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**BRIGHT TOMORROWS EARNS ACCREDITATION
FROM NATIONAL CHILDREN'S ALLIANCE**

***National Children's Alliance recognizes Bright Tomorrows for its delivery of high
quality and effective services to child abuse victims through accreditation***

Bright Tomorrows has been awarded accreditation by National Children's Alliance following an extensive application and site review process. As the the accrediting agency for Children's Adovcacy Centers (CAC) across the country, National Children's Alliance(NCA) awards various levels of accreditation and membership to centers responding to allegations of child abuse in ways that are effective and efficient, and put the needs of child victims of abuse first. Accreditation is the highest level of membership with NCA and denotes excellence in service provision.

Bright Tomorrows became established in Bannock County in 1984 as a non-profit 501c3 providing mental health services to children and families dealing with the pain of child sexual abuse. In 2003 Bright Tomorrows services expanded to include the Child Advocacy Center providing intervention throughout the initial stages and investigation of child abuse partnering with law enforcement and other professionals in the community who respond to child abuse.

In 2010 Bright Tomorrows interviewed 154 children suspected of being abused and provided more than 3,128 hours of counseling services to these children and their family members. As an Accredited Member of NCA, Bright Tomorrows is dedicated to providing comprehensive, coordinated and compassionate services to victims of child abuse.

National Children's Alliance awards Accredited Membership based on a CAC's compliance with 10 national standards to ensure effective, efficient and consistent delivery of services to child abuse victims. These standards are based on the most recent evidence-based practices in the field of child abuse intervention and prevention. Accredited Members must utilize a functioning and effective Multidisciplinary Team approach to work collaboratively in child abuse investigation, prosecution, and treatment. Bright Tomorrows also had to meet standards focused on cultural competency and diversity, forensic interviews, victim support and advocacy, medical evaluation, therapeutic intervention, and child focused setting.

“Bright Tomorrows is dedicated to responding to child abuse, we recognize the importance of accreditation from NCA and supporting the Multidisciplinary Team approach. Accreditation not only validates Bright Tomorrows proven effective approach to responding to allegations of child abuse, but also provides consistency across the nation for CAC’s,” said Kathy Downes, Executive Director of Bright Tomorrows.

“Bright Tomorrows is to be commended for its excellent work serving victims of child abuse. As the national association and accrediting body for CAC’s across the country, our goal is to ensure that every victim of child abuse has access to high quality services that result from professional collaboration,” remarked Teresa Huizar, Executive Director of National Children’s Alliance.

For more information about Bright Tomorrows, visit www.brightcac.org.