



Annual Impact Report

A set of three thin, white, hand-drawn style wavy lines that underline the word "Report" in the title.

Every child who walks through our doors carries a story no child should have to tell.



At First Light, our role is simple but deeply important: to make sure that story is heard with care, compassion, and dignity.

In 2025, we served 758 children across our region. Behind that number are moments of courage, resilience, and healing made possible because our community believes children deserve better. Better systems. Better protection. Better support.

Our model of One Child. One Place. One Time. is more than a tagline. It is a promise. A promise to reduce trauma, to coordinate responses, and to put a child's well-being first every single time.

I am endlessly grateful to our staff, multidisciplinary partners, donors, and advocates who show up day after day for children when they need it most. Together, we are building a safer future, one child at a time.

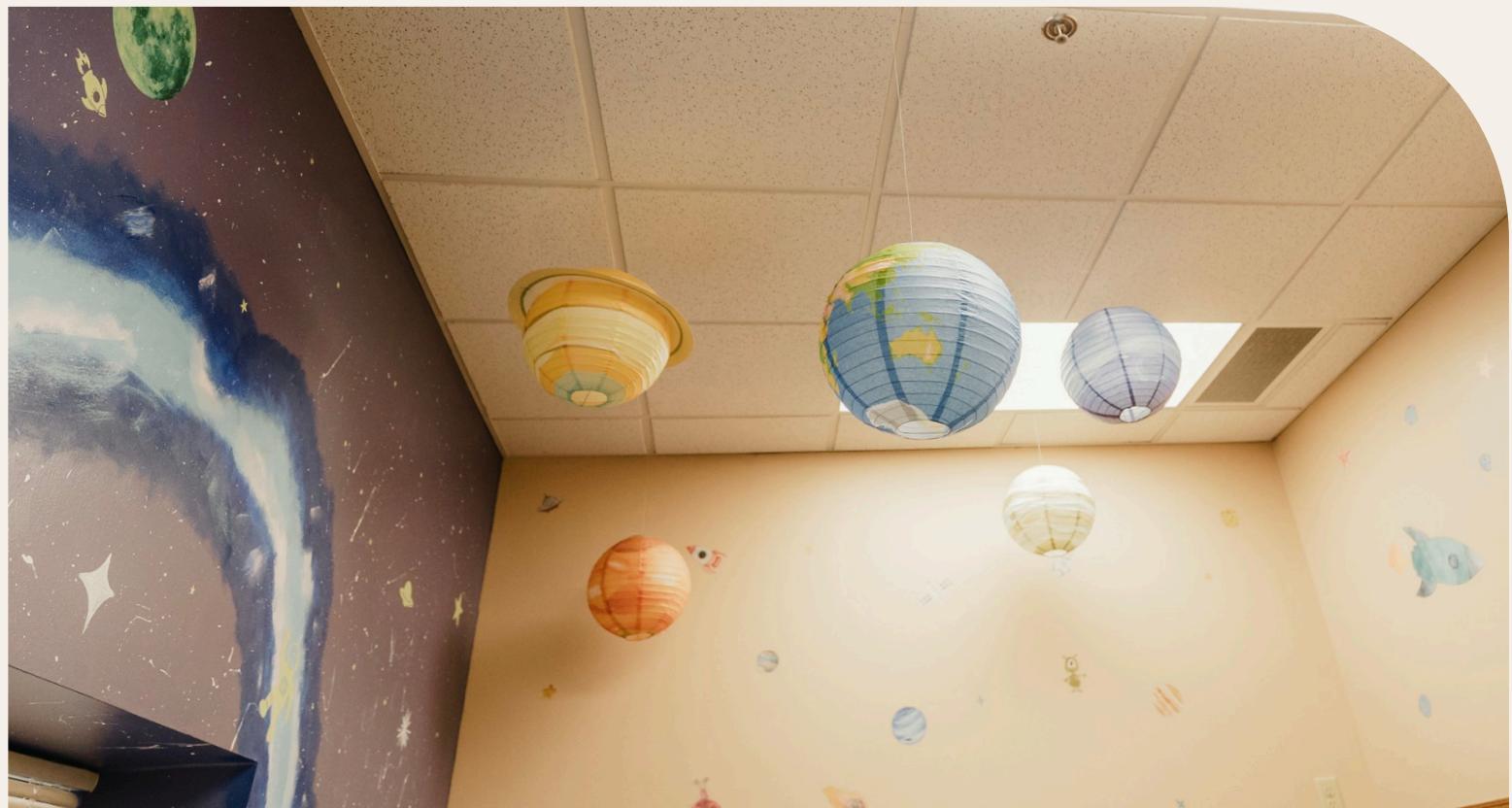
Thank you for standing with us,

Julissa Rivera

Executive Director
First Light Child Advocacy Center

Everyone deserves a place to feel safe

First Light Child Advocacy Center (CAC) exists to protect, support, and advocate for children who have experienced abuse or trauma. We provide coordinated, child-focused services at no cost to children and their non-offending family members—because every child deserves safety, dignity, and healing.





758

Children Served

1,008

MDT Reviews

51

Medical Services

83

Mental Health
Referrals

265

Forensic Interviews

594

Advocacy Contacts

Stat

Meaning

758
Children Served

First Light Child Advocacy Center provides coordinated, trauma-informed services to children impacted by abuse, violence, or traumatic experiences. Support is centered on safety, reducing further harm, and helping each child begin the healing process.

1,008
MDT Reviews

Multi-Disciplinary Team (MDT) reviews ensure a coordinated response to cases involving child abuse or trauma. These meetings bring together professionals from law enforcement, child protective services, healthcare, mental health, and the legal system to review cases, share information, and determine next steps to support children and families.

265
**Forensic
Interviews**

Forensic interviews provide children with a safe, child-friendly space to share their experiences in a developmentally appropriate way. These interviews support investigative and legal processes when abuse or trauma is suspected.

51
**Medical
Services**

Medical services support the physical wellbeing of children when concerns of abuse or trauma are present. These services may include medical evaluations, hair testing or referrals to ensure a child's health and safety needs are addressed.

83
**Mental Health
Referrals**

Mental health referrals connect children to specialized, trauma-informed care. These services help children process their experiences, build coping skills, and continue healing in a supportive environment.

584
**Advocacy
Contacts**

Advocacy services support children and non-offending caregivers as they navigate the systems involved in addressing abuse or trauma. Advocates provide guidance, resources, court accompaniment, and ongoing support throughout the process.

The year in review

Our impact report is made to measure our organization's impact on the children we serve. It serves as a tool for evaluating our efforts and demonstrating the positive difference we are making in the communities we serve.

First Light Child Advocacy Center is dedicated to providing essential services and support to children who

have experienced abuse or trauma. Our mission is to ensure the safety, well-being, and healing of every child who comes through our doors. This impact report highlights the significant achievements and contributions made by First Light in the past year, showcasing the profound impact on the lives of children and families in our community.

Spring Highlight

We strengthened our community connections through meaningful fundraisers and gatherings that raised awareness and support for child advocacy services. A special thank you to everyone who rallied behind us during Go Big Give 2025, coming together to support FLCAC's mission and help ensure children and families receive the care they deserve.

Summer Highlight

Swinging for a cause! Fore The Kids was a smashing success, raising support and smiles for the children we serve.

We celebrated Julissa Rivera stepping into the role of Executive Director. She took on a huge responsibility and rose to the occasion with dedication, heart, and unwavering leadership, guiding First Light forward while supporting every child and family we serve.

Fall Highlight

First Light Child Advocacy Center kept learning, giving, connecting, continuing staff education, hosting fundraisers, and engaging the community to support children and families.

Winter Highlight

We're feeling extra grateful for the generosity of our incredible supporters. Your countless donations help First Light Child Advocacy Center continue protecting and healing children. Thank you for making it possible!

Our Impact

One Child

Every child is met with compassion, respect, and care. From the moment they arrive, our focus is on creating a sense of safety and trust while centering their emotional and physical well-being.

One Place

First Light brings essential partners together in one child-friendly location—reducing stress on families and improving outcomes through collaboration.

One Time

Through forensic interviewing and MDT coordination, children are supported in telling their story once, limiting re-traumatization and preserving the integrity of investigations.



Services We Offer

First Light provides a comprehensive range of services tailored to the unique needs of every child and family we serve:

- Forensic interviews conducted by specially trained professionals
- Advocacy and family support services
- Case management and coordinated referrals
- Medical evaluations
- Hair testing
- Mental health referrals
- Professional training and community outreach

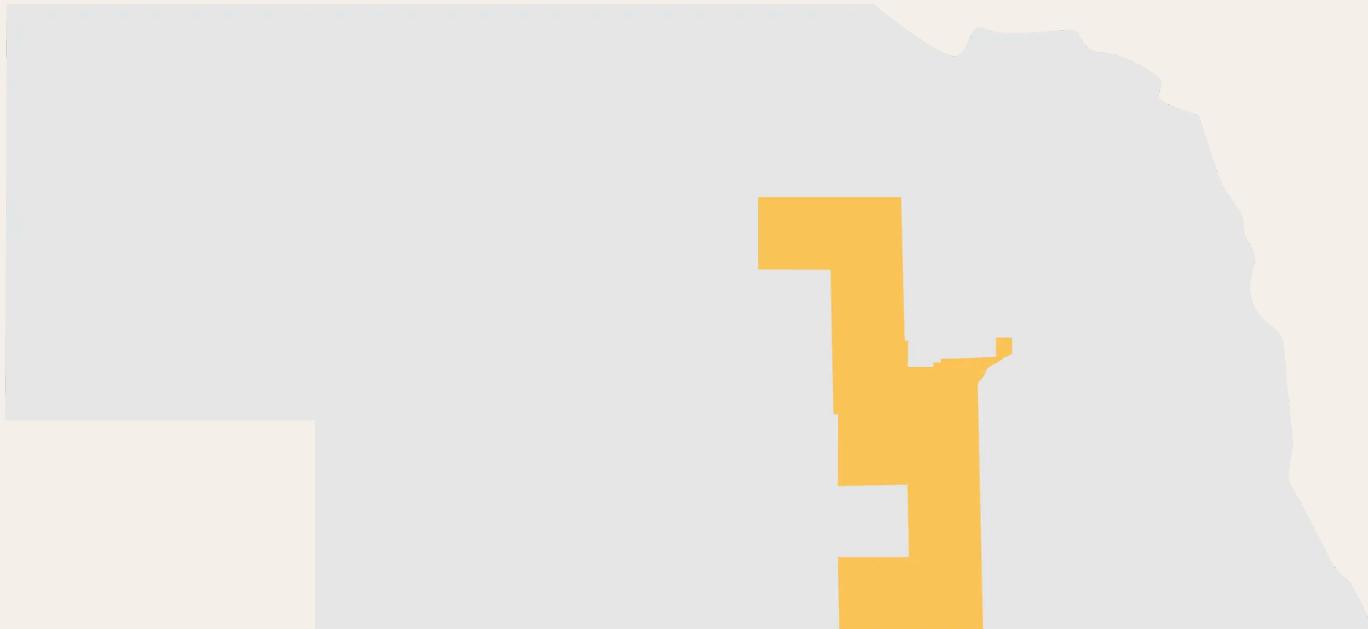
Our coverage area



First Light proudly serves 10 counties across Nebraska:

- Hall
- Howard
- Hamilton
- Merrick
- Garfield
- Greeley
- Clay
- Nuckolls
- Webster
- Wheeler

Through collaboration with other Child Advocacy Centers across the state, First Light also provides courtesy interviews for minors from outside our primary service area.



We'd like to thank all our donors & sponsors for their *generous support*



Acknowledgements

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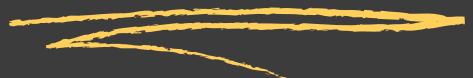
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Whitney, Newman, Mersch, Otto &
Grafton, PC, LLO
YMCA – Grand Island
Zach Brittain
Zeb & Shauna Graham





Looking ahead

As the need for child advocacy services continues to grow, First Light remains committed to expanding access, strengthening partnerships, and deepening trauma-informed care across our region. With continued community support, we will keep showing up—for every child, every family, every time.



Thank You

This impact would not be possible without the dedication of our staff, MDT partners, donors, volunteers, and community supporters. Your belief in our mission helps ensure children are heard, protected, and supported when they need it most.

Together, we make a difference—One Child. One Place. One Time.