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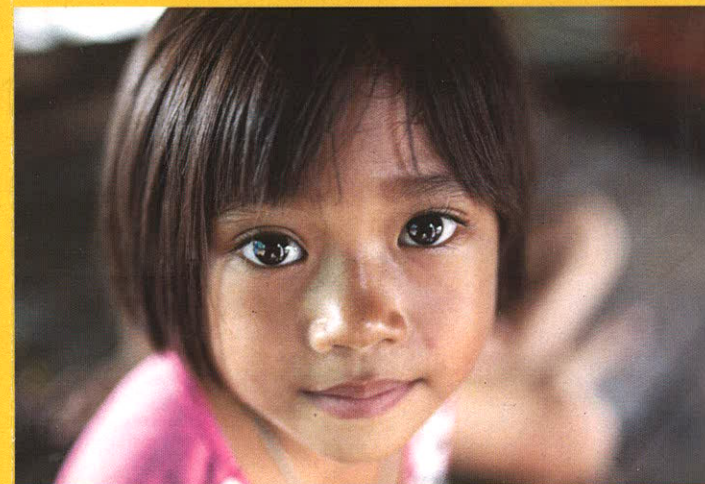
Cases of child abuse
& neglect investigated
in Weld County in 2017

970-353-5970
contact@lifestoriesweld.org
www.lifestoriesweld.org



LIFE STORIES

child & family advocacy



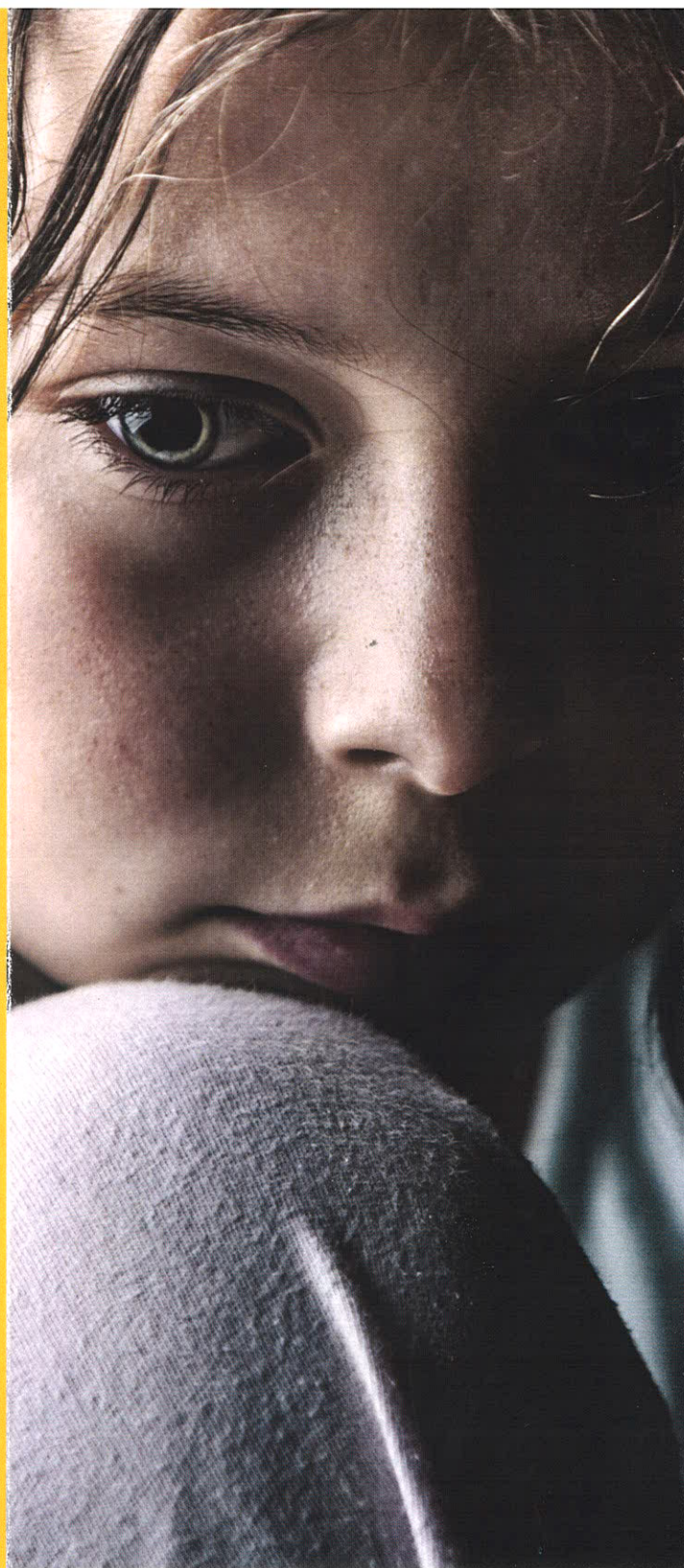
HELPING
ABUSED
CHILDREN
TURN THE
PAGE FOR A
BETTER
TOMORROW.

10

Every 10
seconds
a child
abuse report
is made in
the USA.

14%

1 in 7 girls will be
sexually abused
before her 18th birthday.
1 in 25 boys will be abused.



WHO WE ARE

At Life Stories Child & Family Advocacy, we believe that every child deserves to live a life free of abuse in a safe, permanent home. Life Stories Child & Family Advocacy provides victim's services to child victims of sexual assault, child abuse and/or neglect, domestic violence and children who have witnessed a violent crime through the Child Advocacy Centers and the CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates) Program. Life Stories is an umbrella agency that houses both of these important programs. We also provide Darkness to Light: Stewards of Children presentations to educate adults in our community to prevent, recognize and react responsibly to child sexual abuse.

Every child's story is an integral part of the work we do. Our forensic interviewers, family advocates, CASA staff and volunteers hear stories of abuse and neglect and then provide advocacy, support, and resources to help children turn their stories into ones of strength and hope.

The programs are supported by our Board of Directors and our Multi-Disciplinary Team (MDT) and other community partners, which is comprised of local law enforcement agencies, the 19th Judicial District Attorney's Office, Weld County Department of Human Services, as well as medical personnel, mental health providers and victim advocates.



WHAT IS CASA?

The Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) Program trains, supervises and empowers community volunteers to serve, at the request of our judges, as advocates for children who have been abused, neglected or abandoned by their parents or caregivers. CASA volunteers are recruited, screened, trained and supervised by the CASA Program Case Supervisors. The child victim is represented at every stage of the court process ultimately leading to a safe and permanent home. CASA is part of a collaborative network of Colorado CASA programs and nearly 1,000 nationwide programs.

Volunteers work with their child or sibling group for the duration of the case. Children with a CASA volunteer are more likely to be placed in a safe, permanent home quickly and spend less time in foster care. They're also more likely to graduate from high school and succeed in their futures. A CASA always works in the best interests of the child and ensures their individual emotional, physical, and educational needs are met.

HOW TO BECOME A CASA VOLUNTEER

CASA volunteers do not need any specific background – all they need is a big heart and a compassion for children. Applicants must be 21+ years old and complete background checks and necessary training. Once assigned to a case, the time commitment is about 10-15 hours per month.



TO BECOME A CASA VOLUNTEER

Contact our CASA program at:
970-353-5970
casa@lifestoriesweld.org
www.lifestoriesweld.org/casa



WHAT TO EXPECT

When you arrive for the interview, you and your child will enter the family room. After the interview process is explained, your child and the interviewer enter the interview room. The interview is recorded and used as evidence in the investigation. The interviewer's goal is to make your child comfortable, move at a developmentally-appropriate pace, and gather information for the investigation. They will never force a child to talk. While the interview occurs, a family advocate will provide you with relevant information.

GREELEY LOCATION
1610 29th Ave. Place, Suite 201

FORT LUPTON LOCATION
330 Park Ave.

PHONE
970-353-5970

THE CHILD ADVOCACY CENTER

The Child Advocacy Center (CAC) is a safe, child-focused facility that supports victims of child abuse and neglect as well as their non-offending caregivers. The CAC provides a comforting environment where alleged child and adolescent victims of a crime or witnesses to violence are interviewed by trained forensic interviewers. Family advocates provide non-offending caregivers with crisis intervention, resources, referrals for services, and victim compensation information. Our services facilitate the healing process for these children and families. As part of our Multi-Disciplinary Team (MDT) approach, the CAC encourages a coordinated response to allegations of child maltreatment and team members work cooperatively on child safety, investigation and prosecution of crimes against children.

