

# Institution of Higher Education Monetary Penalty Endowment Act

Annual Report 2023

## Background

Act 1 of 2013, better known as the "Endowment Act," charges the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency (PCCD) with the responsibility of administering \$48 million in funding that resulted from the settlement reached between the Commonwealth, the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) and the Pennsylvania State University (PSU) in January 2015.

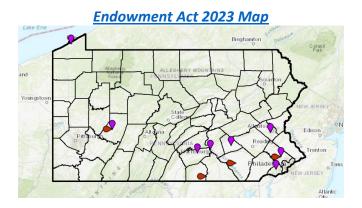
Endowment Act funds may only be used within this Commonwealth for the benefit of the residents of Pennsylvania, and on any of the following:

- Programs or projects preventing child sexual abuse or assisting the victims of child sexual abuse;
- Multidisciplinary investigative teams (MDITs) established under 23 Pa.C.S. (relating to Domestic Relations);
- Child advocacy centers (CACs);
- Victim service organizations that provide services to children subjected to sexual abuse;
   and
- Training of persons who are mandated by law to report child sexual abuse or who treat victims of child sexual abuse.

In order to administer the funding, PCCD relies on the advice and recommendations of the <u>Children's Advocacy Center Advisory Committee (CACAC)</u>, which was established by <u>Act 28 of 2014</u>. The members of the CACAC include experts in the investigation, identification, prosecution and treatment of victims of child sexual abuse.

#### 2023 Annual Report to the General Assembly Overview

The Endowment Act requires PCCD to provide an annual report to the General Assembly itemizing all approved expenditures from the endowment, the amount received by the organization and summary information aggregating expenditures by each category. This webpage serves as the annual report and provides information regarding the location of Endowment Act grant recipients, the category of funding that they applied for, a summary of the award, and the amount of the award.



During Calendar Year 2023, the CACAC recommended funding projects under category 1B (programs assisting victims of child sexual abuse), category 2 (MDITs), and category 5 (training of persons who treat victims of child sexual abuse). Funding announcements for category 1A (prevention), category 3 (CACs), and category 4 (victim service agencies) were not released during 2023.

By the end of December 2023, a total of 14 awards amounting to \$1.1 million in Endowment Act funding were released by PCCD.

As of June 30, 2023, a total of 280 grants amounting to \$24.2 million in Endowment Act funds have been awarded collectively since 2015. All grants awarded with Endowment Act funding can be found on PCCD's <u>Grants 2012-2024</u> map. Outcome information about previous Endowment Act Grants can be found the <u>Endowment Act Outcomes</u> webpage. More information about the <u>Endowment Act</u> in general can be found on PCCD's website. If you have a specific question, please email <u>ra-pccd-cacac@pa.gov</u>.

### **Programs Assisting Victims**

The first category in Act 1 is programs or projects preventing child sexual abuse or assisting the victims of child sexual abuse. The CACAC has determined that this category is technically split into two distinct items (i.e., prevention; assistance).

Prevention. The CACAC did not release any additional funding related to this category in 2023, due to the ongoing *Project Safe and Smart* child sexual abuse prevention project initiated in 2021 and conducted in collaboration with the Child Maltreatment Solutions Network (CMSN) at Penn State University (PSU). For more information about that prevention project, please see the <u>Project Safe and Smart</u> webpage.

Assistance. An Endowment Act – Programs Assisting Victims (EA-PAV) solicitation was released in 2023 with a project period of 18-months. This solicitation focused on providing funding to support programs or projects assisting youth with problematic sexual behavior (YPSB) under the age of 12 who are also child victims of sexual abuse.

The CACAC recommended and PCCD approved a total of 8 applications under the EA-PAV category requesting a total of \$385,732 in Endowment Act funds in 2023.

# **Multidisciplinary Investigative Teams (MDITs)**

The second category in Act 1 is multidisciplinary investigative teams (MDITs) established under 23 Pa.C.S. (relating to Domestic Relations). Per 23 Pa.C.S. § 6365 (relating to services for prevention, investigation and treatment of child abuse), every county in Pennsylvania is

required to develop a MDIT, which is used to coordinate child abuse investigations between county agencies and law enforcement.

An Endowment Act – MDIT solicitation was released in 2023, with applications received and considered on a rolling basis based on their readiness to develop a CAC or satellite CAC in partnership with an accredited CAC in another county. Approved applications have a 3-year project period. The purpose of this solicitation is to support the growth of National Children's Alliance (NCA) Children's Advocacy Centers (CAC)s into counties that currently do not have a CAC or the development of satellite location(s) in counties that may not have enough child abuse cases to sustain an independent CAC. MDITs seeking to develop a CAC within their county, pursuant to Act 28 of 2014, are eligible to apply for funding to support their efforts.

The CACAC recommended and PCCD approved a total of 2 applications under the EA-MDIT category requesting a total of \$510,476 in Endowment Act funds in 2023.

# **Child Advocacy Centers**

The third category in Act 1 is child advocacy centers (CACs). CACs provide state-of-the-art treatment for the victims of child sexual abuse and child abuse. They coordinate medical care, treatment and other social services for victims while gathering evidence, through age-appropriate forensic interviewing and other methods employed by MDITs, to build an effective case against the alleged offender. By bringing medical professionals, social workers, prosecutors and police who specialize in child sexual abuse together under one roof, CACs are the most effective way to bring a perpetrator to justice.

An Endowment Act – Child Advocacy Center solicitation was released twice during 2022 with a project period of 2-years. The CACAC made the decision not to release additional funding in this category for 2023.

## Victim Service Organizations Providing Services to Children Subjected to Sexual Abuse

The fourth category in Act 1 is victim service organizations providing services to children subjected to sexual abuse. Victim assistance agencies throughout Pennsylvania provide a wide variety of services (e.g., shelter, legal counseling, mental health counseling, etc.) to victims of sexual assault and other crimes.

An Endowment Act – Direct Victim Service Organizations solicitation was released twice during 2022 with a project period of 2-years. The CACAC made the decision not to release additional funding in this category for 2023.

# **Treatment Training**

The fifth category in Act 1 is training of persons who are mandated by law to report child sexual abuse or who treat victims of child sexual abuse. The CACAC has determined that this category is two distinct items (i.e., mandated reporter training; treatment training).

*Mandated Reporter Training.* The CACAC decided not to release any funding for this category in 2023.

Treatment Training. An Endowment Act – Treatment Training solicitation was released in 2023 with the focus on providing funding to support the training of persons who treat victims/survivors of child sexual abuse. Applicants were eligible to apply for up to \$50,000 for two-year projects.

The CACAC recommended and PCCD approved a total of 4 applications under the EA-TT category requesting a total of \$199,207 in Endowment Act funds in 2023.

**Disclaimer:** The information in this report is funded in part through a grant from the Bureau of Justice Statistics, Office of Justice Programs, U.S. Department of Justice. Neither U.S. Department of Justice nor any of its components operate, control, are responsible for, or necessarily endorse this website (including, without limitation, its content, technical infrastructure, and policies, and any services or tools provided). In addition, please refer to the information Disclaimer within <a href="Pennsylvania's Privacy Policy">Pennsylvania's Privacy Policy</a>, which is incorporated herein by reference.