

State of South Carolina

Governor's Proclamation

WHEREAS, Children's Advocacy Centers in the Palmetto State served 12,897 children in 2022, providing necessary investigative services, victim advocacy, medical evaluations, and mental health treatment services; and

WHEREAS, this represents a 16 percent increase in children served by children's advocacy centers in South Carolina over 2021; and

WHEREAS, although neglect is the most common form of child maltreatment, thousands of children in South Carolina also suffer from sexual abuse, physical abuse, and other forms of child maltreatment; and

WHEREAS, approximately 70 percent of children served at South Carolina Children's Advocacy Centers in 2022 were under the age of 13; and

WHEREAS, the Children's Advocacy Center model promotes and delivers excellence in best practice response to child abuse and prevention through direct service, education, collaboration, and leadership.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Henry McMaster, Governor of the great State of South Carolina, do hereby proclaim April 4, 2023, as

CHILDREN'S ADVOCACY CENTER DAY

throughout the state and encourage all South Carolinians to recognize the valuable contributions that Children's Advocacy Centers make to protect children and enhance the response to child abuse.



A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Henry McMaster".

HENRY McMASTER
GOVERNOR
STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA