

September



2016

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Child Advocacy & Parenting Services, Inc.

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Improving children's lives and strengthening families through education, advocacy and family support

\$1 Million Granted Over 2 Years

PIECE works to improve social emotional skills of children ages 0-5 years to be prepared for Kindergarten through matching grants between ECBG and Salina Area United Way

For each dollar received from the Community Impact Grant through the Salina Area United Way, an additional \$6.15 is leveraged through an Early Childhood Block Grant administered by the Kansas Children's Cabinet & Trust Fund. CAPS serves as the fiscal agent for this work which continues to engage 26 community organizations forming Partners In Early Childhood Education (PIECE), a 15 year old collaboration. Promoting healthy development through early identification of developmental delays has always been a focus of PIECE, but a new initiative through these grants is to analyze the data collected in assessments completed by the parent in order to provide individualized coaching with local child care providers to strengthen children's social emotional skills.

Building better support systems that help improve the lives of Kansas children and families is the primary focus of the Children's Cabinet and they are in the 3rd year implementing a comprehensive plan for expanding effective early-childhood programs and services across the state. The Saline County School Readiness Project is one of them. The 2012 United Way ACT for 2020 grant revealed 85% of kindergartners entered Saline County Schools ready to learn academically, but did not have the interpersonal skills needed to be successful in a classroom setting. The new grant aims at developing the whole child, with a focus on three building blocks— Healthy Development, Strong Families and Early Learning—and uses the Cabinet's Blueprint for Early Childhood Education, a strategic framework to inform investments and maximize positive outcomes for young children and their families.

"The Blueprint is essential to our state's success in early-childhood services and systems," said Cabinet Executive Director Janice Smith. *"Creative community collaboration between multiple partners working toward a shared vision of high-quality, accessible, and affordable programs for young children and families is needed to achieve our goals. Everything is in place to work together toward our common goals."*

"Because 90 percent of a child's brain architecture is established before the age of five," Smith said, *"early intervention is key to improving outcomes for young Kansas children."*

By supporting quality early childhood education, care and health services that are critical to strong child development, the Cabinet aims to reduce the need for more costly remediation in the education and criminal-justice systems of the future.

Cabinet-funded Early Childhood Block grantees are part of a shared-measurement system known as the Common Measures initiative, led by Wichita State University. Smith said Common Measures help move the Cabinet forward in its aim to measure and demonstrate how investments at the local level positively impact early learners and their families' lives at both the state and local levels. Having the Early Childhood Block Grant paired with United Way dollars locally, Saline County gets the benefit of equal access for all children, not just those identified as at-risk to not enter kindergarten ready to learn.

*In
this
Issue...*

The Saline County School Readiness Project at CAPS.....Page 2

2 Simple Ways to Shop and Support CAPS..... Page 2

Thank You To Our Many Supporters..... Page 3

"Bullying: What Parents Need to Know"..... Page 4

If we can change the beginning of the story, we can change the whole story.



Each program within CAPS takes a different approach to strengthening families and improving children's lives. The first five years of a child's life are crucial in creating the foundation for life-long learning and success. If we can change the beginning of the story, we can change the whole story. That is what the Saline County School Readiness Project is all about. We strive to prepare children to enter school ready-to-learn.

Through an Early Childhood Block Grant from the Kansas Children's Cabinet and a Community Impact Grant from the Salina Area United Way, CAPS is teaming up with child care providers to improve the quality of early childhood education. A key component of quality early childhood programs is the quality of the teachers in the classrooms. By assessing teachers through a tool called CLASS observations and pairing that with professional development and summer coaching, teacher interactions with children are being improved to focus on each child's unique needs. Kindergarten readiness is being built by providing social emotional curriculums for classrooms to help children manage their emotions and behaviors.

CAPS is one community resource keeping tabs on children to see that they are making progress and meeting goals. Individual child development assessments are completed in partnering classrooms. Teachers and parents are informed of the child's progress and given tip sheets of activities to enhance kindergarten readiness skills for both academic and social-emotional needs. Using assessment results as a guide, classroom toys were purchased to concentrate on the skills that need to be developed for children to be ready for kindergarten. The earlier a problem is identified in a young child and the issue is addressed, the greater the impact will be on the child's future success.

The Early Childhood Education staff, Angela Owens-Coach-Assessor, Jaclyn Lacy-Assessor, Carolyn Lathan-Data, and Peggy Goodwin, Assessor/Program Director are a proficient team! Assessments are given to 250 children two or three times a year, depending on the age of the child. Assessments are scored and entered in to DAISEY, the state database, then data is analyzed by our funders and used to show how we are improving the lives of at-risk children. Saline County School Readiness Project is dedicated to ensuring that children enter school ready-to-learn and we have a great crew working to meet that goal!

Peggy Goodwin - Saline County School Readiness Director

2 Simple Ways to Shop and Support CAPS



AmazonSmile is a simple and automatic way for you to support CAPS every time you shop, at no cost to you. When you shop at smile.amazon.com, you'll find the exact same low prices, vast selection and convenient shopping experience as Amazon.com, with the added bonus that Amazon will donate 0.5% of the purchase price to CAPS.

On your first visit to AmazonSmile, select CAPS to receive donations from eligible purchases before you begin shopping. Shop today and support CAPS by using this link:

www.smile.amazon.com/ch-48-0921732

Do you shop at Dillons or get gas at Kwik Shop or Dillons? If you are not already participating in the Dillons Community Rewards program, you are missing an opportunity to support CAPS by simply shopping or purchasing fuel. It's easy to sign up.

Step 1: Visit www.dillons.com/communityrewards

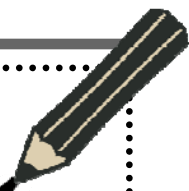
Step 2: Log in with your existing account or create a new account.

Step 3: Enter "Child Advocacy and Parenting Services" or 45506 as your organization of choice.

Save your selection, and the next time you use your Dillons Plus card, Dillons will make a small contribution to our efforts. It couldn't be easier! Don't forget -- this program resets annually. Reassign CAPS as your preferred organization every year. Thank you for supporting CAPS!



Thank You



- Child Abuse Awareness Tailgate Party sponsors — **Salina Liberty Organization & Accessible Home Health Care**
- **Kim & Sean Herrington** for providing advertising during the football season.
- **DVACK, Morgan Allred at Poetry for Personal Power, Tammy Jarvis with Ad Astra** for collaborative efforts for the "Poetry for Personal Power" event at Ad Astra.
- "Blue Out Day" Donors and Participants — employees at **Mowery Clinic, Bennington State Bank, Saline Co. Health Department, and First Bank Kansas.**
- Foundation Gifts from the **Zimmerman Family Foundation, Glenda Krug Designated Fund, Schwan's Corporate Giving Foundation, Greater Salina Community Foundation, YWCA Legacy Fund, Walker Family Foundation, Verla Nesbit Joscelyn Foundation, and the Mildred and Rolland MiddleKauff Foundation.**
- **Blue Beacon Employees** for 2016 payroll deductions and **Blue Beacon International** for matching those contributions.
- **Cindy Ramsey, Jane McMillen, Fran Hutchinson, Judith Burkhartsmeier, and Josh Morris** for monetary donations and volunteer services for new Happy Bear costumes.



- **End Iron Bed & Breakfast** for the generous donation from the May 2016 Tea.
- **Trinity United Methodist Women** for your donation to the CASA program.
- **Connie Eickhoff** for donating appliances and furniture for our families in need.
- **Annelle Claasen's** donation of stuffed animals for the Child Advocacy Center.
- **Barbara Nelson Memorial and Sandra Miller Memorial** gifts in the amount of \$505 and \$225.
- **First Presbyterian Church—Faith Bible Investigators** for donating stuffed animals, coloring books and activity books, as well as putting together craft projects to help calm and comfort children when they have been victims of child abuse or are involved in a crisis situation.

I want to be a CAPS' partner to help change the lives of children.

Name _____

Address _____

Email _____

Child Advocacy & Parenting Services operates on 6% administrative and 2% fundraising expenses. 92% of your contribution goes to direct services for children and families. As a 501 (c) 3 charitable corporation, your contribution is tax deductible to the fullest extent of the law.

Examples of how we might use your generous gift:

- \$50 can fund 1 Bullying Prevention class or 3 hours of respite child care for an overwhelmed parent
- \$100 can fund 4 hours of parenting instruction or 1 Happy Bear session for 25 children
- \$250 can fund Training costs for 1 CASA volunteer advocate
- \$500 can fund Advocacy & support services for one victim & their non-offending parent
- \$1000 can fund Family mentoring services for 1 year of in-home visitation & parenting education
- \$2000 can fund 3 month of 24/7 on-call support for children and their families
- Any amount can fund Support for School Readiness activities
- _____ Contact us regarding a conversation to discuss CAPS being included in my estate plans.





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“Bullying: What Parents Need to Know”

Presented by Vicki Price, CAPS Education Director
Monday Evening — November. 14th, 2016 from 6-8 p.m.
Community Learning Center, 308 W. Elm; Salina

Parents, this FREE class is for you! In this one-session course, you will learn about various kinds of bullying your child might experience: physical, verbal, cyberbullying, emotional and sexual. You will be equipped with tools to help deal with and prevent bullying, appropriate for both parents and grandparents. You will learn strategies for your child, if they are a bully, victim or witness. Your enrollment includes the booklet, “What Parents Should Know About Bullying.” Bring your questions and concerns.

Registration is required through the Salina Public Library’s CLASS program.

You can register:

- online at www.salina.coursestorm.com/
- at the library's Community Learning Center, 308 W. Elm, across the street from the library, from 9 a.m.-5 p.m. M-F.
- by dropping a registration form and payment in the after hours drop box on the front of the Community Learning Center. Registration forms can be obtained at the Salina Public Library or www.salinapubliclibrary.org/class

