



About the California Family Justice Network

The California Family Justice Network (CFJN) is a statewide alliance of Family Justice Centers in California which meet the needs of over 70,000 victims of domestic violence, elder abuse, child abuse, and human trafficking annually.

CFJN advocates for victims of interpersonal violence in the State of California and provides education, training, and coordinated assistance to California's Family Justice Centers.

A Model for Reducing Community Violence

The best way to reduce community violence is to support families in crisis, including children who are severely traumatized from experiencing or witnessing abuse. The Family Justice Center (FJC) model supports victims of violence through their trauma emergency and longer term recovery with coordinated services under one roof. Each FJC provides a safe environment where survivors and their dependents can be connected immediately to services, seek justice, begin healing, reclaim their lives, and end the interconnected cycle of violence for their families and communities.

CFJN Victim Services

- Emergency Safety Planning
- Restraining Orders
- Family Court Assistance
- Health Care Services
- Referrals to Safe Shelter and Affordable Housing
- Financial Stability/Assistance
- Trauma Informed Therapy and Services for Children and Adults
- Countless special needs as they arise

The Cost of Domestic Violence on Children

Children exposed to domestic violence suffer from lasting physical and psychological effects. They are at higher risk for poor health and educational outcomes, as well as participating in physical bullying and violence later in life.

According to the CDC, experiencing four or more adverse childhood experiences (ACEs) can lead to a 4- to 12-fold increase in health risks, such as alcoholism, drug abuse, depression, and suicide. The more ACEs an individual experiences, the higher their risk for negative health outcomes, including heart disease, cancer, chronic lung disease, skeletal fractures, and liver disease.

The Hidden Cost of Child Maltreatment: A Trillion Dollar Burden

ACEs in the United States have a high economic cost, with child maltreatment estimating \$428 billion annually in lifetime costs based on substantiated incident cases in 2015. However, when accounting for investigated annual incident cases, the economic burden is estimated to be a whopping **\$2 trillion**.

Adults with four or more ACEs experience significantly higher healthcare costs, with a lifetime cost of healthcare estimated at \$18,200 higher than those with no ACEs. ACEs can also lead to lost productivity, lower earnings, higher criminal justice costs, and increased need for social services.¹

1 (Peterson, C., Florence, C., & Klevens, J. (2018). The economic burden of child maltreatment in the United States, 2015. *Child Abuse & Neglect*, 86, 178-183.

CFJN Background

Founded in 2018, CFJN supports California's Family Justice Centers by advancing the collaborative Family Justice Center model, sharing best practices, fostering innovation, and promoting operational excellence. The network also supports implementation of California Penal Code §13750, which establishes the statutory framework for Family Justice Centers in California.

CFJN provides statewide coordination, training, and technical assistance to Family Justice Centers and their partners. The network promotes best practices, supports research and outcome evaluation, and advocates for the Family Justice Center model as an effective approach to reducing violence, promoting healing, and improving outcomes for survivors and their families.

CA Family Justice Centers By The Numbers

- CA has 26 Family Justice Centers, with 4 more under development
- CA Family Justice Centers serve more than 70,000 victims of violence a year
- 20% of victims served by CA Family Justice Centers are children
- CA's Family Justice Centers have seen a 30% increase in victim requests for services since 2020



CFJN includes Family Justice Centers and affiliated partners across California, including centers in Alameda, Contra Costa, Imperial, Kern, Los Angeles, Monterey, Napa, Nevada, Orange, Riverside, Sacramento, San Diego, San Joaquin, Santa Clara, Solano, Sonoma, Stanislaus, and Ventura counties.

Together, California's Family Justice Centers provide a proven, cost-effective, and collaborative response to violence—helping survivors find safety, supporting children and families, and building safer communities.

