



991 W. Hedding St., Ste. 101 San Jose CA 95126 1-800-VANISHED

Who We Are...

*An empty bed. A vacant chair at the dinner table.
A house that no longer feels like a home.
When a child is missing, the only things left behind for the victim families
are the haunting memories and constant reminders of the child's absence.*

VCA was formed in 1980 to address the growing need for victims' parents to obtain credible, effective, and compassionate assistance in the location, recovery and reunification of their missing and abducted child(ren). VCA is the oldest and most experienced missing children's organization in the United States. VCA is a national non-profit 501 (c)(3) organization providing nationwide and overseas assistance to families in all categories of missing children: non-family (stranger and acquaintance) abductions, family abductions, runaways and otherwise missing or lost.

Headquartered in San Jose, California, the Vanished Children's Alliance has assisted in the location, recovery, reunification and reintegration of more than 32,000 missing and abducted children. In addition to providing critically needed direct services to victim families, VCA gives equal importance to child abduction prevention and community outreach programs. VCA has provided hundreds of training sessions, prevention education classes, and workshops to schools, hospitals, criminal justice professionals, and the general public on local, national and international levels.

VCA has been recognized by the U.S. Department of Justice, the National and California State District Attorney's Association, the American Prosecutors Research Institute, the California Family Support Council, and the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services, to name a few. VCA is a two-time recipient of the California Governor's Victim Service Award. The Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors, Mayor Ron Gonzalez, and Congresswoman Zoe Lofgren have honored VCA as experts in the field of missing, abducted, and exploited children. VCA is a member of the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services Child Abduction Task Force.

Every 40 seconds, a child becomes missing or abducted in the United States.

According to the *National Incidence Study of Missing, Abducted, Runaway and Thrownaway Children*, a report published in 2002 by the U.S. Department of Justice, in 1999, there were as many as:

203,900 children abducted by family members

58,200 children abducted by persons other than family members (strangers or acquaintances)

1,682,900 children who ran away from home, were thrown out of their homes, or were not allowed to return home after running away

198,300 children who were missing involuntarily, or were lost or injured

374,700 children who were missing for short periods for benign reasons

Are you the parent or guardian of a missing child? VCA can provide...

Active case management and search assistance, including caseworkers to act as liaisons between searching parents/guardians and law enforcement agencies, nationally and internationally

Comprehensive consultative and direct assistance in search and recovery efforts. On-site assistance available by arrangement

Internationally accessible, 24hr toll-free, sighting hotline, 1-800-VANISHED

Distribution of photos, descriptive information, and posters of registered missing children nationwide and overseas via mass mailings, the Internet, volunteers, and our website

An international referral list of professionals who provide assistance to families of missing and abducted children

Counseling and ongoing emotional and technical support to victim families and recovered children

Court-qualified, expert witness testimony upon request

Comprehensive family reunification program

Spanish language translation services (additional languages by arrangement)

Are you interested in child safety education? VCA can provide...

Child fingerprinting at our office or your community event

Child abduction prevention literature

Age appropriate, non-threatening, child abduction prevention programs for elementary-aged children and/or parents in a variety of settings

Train-the-Trainer sessions for educational, child care, and law enforcement professionals who wish to conduct their own child abduction prevention programs

Are you a public service, law enforcement, or criminal justice professional?

We provide intensive training programs and information for law enforcement, criminal justice, educational, and other public and private agencies nationwide. Topics include the complexities of missing child cases, resources, investigation, recovery, reunification, and reintegration.

Do you own vending machines?

Vending machine owners often associate themselves with charities to help secure locations for their machines. We run a vending machine sticker program that leverages this process by providing support to vending machine owners and simultaneously gaining venues for displaying photos of missing children registered with VCA.