



CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION COUNCIL OF SAN BENITO COUNTY

STRATEGIC PLAN 2023-2026



OUR VISION

- All children are resilient, thriving and surrounded by a supportive, kind and loving community.
- All families have the knowledge, skills, support and resources to raise happy, healthy children.
- All organizations and policymakers prioritize the health, safety and well-being of all children in policy, funding and programmatic decisions.
- All community members share the responsibility for making San Benito County an “Abuse-Free Zone” that is free from all forms of child, family and community violence.



OUR MISSION

To ensure all children in San Benito County are safe, healthy, loved and have the opportunity to reach their full potential in life.

We do this by coordinating the community’s efforts to prevent and respond to child, family, and community violence.



OUR VALUES

COMPASSION

We are empathetic and nonjudgmental in our response to any child or adult that has experienced or perpetrated abuse or violence.

PREVENTION

We prioritize and advocate for policies, programs and services that promote the health and well-being of children and families and prevent problems before they occur.

COLLABORATION & PARTNERSHIPS

We are unified in our mission to end all forms of abuse and violence. We share our ideas, talents, and resources as we work together to achieve common goals.

HONESTY & INTEGRITY

We are sincere in our intentions for the community, and we share and listen to diverse perspectives. We believe in always doing the right thing for the benefit of children in our community, even when it's difficult or not required of us.

PERSEVERANCE

We are persistent and steadfast in our efforts to make positive changes in our community.

ACCOUNTABILITY

We seek input, listen, follow through on commitments, and share the responsibility for achieving the greater good.



OUR HISTORY

In 1989, the California state legislature passed The Child Abuse Prevention Coordinating Council Act. The Act authorized the use of federal funds for county child abuse prevention programs and authorized counties to establish a Children’s Trust Fund with revenue from birth certificate fees. The Act specified that each county shall fund at least one Child Abuse Prevention Council (CAPC), using allocations from the county Children’s Trust Fund. The San Benito County Board of Supervisors adopted Ordinance 786, establishing the Child Abuse Prevention Council of San Benito County to implement the goals and objectives outlined in the Act, with funding from the county’s Children’s Trust Fund.



OUR REPRESENTATION

CAPCs are encouraged to include representatives from a number of categories of professional and community agencies, including:

- **Public child welfare services:** including the county welfare or children’s services department, the probation department, and licensing agencies;
- **The criminal justice system:** including law enforcement, the office of the district attorney, the courts, and the coroner;
- **Prevention and treatment services:** including medical and mental health, community-based social services, and public and private schools; and
- **Community representatives:** including volunteers, civic organizations, and the faith-based community.

OUR FUNCTION

CAPCs play an important role in the community, fulfilling key functions such as:

- Provide a forum for interagency cooperation and coordination in the prevention, detection, treatment, and legal processing of child abuse cases.
- Promote public awareness of abuse and neglect and the resources available.
- Encourage and facilitate training of professionals in detection, treatment, and prevention of child abuse and neglect.
- Recommend improvements in services to families and victims.
- Encourage and facilitate community support for child abuse and neglect programs.



OUR GOALS

The CAPC's 2023-2026 strategic goals are to:

1. Promote child abuse prevention by partnering with local community-based organizations through events, outreach materials, fiscal support, and explore a youth internship program for high school age youth.
 2. Develop a professional training plan which will host at least two trainings per year to San Benito County professionals and celebrate professionals serving youth through the Unsung Hero Awards.
 3. Lead with data by completing a community assessment of SBC to identify needs and areas of strength to further inform decision making in our next strategic plan and release an annual newsletter on child abuse prevention.
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GOAL 1: PROMOTE CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION



1. Partner with local organizations

Objective 1: Partner with local organizations/events (such as Healthy Kids Day, Kids in the Park, Stuff the Bus, etc.) provide outreach on child abuse prevention

- Disperse education materials on child abuse prevention
- Providing fiscal support at events by providing essential needs to families (diapers, school supplies, food, etc.)



2. Explore Youth Internship

Objective 2: By 2024, explore launching high school/college intern program with CAPC that encourages youth leadership and development

- Identify feasibility of intern program
- Develop guidelines, roles and responsibility, ensure ongoing mentorship and support, explore stipends, recruitment strategies, and explore including youth member as CAPC representative in bylaws



3. Focused Outreach

Objective 3: By 2025, identify and explore ways to have targeted and enhanced outreach efforts to underserved community members on child abuse prevention

- Explore strategies to support and/or fund local efforts
- Launch at least one campaign focused on outreach to the Oaxacan community

GOAL 2: PROMOTE PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT



1. Host professional trainings

Objective 1: Host at least two professional trainings open to all community professionals per year focused on child abuse/neglect

- Seek feedback from community on training needs
- Create a training plan/calendar for the next three years
- Identify trainers and host trainings



2. Celebrate Professionals

Objective 2: Host annual Unsung Hero Awards to promote Child Abuse Awareness Month and honor community professionals who make a difference in the lives of children within San Benito County

- Plan and host event each year
- Identify nominees from local youth serving agencies
- Select keynote speakers to highlight different themes focused on child abuse prevention efforts

GOAL 3: LEAD WITH DATA



1. Community Assessment

Objective 1: In 2025/2026, CAPC will complete a community assessment of San Benito County to identify needs and strengths to further inform decision making

- Seek available data within community network
- Explore creating community survey with questions focused on families
- Host community conversations focused on gathering input



2. Release Annual Newsletter

Objective 2: By 2024, the CAPC will release an annual newsletter which includes statistics related to child abuse and neglect within San Benito County and child abuse prevention efforts



ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

We want to acknowledge and thank our community members who provide their time and actively participated the Child Abuse Prevention Council of San Benito County. Without their efforts we would be successful in any of our efforts.

- **Chair**, Erica Elliott, Community Solutions
- **Secretary**, Esther Curtice, CASA of San Benito
- Joshua Mercier, San Benito County Health and Human Services
- Ashlyn Canez, San Benito County Probation
- Krystal Lomanto, San Benito County Office of Education
- Kendra Bobsin, Go Kids
- Thomas Breen, Community Member
- Olivia Tauvinkl, CASA of San Benito
- Isabel Littlejohn, San Benito County Probation
- Nancy Barocio, Go Kids
- Shannon Gomez, San Benito County Behavioral Health

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