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## Child Advocacy Centers of Wisconsin Thanks Assembly for Increasing Critical Funds for CACs

*Assembly Passes Legislation Increasing Funding for Victim Services*

**Madison— 2/23/24** — Child Advocacy Centers of Wisconsin, the statewide Chapter supporting Wisconsin’s 15 Child Advocacy Centers (CACs) and 2 satellite Centers, commends the Wisconsin State Assembly for passing legislation that increases funding for CACs.

Assembly Bill 940 increases funding for CACs from just \$17,000 per year to \$80,000 per year for fiscal year 2024-2025. This increase comes amidst a 70% funding reduction to the Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) effective October 1, 2024. The bill also increases funding to other victim-serving organizations, such as domestic violence and sexual assault programs, who often work collaboratively with the CAC in their community to provide holistic services to children and families.

CACs coordinate a child-focused, trauma-informed response to suspected child maltreatment, with specially-skilled interviewers and mental health and medical services, victim advocates, and a multidisciplinary team of investigators. CACs see suspected child victims of various types of maltreatment, including sexual abuse, physical abuse, commercial sex trafficking, drug endangerment, and witnesses of violence.

CACs of Wisconsin thanks Rep. Snyder and Rep. Conley, as well as Sen. James and Sen. Agard for their leadership on this bill, and encourages the Senate to take decisive action and pass

this important legislation. The impact it will have on vulnerable children and families in Wisconsin is immense.

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**For more information, press only:**

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