



October 2021

THE WHISTLE IS ABOUT TO BLOW

The agency's annual fundraising dinner is set for Friday, October 29th, at The Ambiance in Quincy. There is still time to get your tickets for this fun and enjoyable event. If you would like to attend the dinner, please call the office at 217-223-2272 and ask to speak to Diane. Reservations and payment are due by October 18th and can also be made at www.eventbrite.com.



The committee is working hard and planning a lot of exciting things that you won't want to miss. There will be a live auction, silent auction, games and more.

The "Clairice Hetzler Advocacy for Children Award" and the "Advocacy Network for Children Business Award", will both be presented at the annual dinner. Recipients of those awards are Sandy Schlepforth and Rokusek, respectively. Both recipients have been long-time supporters of the agency and are well deserving of the awards.

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.

For additional information, you can visit the agency's Facebook page or website at www.advonet.org. We hope to see you there!

Our offices will be closed on October 11th in observance of Columbus Day!

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

October

- 11 Office closed
- 14 CASA Noon Networking
- 29 Annual Fundraising Dinner & Auction

November

- 11 Office closed
- 25-26 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

PREVENTION PROGRAM

Now that school is back in full swing, don't forget that Advocacy Network for Children offers a child sexual abuse prevention program to schools throughout West Central Illinois at no cost. The curriculum we use, Happy Bear (Pre-K through 1st grade) and P.S. It's My Body! (2nd through 5th grade), is evidence based and age appropriate.

We could also use volunteers to help with the presentations. No experience is necessary and we will train you.

For more information on the program, to schedule a presentation, or questions about volunteering, please call the office at 217-223-2272.



WHAT DOES A CHILDREN'S ADVOCACY CENTER (CAC) DO?

CAC's believe children begin to heal the moment they are heard. In Illinois, when there is an allegation of child sexual abuse or severe physical abuse, children are referred to a local CAC. There, an interview is conducted in a child-friendly environment by a trained professional who knows the right questions to ask in a way that does not re-traumatize the child.

Members of the multidisciplinary team (medical and mental health professionals, law enforcement, prosecution, child protective services) can or do observe. Following the interview, the child, as well as family members, receive advocacy, medical and mental health referrals to help with the healing process.

Advocacy Network for Children has a CAC program in nine counties in West Central Illinois (Adams, Brown, Cass, Hancock, Morgan, McDonough, Pike, Schuyler and Scott). Five trained forensic interviewers are currently on staff.

STAFF CHANGES

Ali Hibbert, CASA Coordinator for Adams County, recently resigned from the agency. We wish Ali all the best in her new endeavors and thank her for her years of service with the agency. We would like to welcome Jessica Bullard who has been hired to fill Ali's position. Jessica's first day with the agency will be October 7th.

THANK YOU

Thank you to Autumn Harvest Farms for selecting the agency to receive proceeds from its Play Pen area on September 24th. We would also like to thank everyone who attended and enjoyed all the fun activities that they offered. It was a great family event.

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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