



"Standing Strong for Abused Children"

November 2025

TAILGATE TO CELEBRATE A WINNER

The agency's annual fundraising dinner was held on Friday, October 17th, at The Ambiance. Final numbers are still being calculated but it's looking to be a tremendous success with the agency netting over \$44,000.00! We would like to thank everyone who donated an item for the live and silent auctions, made a monetary donation, or came to the dinner. We couldn't have done it without our dedicated fundraising committee: Gina Wolf (co-chair), Whitney Mintert (co-chair), Diane Disseler, Kori Griffin, Lisa Theurer, Brooke Hunsaker, Kylee Straube, Angie St. Clair, Shawwna Quinn, Heather Hoffman, Stacy Melton, Diane Pieper (staff) and Danielle Buss (staff). For pictures from the event, visit the agency's Facebook page.

Also, a BIG thank you to Chris Quinn for serving as Master of Ceremonies, Mitch Webster for serving as auctioneer, members of the John Wood Community College Cheerleading squad who helped greet guests and with games, and to our wonderful and generous sponsors: Quincy Recycle, WGEM SportsRadio, Mercantile Bank, Titan International, Inc., Hansen-Spear Funeral Home, Knapheide Mfg. Company, Entrup Drywall & Painting, Inc., Blue Cross Blue Shield of Illinois, Heartland Bank and Trust Company, Carter's Coffee Bar, Blessing Health System, Hilbing Autobody, Benson Financial Group, Central State Bank, Memorial Hospital, United Systems, Inc., Freiburg Insurance Agency, Gully Transportation, State Street Bank, Thrivent, Barney's Tavern, Quincy Medical Group, Schmiedeskamp, Robertson, Neu & Mitchell, Bopi, Michele Pickett, Refreshment Services Pepsi, TI Trust, First Bankers Trust Company, Hope & Healing NP Services, SIU Center for Family Medicine, Lowell Yates and Sally Westerhoff.

Congratulations to Julia Vincent, recipient of this year's "Clairice Hetzler Advocacy for Children" award and Bopi, recipient of the "Advocacy Network for Children Business" award. Both have been long time supporters of the agency. What an "All Star" team we had this year!

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

November

11 Office closed
27-28 Office closed

December

24-25 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

STAFF NEWS

Part of our team had the privilege of spending two days diving deep into vital topics at the 31st Annual Prevent Child Abuse Illinois Conference in Naperville. From innovative prevention strategies to trauma-informed care, they all came back equipped with new tools, insights, and inspiration to better support the children and families we serve. Pictured (top row) Carol Hudgens, Anita Hanke, Emily Rettenmeier, Lexi Goehl, and Mandy Humphry, (bottom row) Danielle Buss, Susan Tode, Jess Bullard and Kristan Miller.



Jamie Carroll (CAC Manager), Todd Shackelford (Executive Director) and Danielle Buss (Associate Executive Director) attended the Annual CAC Director's Conference last month in Bloomington. They engaged in impactful sessions focused on leading with purpose, presence, and legacy, while exploring tools to transition from surviving to thriving. The conference also featured dynamic roundtable discussions, DCFS updates, and critical insights into legislative and policy updates.



NEW CASA VOLUNTEERS SWORN IN

Adams County CASA swore in its newest CASA volunteers on October 3rd at the Adams County Courthouse by Judge John Wooleyhan. Pictured are Juliet Hubbard, Judge Wooleyhan, Nicole Mason and Cathy Shanks.

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.

A big welcome to these new volunteers and thank you for all you will do for the children in our community.



GUIDED LEARNING FOR CASA VOLUNTEERS

Don't forget, our CASA program continues to offer guided learning. 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 at 217-223-2272 and speak to one of our CASA staff.

SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

If you are a member of a church, business, or service organization and would like more information about our agency and its mission of protecting the children in our community, we would love to schedule a time to speak with you. Just call the office to set up a time.



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