



August 2019

SILENT VICTIMS

Everyone has seen those commercials with the dogs and cats who have been abused and neglected. They pull at your heart strings when you see their shaking body and those eyes which seem to be saying please help me. You may reach for the phone to make a donation. You think how could someone do this to those poor defenseless animals.

Unfortunately, children who are victims of sexual or physical abuse are faceless. We cannot put a face to their story. We cannot show the fear in their eyes. We cannot show the damaging effects this abuse has had on these children. But their pain is real and this is happening right now in our community.

Won't you please help us to continue in our mission of protecting the rights of these children and help us to help them heal and become children again.

You can make a donation directed to our general operating account, a specific agency program or to the Advocacy Network for Children Foundation. Learn more by visiting our website at www.advonet.org.

Please find it in your heart to help us to help these children.

“In any moment of decision, the best thing you can do is the right thing. The worst thing you can do is nothing.”

– Theodore Roosevelt

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

September
02 Office closed
12 Noon Networking - Quincy office

We currently have the following volunteer needs:

- Happy Bear Presentations
- CASA Volunteers
- Fundraising

If you would like to help, please contact our office at 217-223-2272.

Our agency could not continue its mission of advocating for children without your help. You can help by:

- Monetary Donation
- Endowment Fund Donation
- Office Supply Donation

PREVENTION PROGRAM

With the start of the new school year, don't forget that Advocacy Network for Children offers a child sexual abuse prevention program to schools throughout West Central Illinois at no cost. Erin's Law requires all schools to implement a child sexual abuse prevention program with students in Pre-K through 5th grade. The curriculum we use, Happy Bear and P.S. It's My Body!, is evidence based and age appropriate.

Last fiscal year, our staff made presentations to 4,334 area school children and 273 teachers. We hope to increase those numbers this year.

We are also looking for volunteers to help us with the presentations. No experience is required and we will teach interested individuals. For more information, please call Karolina Anton at the office.

FISCAL YEAR NUMBERS INCREASE

We closed our 2019 fiscal year on June 30th and the number of abused and neglected children we help continue to rise. 457 children were served through our Children's Advocacy Centers. This is up from 346 children in FY'16, 327 children in FY'17 and 444 children in FY'18.

Our Adams County CASA program also saw an increase in children served. 135 children were served in FY'19 compared to 118 in FY'18. Our expanded CASA programs in Hancock, Pike and Morgan counties served almost 70 children in their first year of operation.

JOIN OUR FUNDRAISING DINNER TEAM

We are in the process of forming the agency's annual fundraising dinner committee. The dinner will be held on March 6, 2020 and is the agency's main fundraising event of the year. If you would like to join this fun group of volunteers, please call Diane at the office.

THANK YOU

Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Illinois donated \$2,000.00 to the Adams County CASA program. This donation is part of the Blue Corps Employee Volunteer Matching Dollars program. For every hour that Blue Cross employees spend volunteering at a community partner agency, the company provides \$20.00, up to \$2,000.00 per organization annually. Pictured are Dusty Dietrich, Brooke Hunsaker, Kari Kleinlein, Jessica Jansen, Kyle Straube, Danielle Woodyard (CASA Manager) and Ali Hibbert (Adams County CASA Coordinator).



Mercantile Bank employees donated \$225.00 to the agency from their May "Jeans Day" event.

We truly appreciate your generous support of our agency, its mission and programs!

**** When shopping at Amazon Smile, choose Advocacy Network for Children as your charity and Amazon will donate a portion of your purchase price to us! ****



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