



August 2021

## *HELP US SHARE OUR STORY*

Between July 1, 2020 and June 30, 2021, our seven (7) county region CASA volunteers were a voice for over 300 children in the court system because of abuse or neglect. Our Children's Advocacy Center program coordinated more than 450 cases of reported sexual abuse or severe physical abuse in the nine (9) area counties it serves. And even with school closures due to COVID, our Prevention Program made presentations to over 1500 students in Pre-K through 5th grade to teach these students about personal safety.

As a community, we all need to work together to keep our children safe from abuse and neglect. We would love to share our story and provide more information about our agency and its mission of protecting abused and neglected children.

If you are a member of a church, business, or service organization, we would love to schedule a time to speak with your group. If you would like to help us, please call the office at 217-223-2272 to schedule a date and time. Together, we can make a difference in the life of a child.

## *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 in Illinois 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. Presentations are about 30 minutes each and are available in-person or virtual.

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 at 217-223-2272

### CALENDAR OF EVENTS

#### August

19 CASA Informational Meeting via Zoom

#### September

06 Office closed

09 CASA Noon Networking

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*

If you ever thought about being a CASA volunteer, now is the time. CASA volunteers are desperately needed in our seven county region. This includes Adams, Pike, Hancock, Morgan, Brown, Cass and Schuyler counties.

An informational meeting is scheduled for August 19th. The meeting 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.

### *"TAILGATE TO CELEBRATE"*

Don't forget to mark your calendars for the agency's annual fundraising dinner which is set for Friday, October 29th, at The Ambiance in Quincy.

Invitations for the "Tailgate to Celebrate" themed dinner will be mailed out later this month. If you are not on our invitation list and would like to be added, please call the office at 217-223-2272 and ask to speak to Diane.



The committee is working hard and planning a lot of exciting things that you won't want to miss.

The dinner is the agency's major fundraising event of the year and helps us provide critical services to children who are victims of abuse and neglect. As we cancelled last fiscal year's dinner due to COVID concerns, this year's dinner is more important than ever.

### *THANK YOU*

A \$500.00 grant was received from the Kiwanis Club of Quincy. As indicated in the grant application, the money will be used for Adams County CASA volunteer manuals, supplies and name badges.

A \$250.00 donation was received from Charges for Children from its monthly merchant drawing after the agency was selected by local merchant, Native Wings & Grill.

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!\*\***



1420 Harrison Street, Quincy, IL 62301  
217.223.2272 (phone) 217.223.6791 (fax)

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

