

VISION

Children and youth have a right to grow up free of violence in a safe, healthy and nurturing community. The Lanark Child and Youth Advocacy Centre delivers a service that promotes strength, healing, and resiliency in children, youth, and their families who have been affected by serious crime, violence, or abuse, and is sensitive to their unique needs by providing comprehensive seamless service and support.

MISSION

The Lanark County Child and Youth Advocacy Centre:

Brings multi-sectoral partners together in one place to give children, youth and their families a safe, comforting and family-friendly space in which to start their healing journey.

Provides advocacy, intervention and access to support services.

Believes in providing a client-centered, trauma-informed system of support in which victims only have to tell their story once.

Is dedicated to efforts to prevent child abuse and violence through education, awareness and change.



CONTACT INFORMATION

My Advocate

is _____, and can be

reached at _____

Lanark Child and Youth
Advocacy Centre
1-877-232-8260, Ext. 434

Open Doors for Lanark
Children and Youth
1-877-232-8260

Victim Services Lanark County
613-284-8380

If you suspect a child is being abused
or neglected call
***Family and Children Services
of Lanark, Leeds, and Grenville***
1-855-667-2726

Lanark Child and Youth Advocacy Centre

Information for
Child and Youth Victims/Witnesses
and Their Families

WHAT IS A CHILD AND YOUTH ADVOCACY CENTRE

Child and Youth Advocacy Centres (CYAC's) exist or are being implemented in a growing number of communities across Canada and around the world. CYAC's are regarded as leading practice in how to respond to child abuse cases.

They provide a multi-disciplinary, seamless and collaborative approach to addressing the needs of children and youth who are victims of, or witnesses to, sexual and physical abuse, as well as other serious crimes. By creating an enhanced and coordinated service model, long term dependence on such services as mental health and other community and services may be reduced.

In the Spring of 2018, Open Doors for Lanark Children and Youth (ODLCY) was awarded a 5 year grant from the Justice Canada Victims' Fund to develop and pilot a CYAC in Lanark County. Although governed and managed by ODLCY, the service is a collaborative community response.



The Lanark Child and Youth Advocacy Centre (LCYAC) is a collaborative service that brings multiple community partners together.

COMMUNITY PARTNERS INCLUDE

Ontario Provincial Police, The Town of Smiths Falls Police, Family Children Services of Lanark, Leeds & Grenville. Victim Services Lanark County, Open Doors for Lanark Children and Youth, Victim/Witness Assistance Program of Lanark County, Lanark County Sexual Assault / Domestic Violence Hospital Based Programs- Perth and Smiths Falls District Hospital, Lanark County Crown Attorney

The services of the LCYAC are voluntary and at no cost to you or your caregivers



WHAT CAN I EXPECT AT THE LANARK AND YOUTH ADVOCACY CENTRE

A child and youth friendly safe space with people to support you and answer any questions you may have.

A coordinated response.

A continuum of service that includes police investigation, child protection, victim support and advocacy, and referral to medical and mental health, as well as follow-up care.

Collaboration between agencies that form a multi-disciplinary team for the benefit of children and youth and their families. The team is made up of you, your family, and the professionals working with you and for you.

You can decide who is on your team—You give consent for those people to work together.

Forensic interviews that are recorded, which will help reduce the number of times a child/youth victim and witness have to tell their stories. In turn, hopefully causing less trauma, and re-victimization.

When you arrive at the Lanark CYAC, you will be greeted by a staff from Lanark County Victim Services or the CYAC Team Leader. The Victim Services worker will take on the role of Advocate.

THE ROLE OF THE ADVOCATE:

Be a support to you.

Be a consistent point of contact.

Help you and your caregivers to understand and navigate different systems and services.

Connect families with help and resources.