



**National Children's
Advocacy Center**



“My 4-year-old granddaughter just told me that my husband is hurting her – he’s sexually abusing her,” the woman whispered, “and I don’t know what to do – do I leave with her, do I stay and confront him, do I call the police, do I take her to the doctor – what do I do? Please, please, please – help me. I don’t know what to do.” The anguished voice on the phone was full of tears, fear, and overwhelm.

Becca, the Family Advocate who answered the call that day at the NCAC, receives similar calls and has similar conversations with parents, grandparents, and loved ones of children in terrible situations routinely. She knows this tough first step is the beginning of healing, and she knows how to help. Lucy’s grandmother hoped she could call and the NCAC would help.

The granddaughter and her grandmother met with Becca the next day at the NCAC – it was here that 4-year-old Lucy told how her step-grandfather touched her when her grandmother wasn’t home, and how he had convinced her that he would hurt her grandmother if she ever told anyone. Lucy didn’t want her Nana to be hurt but she also didn’t want the touches to continue either – it was a conflict that no 4-year-old should ever be in, and yet, she chose the brave solution.

Lucy’s courage in sharing her story marked the beginning of her journey toward healing. Lucy’s grandmother received guidance and help and has since joined the grandparent’s support group that meets weekly, finding a community of other grandparents raising their grandchildren. With unwavering support, Lucy and her Nana are navigating the road toward justice and restoration, and perhaps most importantly, towards a heart that is healed and a childhood that is restored. At the National Children’s Advocacy Center, Lucy found a haven where her voice was heard, her fears were acknowledged, and her path to healing began.

Your support provides the tangible gifts of medical exams, therapy, family advocacy guidance, and more – all provided free of charge to every child and family, regardless of ability to pay.

In their darkest hours, you become a source of strength for our community's children, offering them the promise of a brighter tomorrow.

Will you give a gift of \$150 for an hour of therapy for a child like Lucy? Or \$250 for a medical exam? Your generosity changes lives, offering children the chance to reclaim their innocence and their future.

With heartfelt gratitude,



Chris Newlin, MS LPC
Chief Executive Officer
National Children's Advocacy Center

P.S. Please keep children like Lucy in your thoughts as we continue to champion and strengthen the global response to child abuse. Your gift helps children's hearts to heal.

Donate online at www.nationalcac.org/give



THE
Protectors' Circle