



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
March 26, 2014

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The Statewide Guardian ad Litem Program Announces Its 9,000th Volunteer

[Tallahassee, Florida] - Alan Abramowitz, Executive Director of the Statewide Guardian ad Litem (GAL) Program, announced today that the Program has reached a milestone of 9,000 GAL volunteers providing a voice in court for Florida's abused, abandoned or neglected children.

Guardian ad Litem volunteers advocate in court for the best interests of Florida's children who are abused, abandoned or neglected. GAL volunteers ensure that during what is certainly the most difficult time in a child's life, the child has a consistent advocate who listens to them, makes sure the court hears their voice and advocates for their needs.

The GAL Program's 9,000th volunteer is actually a group of seven individuals who characterize the exceptional quality of GAL volunteers in the GAL Program. The 9,000th volunteer is a student, in the Air Force, works in a law office, is 20 years old, is in their 60s, works in real estate, lives in South Daytona, lives in Coral Springs. They offer diverse backgrounds, ages, occupations and points of view, but *all* share a passion for children. The GAL Program is special because of the diversity and varied experiences all of our GAL volunteers bring to the table in advocating for children.

In making the announcement Abramowitz stated, "Our 9,000th volunteer represents great progress in obtaining our goal of 100 percent representation for all of Florida's dependent children. However, we know the only number that really matters is ONE. One voice, for one child, who needs one permanent, safe, and stable home. We hope many more potential GAL volunteers will make that one important decision to provide their time and passion for children and help us reach our goal of 100 percent representation."

To learn more about volunteering as a Guardian ad Litem visit www.GuardianadLitem.org or call 1-866-341-1GAL

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