

# **BARNSTABLE COUNTY**

In the Year Two Thousand Nineteen

## **Proposed Ordinance 19-13**

**To repeal Ordinance 98-24 and substitute the following language in the Administrative Code of Barnstable County Section 2-13 Children's Cove**

**The Cape Cod regional government, known as Barnstable County, *hereby ordains;***

### **Section 2-13 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. Children's Cove area of service is the Cape and Islands District Attorney's Office jurisdictional boundaries: Barnstable, Dukes, and Nantucket counties within the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

#### **(b) Director of Children's Cove**

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

#### **(c) Children's Cove Services**

Children's Cove: The Cape Cod and the Islands Advocacy Center shall be the Child Advocacy Center located 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 Children and Families, the Massachusetts Department of Mental Health, and Cape Cod Healthcare. Children's Cove shall house the Sexual Abuse Investigation Network (SAIN) for Barnstable County and provide multidisciplinary investigation into children's sexual abuse. Children's Cove shall also coordinate the provision of services to victims and their families, provide education to families and the community, fellow professionals and the public on issues concerning the prevention, intervention and investigation of child sexual abuse, physical abuse, witness to domestic violence and child exploitation and trafficking

To insure confidentiality to those citizens served, special and ongoing investigations, treatment and client history where applicable, Children's Cove, its employees, and advisory board members shall be prohibited, in the interest of public safety, from making unauthorized public communications regarding past and ongoing matters under review by Children's Cove.

#### **(d) Powers and Responsibilities of the Director of Children's Cove**

The Director is responsible for and has the power to

- Plan, organize and manage the Cove
- Direct the operations of the facility

- Supervise and train staff and volunteers
- Manage all financial matters of the Cove including department budget, grants, fundraising and required reports
- Ensure compliance with policies and procedures of all program areas and with county policies
- Appoint individuals to an Advisory Board to advise and make recommendations on matters that are within the decision-making power and responsibilities of the Director

The Director of the Children’s Cove is authorized to appoint individuals to an Advisory Board for the purpose of advising the Director on decisions that are within the powers and responsibilities of the Director

**(e) Barnstable County**

Notwithstanding the revised role and responsibilities of the Director and the Board, Children’s Cove shall remain a department of Barnstable County Government in all aspects and shall operate in accordance with Barnstable County’s administrative and budgetary procedures as devised under its Charter and the Administrative Code including all personnel policy and procedures as approved by the Board of Regional Commissioners. The Director of Children’s Cove shall report to the County Administrator and the Director shall update the Board of Regional Commissioners as necessary.

**(Submitted by the Board of Regional Commissioners at a regular meeting of the Assembly of Delegates on June 5, 2019)**