

Domestic violence and difficult divorces are a part of our society. The **Family Visitation Center** provides supervised visitations and safe exchanges for families experiencing high conflict and domestic violence.

Children who have witnessed or overheard severe or repeated incidents of violence within their families experience trauma, acutely or chronically. Such trauma puts them at risk for emotional, behavioral and social problems, including long-term roles as either victim or perpetrator.

Children who do not directly witness spousal abuse are nevertheless likely to experience impaired development and socialization. Even young children and infants who are not considered old enough to be aware of the violence can be affected negatively.

For these reasons, children need to be protected from witnessing threats of violence or actual physical abuse and from exposure to a climate of violence in their homes.

Family Visitation Center is sponsored by the Collier County Child Advocacy Council, Inc., State of Florida Department of Health, State of Florida Office of the Attorney General and the United Way of Collier County.

Main Office

1034 Sixth Avenue North
Naples, Florida 34102
239-649-6590
239-263-8383
239-263-7931 (fax)
www.cptcollier.org

Hours: 8 AM to 5 PM, Sun. - Fri.
on call 24 hr.

Satellite Office

Career and Resource Center
401 Colorado Avenue
Immokalee, Florida 34142
(By appointment)

For more information on resources available to the community, see the **Child Protection Team** brochure, a program providing medical, social, psychological, legal and educational services to victims of child abuse or neglect.

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FAMILY VISITATION CENTER

COLLIER COUNTY
CHILD ADVOCACY COUNCIL, INC.



- Supervised Visitation
- Safe Exchanges
- Family Assessments
- Information/Referrals
- Parenting Education

FAMILY VISITATION CENTER

CHILDREN'S ADVOCACY CENTER
OF COLLIER COUNTY

OUR GOALS:

To provide safe, supervised visitation between parents or guardians and their children, so that parent-child relationships may be maintained and nurtured.

To maintain a child-centered focus in order to reduce hostility between parents as well as trauma to the child.

To facilitate the exchange of children between parents or guardians at a neutral, child-friendly visitation site.

To provide information and referral services to the family to help them regain maximum functioning.

To assist the court by providing professional child interviews and family assessments.

Children in families going through a divorce or affected by domestic violence have special emotional and physical needs. Recognizing the need to provide a safe, consistent atmosphere for these vulnerable children, the Collier County Child Advocacy Council established the **Family Visitation Center**.

OUR MISSION:

To minimize trauma to abused children and enhance families' capabilities to provide a safe environment for children. This is achieved by utilizing a cooperative, multi-disciplinary team approach to the identification, intervention and treatment of child abuse and neglect.

OUR FEES:

We charge no fees for crime victims, including children affected by domestic violence. Victims may also be eligible for the **Crime Victim Compensation Program**. Application forms and filing assistance are available at the **Family Visitation Center**.



Operated by the Children's Advocacy Center, the **Family Visitation Center** provides psycho-social assessments of referred families, supervised visitations and safe exchanges for children in families going through a divorce or affected by domestic violence, as requested by the court. Our primary goal is to maintain consistency for the child and minimize the loss each child experiences during this difficult time in his/her family life.

The Collier County Child Advocacy Council, a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization established in 1986, forms the governing board of the **Child Protection Team**. The **CPT** was created to assist with the identification, treatment and protection of children who are victims of abuse and/or neglect. Donations are tax deductible as allowed for any 501(c)(3) organization.

The professional staff of the **CPT** acts as a consultative arm to the Department of Children & Families, law enforcement, and the State Attorney's office. Our local **CPT** has met the stringent requirements to become a Full Member in the National Children's Alliance. The **Family Visitation Center** is a member of the Florida Chapter of the Supervised Visitation Network, an international organization.