



Windsor Essex Child/Youth Advocacy Centre



NEWSLETTER



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Kids should **ONLY** have to tell their story **ONCE!**

Announcements

On January 21st and February 25th, 2026, WECYAC attended the first two "Together for Justice" roundtable discussions.

Several organizations from Windsor-Essex were selected to receive funding through this initiative, including Youth Diversion, Community Living Essex, South Essex Community Council (SECC), Windsor-Essex Bilingual Legal Clinic, and Legal Assistance of Windsor (LAW).

The goal is to reduce barriers to justice for individuals who reside in rural areas.

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WECYAC



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Mission:

To deliver community-based support to child and youth victims of abuse and crime through collaborative investigation, advocacy, and exceptional care.

How To Build Trusting Relationships With Youth

Actively Listen

- Deeply listen to youth about their experience and lives (listen to connect, not to criticize)
- Listening to ensure the other person feels heard: this is about creating space for the other person to share and express themselves
- Requires behaviours that demonstrate you are engaged and connected to them including eye contact, head nods, paraphrasing, asking questions, etc.
- Be authentic, provide undivided attention and acknowledge their feelings
- Listening openly will make them more likely to engage in dialogue, assume good intent when things don't go as expected and follow your lead when dealing with new ways of doing things

Practice Open and Honest Communication

- Transparent conversations about daily life or sensitive topics help bridge distance and ensure youth feel respected and understood
- Use open ended questions to start meaningful conversations

Show up Consistently

- Regularly ask about their day, friends, or interests to show genuine curiosity about their experiences. Use small gestures, such as remembering important dates or checking in after stressful events, to communicate that you notice and care about their routine. Reliable presence communicates that you value their world, supporting their well-being.
- Following through on commitments shows reliability and builds credibility.

Respect their Privacy

- Allow room for growth: foster independence by allowing them to develop essential life skills.
- Give them opportunities to make choices about their life.
- Acknowledge efforts and respect their decisions, autonomy supports self esteem and confidence

Spend Quality Time Together

- Participating in regular activities with youth strengthens trust and connection. Shared experiences provide a relaxed environment for meaningful conversations and fosters engagement.
- Choose activities based on the youth's interest, demonstrate genuine investment into their interests



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Vision:

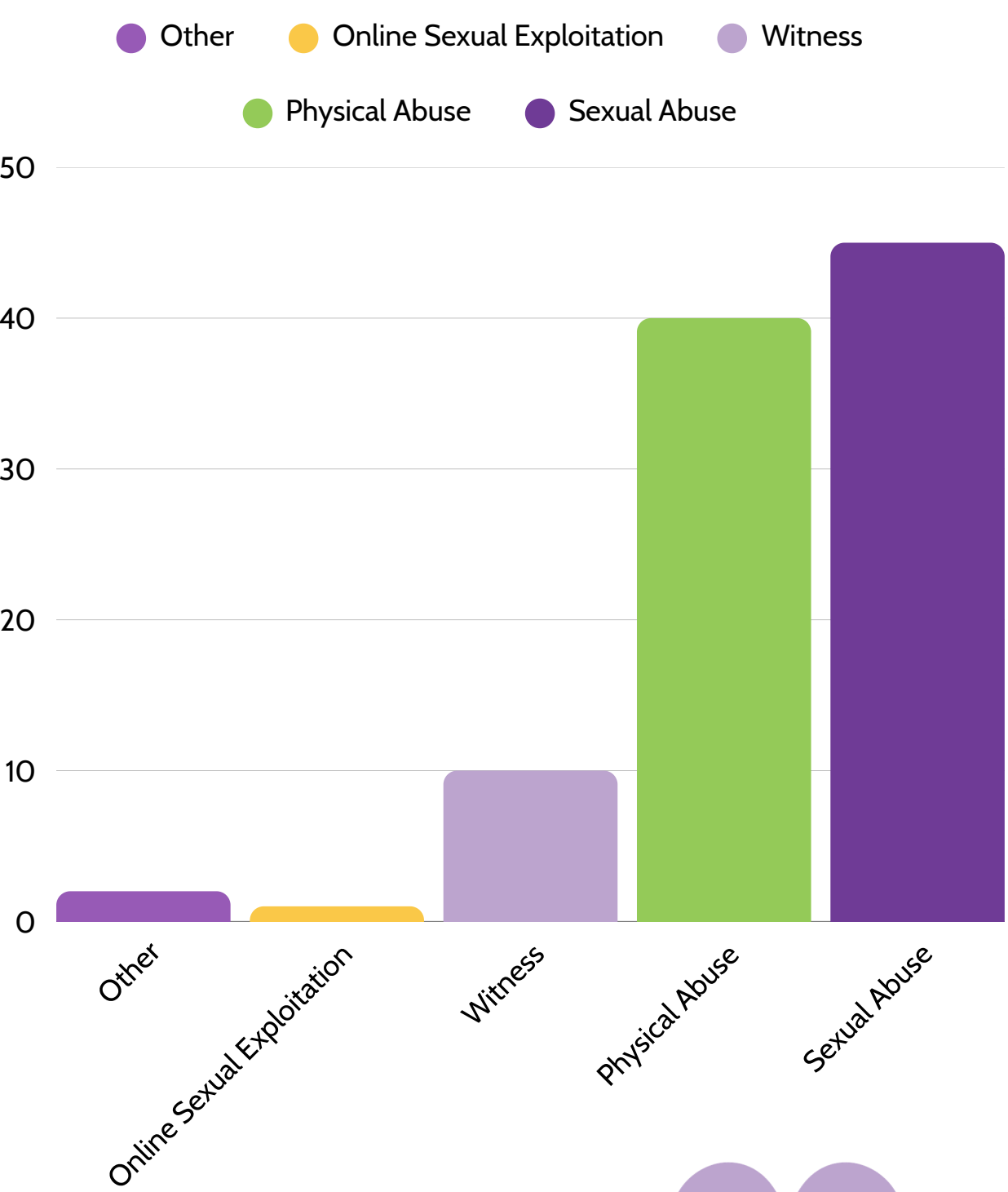
To be the most compassionate, innovative, and responsive organization empowering young victims of abuse and crime.

This Quarter

93 CHARGES LAID

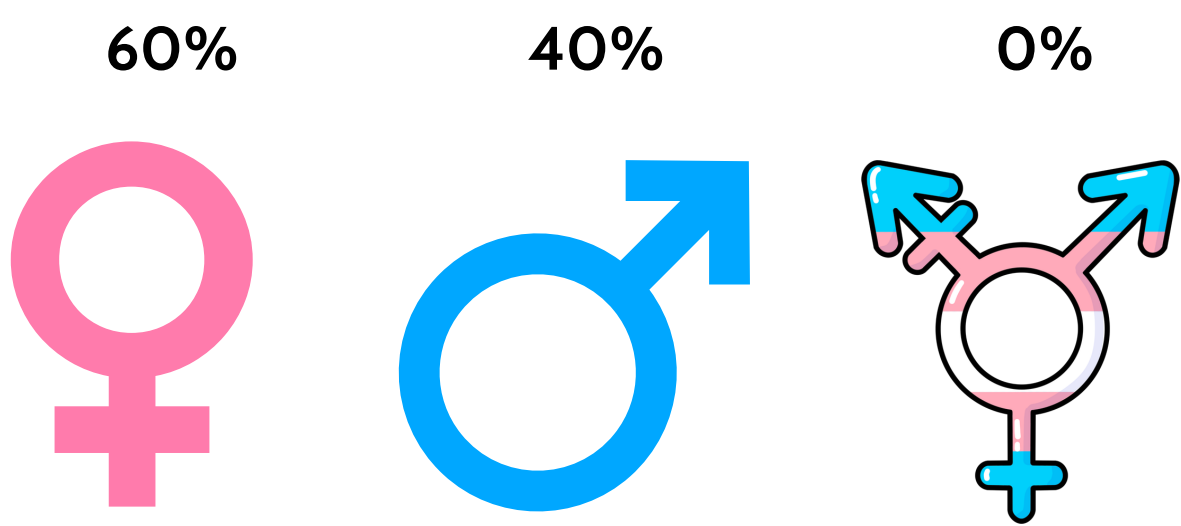
Youth System Navigator
Olivia Castro

Types of Abuse Investigated



As our Youth System Navigator, Olivia attends various community locations to engage with youth, educate, and spread awareness. She attended a Wellness Fair at Villanova high school and continues to do outreach at QLink Windsor-Essex and Lasalle Hangout for Youth. She participated in the Youth Symposium and has completed a number of community workshops.

Total Clients Served



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Attorney General

Community Events

WECYAC staff attended the Youth Symposium at Ciociaro Club in February 2026 to educate about our services, healthy relationships, and to initiate conversations with youth.



WECYAC Thanks You

We would like to share a heartfelt thank you to Tim Hortons Canada for donating their remaining Camp Day Bracelets to WECYAC to use in our Wellness Kits! These kits are provided to child and youth victims and witnesses of crime in the Windsor-Essex area.



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