



Guardian's Voice

8th District Serving Wayne, Lenoir, & Greene Counties

July 2006

From the Desk of the Administrator:

The Guardian ad Litem Program continues to be strong and to provide quality advocacy for the children of Wayne, Lenoir, and Greene Counties. Today, we are serving over 300 children who deserve to have a voice in the court system. Because of you, they do. Many of you have participated in training opportunities such as the State of the Child training in March and our recent Dope on Dope Symposium in June. We will continue to try to give you great training opportunities. We have had some great opportunities come up that will be a wonderful resource for our program. We were granted a six

month grant from CASA from the Jewelers for Children fund. With that grant, we have been able to contract with Raelyn Mosher, our previous intern, to serve as a recruiter. If you know anyone who might like to volunteer, please pass their name onto Raelyn. Beginning this month, we have the benefit of contracting, temporarily, with volunteer Michael Stephens to do case management services for a group of youth we are serving who don't have volunteers and are living out of county. Now these children will have a more consistent voice in court. As the state budget has just passed, we are ex-

cited to report we will be getting a new staff member. We have been understaffed for years and this position will allow us to serve you and the children we serve better. We hope to hire a staff person in the next few months. We will keep you updated.

Thank you so much for all you do for the children you serve. Please remember if there is anything we can do to support your work as a Guardian ad Litem, just let us know. We are here to support the valuable work you do.

Best Wishes,
Colleen

The Mission of the Guardian ad Litem Program is to provide trained, independent advocates to represent and promote the best interests of abused and neglect or dependent children involved in the court and to work toward a plan that ensures that these children are in a safe permanent home.

Wayne Court Dates

July: 13th & 27th
August: 8th & 10th
September: 7th & 21st
October: 5th & 19th
November: 2nd & 16th
December: 7th & 21st

Lenoir Court Dates

July: 11th & 25th
August: 8th & 22nd
September: 5th & 19th
October: 3rd, 17th, & 31st
November: 14th & 28th
December: 12th

Greene Court Dates

July: 17th
August: 14th
September: 11th
October: 16th
November: 20th
December: 18th

GREETINGS FROM THE NEW RECRUITER!

The Guardian ad Litem Program has received the Jeweler's For Children (JFC) Grant. This grant is a six month grant to hire a new employee to recruit, train, and retain volunteers.

My name is Raelyn Mosher and I am the newest staff member. Some of you already know me as a volun-

teer. I began working with the program in November as an intern. In May, I graduated with my B.S. in Psychology and accepted the JFC recruiter position. I am also keeping all of my cases. My husband has been stationed at Seymour Johnson AFB for three and one half years. We are the

proud parents of five four legged children.

Periodically you will hear from me for various reasons. I will also be answering the phones. While I am covering all three counties, I am working primarily out of the Goldsboro office. I look forward to working with each of you.

Welcome New Volunteers

Patricia Harrison
Tracy Blackmon
Donna Russell
Jacqueline McCoy

Protect Yourself: Disable Caller ID

If you must call from your home, work, or cell phone, remember to use *67 before dialing the number. This will prevent the people you are calling from getting your number. If they have Caller ID, it will display "private" when the receiver looks for the number. Also, if someone tries the "callback" feature, the call will not go through or display your number.

Beanie Baby Drive in August

The Guardian ad Litem Program will be holding a Beanie Baby Drive for the month of August. Unfortunately, there are times when children are called to testify. This can be a terrifying experience for these children. The program likes to be able to give these children a Beanie Baby to hold while they are on the stand, and to keep afterward. Beanie Babies are small enough for the child to hold in their lap and hold onto while testifying and will also be a small comfort during a scary and confusing time.

The GAL program would like to put donation boxes for the drive in local businesses and churches. If you would like to set up a box in your church or

place of work, please contact Raelyn at 919-731-5659 or 252-523-5217. Flyers can be provided as well as a small write up for church bulletins. Raelyn will be more than happy to collect the Beanie Babies if need be or they can be dropped off at either office. Thank you for your assistance.

Are you looking for other ways to help the GAL program?

We currently need someone to help design a website and a few people to place information about the program in the community such as libraries, churches, and business. If you would like to help, please contact Raelyn at 919-731-5656 or 252-523-5217.

May I become at all times, both now and forever

A protector for those without protection

A guide for those who have lost their way

A ship for those with oceans to cross

A bridge for those with rivers to cross

A sanctuary for those in danger

A lamp for those without light

A place of refuge for those who lack shelter

And a servant to all in need

Author Unknown

Donate Your Used Ink Cartridges, Toners, & Cell Phones

The Guardian ad Litem Program is participating in a recycling program for used ink cartridges, cell phones, toners, and laptops. If you would like to donate your cartridges, you can drop them off at either office. Raelyn can also provide a box for your place of business, church, or social/civic organization. Please contact Raelyn at 919-731-5659 or 252-523-5217 for more information.

Resource Library

Did you know the GAL program has a wealth of written material on various subjects that can help you in your cases? We have information on "How to Research", various services for parents and children, Domestic Violence, and Sexual Abuse just to name a few.

Raelyn is working on organizing both offices so this material can be easily accessed by our volunteers. Feel free

to come in and browse around to see if there is anything you can use. Some things will be able to be signed out, kept, or photo copied depending on the number of copies and the material.

If there is something you need and do not see, let Raelyn know and she will try to get it for the library for you. If you have any questions, feel free to contact Raelyn at 919-731-5659 or 252-523-5217.

Telephone Lists for Social Services

Lenoir County Department of Social Services

Lenoir County Department of Social Services Telephone List

252/559-6400

FAX 252/559-6380

Monica Williams - Program Mgr.	ext. 6217	Tonya Branch - Secretary	ext. 6210
Deloris Bunch - Team I	ext. 6215	Renee Kennedy - Team II	ext. 6219
Anita Armstrong	ext. 6203	Erica Bostic	ext. 6223
Calvin Godwin	ext. 6200	Cynthia Couch	ext. 6225
Amanda Haddock	ext. 6222	Michelle Hayes	ext. 6220
Tenisha Howard	ext. 6211	Bonita Lynch	ext. 6216
Emika Mitchell	ext. 6205		
Katie Northrup	ext. 6204		
Barbara Williams - Team III	ext. 6213	Jeff Harrison - Team IV	ext. 6209
Karma Best	ext. 6229	Stacey Frazier	ext. 6214
Anita Burton	ext. 6224	Joanna Hudson	ext. 6201
Mack Dixon	ext. 6208	Toni McFaddin	ext. 6207
Kristy Heleine	ext. 6227	Michael Miller	ext. 6218
Wanda Morgan	ext. 6212	Nancy Parker	ext. 6206
Food Stamp Supervisor - Pat Hemby - 6332		Day Care Supervisor - Gay Humphrey	6368
Child Support Supervisor - Elizabeth Lofton 6348		Adult Services Supervisor - Marion Sutton 6251	

Wayne County Department of Social Services Telephone Number

919/705-6533

FAX 919/705-1742

Please note that by dialing the above number, you should always reach a person. You may request to be transferred to the social worker or transferred to the voice mail or have that the social worker paged. The main number should help you to reach a supervisor when necessary or connect with any other service.

Greene County Department of Social Services Telephone Number

252/747-5932

FAX 252/747-8654

GAL Staff

- Colleen Kosinski
- Cynthia Coley
- Gwen Kelly
- Raelyn Mosher
- Tim Finan- Advocate Attorney
Wayne/Greene Counties
- George Jenkins-
Advocate Attorney
Lenoir County

Goldsboro Phone: 919-731-5659
Kinston Phone: 252-523-5217
GoldsboroFAX: 919-581-1073
Kinston Fax: 252-527-9154

224 E. Walnut St.
Goldsboro, NC 27530

130 S. Queen St.
Kinston, NC 28501

Important Up-Date for Travel Reimbursement Forms!

Cy Gurney, The Northeast Regional Administrator, has asked that our volunteers use the case numbers, rather than the name on the case, to state the purpose of your trip. This is to ensure that our client's confidentiality is being protected as much as possible. Thank you for assisting the program in ensuring our client's confidentiality by ensuring you use the case number, rather than the case name for all of your upcoming reimbursement forms. If you have any questions, please contact either office at 919-731-5659 or 252-523-5217.

We Have a Digital Camera!

Gwen Kelly, our Program Assistant, has graciously donated a digital camera to the GAL Program! If you are doing a home visit and would like to take pictures,

please feel free to stop by the Goldsboro office and pick up the camera.

We still have a Polaroid camera in both the Kinston and Goldsboro office for your use as well.

Court Reports

For those of you who are consistent in submitting your court reports on time- our THANKS! It is so important that you submit a report ~ this is the voice of the children and *it is important that our office submit/file these reports within the specified time frames to ensure that they will be recognized by the Court!*

PLEASE ~ find a method that works for you for tracking when your report is due to the office (14 days before the court date). Due to the increased number of petitions and increased court docket it is becoming difficult and time consuming for our office staff to make reminder phone calls. *We appreciate all the time that you*

give to advocating on behalf of your child-client and Colleen or Cynthia are here to help with your report, if needed. We're just running short on time for calling to remind you that a report is due. REMEMBER ~ if a report is not submitted within the time frame, the Court does not need to read it or consider GAL recommendations and the voice of your child-client is effectively silenced.

Let's make sure that all our child-clients are heard by insuring that your report is submitted on time! Again...our thanks for all the time and commitment you give the 8th District GAL program!



GUARDIAN AD LITEM PROGRAM
WAYNE, LENOIR & GREENE COUNTIES

**CHECK OUT OUR NEW
CUSTOM LOGO!**

See What You Can Purchase From CASA!



Casa lapel Pin
Gold or Silver
\$3.00



Casa Logo Earrings
Gold or Silver
\$5.00



GAL Post It Note Pad
\$1.00
GAL Mechanical Pencil
\$.50



Static Window Decal
GAL- \$.25



GAL Mug
Blue
\$3.50



Speak Up Lapel Pin
Gold
\$3.00



GAL Lanyard
\$2.00



Button
\$.50

If you would like to order any of these products from CASA or just more information, please contact Raelyn at 919-731-5659 by August 15th.

One order will be placed on August 16th.

Shipping is 10% of your total

Sales tax is 7%



GAL 3-Ring Binder
\$5.00



Set of 12 CASA Postcards
\$6.00