



CHINOOK CHILD AND YOUTH ADVOCACY CENTRE

OPENING 2022

712, 4th Avenue South
Lethbridge, AB

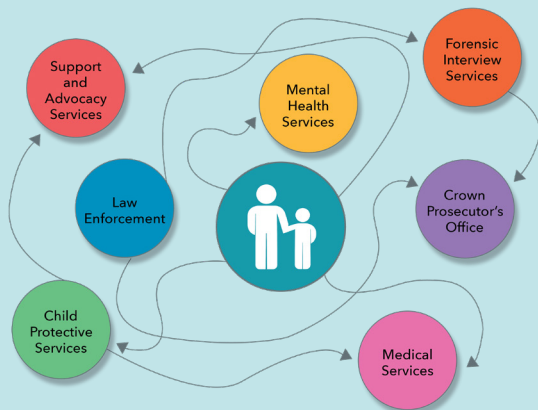
The Chinook Child And Youth Advocacy Centre (CCYAC), under the governance of the Chinook Sexual Assault Centre, is dedicated to giving children and youth who have experience sexual, emotional, and/or physical abuse or severe neglect, a safe space to share their story and receive the support and resources they need throughout the entire disclosure, investigation, and judicial process. As a community response, the CCYAC provides an early and seamless, coordinated and collaborative approach to addressing the needs of children and youth who have experience abuse and their non-offending family members.

Our blended approach brings together a multidisciplinary team of community partners including Alberta Health Services, Alberta Crown Prosecution Service, Blood Tribe Children's Services, Blood Tribe Police Service, Lethbridge Police Service, Piikani Child and Family Services, RCMP, South Region Children's Services, and Taber Police Service to offer unified services that provide the right support at the right time in a welcoming, child-friendly, and safe environment. This approach facilitates efficient interagency communication and information sharing, ongoing involvement of key individuals, and support for children and families which are associated with less anxiety, fewer interviews, and more appropriate and timely referrals for needed services. Additionally, each agency gains the benefit of a broadened knowledge base from which decisions are made and improved and timely evidence gathering.

What is a Child And Youth Advocacy Centre and How Does It Help Children?

Without a Child And Youth Advocacy Centre (CYAC), the child or youth may end up having to tell the worst story of their life over and over again, to doctors, police, lawyers, therapists, investigators and others. Following the interviews, the child and family may be left to navigate the daunting criminal justice system and healing process on their own.

Without a CYAC

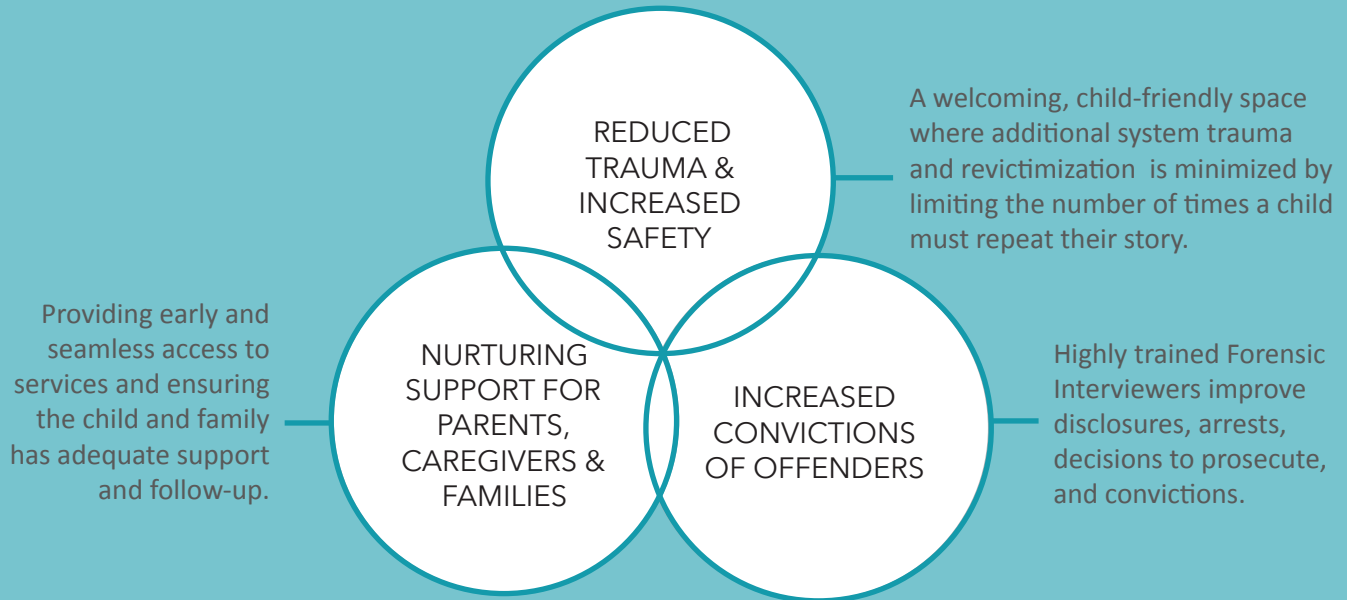


With a CYAC



Once referred to the CCYAC by police or child protective services, a child or youth who is being abused comes to our safe and child-focused environment accompanied by a non-offending caregiver or other "safe" adult. At the CCYAC, the child tells their story once to a trained forensic interviewer and our multidisciplinary team make decisions together about how to best support the child and their family.

Our Solution:



The Chinook Child And Youth Advocacy Centre provides specialized supports for individuals and families who have been impacted by abuse across 31 communities of Southwestern Alberta.

If you suspect the abuse of a child, please report.

Lethbridge Police Service Complaint Line: 403-328-4444

Child Abuse Hotline: 1-800-387-5437 (KIDS)

Kids Help Phone: 1-800-668-6868 or Text CONNECT to 686868

Crime Stoppers: 1-800-222-8477

Online Exploitation: cybertip.ca

Or your local police/RCMP detachment.

Our Partners

Alberta Health Services

Alberta Crown Prosecution Service

Blood Tribe Child Protection Services

Blood Tribe Police Service

Lethbridge Police Service

Lethbridge School Division

Piikani Child and Family Services

Royal Canadian Mounted Police

South Region Children's Services

Taber Police Service



502, 740 4 Avenue South
Lethbridge, AB T1J0N9
Tel: 403-694-1094
Toll Free: 1-844-576-2512
www.csacleth.ca

