



March 2020

### *TIME FOR TIP-OFF*

We are looking forward to seeing everyone at our "Swishin' for a Mission" fundraising dinner on March 6th. The response has been overwhelming and we couldn't be more excited.

A quick shout-out to our fundraising dinner committee, dinner sponsors, everyone who donated an item for the auction or who made a monetary donation. Together, we can't lose!



Stay tuned to next month's newsletter for a total recap and pictures!

### *A LITTLE BIT ABOUT ADVOCACY NETWORK FOR CHILDREN*

Advocacy Network for Children opened its doors on January 24, 1990 as CASA of Adams County. In 1999, the agency started its first Children's Advocacy Center in Adams County. Since then, the agency added a CASA program in Hancock, Pike and Morgan counties and most recently expanded that program to serve children in Brown, Cass and Schuyler counties. The Children's Advocacy Center has grown and now serves children in Pike, Scott, Morgan, Hancock, Brown, McDonough, Cass and Schuyler counties. The agency also offers a Prevention Program to children Pre-K through 5th grade. Our staff is available 24/7 to provide abused or neglected children in our community with services. The CASA programs have advocated and been a voice for thousands of area children in the court system. The Children's Advocacy Center program has worked to provide advocacy services and promote healing for over 5,000 abused children since opening in 1999.

#### CALENDAR OF EVENTS

March  
06 Agency Fundraising Dinner  
12 Noon Networking - Quincy office  
26 Evening in-service - Quincy office  
April  
09 Noon Networking - Quincy office  
10 Office closed

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
- ANC Foundation Donation
- Office Supply Donation

## ***HY-VEE REUSABLE BAG PROGRAM***

Advocacy Network for Children has been selected as the beneficiary for the month of March in the Hy-Vee Reusable Bag Program that supports local non-profits.

The Hy-Vee Reusable Bag Program, which launched in November 2019, is a reusable bag program that facilitates community support with the goal to make a difference in the communities where customers live and work.



Advocacy Network for Children was selected as the March beneficiary by store leadership at the **Hy-Vee located at 1400 Harrison Street**. Advocacy Network for Children will receive a \$1.00 donation every time a \$2.50 red "My Heart" Reusable Bag is purchased at this location during March.

Show your love and support for Advocacy Network for Children and purchase your bag today!

## ***SIGNS OF POSSIBLE SEXUAL ABUSE***

Here are five signs of possible sexual abuse. If you notice a child experiencing any of these signs, please call and report immediately. You can make a report to the child abuse hotline at 1-800-252-2873, your local DCFS office or your local law enforcement office. Your call could save the life of a child.

1. Symptoms of Anxiety; 2. Abnormal Sexual Behaviors or Symptoms; 3. Changes in Personality or Mood; 4. General Behavioral Changes; and 5. Changes in Beliefs or Discussions

([www.onewithcourage.org](http://www.onewithcourage.org))

## ***CHILD ABUSE AWARENESS & PREVENTION MONTH***

April is National Child Abuse Awareness & Prevention Month. As a community, it is up to all of us to make sure our children are safe. We will be planning some events in our various counties to bring awareness to this important matter. Please check our website and Facebook page to learn more.

## ***THANK YOU***

Mercantile Bank employees donated \$310.00 to the agency from their January jean's day. We appreciate your on-going support of our agency.

**\*\* 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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