

Palmetto Citizens Against Sexual Assault

Web address: <https://palmettocasa.org/>

Street Address: Palmetto Citizens Against Sexual Assault
106 North York Street
Lancaster, SC 29720

Contact information: Phone: 24-Hour Hotline: 803-286-5232, Regular Contact: 803-286-5232

Mission: Our mission is to promote quality direct services to victims of sexual abuse, and interpersonal violence including, crisis intervention, face to face support, legal advocacy, medical advocacy, transportation, information and referral, and to increase public awareness.

Geographic area covered: Lancaster, Chester, and Fairfield County

Serves Hispanic Community served through volunteers acting as translators.

Services Provided:

General Services:

- 24 hour On-Call telephone counseling service staffed by trained volunteers who provide immediate supportive counseling to victims of sexual assault and incest. This service is also available to the families of victims.
- Information about medical examinations, police interviews and legal proceedings, and accompaniment during any of these.
- Support groups for victims of rape and incest and victim's family members.
- Appropriate referrals for long-term professional counseling and other support agencies.
- Presentations of community educational programs dealing with the dynamics of rape: occurrence, prevention, self-defense, and societal attitudes.
- Educational programs dealing specifically with avoidance, detection and prevention of acquaintance rape and incest involving children and adolescents.
- Sexual assault resource library, including brochures, books, pamphlets and videos.
- Court Advocacy
- Group Counseling
- Volunteer training and opportunities to volunteer
- Forensic Interviews
- Medical forensic exams for children
- Individual counseling and therapy sessions

Children's Advocacy Center

- The Palmetto Citizens Against Sexual Assault Child Advocacy Center (CAC) coordinates the investigation, treatment and prosecution of child sexual and serious physical abuse cases. The agency adheres to a "Child First" doctrine, which holds that the needs of the child are paramount. The CAC is accredited by the National Children's Alliance (NCA). The agency's services are based on the NCA's standards of service which require the following core components:
 - Child Appropriate/Child Friendly Facility
 - Representation of a Multidisciplinary Team
 - Organizational Capacity for Program and Fiscal Operations
 - Cultural Competency and Diversity
 - Coordinated and Competent Forensic Interviews
 - Available Specialized Medical Evaluations
 - Available Specialized Mental Health Services
 - Initial and Ongoing Victim Support/Advocacy
 - Routine Case Reviews
 - Case Tracking System

