



July 2024

## UNITED WAY DAY OF CARING

Advocacy Network for Children participated in Adams County United Way's Day of Caring held on June 7th. We would like to thank the 4 wonderful volunteers from Investment Planners Inc. who volunteered their time at our Quincy office: Kent Stegeman, Julie Baker, Brad Henry and Garrick Batley.



Before starting their official duties, they had some fun trying on our Happy Bear mascot head and superhero cape. They were also given a tour and history of the agency and its mission.

Their hard work made quite a difference to our outside area. A tree and bushes were trimmed, flowers planted, weeds pulled and windows cleaned.



Our community is truly blessed with such caring individuals and businesses who give of their time to help others.

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The agency's new FY'25 Board of Directors was approved at its meeting on June 27th. Thank you to the following individuals for their commitment to our mission: Brooke Stokes (President), Jana Hattey (Vice-President), Eric Niemann (Treasurer), Heather Leindecker (Secretary), Denette Kuhlman (Past President), Will Spear, Tracy Genenbacher, Dan Trower, Stacy Melton, Tish Hodges, Rick Halter, Ashley Steadman and Sharon Lewis. A special thank you to our retiring board members, Bob Daly, Shannon Nicholas and Penni Ippensen. Your years of service on the board is greatly appreciated.

### CALENDAR OF EVENTS

July  
04 Office closed  
Sept  
02 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

## SAVE THE DATE – ANNUAL FUNDRAISING DINNER

The agency's Fundraising Dinner Committee has started working on the annual fundraising dinner. This year's "Tailgate to Celebrate" event is set for **Friday, October 18, 2024** at the Ambiance in Quincy. The dinner is the major fundraising event for the agency and is designed to be a fun and enjoyable evening for everyone. Save the Dates will be mailed out this month. If you are not on our list, please call the office and ask to speak to Diane.

## WELCOME NEW CASA VOLUNTEERS

Adams County CASA swore in two new volunteers on June 4th. Pictured (left picture, left to right) are Christina Engle, Judge John Wooleyhan and Chloe Saxbery. Hancock County CASA swore in two new volunteers on June 11th. Pictured (middle left, left to right) are Gloria Davis and Taylor Huls being sworn in by Judge Rodney Clark. Adams County CASA swore in four other volunteers on June 27th. Pictured (middle right, left to right) are Dawn Patton, Wanda Robertson, Judge John Wooleyhan, Sylvia King-Boling and Brooke Wells. Morgan County CASA swore in two volunteers on June 27th. Pictured (right picture, left to right) are Diane Enz, Judge Jeffery Tobin and John Roth.

Welcome and thank you for all you do for the children in our community!



## FACT: IT'S NOT STRANGER DANGER

Research shows that the greatest risk to children doesn't come from strangers but from friends and family and only about 10% of children who are sexually abused are abused by strangers. People who abuse children look and act just like everyone else. In fact, they often go out of their way to appear trustworthy, seeking out settings where they can gain easy access to children, such as sports leagues, faith centers, clubs, and schools. You can do your part by being observant and reporting any suspected child abuse to local authorities.

## THANK YOU

The agency is blessed to receive ongoing support and funding from local United Way agencies. Adams County United Way, United Way of the Great River Region, Prairieland United Way and McDonough County United Way all support specific agency programs in their coverage area.

Your thoughtfulness and support of our agency is truly appreciated!



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