

You and your child
are safe here.



We are with **you**
every step
of the way.



Reach out to us anytime
PH: (707) 565-6360
rccsonomacounty.org

We are located inside the
FAMILY JUSTICE CENTER
2755 Mendocino Ave.
Suite 204
Santa Rosa, CA 95403
M - F 8am - 5pm

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rccsonomacounty.org

We understand this is an incredibly stressful time for you and your child. **EVERYTHING** we do here is to support you and simplify the process.



What is our purpose? We are a child advocacy center (CAC) that is both a place and a way to address child abuse using current best practices with a child friendly approach and setting. We have a team of trained professionals all under one roof to support you and your child. We are here to reduce the number of interviews and reduce the trauma to children and families.

Step by step — What happens here:

- When you arrive, you and your child will wait in a child-friendly room full of snacks, toys, games, books and crafts. (A service dog may also be available.)
- We will give you and your child a tour of the Center, explain how everything works and answer your questions about the interview process.
- The interview helps the team have a better understanding of your concerns and allows us to connect you to the right services in the community. The process also helps to limit the number of times your child has to repeat the events of the situation.

Can I watch the interview?

Only professionals directly involved in the investigation can watch the interview. While you wait, a trained advocate will be available to answer your questions.

What happens after the interview?

You can talk to a member of our team who observed the interview. Keep in mind that there may be information that cannot be shared.

Can I talk to my child about what happened?

Only if your child or client brings up the topic without being asked and says that he or she wants to tell you about it. In that case, listen without comment. Reassure him or her that everything will be okay. Later, make detailed notes of what was said, and share them with the investigator handling the case.



What do I tell my child about coming here?

“We are going to talk to someone who needs to know what happened. You are not in trouble! This person talks to kids all the time about similar things. You need to tell the truth about everything you remember.”

How can I prepare my child?

It's best if the child is well-rested — a nap before arriving can help. A meal or a healthy, non-sugary snack before the visit will help them be comfortable.

What's next?

Every case is different. We will do our best to answer your questions and support you each step of the way.

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