



## **Chaucie's Place uses iRecord to minimize child trauma and maximize perpetrator consequences**

### ***iRecord Case Study***

Chaucie's Place is a not-for-profit child advocacy center located in Hamilton County, Indiana. The center opened its doors on April 20, 2001 and has since provided a unique approach to the investigation cases of abuse and neglect of children. The purpose of Chaucie's Place is to provide a child-friendly atmosphere for the investigation of allegation of abuse and neglect of children.

The center provides a location for members of a multi-disciplinary team to come together and perform a forensic interview of a child who is alleged to be a victim of child abuse or neglect. The objective is to provide a quick, professional response by law enforcement, child protection services and the prosecutor's office to a case, so the trauma to the child can be minimized and an appropriate course of action can be expedited. In these interviews, children are given the chance to tell a professional the abuse that they are incurring or about a specific incident. These interviews need to be recorded for evidence in the pending cases, and they need to contain as much information as possible. In conducting over 1,900 victim interviews since its inception, Chaucie's Place was searching for an easy and efficient way to record these interviews.

### ***Solution***

Chaucie's Place searched for a recording system that would provide them with state-of-the art technology, as well as ease of use. The center was looking for a system that was compatible between the center, the various police stations, and the courts. Since the Hamilton County police station and court system utilize Word Systems, Inc. technology, Chaucie's Place decided that Word Systems' iRecord system offered the best solution.

"We choose iRecord because it fits our interview recording purposes perfectly," said Rita Johnson, Executive Director. "Our goal is to provide the child an opportunity to speak the truth without feeling anxious or threatened, and the iRecord system allows us to capture these interviews with ease and functionality."

iRecord (provided by Word Systems, Inc.) is a digital video recording and management system designed specifically for interview and interrogation rooms. iRecord is designed to increase detective efficiency through the recording and management of interviews. The system was designed by law enforcement professionals and is built to be in full compliance with current and emerging legislation.

iRecord features one-touch recording and VHS-style controls that make recording an interview or interrogation as simple as possible. This system offers storage space savings by replacing older types of VHS and cassette tapes with CD/DVD technology, and can store multiple years online with the Evidence Vault™ technology.

### ***Benefits***

iRecord provides a simple and proficient recording system for Chaucie's Place, allowing all professionals involved in the interview to witness the interview. Chaucie's Place began using the iRecord system in 2006.

"In dealing with the confidential and sensitive information that we do, it's imperative that we have a recording system that works every single time," said Johnson. "iRecord has never malfunctioned, giving everyone involved complete confidence."

The center has placed a covert camera in the interview room, which projects on a widescreen in the next room over, so that the interview can be viewed. iRecord also provides the center with earpieces available for the interviewer, so that the professionals in the viewing room can feed questions and information to the interviewer. This is beneficial because it allows the professionals to make sure that the interview is thorough, and all the information that they need to compile a case is revealed. At Chaucie's Place, the interviewer does inform the child of the camera, making sure they know that the camera is there to help take notes and to help the interviewer remember some of the issues that were discussed.

The iRecord system then burns the interview onto a DVD that can be viewed by all parties involved, and can easily be viewed in court as evidence in the case. The iRecord system is user-friendly, allowing the cops, prosecutors, and anyone else involved to easily record the interviews. iRecord works with the center to minimize the trauma caused to the child, and to maximize the consequences for the perpetrator.

"There's never any doubt with the evidence that we have," said Johnson. "iRecord captures the truth; it's not about substantiated or un-substantiated cases."

### ***Future Plans***

Chaucie's Place plans to continue using the iRecord system for future recordings. iRecord will continue to upgrade the software, while also continuing to enhance the services.

"I'm a huge advocate of iRecord and the benefits it brings to Chaucie's Place," said Johnson. "it's obvious that the people at iRecord not only care about our system working properly, but they personally care about us and our goal of giving a child the opportunity to speak with someone and getting the best evidence possible."

For more information about iRecord, please visit [www.irecord.tv](http://www.irecord.tv), or call (800) 806-5339.

### ***Solutions Brief***

#### **Customer Profile**

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#### **Business Situation**

Chaucie's Place searched for a recording system that would provide them with state-of-the art technology, as well as ease of use. The center was looking for a system that offers compatibility between the center, the various police stations, and the courts.

#### **Solution**

iRecord digital video recording and management system designed specifically for interview and interrogation rooms.

#### **Business Benefits**

iRecord allows Chaucie's Place to minimize the trauma to the child, while maximizing the consequences for the perpetrator.

#### **Industry**

Child Advocacy