



*"Standing Strong for Abused Children"*

July 2025

## **UNITED WAY DAY OF CARING**

Advocacy Network for Children participated in Adams County United Way's Day of Caring held on June 6th. We would like to thank the 5 wonderful volunteers from Quincy Medical Group who volunteered their time at our Quincy office: Erica Douglas, Kristie Kemner Schoen, Charity Greenwood, Leah Murfin and Shari Lofton.

Before starting their official duties, they were given a history of the agency and its mission and an overview of the agency's programs, CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocate), CAC (Children's Advocacy Center) and Prevention Program.

Their hard work made quite a difference to our outside area as a tree and bushes were trimmed, flowers planted, weeds pulled and windows cleaned. In the inside, toys were sanitized in the children's playroom and rooms were cleaned and vacuumed.

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'26 Board of Directors was approved at its meeting on June 26th. Thank you to the following individuals for their commitment to our mission: Heather Hoffman (President), Rick Halter (Vice-President), Eric Niemann (Treasurer), Stacy Melton (Secretary), Brooke Stokes (Past President), Will Spear, Tracy Genenbacher, Dan Trower, Jana Hattey, Ashley Steadman, Sharon Lewis, Kent Snider and Shelby Clinging. A special thank you to our retiring board member, Denette Kuhlman. Your years of service on the board is greatly appreciated.

### **CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

July  
04 Office closed  
Sept  
01 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

This year's "Tailgate to Celebrate" event is set for **Friday, October 17, 2025** 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 the beginning of this month. If you are not on our list, please call the office and ask to speak to Diane.

### NEW CASA VOLUNTEERS SWORN IN

Cass County CASA swore in its newest volunteer on June 11th at the Cass County Courthouse by Judge Timothy Wessell. Pictured (first) are Randi Cowell and Judge Wessell.



Menard County CASA swore in its first group of CASA volunteers on June 17th at the Menard County Courthouse by Judge Michael Atterberry. Pictured (second) are Joni Churchill, Judge Atterberry and Marlee Hillemeier.



Adams County CASA swore in its newest CASA volunteers, along with new CASA Coordinator, Emily Rettenmeier, on June 18th at the Adams County Courthouse by Judge John Wooleyhan. Pictured (third) are Emily Rettenmeier, Judge Wooleyhan, Elizabeth Harness and Kennedy Morgan.



Mason County CASA swore in its first group of CASA volunteers on June 24th at the Mason County Courthouse by Judge Kevin Tippey. Pictured (fourth) are Britney Holtman, Ryley Bridges, Marlee Hillemeier, Judge Tippey, Randi Cowell, Cindy Noll and Amanda McDaniel.

Welcome and thank you to these new volunteers for all they will do for the children in our community.

CASA volunteers are trained community volunteers appointed by a judge to speak up for abused or neglected children in the court system. Volunteers receive 30 hours of training which include courtroom procedures, working with social service agencies and the special needs of abused and neglected children. For more information, call the office at 217-223-2272.



## 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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