

BARNSTABLE COUNTY

In the Year Nineteen Hundred and Ninety-Eight

Ordinance 98-24

To amend the Barnstable County Administrative Code through the addition of Section 2.14, Children's Cove.

Barnstable County hereby ordains:

SECTION 1. Ordinance 90-16 is hereby amended by adding in Section 2, the following:

Section 2.14 Children's Cove

(a) Department Generally

There shall be a Children's Cove and the Islands Advocacy Center under the direction of the Director of Children's Cove.

(b) Director of Children's Cove

The Board of County Commissioners shall appoint a Director of Children's Cove.

(c) Powers and Duties

Children's Cove: Cape Cod and the Islands Advocacy Center shall be the child advocacy center on Cape Cod. This department shall be developed and continued through a working partnership among Barnstable County, the Cape and the Islands District Attorney's Office, the Massachusetts Department of Social Services, the Massachusetts Department of Mental Health, and Cape Cod Hospital. The Cove shall house the Sexual Abuse Investigation Network for Barnstable County and provide multidisciplinary investigation into children's sexual abuse. The Cove shall also coordinate the provision of services to victims and their families, provide education to families, fellow professionals and the public on issues concerning the prevention, intervention and investigation of child sexual and physical abuse.

(d) Children's Cove Advisory Board and Executive Committee

There shall be established a Children's Cove Advisory Board for the purpose of advising the County Commissioners on the goals, objectives, and activities of the Children's Cove: Cape Cod and the Islands Child Advocacy Center.

The Advisory Board shall consist of eighteen members to be selected as follows: the partner agencies Barnstable County, the Cape and the Islands District Attorney's Office, the Massachusetts Department of Social Services, the Massachusetts Department of Mental Health, and Cape Cod Hospital each shall have two members, who shall be standing members of the Board; the Barnstable County Commissioners shall appoint eight other representatives from other Cape Cod Community based agencies that provide services in a field related to the activities of the Children's Cove. Each of the eight individual appointees shall have a term of one year and shall be allowed to serve a maximum of three consecutive terms.

The Chair of the Advisory Board shall be a partner agency, and annually the Chair position will rotate among the five partner agencies. The Chair shall serve in this capacity for one year beginning in September of each year. The Advisory Board will meet at least quarterly of each year and shall make recommendations on the operations and funding of the Children's Cove to the Barnstable County Commissioners.

Their shall be established from among the members of the Advisory Board an Executive Committee consisting of seven members to be selected as follows: one representative each from the five partner agencies, two members from the community based agencies. The Executive Committee shall meet at least bi-monthly and shall review issues of importance to the Children's Cove, and make reports and recommendations to the full Advisory Board.

Adopted on November 18, 1998 by the Assembly of Delegates.



Julia C. Taylor, Speaker

Approved by the Board of County Commissioners, Nov. 25, 1998, at, 11:05 a.m.
Date **Time**


