

State of South Carolina

Governor's Proclamation

WHEREAS, Children's Advocacy Centers in the Palmetto State served 13,788 children in 2024, providing necessary forensic interviews, investigative services, victim advocacy, medical evaluations, and mental health treatment services. This represents a three percent increase in children served by Children's Advocacy Centers in South Carolina over 2023; and

WHEREAS, although sexual abuse was the most common form of child maltreatment reported by children served at South Carolina Children's Advocacy Centers during 2024, thousands of children in South Carolina also suffered from drug endangerment, physical abuse, neglect, and other forms of child maltreatment; and

WHEREAS, approximately 71 percent of children served at South Carolina Children's Advocacy Centers in 2024 were under the age of thirteen; and

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

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Henry Dargan McMaster, Governor of the great State of South Carolina, do hereby proclaim April 15, 2025 as

CHILDREN'S ADVOCACY CENTER DAY

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



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

HENRY DARGAN MCMASTER
GOVERNOR
STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA