



September 2023

IT'S ALMOST TIME FOR KICK-OFF

Don't forget to mark your calendars and plan to attend the agency's annual fundraising dinner set for Friday, October 13th, at The Ambiance in Quincy.

Invitations for the "Tailgate to Celebrate" dinner have been mailed. If you are not on our invitation list and would like to be added or attend the dinner, please call the office at 217-223-2272 and ask to speak to Diane. Reservations and payment are due in advance by September 29th and can also be made at www.eventbrite.com or by scanning the QR code below.

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, raffles, games and more.

This year's "Clairice Hetzler Advocacy for Children Award" recipient is Cindy Trower and the "Advocacy Network for Children Business Award" recipient is Gardner Denver. Both recipients have been long-time supporters of the agency and its mission.

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.

For additional information, you can visit the agency's Facebook page or website at www.advonet.org.

We hope to see you there!



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sept
04 Office closed
06 CASA guided learning informational mtg
14 CASA noon networking
October
04 CASA guided learning informational mtg
12 CASA Noon Networking
13 Fundraising Dinner

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

STAFF NEWS

We would like to welcome Kristan Miller who started on August 14th and Amber Range who started on August 21st. Kristan is a new Adams County Children's Advocacy Center Coordinator and Amber is the new Morgan County CASA Coordinator.

GUIDED LEARNING FOR CASA VOLUNTEERS

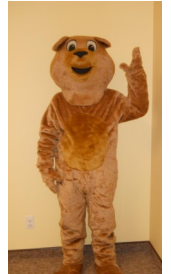
Don't forget, informational Zoom meetings regarding the new guided learning are being held on the first Wednesday of each month at 12:30 p.m. through November. Guided learning allows a person to train on their own time, in their own home and on their own schedule. If you ever wanted to become a CASA volunteer and couldn't commit to a full week's training or an accelerated training on a weekend you weren't available, this is for you.

For more information, please call the office and speak to one of our CASA staff or visit the agency's Facebook page.

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. 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 the office at 217-223-2272.



SOCIAL MEDIA AND TEEN MENTAL HEALTH

Numerous studies show that higher levels of social media use among children and adolescents are linked to adverse effects, including depression and anxiety, inadequate sleep, low self-esteem, poor body image, eating disorder behaviors and online harassment. These risks are greater for girls versus boys and for those already experiencing mental health issues. We need to all work together to create strategies and safe social media environments for our children.

THANK YOU

Thank you to the wonderful RSVP volunteers who gave of their time to help us with our fundraising dinner invitation mailing: Patsy Cooley, LeeAnn Hagerty, Mary Wilson, Greg & Connie Scott, Pat Bauer, Diane Meyer, Donna Fuller, Peggy Ulm, Sue Craft, Josephine Miller, and Jolene Fischer. Our community is blessed to have such a wonderful group of retired volunteers who help where there is a need.

Your thoughtfulness and support of our agency is truly appreciated!



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