



- [Donate](#)
- [Events](#)
- [Services](#)
- [Memberships](#)
- [Report Abuse](#)

Greetings!

As we approach the close of 2024, the **Emerald Coast Children's Advocacy Center (ECCAC)** reflects on an impactful year of serving our community's most vulnerable children. In 2024, **ECCAC provided over 41,000 hours of services, the equivalent of watching *It's a Wonderful Life* 502 times.** These hours represent countless moments of support, healing, and hope for the **20,571 children** who benefitted from our services.

None of this would have been possible without the unwavering support of our dedicated donors, volunteers, partners, and community members. Your generosity has made a profound difference in the lives of so many children. As we look ahead to 2025, we remain committed to empowering and protecting the children of the Emerald Coast, and we are deeply grateful for your continued support. Thank you for being an essential part of our journey.

Julie Porterfield, MPA
Chief Executive Officer

ECCAC 2024 Stats:

20,571 children impacted by ECCAC services

equivalent to

368 School Busses FULL of Kiddos

or

3 High School Football Stadiums' FULL of Students

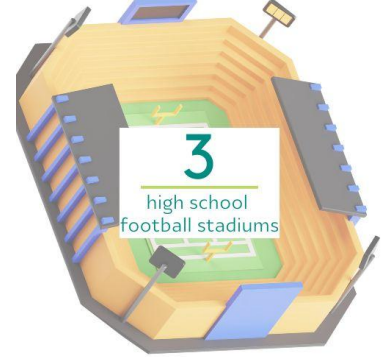


OVER 41,000hrs of services provided by ECCAC in 2024

equivalent to

The time it would take to watch

It's A Wonderful Life
502 times.



That's A Wrap on Fall Events

Special Thanks

Thanks to the incredible generosity of the **St. Joe Community Foundation**, our Mental Health and Prevention programs are receiving a significant boost! This support will help us make a positive impact in both Okaloosa and Walton County. In addition, we're excited to partner with the **Walton County Sheriff's Office** to spread Christmas cheer to children in need this holiday season.



Incredibly Grateful for Volunteers

ECCAC would not be able to do what we do without the support of our incredible volunteers! Your time, dedication, and hard work make all the difference. We truly appreciate each and every one of you – **thank you** for being an essential part of our mission!



Left: **ECCAC Volunteers** helped with the **Harvest Wine & Food Festival** on October 18th.
Right: **President of the ECCAC Young Ambassadors, Jen Lynch**, helps serve hot dogs at the **South Walton Celebrity Golf Classic** November 1st & 2nd.

Key Contributor Celebration

Donor Appreciation Week took place from November 4th to November 8th, with the Key Contributor Celebration on Thursday, November 7th, at **The Henderson**. It was truly wonderful to see so many of you there, celebrating the incredible impact you help make possible. For those who couldn't join us, please know that you were missed, and your support was felt in spirit.

A **BIG Thank You** to everyone involved!



Graduates From C.A.R.E.S

In November, our CARES program held a special graduation ceremony for 2 families! CARES (Community Awareness, Advocacy, Resources, Education, and Support) is a community-based initiative to reach a wider demographic of children who are subject to neglect and lack of resources. The women below have worked with their CARES Wraparound Care Case Manager, Shaneeka Turner, for the past year. These women had home visits every month and worked alongside Shaneeka to overcome hardships! We are SO incredibly proud of what each of them have accomplished this past year!



Lunch & Learn with Biker's Against Child Abuse (B.A.C.A.)

On Friday, November 15th, **Bikers Against Child Abuse, Inc. (B.A.C.A.)** held a meaningful Lunch and Learn event for **ECCAC staff and partners**. The gathering taught about the vital work **B.A.C.A.** does to create a safer environment for children who have experienced trauma. Through partnerships with local and state officials, **B.A.C.A.** reinforces its commitment to child protection, working collaboratively with those already in place to advocate for the safety of vulnerable children.

Together, we can make a difference and show our commitment to standing up for those who cannot stand up for themselves. Thank you to everyone who attended the Lunch and Learn, and especially the **B.A.C.A. Speakers: Sprocket, 710, and Glitter.**



Each child that is brought into the **B.A.C.A.** family receives a vest and teddy bear - shown above. They are also able to pick their road name, which is what everyone in the family will call them.

45th Annual Toys 4 Tots Ride

On November 17th, the **Emerald Coast Harley-Davidson Owner's Group #3506 (ECHOG #3605)** proudly hosted the **45th Annual Toys 4 Tots Ride**, benefiting **ECCAC** and **Children in Crisis**. The day began with registration at **ECHD** at 8:30am before riding to the Mullet Festival grounds at 11am.

Upon arrival, attendees enjoyed bike games, a bike decorating contest, a car/truck show, food truck treats, and games hosted by **ECCAC volunteers**.

We are so grateful to everyone who participated and look forward to next year!





High Tea with Mariner Wealth Advisors

On October 22nd, **ECCAC** was invited to a high tea affair with **Mariner Wealth Advisors**! We were honored to speak to a group of ladies about the mission of the organization.

We were then presented a check by wealth advisor, Andrew McDowell, for **\$10,000** from the **Mariner Foundation**!

The **ECCAC** team is so thankful for this gift and this group of individuals. It was also fun to participate in the high tea theme, with brunch, tea, and flower bouquet building.

Left: Lee Curtis, Director of Development, Ashley McDowell, and Andrew McDowell



We Love Community Events

Our team is always excited to be out in the community, connecting with you, and offering our support. We love to have the opportunity to connect with Walton and Okaloosa counties, in any way we can!

Together, we are truly stronger!



ROYAL
DESTINATIONS
beyond the beach



Thank You for Filling Our Needs

We love to meet the tangible needs of our families! We cannot do it without the help and support of our community.

A huge thank you to **Royal Destinations** for donating **30 boxes of shampoo, conditioner, and body wash!** Thank you for thinking of our families and donating to our center!

We would also like to extend a big thank you to the **Caduceus Society on the Emerald Coast** for donating **\$1,525** in gift cards! We love helping families put gas in their cars and food on the table as they travel to our center on their journey to healing!

We celebrate your kindness and compassion as you make a tangible difference, ensuring that no family feels alone or unsupported while here at our Center.



30 boxes of Shampoo, Conditioner, & Body Wash!

\$1525.00 in Gift Cards!

Saying Goodbye to Elsa and Dan



Therapy Dog Elsa and her devoted owner, **Dan**, have made over 750 visits to the center, offering unwavering support and compassion. Throughout their countless visits, they have touched the lives of many, providing comfort, healing, and joy to

children in the community. The impact they have made is truly immeasurable, as **Elsa and Dan** have brought a sense of peace and solace to so many during their most challenging times. Their presence has been a beacon of hope, offering support and calming hearts when it was needed most.

On November 7th, we gathered to celebrate **Elsa's** well-earned retirement at a special party, marking the beginning of a new chapter where she can relax at home. While we're excited for **Elsa** to enjoy this time, we will miss her and **Dan** immensely. Their extraordinary bond and the warmth they've shared with us will never be forgotten.



**WE LOVE YOU!
THANK YOU FOR YOUR
SERVICE!**

It's Beginning to Look A Lot Like Christmas



2024 ECCAC DeFuniak Christmas Party



The **ECCAC** Christmas parties held in DeFuniak Springs and Niceville are truly the highlight of the year. For the families we serve, it's an unforgettable experience, as the giggles and smiles of the children light up the room and warm the hearts of everyone present.

The parties were filled with festive fun, with kids enjoying a variety of games, a pizza dinner, and a heartwarming Christmas movie. The excitement didn't stop there—each child went home with a bag full of toys, ensuring that the holiday season was a little brighter for them and their families.

These Christmas parties aren't just about the festivities—they're about creating memories and bringing families closer together. For many, it's a chance to celebrate the season and enjoy quality time together, which is what makes these events so special. The laughter shared and the joy on the faces of the children remind us why we do what we do, making the **ECCAC** Christmas parties the best time of the year!

Party Stats:

50 Kids attended DFS Party!
61 Kids attended Niceville Party!

A BIG THANK YOU to these Christmas Elves that helped make the season brighter for our kiddos & families!

- Swift Creek Neighborhood
- Flying Needles Quilt Guild
- PEO Chapter DH
- Destin & FWB Books-a-Million
- Beulah First Baptist Church
- Core Chiropractic
- ECCAC Young Ambassadors
- Stepping Stones Academy
- Main Street Fitness Co.
- South Walton Beta Club
- Echelon Luxury Properties
- St. Joe Community Foundation
- Walton County Sheriff's Office
- Game Day Men's Health
- Emerald Coast Harley Davidson
- Rocky Bayou Christian School Art Club
- Caduceus Society on the Emerald Coast



2024 ECCAC
Niceville Party

Gala & Golf 2025 *Presented by Peggy & Jerry Swanson*

eccac gala & golf

March 8 & 9

Presented by
Peggy & Jerry Swanson

Reflecting hope. Transforming futures. Empowering freedom.

Just as a prism refracts light, bending and separating it into a beautiful array of colors, **ECCAC** uses your talents, time, and contributions to piece together the chaotic fragments of a broken childhood—creating a new future full of hope, healing, and freedom. Our biggest fundraising event of the year, the **Gala & Golf Weekend**, brings together two days of celebration, fun, and fundraising for the children and families we serve. With both our annual gala and golf tournament, it's an opportunity to reflect on our successes and raise crucial support to continue our fight to end child abuse and neglect.

Reserve your spot in 2025 and join us in making a lasting difference.

Become A Champion!



END OF YEAR GIVING

Want to give the perfect gift this Christmas? Make a donation in your loved one's honor and know your dollars will surely make a difference.

Donation Gift!

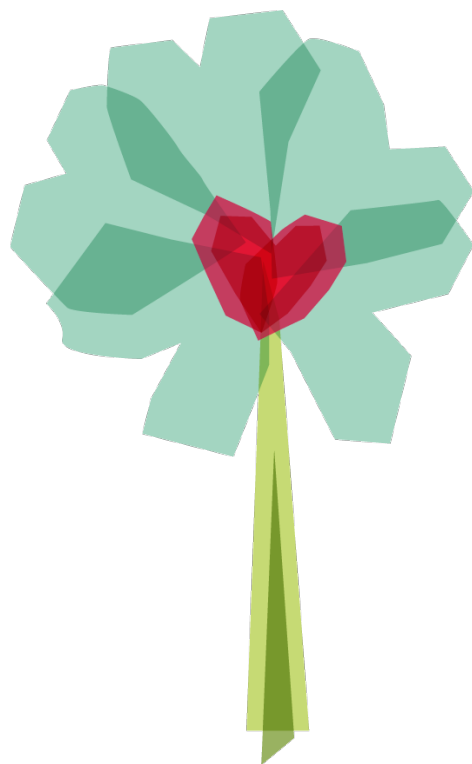
ANNUAL & MONTHLY MEMBERSHIP

When you partner with us as a member, it is important for you to know that our team is celebrating because you are playing a huge role in a child's healing journey. It is a **BIG DEAL!**

Thank you for your partnership as we work together in our fight to **END CHILD ABUSE** and **END CHILD NEGLECT!**

Please note that all memberships are renewed on an annual or monthly basis. You can cancel your membership at any time by contacting us at info@eccac.org.

Join Today!



Wishing you and your family the happiest of holidays!
Looking forward to seeing you in 2025!



Rise to the challenge.

Help us restore childhood joy and hope for the future.



Become a Champion

Emerald Coast Children's Advocacy Center | 401 McEwen Drive | Niceville, FL 32578 US

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