



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Information from: Children's Cove



# Children's Cove Hires Community Programs Coordinator Growing requests for community prevention education and awareness leads to new hire

**January 29, 2025 (Cape Cod, Mass.)** – Children's Cove, The Cape & Islands Child Advocacy Center, announced today the hiring of Heidi Friedel as its new Community Programs Coordinator to expand programming at the organization.

Children's Cove, a department of Barnstable County government, has seen an increase in the need for all aspects of services and support to the community in responding to crimes against children. In addition to increased referrals from partner agencies, Children's Cove is also experiencing an increase in need and demand for education and training across the Cape and Islands to recognize, respond to, and prevent child sexual abuse. To meet this rising demand the organization has expanded staffing in its Education and Training program.

"Last fiscal year we doubled our education and training contacts from the previous year" said Children's Cove Director, Stacy Gallagher. "Thanks to grant funding through the Massachusetts Children's Alliance, we were able to create this much needed position to meet the demand in our community."

Heidi Friedel has joined Children's Cove as the Community Programs Coordinator after working directly with children, teens and families. Heidi received her Bachelor of Science from Liberty University and will support the mission of Children's Cove by engaging with the community to build positive working relationships and raise awareness about child sexual abuse. Heidi will coordinate child abuse prevention initiatives, informational and awareness events, as well as the Children's Cove volunteer program.

#### ###

#### **ABOUT CHILDREN'S COVE**

Children's Cove, a department of Barnstable County, has been the Cape and the Island's Children's Advocacy Center since 1997. Children's Cove provides coordinated and comprehensive multidisciplinary services to child victims of sexual abuse, physical abuse, witness to domestic violence and child sexual exploitation and trafficking. To learn more visit www.ChildrensCove.org

### ABOUT BARNSTABLE COUNTY REGIONAL GOVERNMENT OF CAPE COD:

Barnstable County provides exemplary government functions and services to keep our community healthy and safe, promote sustainable growth, and offer a proactive, open government that enhances the quality of life for the citizens of Barnstable County. Learn more at <u>www.capecod.gov</u>

## **MEDIA CONTACT**

Jacob Stapledon, Community Engagement and Education Program Manager jacob.stapledon@childrenscove.org (508) 375-6924