



30 N. San Pedro Road, Suite #275
San Rafael, CA. 94903
www.marinadvocates.org

Programs of MAC:
Child Abuse Prevention Council
Court Appointed Special Advocates



HOW CAN YOU HELP?

- * \$2,500 recruits and trains a new CASA volunteer
- * \$1,500 provides supervision for a CASA volunteer for one year
- * \$250 Trains 30 mandated reporters
- * \$100 Produces 20 training manuals for mandated reporters
- * \$50 Helps to send a CASA child to summer camp

TO MAKE A DONATION

please visit our website:
www.marinadvocates.org
or send a check to
Marin Advocates for Children,
30 N. San Pedro Road, Suite #275,
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Marin Advocates for Children
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Sarah Crampton became a member of the Board of Marin Advocates for Children in February 2001. Just a few months later she died unexpectedly. Even though Sarah was young, she had already made out her will and had directed that a portion of her estate go to Marin Advocates for Children. That money was put in a fund to be used for "extras" that foster children might need. Because of Sarah Crampton, a foster child received a computer to help him get a leg up on college. Because of Sarah Crampton, a CASA child was able to afford a dress for her once in a lifetime senior prom.

Marilyn Ferry became a CASA volunteer in 1995 and she always knew just the right thing to do as a CASA volunteer with "her" children. Marilyn retired from her last CASA case in 2005. In 2007 Marilyn's son called with the sad news that Marilyn had died and that she had left a portion of her estate to MAC. Marilyn's generous donation enabled us to train 15 new CASA volunteers who would go on to advocate for an estimated 30 to 50 children over the course of their time with MAC. Because of Marilyn, 50 abused and neglected children in Marin County would have an advocate.

John Kikuchi, current member of the Board of Directors of MAC, made the decision to include MAC in his will. "Over my years on MAC's Board of Directors I have come to appreciate more fully the dedication and commitment of the CASA volunteers on behalf of the children they serve. By naming Marin Advocates for Children as one of the beneficiaries of my estate, I can help to ensure that there are CASA volunteers for every child who needs one," says John.

Your estate planning attorney, accountant, or financial advisor can tell you about the different options available to you for making a legacy gift to Marin Advocates for Children. These range from simple bequests to more advanced strategies such as Charitable Lead Trusts, Charitable Remainder Trusts, Donor Advised Funds and Private Foundations. If you would like to explore these options further, CJ Rendic, a current board member and founder of Parallel Advisors, would be happy to discuss them with you. You can reach him at 415 839 8439 or cj@paralleladvisors.com

By naming Marin Advocates for Children as a beneficiary in your estate plan you can ensure that Marin County victims of child abuse will always have a voice.



www.marinadvocates.org

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QUICK LINKS
www.marinadvocates.org

DO YOU KNOW THESE NAMES?

Ariel Castro
Jerry Sandusky

Jerry Sandusky was convicted of sexual molestation of boys. Ariel Castro is serving a life sentence for kidnapping and raping three young girls and holding them captive for years.

Chances are good those names stay in your memory. Who can forget the criminals that perpetrated such heinous acts on children?

Do these names ring a bell?

Ally Jacobs
Lisa Campbell

If you are like me, these names aren't familiar. Officers Jacobs and Campbell, of the UC Berkeley Police Department, came in contact with Phillip Garrido, the man later convicted of kidnapping and repeatedly raping Jaycee Dugard for over 18 years. Jacobs and Campbell saw Mr. Garrido in the company of the two young daughters he fathered with Jaycee. They felt things just didn't look right. The interactions between the girls and their father as well as with the officers seemed "off". They relied on their intuition, did some research, and called Garrido's parole officer to ask what he knew about his parolee's daughters. Imagine the chill they must have felt

when they were told Garrido had no children. Soon after the call was made Jaycee Dugard and her daughters were released from the prison in which they had been held so long.

It is understandable but at the same time sad to me that we will forever remember the names of the people who perpetrated

such vile acts on children. But we quickly forget those very brave men and women who saw something wrong and decided to speak out.

We are hopeful that will change in a few years. The Enough Abuse Campaign will bring awareness of child sexual abuse to communi-

ties in ten Bay Area counties. Marin Child Abuse Prevention Council has joined with nine other bay area child abuse prevention councils to educate the community about child sexual abuse and give them the tools to recognize, stop and prevent it. Many more neighbors, friends and families will be cognizant of the signs of possible sexual abuse and will know what to do if they suspect a child needs help. We will empower everyone in our communities to be a hero for abused and neglected children.

For more information about keeping our children safe please go to our website
www.marinadvocates.org



Donors Come In All Sizes

Thank you to **Gaspare's Pizza** for again benefiting Marin Advocates for Children at their 6th annual Golf Tournament on June 3, 2013. **Gaspare's Pizza** of San Rafael hosts a golf tournament for their family, friends and customers, and each year they select a local charity to receive the money raised by the golf tournament. Marin Advocates for Children has been chosen for the last three years to be a beneficiary of the winnings. A huge thank you to Gaspare's and owner Daniel Indelicato for choosing to support the abused and neglected children of Marin.

Manny Natsios has been supporting Marin Advocates for Children by donating sport memorabilia for our silent auctions at the spring event for the last several years. In addition, he and his wife Carol Ekelund have attended the event and participated in the auctions. Earlier this year, Manny found that it was time to get

rid of his old car and remembered that MAC takes car donations through the **Center for Car Donations**. "The process was professional, prompt and efficient and the donation value was fair. It is fulfilling to realize the donation helps local Marin children who are in need of support". Thank you Manny and Carol!

On September 7th and 8th two teenagers took precious time out of their weekend to help promote the Tee It Up 4 CASA Golf Tournament on September 20th. They spent several hours each day at the San Geronimo Golf Course talking to golfers about the upcoming golf tournament and challenging them to a "closest to the pin" contest. 32 golfers participated and Jim Strenkowski was the winner. A big thank you to **Sabrina Eaton** and **Janelle Labourdette** for volunteering their time and enthusiasm.



Thank You

A big "thank you" to former Board President Pam Nicolai for once again organizing a fabulous day of golfing on September 20th. This tournament raise much needed funds for Marin Advocates for Children and the CASA program. With the help of current board member Mark Labourdette the 60 participating golfers enjoyed a fun afternoon on the course.

Thank you to the following sponsors for their generous support of the event:

ATCO Pest & Termite Control
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 Marlys Hooper,
 Alain Pinel Realtors
 Charlie & Margi Mead
 Montecito Plaza Shopping Center
 Pam Nicolai
 Sea Plane Adventures

Meet Our CASA Volunteers

The work of a Marin CASA volunteer is sometimes difficult but the rewards can be great. "Knowing what I do makes a difference in a child's life is what I like the most," says Maggie Hickey.

"It's all about caring for children and their future. What is that if not our future as well?" Sue Zimmerman is passionate about her volunteer position as a CASA. Sue has been advocating for abused and neglected children for eight years.

"When I applied, I had no idea what was involved, but the training got me off to a good start: that and my incredible supervisor Laurie Good", says Bonnie Swift. "I have learned so much about myself, Marin Children and Family Services, and the plight of a child who falls under the jurisdiction of the court due to neglect, abuse or abandonment. Sometimes the work is heart-breaking, but I have seen how much of a difference a CASA can make in a child's life. I believe that each child is everyone's responsibility – each one is precious and each one is our future."

"Who is that lady who just keeps showing up?" asked an angry teen when his



CASA volunteer Debbie Dean "just kept coming back". Once he understood that she was a volunteer and there because she wanted to be, he looked forward to each and every visit. Debbie has been a CASA volunteer for nearly 20 years and has advocated for 13 children, almost all teenagers. "Being a CASA volunteer is like working on a giant puzzle; you start out with one piece - the child - and then you accumulate more and more pieces until you begin to see the big picture. Then I can make recommendations to the judge about what is in "my" child's best interest."

"The need is great," says Bonnie, "and I



encourage anyone who wants to make the world better for a child to become a CASA volunteer."

"Often the case that's the most heart-breaking is also the most rewarding" says Anne Jeschke, a CASA volunteer since 2006.

Marin's CASA volunteers are extraordinary people who are concerned about their community's children and want to ensure they don't "fall through the cracks" of the system. CASA volunteers don't have to have a certain type of education or occupation. Maggie, Sue, Debbie, Anne and Bonnie all agree on the skills needed: empathy, patience, perseverance, sense of humor, diplomacy – and *more patience*.

Last year 75 CASA volunteers advocated for the best interests of 134 children in Marin County. Unfortunately we currently have a list of children waiting for a CASA volunteer to be their voice.

For more information about becoming a CASA volunteer go to marinadvocates.org or contact Robyn Roberts at 415.507.9016 or email robyn@marinadvocates.org.

Save the Date

Saturday April 26, 2014 at the beautiful new Peacock Gap Club House in San Rafael, Marin Advocates for Children will hold a benefit and auction. For more information about the event, contact Mollie Squires at 415.507.9016 or email mollie@marinadvocates.org.

How can you help? For information on becoming a sponsor or donating an auction item please contact Mollie Squires at mollie@marinadvocates.org. Volunteers are needed to help with the event – everything from mailings, solicitation of auction items, event set up and the event itself. If you are interested in volunteering please contact Mollie Squires at mollie@marinadvocates.org.



Thank you to our 2013 Benefit and Auction Sponsors

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CASA Celebrates 30 Years in Marin

I wasn't here in 1983 when Marin CASA Program was first conceived by a collaboration of community members. I became involved with Marin CASA Program shortly thereafter when I took the CASA volunteer training in 1987. Two years later I was on staff as a case manager. In those days four staff members – two case managers, an administrative assistant and the executive director – shared two tiny offices with two desks and two phone lines. Those tiny offices were in the juvenile probation office which was the former juvenile hall. Our offices were the former cells of the juvenile offenders.

We have had a lot of changes since then. We moved above the Belli Deli in San Rafael for a while. The space was larger and the lunches were better. We had a few other moves over the years but finally came to rest 12 years ago in our offices on North San Pedro Road. We now have phone lines to cover every staff member so no callers hang up in frustration. Better yet, we have something that was not even thought of in 1983—email. Computers and the internet have

made it so much easier to communicate. Over the years our reputation for quality advocacy of abused and neglected children has increased as our program evolves into the professional well run entity it is today.



I want to thank all our previous Executive Directors – Larry Lehner, Sandra Beckwith, Robin Allen and Charlie Mead. Without their leadership we would not be where we are today.

But even more importantly I want to thank all the community members who have helped Marin CASA Program become the success it is today. Thank you to our donors. Thank you to all those who have volunteered their time to provide technical and educational support. A big thank you to all our board members since 1983 who helped us to shape our agency. And, last but definitely not least, thank you to all our CASA

volunteers. Without you, the abused and neglected children of Marin County would not have a voice.