

2023 National Standards of Accreditation for Children's Advocacy Centers

Victim Support and Advocacy Self-Assessment

Name of advocate:

Victim Support and Advocacy Standard

ESSENTIAL COMPONENT A – Foundational training requirement

Name of victim advocacy training:

Date(s) training completed:

Does the advocate have the training certificate(s):

Does the victim advocate foundational training cover all 12 topic areas below and meet at least 24 hours of combined training?

	Training topic	Is the topic covered?	How long was the instruction?
1.	Dynamics of child abuse		
2.	Trauma-informed services		
3.	Crisis assessment and intervention		
4.	Risk assessment and safety planning		
5.	Professional ethics and boundaries		
6.	Understanding the coordinated multidisciplinary response		
7.	Understanding, explaining, and affording of victim's legal rights		
8.	Court education, support, and accompaniment		
9.	Knowledge of available community and legal resources, referral methods and assistance with access to treatment and other services, including protective orders, housing, public assistance, domestic violence intervention, transportation, financial assistance, and interpreters, among others as determined for individual clients		

Training topic	Is the topic covered?	How long was the instruction?
10. Cultural responsiveness and addressing implicit bias in service delivery		
11. Caregiver resilience		
12. Domestic violence/family violence/children's exposure to domestic violence and poly-victimization		

Total hours of foundational training:

ESSENTIAL COMPONENT B

Eight hours of continuing education in the field of victim advocacy and/or child maltreatment within the last two years.

Training topic or title	Date completed	Number of hours	Certificate or completion confirmation Y/N?

Total hours of continuing education:

ESSENTIAL COMPONENT C

Victim advocates serving Children's Advocacy Center (CAC) clients must provide the following constellation of services:

- 1. Crisis assessment and intervention, risk assessment and safety planning and support for children and family members at all stages of involvement with the CAC
 - a) Briefly describe how this is conducted and in collaboration with whom:
 - b) Name the advocate(s) providing this service:

- 2. Assessment of individual needs, cultural considerations for child/family and help to ensure those needs are being addressed in concert with the multidisciplinary team (MDT) and other service providers
 - a) Briefly describe how this is occurring:
 - b) Name the advocate(s) providing this service:
- 3. Presence at the CAC during the forensic interview in order to participate in information sharing with other MDT members, inform and support the family regarding the coordinated multidisciplinary response, and assess needs of children and nonoffending caregivers
 - a) Briefly describe how this is occurring:
 - b) Name the advocate(s) providing this service:
- 4. Provision of education and assistance in ensuring access to victim's rights and crime victim's compensation
 - a) Briefly describe how this is provided:
 - b) Name the advocate(s) providing this service:
- 5. Assistance in procuring concrete services (housing, protective orders, domestic violence intervention, food, transportation, public assistance, civil legal services, etc.)
 - a) Briefly describe how this is occurring:
 - b) Name the advocate(s) providing this service:
- 6. Provision of referrals for trauma-focused, evidence-supported mental health and specialized medical treatment, if not provided at the CAC
 - a) Briefly describe how this is occurring:
 - b) Name the advocate(s) providing this service:
- 7. Facilitating access to transportation to interviews, court, treatment, and other case-related meetings
 - a) Briefly describe how this is facilitated:
 - b) Name the advocate(s) providing this service:

- 8. Engagement with the child and family to help them understand the investigation/prosecution process and help ensure understanding of crime victims' rights
 - a) Briefly describe how this is occurring:
 - b) Name the advocate(s) providing this service:
- 9. Participation in case review to communicate and discuss the unique needs of the child and family and associated services planning and help ensure the coordination of identified services and that the child and family's concerns are heard and addressed
 - a) Briefly describe how this is occurring:
 - b) Name the advocate(s) providing this service:
- 10. Provision of case status updates to the family, including investigations, court date, continuances, dispositions, sentencing and inmate status notification (including offender release from custody)
 - a) Briefly describe how this is occurring:
 - b) Name the advocate(s) providing this service:
- 11. Provision of court education and support, including court orientation and accompaniment
 - a) Briefly describe how this is occurring:
 - b) Name the advocate(s) providing this service:

ESSENTIAL COMPONENT D

Please explain how active outreach and follow-up support services for caregivers consistently occurs.



ESSENTIAL COMPONENT E

Do the CAC/MDT's written protocols/guidelines include ability of victim support and advocacy services for all CAC clients to be provided throughout the life of the case? Do they include the importance and role of participation of victim advocates(s) in the MDT case review in accordance with legal requirements regarding confidentiality?

ESSENTIAL COMPONENT F

Please explain how coordinated case management is occurring with all individuals providing victim advocacy services to CAC clients.

Required Attachments

- 1. Victim advocate(s) foundational training certificate(s)
- 2. Victim advocate(s) continuing education certificate(s)
- 3. CAC/MDT's written protocols/guidelines outlining how advocacy services are available to all CAC clients throughout the life of the case and advocates actively participate in case review