

State of South Carolina

Governor's Proclamation

WHEREAS, children's advocacy centers are child-focused, facility-based programs in which representatives from many disciplines, including law enforcement, child protection, prosecution, healthcare, and victim advocacy, work together as a team to make decisions about investigation, treatment management, and prosecution of child abuse cases; and

WHEREAS, in 2012, children's advocacy centers around South Carolina served an estimated 7,211 child victims of abuse, providing victim advocacy, treatment, and support to these children and their families; and

WHEREAS, of these 7,211 children, almost 40 percent were between the ages of 6 and 12 years old, and nearly as many were between the ages of newborn and 6 years old; and

WHEREAS, although neglect is the most common form of child maltreatment, victims also suffer year after year from physical, sexual, and emotional abuse; and

WHEREAS, children's advocacy centers seek to model, promote, and deliver excellence in best practice to child abuse response and prevention through service, education, and leadership.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Nikki R. Haley, Governor of the Great State of South Carolina, do hereby proclaim April 9, 2013, as

CHILDREN'S ADVOCACY DAY

throughout the state and encourage all South Carolinians to recognize the valuable contributions of children's advocacy centers to the health and well-being of children and families throughout the Palmetto State.



NIKKI R. HALEY
GOVERNOR
STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA