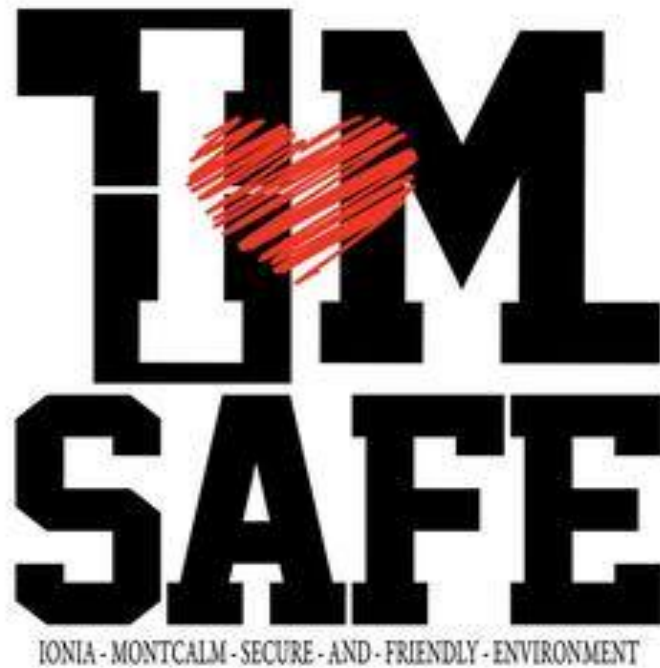


Ionia Montcalm Secure and Friendly Environment Child Advocacy Center

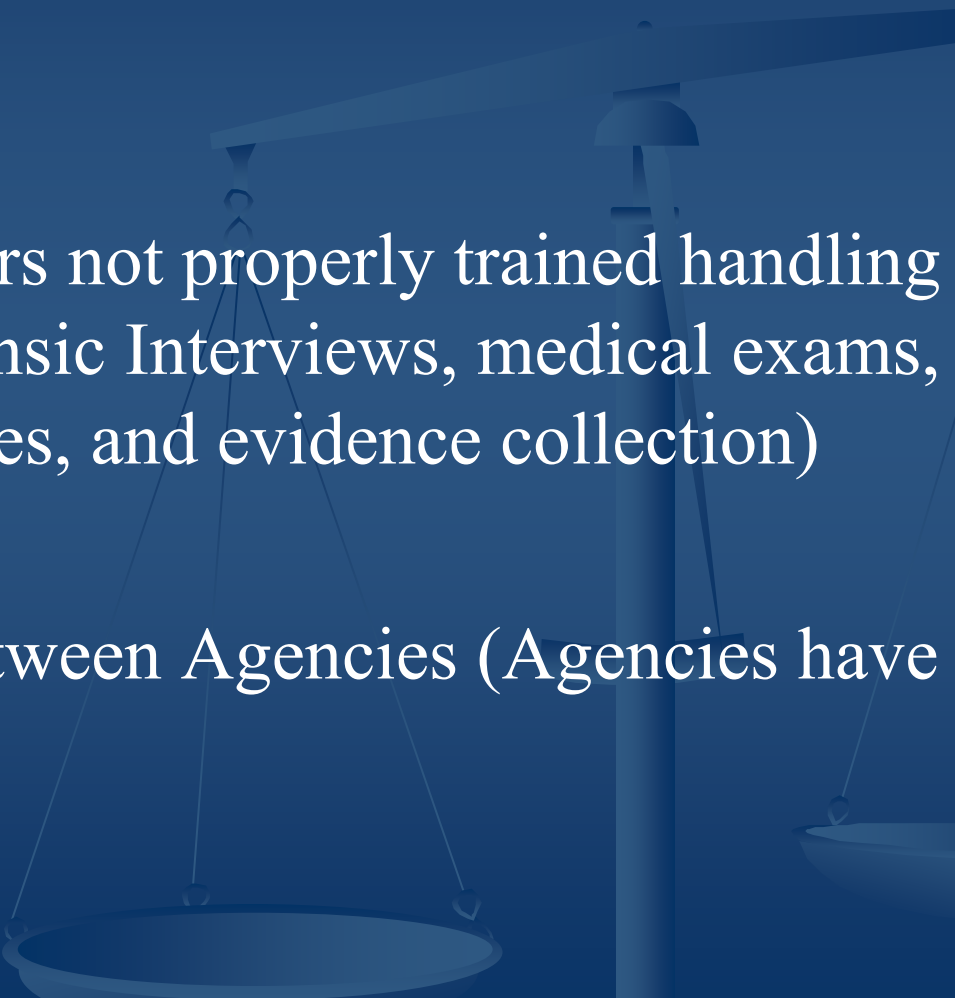




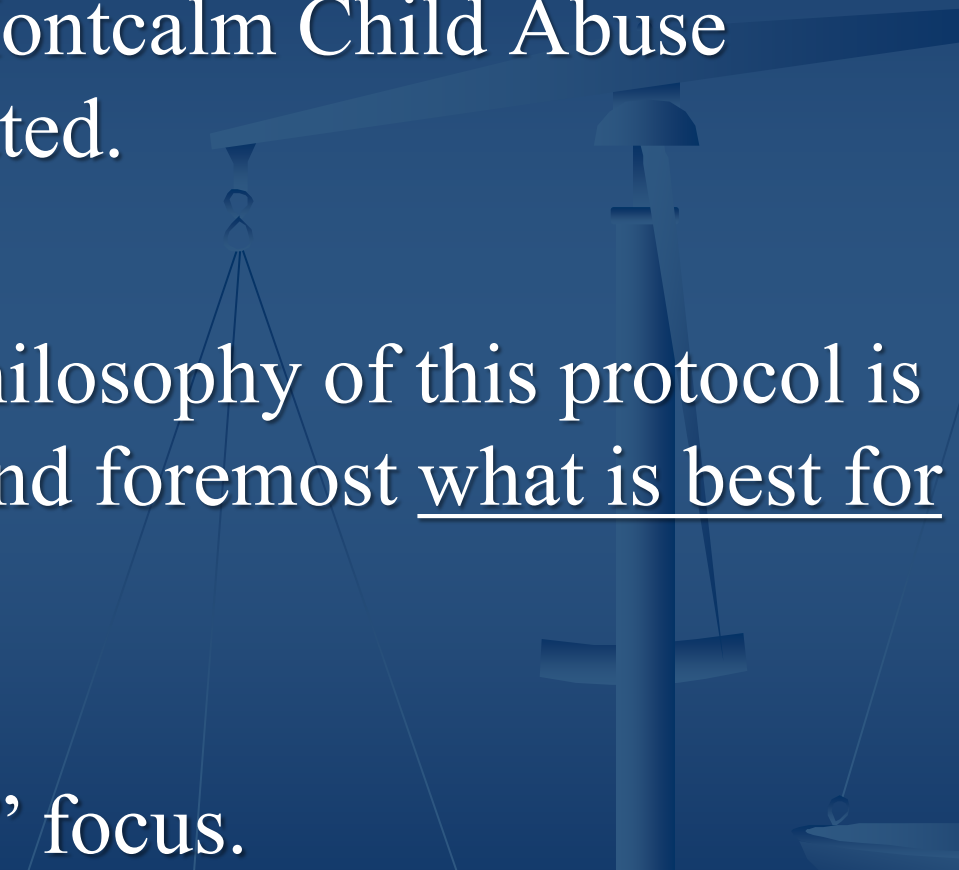
Kyle Butler
Ionia County Prosecutor
Vice President, IM SAFE CAC Board

Lori Kirkhoff
Executive Director

Before the IM SAFE CAC

- Multiple Interviews (LE, CPS, Medical, Prosecutor, etc....)
 - Officers/CPS workers not properly trained handling investigations (Forensic Interviews, medical exams, mental health services, and evidence collection)
 - No Coordination between Agencies (Agencies have different focuses)
 - No Protocol
- 

Child Abuse Protocol

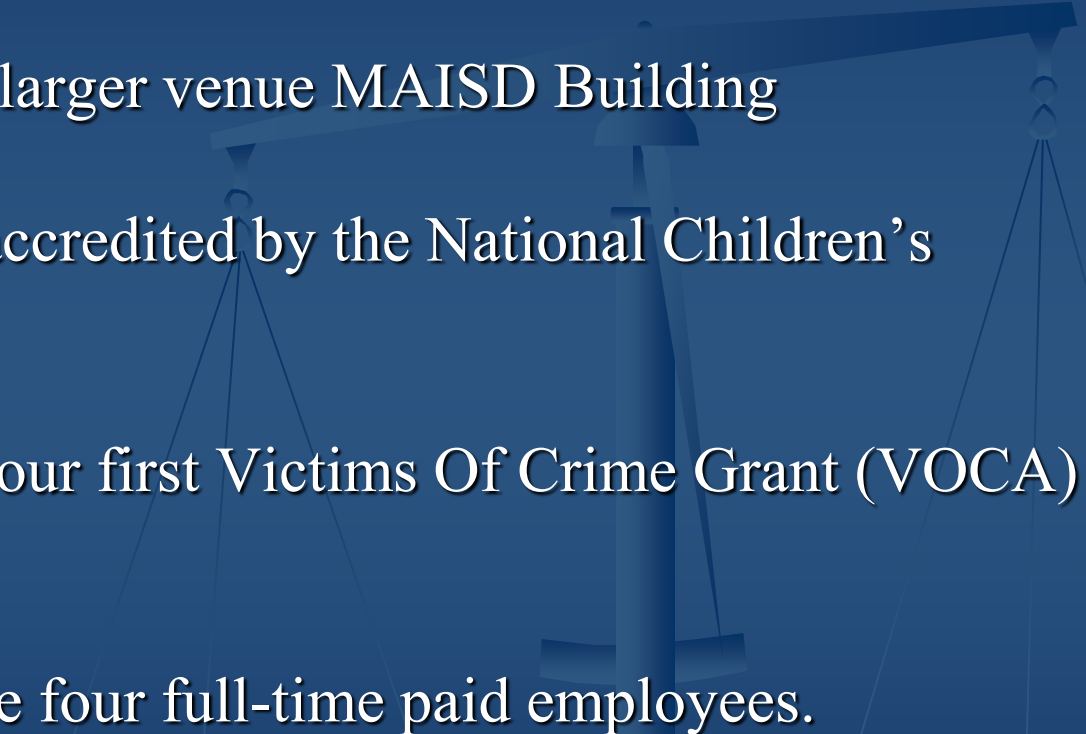
- Oct 2014 Ionia Montcalm Child Abuse Protocol was created.
 - The overriding philosophy of this protocol is to consider first and foremost what is best for the child.
 - “Team Approach” focus.
- 

THE IM SAFE CAC HISTORY

- January 2015 established our 501(c)3 status
- Developed Partnerships (Ionia/Montcalm County Community Mental Health, Ionia/Montcalm Law Enforcement, Ionia/Montcalm Prosecutor's Office, Ionia/Montcalm Department of Human Services, RAVE, and the Helen Devos Children's Hospital)
- Developed IM SAFE CAC Protocols (which incorporated the Child Abuse Protocol) for Law Enforcement, DHHS, Mental Health, Medical and the CAC)

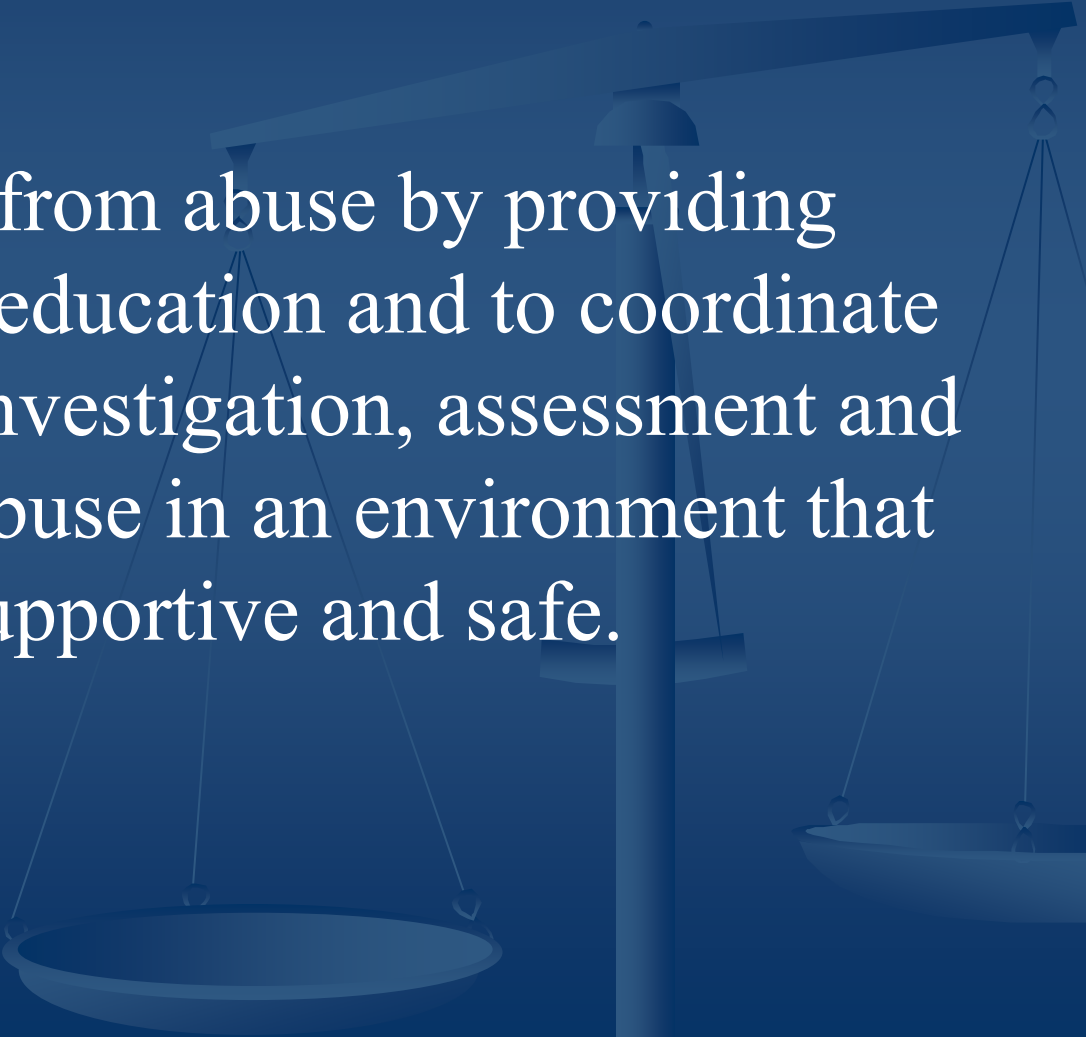


The IM SAFE CAC history

- The IM SAFE CAC opened in Belding on March 26, 2015
 - August of 2015, moved to larger venue MAISD Building
 - October of 2016, became accredited by the National Children's Alliance
 - October of 2017, received our first Victims Of Crime Grant (VOCA) Grant
 - As of March 2018, we have four full-time paid employees.
- 

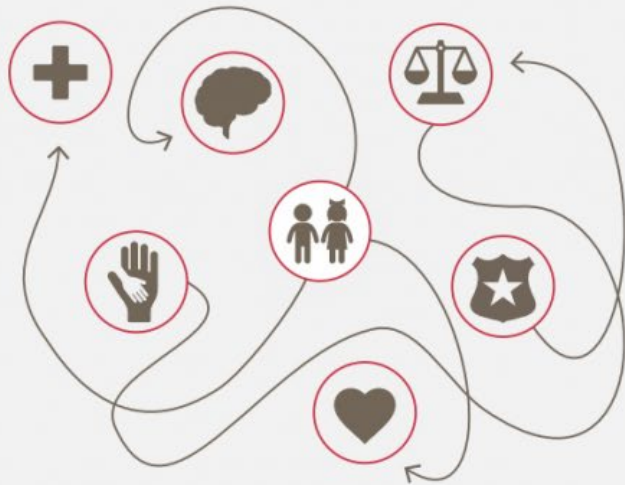
IM SAFE CAC MISSION

To protect children from abuse by providing prevention through education and to coordinate multi-disciplinary investigation, assessment and treatment of child abuse in an environment that is child-sensitive, supportive and safe.

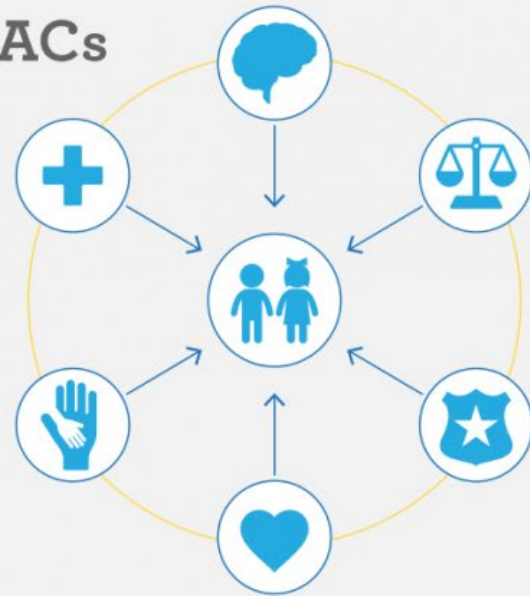


Without CACs and With CACs

Without CACs



With CACs



IM SAFE CAC Cases

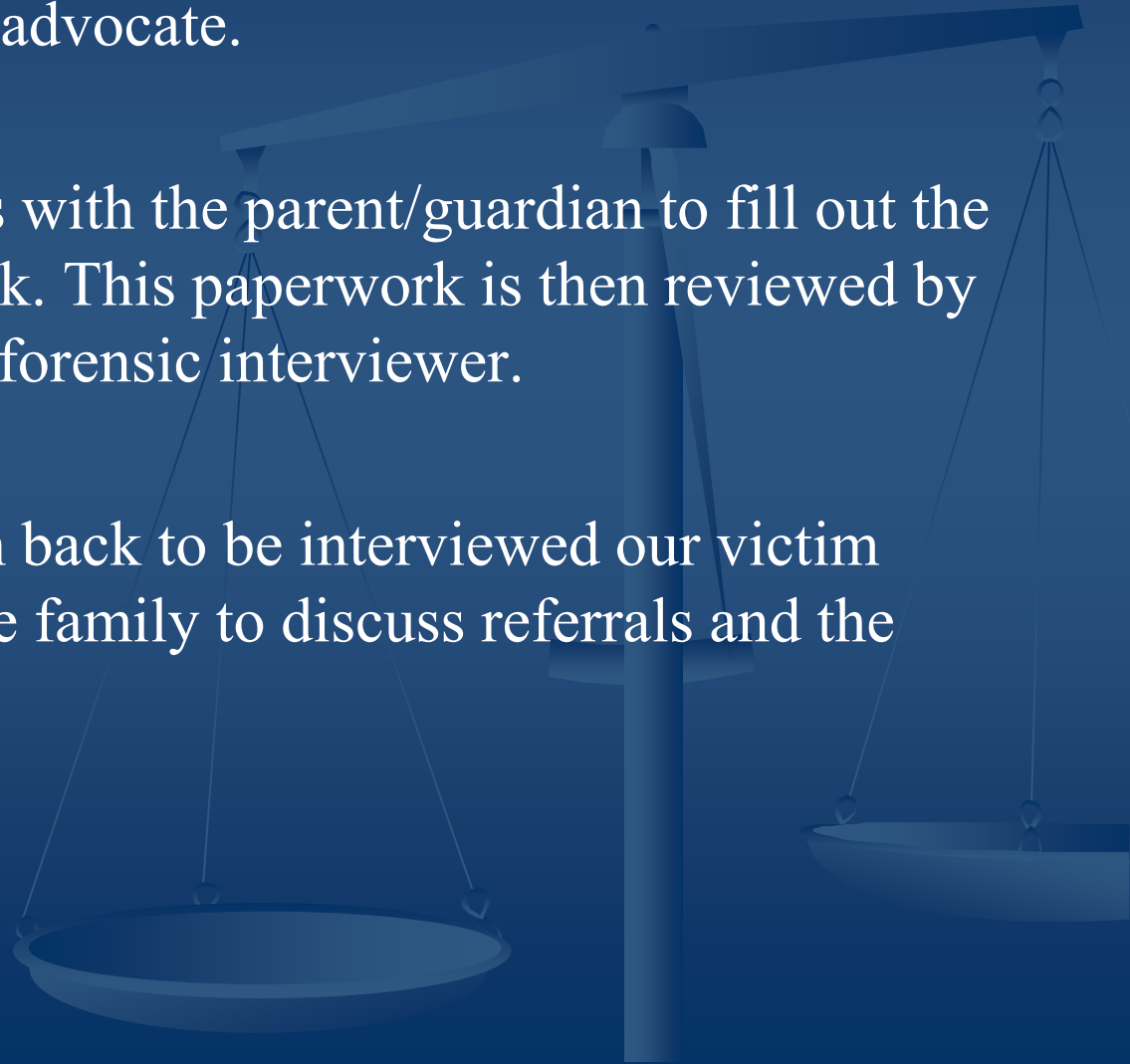
- Any cases in which a child makes a disclosure of possible sexual, severe physical abuse, and/or human trafficking.
- The child is below the age of eighteen (18).
- The child resides in Ionia or Montcalm County (or the alleged offense occurred in Ionia or Montcalm County).
- Then they are Referred to the IM SAFE CAC by law enforcement, DHHS or prosecutors from Ionia and Montcalm County.

IM SAFE CAC CASES

- Referrals go through the Intake Coordinator during our normal business hours, Monday through Friday from 8:30am - 4:30pm.
- The Coordinator schedules the interview as soon as is reasonably possible, preferably within seventy-two (72) hours of receiving the intake report.

Day of Interview

- When the family arrives they are greeted by the intake coordinator and victim advocate.
- Victim Advocate meets with the parent/guardian to fill out the pre interview paperwork. This paperwork is then reviewed by the MDT team and the forensic interviewer.
- When the child is taken back to be interviewed our victim advocate meets with the family to discuss referrals and the legal process.















Child is Interviewed Using Forensic Interview Protocol

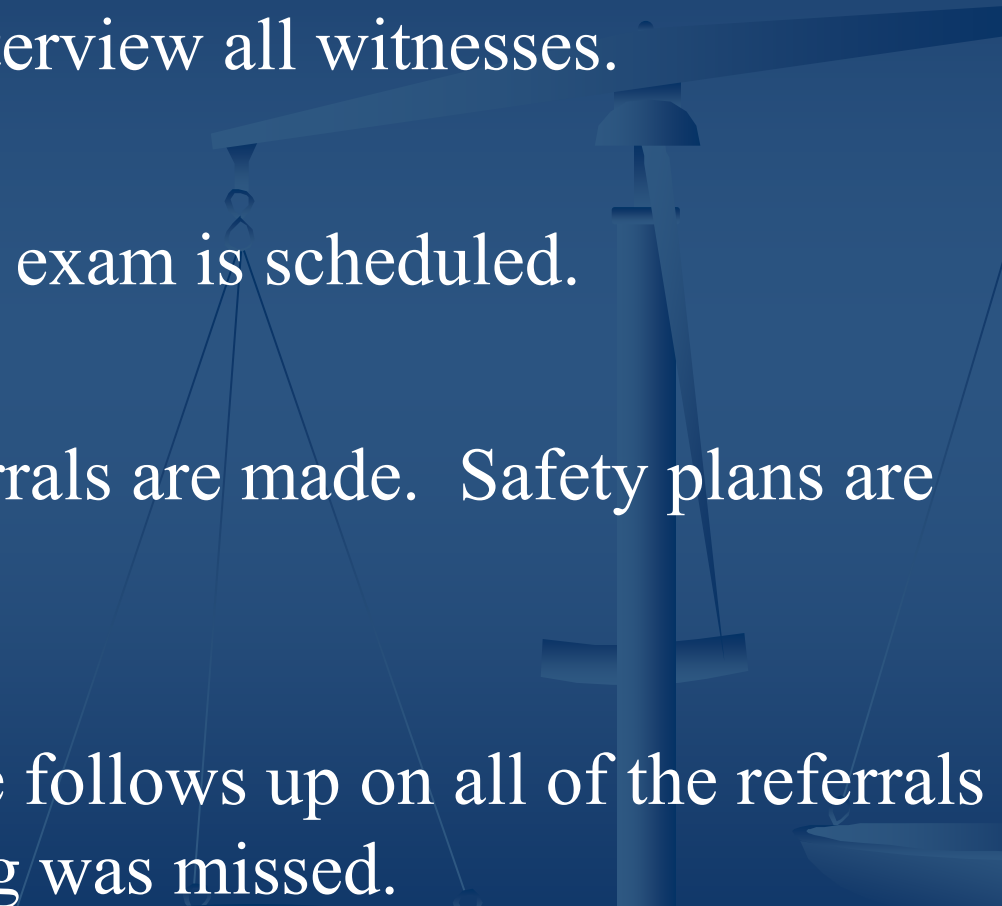
- Child Is Interviewed by a person who is specially trained in the Child Forensic Interview Protocol.
- To obtain a statement that is evidence-based, developmentally Sensitive, unbiased, child-centered, and truth-seeking

INTERVIEW

- During the interview of the child, LE and DHHS observe the forensic interview via closed circuit television. LE and DHHS takes notes on the interview and summarize it in their reports. The interview is also recorded.
- At the conclusion of the interview, the investigator receives a copy of the interview and places it into evidence.



At the Conclusion of the Interview

- The investigator/DHHS will continue his or her investigation and interview all witnesses.
 - If needed, a medical exam is scheduled.
 - Mental Health Referrals are made. Safety plans are discussed.
 - The family advocate follows up on all of the referrals to make sure nothing was missed.
- 

Monthly Case Reviews

The goal of case review is to share information, update case status reports, and ensure that the CAC and CAC/MDT members have done the best job possible for each child and family served, while increasing understanding of the complexities of these cases.

*The IM SAFE CAC continues to work with the family until their case is resolved.

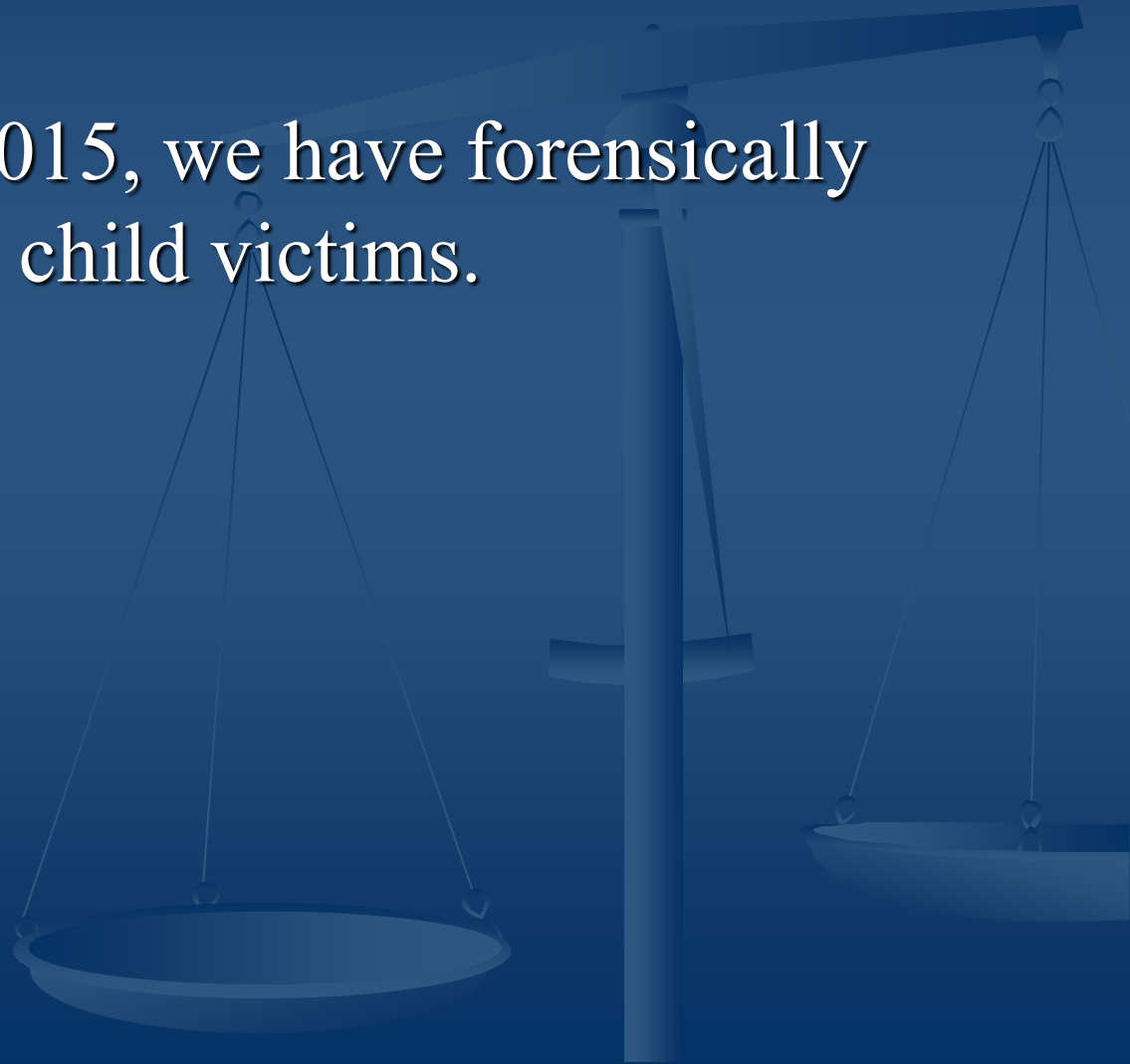


2018 CAC STATS

- 251 Child Forensic Interviews
- 133 Ionia /120 Montcalm /16 Outside
- 42 Authorized for Prosecution / 144 Denied / 85 Still Under Investigation
- 131 Medical Exams
- 174 Referred for Mental Health Services
- 114 Received Mental Health Counseling

CURRENTLY

- Since March of 2015, we have forensically interviewed 1021 child victims.



Funding

- VOCA and DV Grants Cover \$223,268.00
(VOCA Requires 20% Match of \$49,060)



Questions?

