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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE April 20, 2016

## CHILD ADVOCACY CENTER – BEST PLACE TO WORK

**LINCOLN, NE:** Woods & Aitken LLP, the Lincoln Journal Star, and the Lincoln Human Resource Management Association, founders of the Best Places to Work in Lincoln list, announced today the Child Advocacy Center has been named to the 2016 list in small company sized category.

The Child Advocacy Center (CAC) is a non-profit organization serving child victims of abuse and neglect and their non-offending family members in Southeast Nebraska. Established in 1998, the CAC has served over 12,000 child victims by providing forensic interviews, medical evaluations, as well as immediate and ongoing advocacy and support. In 2015, the CAC served 1,028 child victims of abuse. 71% of the children seen were suspected of having been sexually abused; 73% of the children are under the age of 12; and in 99% of the cases the child victim knows their alleged abuser – most often a family member.

"Given the nature of our work, some might think the CAC would be one of the hardest place to work," said Lynn Ayers, Executive Director. "Far from it. We have an amazing staff of 17 professionals working at the CAC who are dedicated to helping children thrive, not just survive, their abuse. It's the days when a child finds the courage to speak of their abuse out loud, for the first time, that makes working at the CAC the very best place to work."

The Best Places to Work in Lincoln program, which was started in 2013, recognizes local companies who, through a third party administered employee survey, rank their respective companies as being the best places to work. The areas surveyed are varied parts of employee life, including workplace environment, leadership, vision, culture, and management practices. The Child Advocacy Center was acknowledged for creating a positive work environment that fosters personal and professional growth for its employees. "We are excited to be named as one of the Best Places to Work in Lincoln this year. Making the list is truly an honor and speaks to the incredible work of our staff in standing up for kids," said Ayers.

Winners were announced at the celebratory "Best Places to Work" awards luncheon, on April 20, 2016 at the Cornhusker Hotel. To learn more about the important work of the Child Advocacy Center visit <u>www.smallvoices.org</u> or join the staff for their annual Stand Up for Kids Carnival on April 26<sup>th</sup> from 4:00 to 7:00 p.m. at 5025 Garland Street in Lincoln.