

CAPstone CATCH UP



CAPstone CHILD ADVOCACY CENTER

“A PLACE TO BE HEARD,
A PLACE TO HEAL.”

CAPstone Office Locations

Scottsbluff/Gering
900 P Street
Gering, NE 69341
308-632-7274

Chadron
316 Main Street
Chadron, NE 69337
308-432-8145

Alliance
2307 Box Butte Avenue
Alliance, NE 69301

Sidney
1109 10th Avenue
Sidney, NE 69162

REFLECTING ON 2019

2019 was a year for changes, new beginnings, and record breaking numbers. Is this what we have to look forward to in the coming year for CAPstone? We hope so.

For starters, we can take a glance at some of the things we have been up to at CAPstone in 2019. In 12 months, from January to December, CAPstone employees completed 538 interviews. 339 in Gering, 50 in Sidney, 60 in Alliance, and 89 in Chadron. These numbers have been truly astonishing, compared to the 426 that were completed in 2018.

Let's not stop there, Advocacy totals also were impressive with record breaking numbers at 2,598 contacts in 2019 compared to the 2138 in 2018.

In 2019, CAPstone gave 39 public presentations throughout our 11 counties. These include speaking to classes at Chadron State College, high school classes or even just organizations in the

community about what we do in our communities. CAPstone also provided eight CAN 101 trainings.

Looking back, 2019 brought great things, at CAPstone Child Advocacy Center we look forward to what 2020 brings, and hope it continues to give us the opportunity to serve the children and families in our communities. Giving them the opportunity to be heard and start on their path to heal.

***“I appreciate the
friendliness and
openness of the staff. I
did not feel judged at all
which is something I
feared “ CAPstone
parent*”**

CAPstone STAFF

Monica Shambaugh
Executive Director

Lisa Collins
Forensic Interviewer, MDT
Coordinator

Karol Garduno
Family Advocate

Rebecca Fernau
Forensic Interviewer, Community
Outreach Coordinator

Isabella Irish
Family Advocate

Winnie Voss
Child Advocate/Administrative
Assistant

Shelley Thomas
Forensic Interviewer

Leslie Beckman
Intern



CAPstone WISH LIST

For the Children

- New Beanie Babies/stuffed animals
- New Blankets
- New Backpacks
- Journals
- McDonalds/Runza gift cards

For the Facility

- Gift cards to Walmart/Target
- New DVD Movies
- Individually wrapped snacks/juices

2019 LIGHT OF HOPE FUNDRAISER

CAPstone and CASA came together to host the annual Light of Hope event on Thursday, September 5, 2019, at the Gering Civic Center. This year's guest speaker was an international, best-selling author Laura Schroff. Laura spoke about random acts of kindness, as inspired by her own experiences. Laura's book, an Invisible Thread, is the story of Laura, living in New York City, and meeting a young boy, Maurice, begging on the street, for money to buy food. Laura didn't give the boy money, but bought him a meal, and began a lifelong friendship that would change both of them for the rest of their lives. Laura's experience shows how one,

small act of kindness can make a huge difference, and alter a child's future.

The Light of Hope event was a great success, with CAPstone and CASA receiving \$18,000 for each of their agencies. These monies are crucial to the work we do, in helping to reduce trauma and promote healing for child abuse victims and their families in a safe, child friendly environment where children can be heard and supported.

The 2020 Light of Hope event will be held on Thursday, September 3, 2020. Watch for attendance details as the event gets closer!

VIDANYX, WHAT'S THE SCOOP?

CAPstone is very excited about implementing the new premier video storage system, **VidaNyx**, at our CAC in July of 2019. **VidaNyx** is a cloud-based video management and archiving solution tailored to the needs of Child Advocacy Centers. It was built from the ground up as a collective effort working with the National Children's Alliance, Project Harmony in Omaha, Nebraska, the FBI, and an advisory council with expert attorneys, prosecutors, therapists, and forensic interviewers, Child Advocacy Centers across the U.S., government officials and philanthropists. **VidaNyx** was created for CACs and is used by law enforcement, child advocates, mental health, medical professionals, prosecution, child protective services, and victim advocacy to safely and securely share forensic interviews. CACs all across the U.S. are adopting **VidaNyx** for the sharing and storing of forensic interviews. Very recently, it was announced that **VidaNyx** is coming home to Omaha, NE, under the astute leadership of Sara Boyd. Sara joined **VidaNyx** after 2 decades in the nonprofit sector as CEO of the Omaha Community Foundation. She is personally committed to advocating for the CAC model and growing **VidaNyx** to deliver greater impact to help more survivors find healing and justice.



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Website

www.capstonenebraska.com

Email

director@capstonenebraska.com

Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/CAPstone-Child-Advocacy-Center-310733285741/>

**To report child
abuse/neglect**

**Nebraska child
abuse/neglect hotline**

**1-800-652-1999 or call
your local Law
Enforcement agency.**



Meet Winnie

When you think about CAPstone you tend to think about the forensic interviewers or the victim advocates who all work so hard, but let's not forget about the importance of the administrative assistant. Winnie Voss came to the United States in December of 1989. Her first job was in 1990 where she worked at different nursing homes in Minnesota, South Dakota, and Oregon as a nursing aide. In May 1998 to February 2010 she worked as a secretary for Reach Out Foster Care Services with Panhandle Mental Health Center. In February 2010 to October 2010 Winnie worked as a Case Aide for Boys and Girls Home of Nebraska.

Winnie started at CAPstone CAC in December of 2010 as the Administrative Assistant/Child Advocate in the Gering office. For a little over 10 years now she has been helping the new staff figure things out and get their footing. When families come to the facility she greets them with a smile and helps them feel more comfortable at the center. Winnie also takes care of the wellness initiatives at CAPstone and truly keeps things running like a top. In her free time you can catch Winnie running her way through a 5k/10K as well as ½ marathons. Her other passions are reading, traveling, and scrapbooking. Thanks Winnie for everything you do for CAPstone and the families we serve.



TRAININGS:

**CAN 101 (CHILD ABUSE AND
NEGLECT)**

No fee

CHADRON MARCH 12TH 2-4 PM

CHADRON CAPstone OFFICE

316 Main ST, Chadron

ALLIANCE MARCH 19TH 2-4 PM

ALLIANCE PUBLIC LIBRARY

1750 Sweetwater St, Alliance

"Everyone was very nice which helped make things more comfortable in a very uncomfortable and stressful situation. Greatly appreciate all of the help."

CAPstone parent

NEW BUILDING MEANS NEW BEGINNINGS

In February of 2019 the CAPstone Child Advocacy Center satellite office in Chadron moved to our new location at 316 Main Street. Our previous space was actually two different locations, one where the interviews took place and the other where our Chadron staff were housed. We were excited to move into a space that would be able to both house our staff and our interview area as well as provide more safety measures for our staff and the children/families who come to our center.

We were able to apply and receive grants from the City of Chadron and the Walmart Foundation. Those funds were able to assist us in making our space more child/family friendly. We also held a fundraiser called Tiles of Hope 2019, in which we sold over 200 tiles that people either chose to paint themselves, have a Chadron State College student paint it/them, or have a Chadron Middle School student paint their tile. From the Tiles of Hope 2019 fundraiser we made over \$4,000.



On November 5th, 2019 the staff at CAPstone Child Advocacy Center hosted a GRAND OPENING for our new center located at 316 Main Street. The day started out with representatives of the Chadron Chamber of Commerce partaking in a ribbon cutting ceremony for our grand opening. Throughout the day CAPstone CAC staff gave tours to the 40 people who came including community members, criminal justice professionals, and individuals who purchased a tile from the Tiles of Hope 2019 fundraiser. The feedback we received was that our center felt like a piece of home, felt warm and welcoming, and most importantly felt child/family friendly. We sincerely appreciate every person who took time out of their day to help our staff celebrate our grand opening, thank you!

CAPstone Child Advocacy Center would also like to thank everyone who assisted in our move to our new location, everyone who helped in renovating parts of the space, and the assistance we received in decorating our center. Our dreams of making this space into a center that is child friendly would not have been possible without all of the help we received from our local community, again thank you!

CAPstone DONORS ARE SUPER HEROES



RECENT MONETARY DONATIONS

Fliesbach Family Foundation
\$17,500.00

Gering Zion Church
\$1,000.00

Quivey-Bay State Foundation
\$2,000.00

Joyce Hillman-Kortum Memorial
\$1,005.00

CAPstone Fundraising Campaign
\$2,170.00

Light of Hope
\$18,000.00

Frontstream
\$27.00

RECENT TANGABLE DONATIONS

Rene Newton
Quilts

Wahlstrom Ford, Inc.
Toys

Jay & Donna Judd, Colleen Kelly
Blankets, Runza gift cards,
Books & juice

Megan
Stuffed Animals, gift Cards
& Journals

Student Veterans Service
Organization at WNCC
Toys

Christie Shaver
Journals

Mandy Brice & Family
Homemade Snacks

Guardian Belle's (Alliance)
Journals

Gordon Head Start Parent group
Backpacks filled with
stuffed animals, toys
journals and pens

Randy Bauer
Teddy Bears