



2024 Blue for Bucks Information Packet

A decade of supporting Granite State victims of child abuse

This October marks 10 years of local law enforcement and community members joining forces to raise awareness and support for New Hampshire's eleven Child Advocacy Centers. In that time, more than 60 teams and 500+ fundraisers have raised \$1.4 million for the network of centers that coordinate child abuse investigations, conduct child forensic interviews, and support young victims of abuse and their families.

On this milestone anniversary, Beards for Bucks "Razorless for a Reason" is becoming **Blue for Bucks**—because it's never been about the beards. For our police and law enforcement fundraisers and those who give, it's always been about the *reason*—**2,000+ brave Granite State children who visit a Child Advocacy Center each year, taking their first step on a path toward justice and healing.**

About Blue for Bucks

Launched by a police detective in 2014, Blue for Bucks is a true grassroots fundraiser for Child Advocacy Centers, which coordinate child abuse investigations and conduct child forensic interviews. The story of its namesake—Beards for Bucks—speaks to the strong collaboration between law enforcement and these nonprofit community resources.

The detective who founded Beards for Bucks frequently took part in multi-disciplinary child abuse investigations at her local Child Advocacy Center and noticed its forensic interviewer usually worked alone in the center when not interviewing children or meeting with multi-disciplinary teams of police, child protection professionals and prosecution officials. Concerned about the minimal security but aware of the challenge nonprofits face in raising unrestricted funds for operational expenses like security alarms or building improvements, the detective got support from her department's leadership to rally fellow officers to raise money for the center—those who did could grow and wear a beard in October, and a solution called Beards for Bucks was born.

Every October since, more local police departments and law enforcement agencies have joined in to support their local centers. Through Blue for Bucks, teams and individuals—some with beards, others without—collect donations to help Child Advocacy Centers serve child victims of abuse and their families. Our statewide goal this year is to raise \$250,000.

Why do Child Advocacy Centers matter?

When children and their caregivers visit a Child Advocacy Center for a forensic interview, they often arrive feeling anxious and overwhelmed. Warmly greeted in a child-friendly setting, children are put at ease in a safe space where they can disclose abuse to a trained trauma-informed interviewer. Caregivers, meanwhile, meet with the multi-disciplinary team leading the investigation and a family support professional, who walks them through the next steps and offers support and resources. A growing number of centers also offer on-site, follow-up behavioral health and specialized medical care to children who disclose abuse and their caregivers.

All services are provided free of charge to families, law enforcement and other community stakeholders, but they're not free. Our cost to serve each child ranges from \$3,000 to nearly \$6,000, depending on their needs.

Money raised by Blue for Bucks teams and individual fundraisers stays in your own community, supporting the local center that serves children and families in your own backyard.



Get Involved – Key Dates

Blue for Bucks is a peer-to-peer fundraising campaign that works because people care about community, safety and children. This year's event runs from **Monday, Oct. 7 to Monday, Oct. 21 at 12 p.m.**

Team Captains

Each participating police department or law enforcement agency must designate a team captain to coordinate fundraisers from their department or agency. Team captains should register their team by **Monday, Sept. 23** at: https://cacnh-bqhq.com/formstack.com/forms/b4b_sign_up. Team captains:

- Set up their team's landing page, with support from advocacy center/GSCA staff
- Sign up individual fundraisers on their team
- Serve as the team point of contact for communication and updates from their CAC

Captains are encouraged to attend in-person team captain meetings at their local CAC to receive in-person support with registration, team/individual page setup, and go over any questions.

- Tuesday, 9/3 @ 10 a.m., Greater Lakes Region CAC (95 Water St., Laconia)
- Wednesday, 9/11 @ 12 p.m., Hillsborough County South CAC (2 Wellman Ave., Nashua)
- Thursday, 9/12 @ 11 a.m., Hillsborough County North CAC (25 Sundial Ave., Ste. 315, Manchester)
- Tuesday, 9/17 @ 2 p.m., Merrimack County AC (163 North Main St., Ste. 101, Concord)

Fundraisers

Individual fundraisers should contact their team captain to register by **Tuesday, Oct 1**. In lieu of a registration fee, we ask that each fundraiser contribute a minimum of \$50 toward their personal or team fundraising page. This jumpstart toward your fundraising goal helps your local center and demonstrates your personal investment when soliciting donations from friends, family and local businesses.

Prizes

Donations received between **Monday, Oct. 7** and **Monday, Oct. 21 at 12 p.m.** will count toward fundraising totals in calculating top fundraising prize winners, however donations made before or after that period will still go to support your local Child Advocacy Center.

- Each individual fundraiser who raises over \$500 and \$1,000 will receive a TOP FUNDRAISER prize from the Granite State Children's Alliance.
- Each Child Advocacy Center will award a prize for the TOP FUNDRAISER in their county.
- Some police departments and law enforcement agencies offer internal prizes for their team's top fundraiser. Ask your Team Captain if that is the case in your PD/LEA.



FAQs

How do I set up a fundraising page?

Contact your department or agency's team captain to sign up. Team captains will send invitation links to individual fundraisers. Once you create a login, you can upload your photo and personalize your fundraising text.

Where can I see which police departments/law enforcement agencies are participating?

The official landing page at <https://cac-nh.org/b4b/> will be updated with 2024 teams and participants. This is also a great place to check during the fundraiser to see how friends and competitors are doing with overall fundraising goals.

Child Advocacy Centers not operated by the Granite State Children's Alliance that have their own websites, including those in Rockingham County, Sullivan/Grafton counties, and Carroll County, will also link to the Blue for Bucks page from their websites.

How do I add cash and checks?

You will need to login into your account with Artez and add it to your individual account dashboard.

Who should a donation check be made out to?

To ensure your local Child Advocacy Center receives the funds directly, please have checks made out to the center serving your community. If you have any questions about the official name of your local center, contact your CAC's Program Coordinator and/or Executive Director.

Team Captains may collect all cash and checks to be delivered to their local CAC by the fundraising deadline listed above. Check in with your Team Captain about the best process for your team.

Who do I contact with questions or if I have to troubleshoot technical issues?

Contact Megan Oliviero, Director of Education & Outreach at the Granite State Children's Alliance, by email at moliviero@cac-nh.org or by phone at 603-822-0948. Some questions can also be answered by your local CAC Program Coordinator and/or Executive Director.