



Keeping Children at the Forefront of Marijuana Regulation

Since 2014, recreational use of marijuana has been legal in Colorado for people over the age of 21. This change does not come without potential consequences for our children.

State Affairs Committee, this bill was killed before the end of the legislative session. This is an important issue that will continue to be a priority for Kempe.

Kempe continues to be at the forefront of discussions regarding regulation and legislation related to the safety, health and wellbeing of our children – particularly as Colorado determines how it will regulate this emerging industry.

Outside of the legislative session, Kempe has joined Children’s Hospital Colorado, Smart Colorado, Illuminate Colorado, Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment, Colorado Department of Revenue, the Governor’s Office, the

Kempe advocated for several regulations to protect kids from the unintended consequences of marijuana at the capitol this year.

“What is challenging about the recreational marijuana industry is that we don’t yet know the long term impacts it may have on our children,” says John Faught, Kempe’s President & CEO. “Right now, the state is trying to strike a reasonable balance between protecting the public and allowing this to be a viable, responsible industry.”

Association of Police Chiefs, Healthier Colorado, the American Heart Association, local public health officials, and others to discuss a potential coalition focused on ensuring further marijuana regulations keep the health and safety of kids and families a top priority. The group is using these meetings to share information on local, state and federal legislation and policy related to marijuana.

Kempe’s approach to public policy is to be balanced in its positions, but where children are concerned, the state must be vigilant about making sure we are keeping kids safe. With this in mind, Kempe advocated at the capitol this year for several laws to protect kids from the unintended consequences of marijuana.

Finally, John Faught was assigned to serve on two of the Marijuana Enforcement Division’s rulemaking work groups. One of the groups focuses on the testing, packaging, labeling and administrative process, while the other focuses on the legislative implementation of policy. MED conducted its rulemaking hearing on September 2, 2016.

Kempe worked closely with the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment to pass HB 1436 - prohibiting edibles from being in the shape of animals, fruit or humans. This bill was particularly important in the effort to keep kids safe as edibles can often be difficult for children to identify and are often similar in shape, taste and color to candy and other sweet treats. Dr. Des Runyan and John Faught both testified in support of the bill.

As discussion and regulation of the industry continues, Kempe will identify other opportunities to engage on behalf of children and families. For example, the Kempe Center is working to identify potential research gaps and opportunities related to marijuana and kids and will seek funding for that research.

Kempe also worked with Smart Colorado to support SB16-080 – requiring any medical marijuana grow operation to be locked to restrict access to those under the age of 21 unless an individual is 18 years old and holds a medical marijuana card.

The Governor has set as a priority addressing the “grey” market in Colorado – legally home-grown marijuana that is sometimes sold illegally.

In addition, Kempe was again at the table crafting legislation to expand the definitions of “abuse” and “child abuse or neglect” in regards to children’s exposure to controlled substances. The final version of the bill won the support of the Cannabis Patients Alliance and the neutrality of the Drug Policy Alliance. Despite bipartisan support in the House and a 4-1 vote out of the Senate

“The grey market presents a specific risk to children as it is more difficult to regulate and control,” says Faught. “We understand the rights of Colorado citizens to grow limited amounts of marijuana both as caregivers and for personal use, however these grey markets present an increase in exposure and sale to our youth. We hope Coloradans will support efforts to find a sensible and safe solution.”



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NEW! Kempe Ambassadors

This summer, Kempe launched Kempe Ambassadors, a group of individuals who have expressed support for the work of Kempe, and a willingness to introduce others to the organization and the cause of keeping children safe from abuse and neglect.

to grow Kempe’s network of support by connecting the organization with individuals and businesses in the community.

Kempe Ambassadors serve as advocates for Kempe in the community, attend quarterly events to learn more about The Kempe Center’s work, make a financial commitment, and help

The next Kempe Ambassadors event will be held on October 20 at Beth Hooper and Jonathan Smith’s home. If you would like to learn more about Kempe Ambassadors, please contact John Faught at 303.864.5304.

THE KEMPE FOUNDATION STAFF:

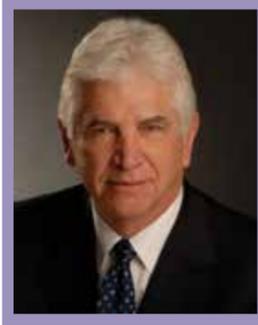
★ **John Faught, President & CEO**
303-864-5304
faught.john@kempe.org

★ **Casey Carmichael, Development Director**
303-864-5309
carmichael.casey@kempe.org

★ **Julia Stone, Chief Operating Officer**
303-864-5312
stone.julia@kempe.org

★ **Peggy Sands Weston, Office/HR Manager**
303-864-5301
sands.peggy@kempe.org





Considering the Future

John D. Faught, President & CEO of The Kempe Foundation

These are exciting times here at Kempe. For what will be 45 years in 2017, the Kempe Center, along with the Kempe Foundation, have created the joint identity of "Kempe" and have grown in response to the needs in the state, as well as in the field to address

the dramatic impacts of child abuse and neglect. We have achieved much and received acclaim for our comprehensive programs and services addressing child abuse and neglect, characterized by our pillars—Clinical, Advocacy, Research and Education (CARE).

Outcomes) is a proven collaborative tele-mentoring model of continuous learning that expands the capacity of medical providers to care for patients with common and complex diseases right in their own communities. We are working on this project in Colorado, and hope to run multiple Project ECHOs to share our expertise and help communities better care for and treat children and families impacted by child abuse and neglect. Fostering Healthy Futures is a Kempe-incubated, research- and evidence-based positive youth development program for pre-adolescent youth, ages 9 to 11, in out-of-home care. The program has been disseminated through community-based agencies in Aurora and Chicago, and a feasibility study is being conducted in

We are focusing on disseminating some key Kempe Center programs both regionally and nationally.

But we can do more! Child abuse and neglect remains pervasive -- the Colorado Department of Human Services reports 11,448 substantiated cases of child abuse and neglect in Colorado for calendar year 2015. The U.S. Children's Bureau Child Maltreatment Report identified over 702,000 substantiated child abuse and neglect cases in this country in 2014.

To reach more children and have a greater impact on their quality of life and futures, we are focusing on taking some of our key programs and disseminating them both regionally and nationally. Kempe is developing an in-home parenting support prevention program to help at-risk families grow their skills in child health, home safety and parenting needs. We are also building on our training and education knowledge and skills to design, develop, facilitate, implement and deliver learning systems for providers and professionals who help children. Project ECHO (Extension for Community Healthcare

Wales, UK. An adaptation of the preteen program, called Fostering Healthy Futures for Teens is currently being implemented through a collaborative effort between the University of Denver and Kempe.

Expanding the reach of Kempe's programs to other states and countries through collaborations and partnerships will mean that thousands of additional children will be the beneficiaries of the work of the professionals at the Kempe Center. We look forward to sharing our progress with you.

Sincerely,

John Faught, Esq.
President & CEO of The Kempe Foundation

Kempe Center Hosts International Conference

The Kempe Center will host the 2016 International Conference on Innovations in Family Engagement in Fort Worth, Texas Nov. 1 – 4. The conference will draw more than 400 child welfare professionals from public and private child welfare agencies, community based organizations, national nonprofits, and academic centers from 35 states and five countries.

Led by the Kempe Center's Amy Hahn, MSW, the conference will include more than 50 skills sessions and workshops. The goal of the conference is to showcase practices, policies, implementation structures, advocacy efforts and research that elevate the following values:

- At the very least, family groups need to be included in decision-making, and where possible, formal systems need to strive to implement processes whereby family groups lead decision-making.

- Family groups are experts on their own lives.
- Engaging family groups is a collaborative process.
- Child welfare and allied systems are more successful when they combine agency and community resources with natural resources and supports.
- Through partnership and engagement with the family and their support system greater child safety and well-being is possible.

The Conference was first held in 1997, and has been an annual event. It is an extension of the work the Kempe Center has done to support innovation in systems and communities that work with vulnerable children, youth and families.

More information on the conference can be found at www.fgdm.org.



Where to Find The Starling Project

Happy, healthy children come from happy, healthy homes and engaged communities. Through our community cause marketing campaign, The Starling Project, Kempe is providing tools and resources to empower individuals across the country to show kids they care. This murmur of people is essential to helping us fulfill our mission to eradicate child abuse and neglect.

Find our tools and resources, and see our campaign here:

The mama'hood – Denver and Boulder
Root Sports Rocky Mountain – Public Service Announcements
StarlingProject.Kempe.org

Happenings at Kempe

★ 2016 Blue Ribbon Golf Tournament

Thank you to all of our supporters who participated in the 2016 Blue Ribbon Golf Tournament at Cherry Creek Country Club in August. The event grew to more than 100 golfers this year, including Mrs. Colorado Erica Sharp Shields. Thank you for your support.

Presenting Blue Ribbon Sponsor
M.J. Smith & Associates

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★ 2016 Roots of Change Hair-a-Thon

During the month of August, Kempe joined the Mykal Grant Salon, Montbello Barbers and Crowning Glory Hair Salon to provide free hairstyles or haircuts to Colorado foster children. The stylists also provided tips and shared techniques for on-going hair care and maintenance.

★ Kempe Blue Ribbon Dinner

Join us on Saturday, April 22, 2017, as we celebrate the 45th Anniversary of the Kempe Center. Our keynote speaker is Dr. Richard Krugman. Contact John Faught for sponsorship information.

★ Kempe Center Doctors Contribute to New Book

Miracles We Have Seen is a collection of essays from physicians who have witnessed near tragedies that were prevented by human efforts. It includes two chapters by the Kempe Center's Dr. Krugman and Dr. Sirotnak. Not only are both doctors donating a portion of royalties to Kempe, but if you purchase the book through Amazon Smile, Kempe receives additional donations!



★ Save-the-Date: Colorado Gives Day

Save-the-Date! Colorado Gives Day is Dec. 6, 2016. As we all unite to celebrate the good work charities do across the state, we hope you will remember the work Kempe is doing to CARE for children and families. Find our profile and make a donation by searching for Kempe at www.ColoradoGivesDay.org

