

A Publication of

Dr. Bill Lewis
CENTER for CHILDREN

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The Advocate

December 2013

The mission of the Dr. Bill Lewis Center for Children is to provide neutral, child-friendly forensic interviews, interagency comprehensive assessments and case management services for victims of reported child sexual abuse and their families. All information provided by nobadtouch.com and the National Child Traumatic Stress Networks.

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What is Child Sexual Abuse?

An interaction between either a child and an adult, or sometimes between two children, where a child is used for sexual stimulation of the perpetrator. The interaction with the child may be either persuasive or forced and often includes games, role-playing, rewards and gifts to deceive or persuade the child. The interaction may not begin with touching but “grooms” the child over a period of time.

Who is at Risk?

Contrary to many myths regarding child sexual abuse and who is at risk, all children are at risk: children of all ethnicities, ages and economic backgrounds. In fact, prior to puberty, girls are no more likely to be abused than boys.

Not educating children about child sexual abuse leaves them at risk. Conversations can be as simple as good and bad touches or the swimsuit rule regarding their “private” body parts and who can touch or see them. Let little ones know it’s okay to tell mom and dad if anyone is making them feel uncomfortable.

Popular children’s books addressing good and bad touches include:

- “I Said No! A kid-to-kid guide to keeping your private parts private” by Kimberly King
- “Some Parts are NOT for Sharing” by Julie K. Federico
- “Some Secrets Should Never Be Kept” by Jayneen Sanders

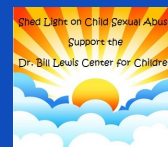
Warning Signs of Child Sexual Abuse:

Child victims of sexual abuse may react or behave in many ways. No one behavior indicates sexual abuse with certainty, but if a child suddenly displays a combination it may be time to seek help. These behaviors may also be indicators of other traumas or stresses in their life. Changes in behavior include:

- Depression
- Sudden angry outbursts
- Withdrawn behavior from an otherwise outgoing child
- Nightmares
- A sudden onset of separation anxiety
- Bedwetting or pants-wetting
- Unexplainable fears of specific people or places
- Sudden secretive tendencies
- Sexual knowledge or vocabulary beyond their age
- Sudden changes in eating habits
- Self-mutilation (more common in teens)
- Running away

LEWIS CENTER STATS:

Between January and September, the center completed **549 interviews, an increase of 50 interviews for the same period in 2012.**



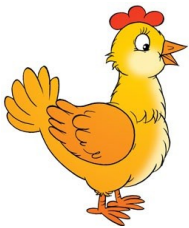
If you suspect sexual abuse please call the Indiana Child Abuse and Neglect hotline at 1-800-5556 or 1-877-433-0138

THANK YOU for helping us achieve our mission!

The Dr. Bill Lewis Center has been awarded grant funding from the following organizations and foundations from August to December 3. Thank you to these donors for their generous support:

- Adams County Community Foundation
- Community Foundation of Greater Fort Wayne
- Fire Police City County Federal Credit Union
- Indiana Chapter of NCA
- LaGrange County Community Foundation
- Lincoln Financial Foundation
- Phoenix Associates
- Steel Dynamics
- Wal-Mart Foundation

The services of the Dr. Bill Lewis Center for Children are available to all individuals regardless of race, color, gender, sexual orientation, religious beliefs, national origin, veteran status, age and/or mental or physical disability. The Lewis Center is nonsectarian and is partially supported by federal Victims of Crimes Act funding through the Indiana Department of Child Services. The Lewis Center is an equal-opportunity, affirmative action employer and a 501(c)3 organization, administrated by SCAN, Inc., a separate 501(c)3 organization.



Chicken
for
Children

On October 31st, the Dr. Bill Lewis Center held its 3rd Annual Chicken for Children fundraiser. This year we exceeded our goal, and sold more than 750 lunches. Thanks to the support of our generous sponsors more than \$12,000 was raised in support of the Lewis Center!

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Thank you to the PR Task Force for making it possible:

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