



June 2021

WHAT SHOULD YOU DO IF A CHILD DISCLOSES ABUSE

If a child tells you that he/she was abused, you should:

- > Avoid denial and keep calm to avoid the child shutting down;
- > Listen and let the child tell his/or her own story;
- > Don't interrogate or ask leading questions as this may confuse the child and hinder any criminal investigation;
- > Reassure the child that he/she did nothing wrong and that it is not the child's fault;
- > Thank the child for telling you and be supportive;
- > Do not contact the alleged perpetrator as this may allow him/her time to prepare a response;
- > Call your local law enforcement or Department of Children and Family Services hotline.

Don't forget how hard it is for him or her to tell you about abuse. Although it is hard to hear a child has been abused, it is important to support the child and acknowledge his or her courage in speaking out. In addition, it is important that you stay calm in order to be able to reassure the child that you will see to it that something is done to help keep him or her safe.

SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

If you are a member of a church, business, or service organization and would like more information about our agency and its mission of protecting the children in our community, we would love to schedule a time to speak with you. Just call the office to set up a time.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

June
17 CASA Informational Meeting via Zoom
July
05 Office closed

We currently have the following volunteer needs:

- Happy Bear Presentations
- CASA Volunteers
- Fundraising
- Mailings

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

CASA VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

CASA volunteers are desperately needed in our seven county region. This includes Adams, Pike, Hancock, Morgan, Brown, Cass and Schuyler counties. Upcoming informational meetings are scheduled for June 17th, July 15th and August 19th. The meetings will be held at 5:30 p.m. via Zoom. A multi-county CASA training will be held on Tuesdays and Thursdays in September via Zoom from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. An additional training for Adams County CASA volunteers is being planned for October 1st through 3rd. If you are interested in becoming a CASA volunteer and being the voice for a child in the court system due to no fault of their own, please call Danielle Buss at 217-223-2272. You can also visit the agency's Facebook page or website for more information.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR—ANNUAL FUNDRAISING DINNER

The agency's annual fundraising dinner, which is generally held in March, was postponed due to COVID health and safety concerns. However, we are excited that we have started planning for this year's dinner which is set for Friday, October 29th. Stay tuned to find out the theme and other new and exciting things we are planning to make this important event a success.

THANK YOU

Employees at Peoples Prosperity Bank in Quincy held a contest in April which benefitted the agency. Employees decorated and filled bags with toys and snacks and customers got to "vote" for their favorite bag with a donation. Pictured with the donated bags and items, along with a check in the amount of \$130.78, is (left to right) Diane Pieper, Executive Assistant, and Gina Wolf, Jana Hattey and Joleen Williams from the bank.



The agency was awarded a \$10,000.00 grant from the J.W. Gardner II Foundation. As indicated in the grant application, the funds will be used to support the CASA program. The J.W. Gardner II Foundation has been a generous supporter of the agency for many years.

Kunes Country Honda of Quincy recently made a \$500.00 donation to the agency in connection with the yard sign fundraiser. The money is to be used for what is needed most to support the kids we serve. Pictured is Diane Pieper, Executive Assistant, and Brad Bunch from Kunes Country Honda.



Your thoughtfulness and support of our agency is truly appreciated!

**** 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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