC)			\$75,000
Chester				
• 2015	Centre County Children's Advocacy Center (continued operational support)		\$50,000	
• 2016				
• 2017	Chester County Commissioners		\$49,985	
• 2018	Chester County Commissioners		\$47,000	
• 2018	The Crime Victims Center of Chester County			\$75,000
Clearfield				
• 2015	Gen-Clear Child Services (CAC development)	\$40,000		\$93,039
• 2016	Gen-Clear Child Services (CAC development)	\$40,000		\$50,000
• 2017	Gen-Clear Child Services		\$50,000	\$40,000
• 2018	Gen-Clear Child Services		\$47,000	\$73,292
Crawford				
• 2015				
• 2016	Crawford County Commissioners (MDIT Coordinator, child and family advocate)			\$49,186
• 2017	Crawford County Commissioners	\$24,396		\$39,348
• 2018	Crawford County Commissioners	\$30,000		
Dauphin				
• 2015	Pinnacle Health Hospitals (2015 - health CAC application, endowment act funding for Central PA CAC Telehealth Peer Review Network)		\$50,000	\$100,000
• 2016	Pinnacle Health Hospitals (CAC and MDIT Development)	\$40,000	\$50,000	
• 2017	Pinnacle Health Hospitals	\$75,000	\$50,000	
• 2018	UPMC Pinnacle Hospitals	\$23,157	\$47,000	
Delaware				
• 2015	Family Support Line (endowment funding for Many Languages, One Voice Project)		\$50,000	\$45,494
• 2016	Family Support Line		\$50,000	\$49,612
• 2017	Family Support Line		\$50,000	\$39,278
• 2018	Family Support Line		\$46,999	
Erie				
• 2015	CAC of Erie County		\$50,000	
• 2016	CAC of Erie County		\$50,000	\$13,598
• 2017	CAC of Erie County		\$50,000	\$10,878
• 2018	CAC of Erie County		\$47,000	
Fayette				
• 2015	Sto-Rox Neighborhood Health Council, Inc. - satellite	\$40,000		

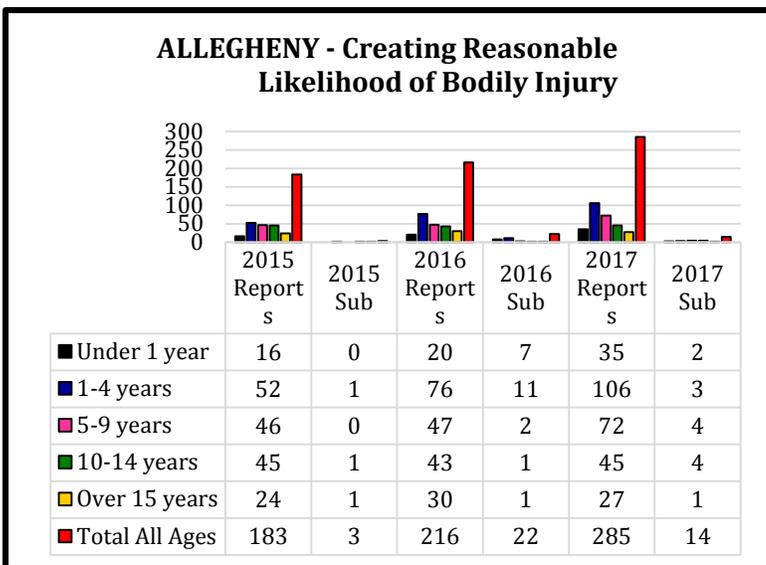
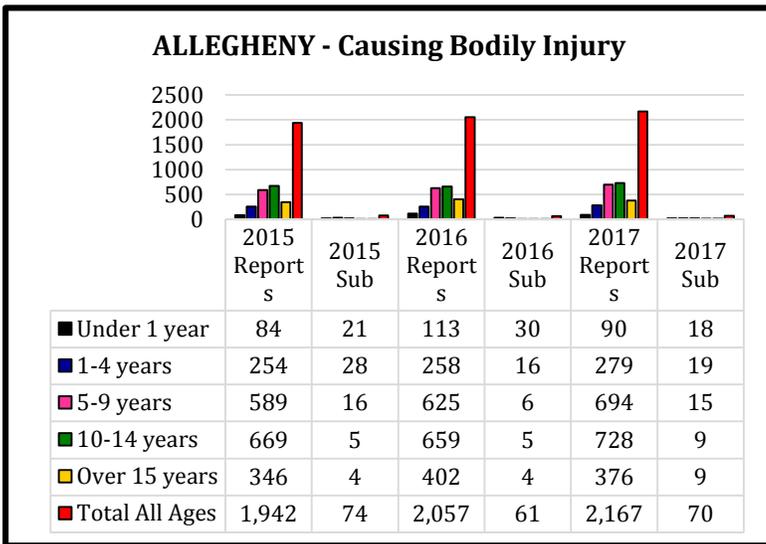
County (if known)	PCCD Grantee ²⁷	Act 28 CAC/MDIT Development	Act 28 Accredited or Associate CACs	Endowment Funding to Support CACs
• 2016	Sto-Rox Neighborhood Health Council, Inc. - satellite	\$40,000		
• 2017	Sto-Rox Neighborhood Health Council, Inc. - satellite	\$35,000		
• 2018	Sto-Rox Neighborhood Health Council, Inc. - satellite	\$47,000		
Franklin				
• 2015	Franklin County Commissioners	\$40,000		\$99,576
• 2016	Franklin County Commissioners		\$50,000	\$50,000
• 2017	Franklin County Commissioners		\$50,000	\$40,000
• 2017	Women in Need (CAC advocacy)			\$40,000
• 2018	Franklin County Commissioners		\$47,000	\$64,650
• 2018	Women in Need (CAC victim advocacy)			\$75,000
Indiana				
• 2015	The Care Center of Indiana County		\$50,000	
• 2016	The Care Center of Indiana County		\$50,000	
• 2017	The Care Center of Indiana County		\$50,000	
• 2018	The Care Center of Indiana County		\$47,000	
Jefferson				
• 2015	Friends of Western PA CARES for Kids		\$50,000	\$95,620
• 2016	Friends of Western PA CARES for Kids		\$50,000	\$50,000
• 2017	Friends of Western PA CARES for Kids		\$50,000	\$39,970
• 2018	Friends of Western PA CARES for Kids		\$46,813	\$73,414
Lackawanna				
• 2015	CAC of Northeastern PA (improving standards project)		\$47,092	
• 2016	CAC of Northeastern PA (development of evidence-based treatment programs)		\$47,220	
• 2017	CAC of Northeastern PA		\$43,820	
• 2018	CAC of Northeastern PA		\$45,380	
Lancaster				
• 2015	Lancaster General Hospital (LCCA Medical Access Expansion, endowment funding for Lancaster Alliance Quality Enhancement)		\$49,774	\$100,000
• 2016				
• 2017	Lancaster General Hospital		\$50,000	
• 2018	Lancaster General Hospital (child abuse services expansion project)		\$47,000	
Lawrence				
• 2015	CAC of Lawrence County (endowment funding for intervention services)	\$50,000		\$100,000
• 2016	CAC of Lawrence County		\$50,000	\$50,000
• 2017	CAC of Lawrence County		\$49,993	\$40,000
• 2018	CAC of Lawrence County		\$46,989	
Lehigh County				
• 2015	Lehigh County Chief Executive Officer		\$20,418	
• 2016	Lehigh Valley Hospital, Inc. (Healing from Abuse Through Family Engagement)		\$50,000	
• 2017	Lehigh Valley Hospital (Lehigh County Cares Together for Child/Team Victim)		\$17,547	
• 2018	Lehigh Valley Hospital (advancing efforts to meet NCA accreditation)		\$45,749	

County (if known)	PCCD Grantee ²⁷	Act 28 CAC/MDIT Development	Act 28 Accredited or Associate CACs	Endowment Funding to Support CACs
Luzerne				
• 2015	Luzerne County Council		\$50,000	
• 2016	Luzerne County CAC (CAC Executive Director funding, forensic examiner salary)		\$50,000	\$99,920
• 2017	Luzerne County CAC (Executive Director salary)		\$50,000	\$39,936
• 2018	Luzerne County CAC (Executive Director salary, endowment funding for administrative assistant)		\$47,000	\$45,864
McKean				
• 2015	McKean County Commissioners (relocation and expansion)		\$50,000	\$63,804
• 2016	McKean County Commissioners (operations and service access)		\$50,000	\$48,694
• 2017	McKean County Commissioners		\$50,000	\$35,284
• 2018	McKean County Commissioners		\$47,000	\$74,958
Mercer				
• 2015	Mercer County Behavioral Health Commission, Inc.	\$40,000		
• 2016	Mercer County Behavioral Health Commission, Inc.	\$39,382		\$39,382
• 2017	Mercer County Behavioral Health Commission, Inc.			\$31,505
• 2018	Mercer County Behavioral Health Commission, Inc.		\$46,716	
Monroe				
• 2015	CAC of Monroe County	\$40,000		
• 2016	CAC of Monroe County		\$50,000	
• 2017	CAC of Monroe County		\$50,000	
• 2018	CAC of Monroe County		\$46,939	
Montgomery				
• 2015	Mission Kids - CAC of Montgomery County		\$50,000	
• 2016	CAC of Montgomery County		\$50,000	\$50,000
• 2017	CAC of Montgomery County		\$50,000	\$40,000
• 2018	CAC of Montgomery County (endowment act funding for mental health services for victims of child abuse and enhancing forensic interviews)		\$47,000	\$149,943
Northumberland				
• 2015	Geisinger Clinic (CAC victim advocacy and expansion, endowment funding for forensic medical expansion)		\$50,000	
• 2016	Geisinger Clinic (CAC victim advocacy and expansion)		\$50,000	
• 2017	Geisinger Clinic (CAC victim advocacy)		\$50,000	
• 2018	Geisinger Clinic		\$47,000	
Philadelphia				
• 2015	Philadelphia Children's Alliance (funding in part designated for PCA Mental Health Therapy Program)		\$50,000	\$100,000

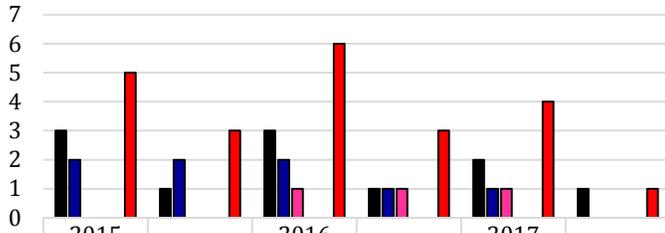
County (if known)	PCCD Grantee ²⁷	Act 28 CAC/MDIT Development	Act 28 Accredited or Associate CACs	Endowment Funding to Support CACs
• 2016	Philadelphia Children's Alliance (lead forensic interview specialist and Family Mental Health Care Coordinator)		\$50,000	\$100,000
• 2017	Philadelphia Children's Alliance (lead forensic interview specialist)		\$50,000	\$40,000
• 2018	Philadelphia Children's Alliance (maintenance, improvement and expansion, endowment funding for child trauma clinician position and victim advocate position)		\$47,000	\$150,000
Pike				
• 2015	Safe Haven of Pike County	\$40,000		
• 2016	Safe Haven of Pike County		\$50,000	\$50,000
• 2017	Pike County Commissioners		\$50,000	\$40,000
• 2018	Pike County Commissioners		\$47,000	\$75,000
Somerset				
• 2015				
• 2016	Somerset County Commissioners			\$50,000
• 2017	Somerset County Commissioners			\$39,390
• 2018	Somerset County Commissioners		\$46,679	\$74,583
Susquehanna and Wyoming				
• 2015	Family Service Association of NEPA	\$40,000		\$100,000
• 2016	Family Service Association of NEPA		\$50,000	
• 2017	Family Service Association of NEPA		\$50,000	
• 2018	Family Service Association of NEPA		\$47,000	
Venango				
• 2015				
• 2016				
• 2017	Venango County Commissioners		\$24,745	
• 2018	Venango County Commissioners		\$12,957	
Warren				
• 2015	Warren County Commissioners	\$40,000		
• 2016	Warren County Commissioners	\$18,385		
• 2017	Warren County CAC	\$33,995		
• 2018	Warren County CAC	\$25,000		
Washington				
• 2015	Washington County Commissioners		\$50,000	
• 2016	Washington County Commissioners (satellite)		\$50,000	
• 2017	Sto-Rox Neighborhood Health Council, Inc. (satellite)		\$50,000	
• 2018	Sto-Rox Neighborhood Health Council, Inc. (satellite)	\$47,000		
Westmoreland				
• 2015	Sto-Rox Neighborhood Health Council, Inc. (satellite)	\$40,000		
• 2016	Sto-Rox Neighborhood Health Council, Inc. (satellite)	\$40,000		
• 2017	Sto-Rox Neighborhood Health Council, Inc. (satellite)	\$35,000		

County (if known)	PCCD Grantee ²⁷	Act 28 CAC/MDIT Development	Act 28 Accredited or Associate CACs	Endowment Funding to Support CACs
• 2018	Sto-Rox Neighborhood Health Council, Inc. (satellite)	\$47,000		
York				
• 2015	York County CAC (forensic services expansion)		\$50,000	\$99,325
• 2016	York County CAC (forensic services continuation/expansion)		\$50,000	\$50,000
• 2017	York County CAC		\$50,000	\$40,000
• 2018	York County CAC		\$46,993	\$75,000
Statewide				
• 2015	PA Chapter CACs and MDITs (growth and sustainability)		\$150,000	\$100,000
• 2016	PA Chapter CACs and MDITs (develop and sustain MDITs/CACs)		\$400,000	
• 2017	PA Chapter of CACs/MDITs (development and sustainability)		\$400,000	
• 2018	PA Chapter of CACs/MDITs (development and sustainability)		\$400,000	

With the PA DHS supplied data, C4CJ is looking at county-level child and systems' experiences as well. Charts, similar to those included below for Allegheny County, will be posted on C4CJ's website or are available to be sent upon request.

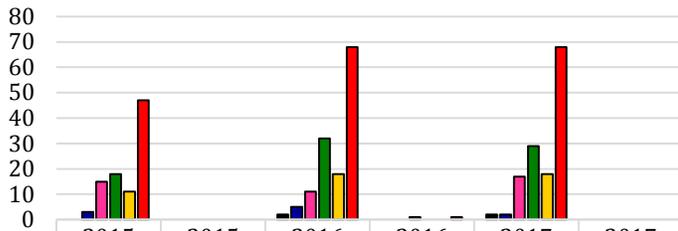


ALLEGHENY - Causing Death



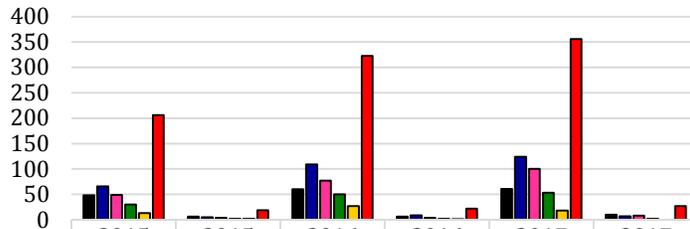
	2015 Reports	2015 Sub	2016 Reports	2016 Sub	2017 Reports	2017 Sub
Under 1 year	3	1	3	1	2	1
1-4 years	2	2	2	1	1	0
5-9 years	0	0	1	1	1	0
10-14 years	0	0	0	0	0	0
Over 15 years	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total All Ages	5	3	6	3	4	1

ALLEGHENY - Serious Mental Injury



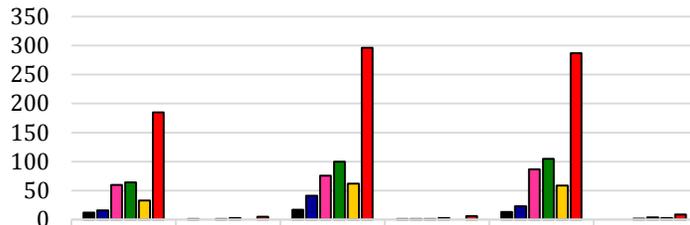
	2015 Reports	2015 Sub	2016 Reports	2016 Sub	2017 Reports	2017 Sub
Under 1 year	0	0	2	0	2	0
1-4 years	3	0	5	0	2	0
5-9 years	15	0	11	1	17	0
10-14 years	18	0	32	0	29	0
Over 15 years	11	0	18	0	18	0
Total All Ages	47	0	68	1	68	0

ALLEGHENY - Serious Physical Neglect



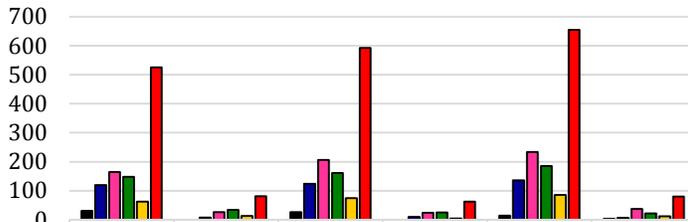
	2015 Reports	2015 Sub	2016 Reports	2016 Sub	2017 Reports	2017 Sub
■ Under 1 year	48	6	60	6	61	10
■ 1-4 years	66	5	109	9	124	7
■ 5-9 years	49	4	77	4	100	8
■ 10-14 years	30	2	50	2	53	2
■ Over 15 years	13	2	27	1	18	0
■ Total All Ages	206	19	323	22	356	27

ALLEGHENY - Per Se



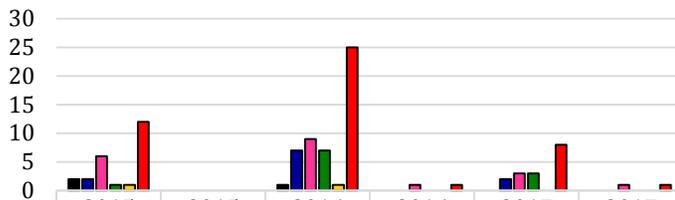
	2015 Reports	2015 Sub	2016 Reports	2016 Sub	2017 Reports	2017 Sub
■ Under 1 year	12	1	17	1	13	0
■ 1-4 years	16	0	41	1	23	0
■ 5-9 years	60	1	76	1	87	2
■ 10-14 years	64	3	100	3	105	4
■ Over 15 years	33	0	62	0	59	3
■ Total All Ages	185	5	296	6	287	9

ALLEGHENY - Causing Sexual Abuse or Exploitation



	2015 Reports	2015 Sub	2016 Reports	2016 Sub	2017 Reports	2017 Sub
Under 1 year	31	0	26	0	14	3
1-4 years	120	8	124	10	136	6
5-9 years	164	26	206	24	234	37
10-14 years	148	34	161	25	185	22
Over 15 years	62	13	75	4	86	12
Total All Ages	525	81	592	63	655	80

ALLEGHENY - Creating Likelihood of Sexual Abuse or Exploitation



	2015 Reports	2015 Sub	2016 Reports	2016 Sub	2017 Reports	2017 Sub
Under 1 year	2	0	1	0	0	0
1-4 years	2	0	7	0	2	0
5-9 years	6	0	9	1	3	1
10-14 years	1	0	7	0	3	0
Over 15 years	1	0	1	0	0	0
Total All Ages	12	0	25	1	8	1