## October 1, 2018

## Re: Thank-you/or Making the Call

To Whom It May Concern:

This letter is not only intended for Mandatory Reporters of child abuse and neglect, but also for all citizens. The message is simple: if you see something, say something. There is no better time than now to educate people within your organization and bring awareness to members of our community that child abuse and neglect exists – even right here in our own backyards.

The following organizations have partnered to stop childhood abuse and neglect in its tracks: the Kane County State's Attorney's Office; the Kane County Child Advocacy Center; the Kane County Regional Office of Education; the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services; and CASA Kane County. Each partner understands the need to be pro-active in the prevention of childhood abuse and neglect. Reacting to abuse and neglect after it occurs is no longer enough.

Did you know that in Kane County, there are more than 4,000 hotline calls made annually? This abuse knows no socio-economic barrier or ethnic group. Sadly, the youngest members of our community are the most impacted. Innocent children have no way to defend or protect themselves and sometimes the only thing standing between them and their perpetrators – is YOU.

Child abuse and neglect can be stopped through diligent leadership, you and community minded people who see something – say something. Educate your team members. Raise awareness in your community. Above all, encourage those who suspect abuse and neglect to call **1-800-25-ABUSE**. If you suspect abuse or neglect, make the call.

Please visit the CASA Kane County website at www.casakanecounty.org to download the materials and spread the awareness that is so needed to help all of our efforts to stop childhood abuse and neglect.

Warm Regards,

Gloria Kelley Executive Director CASA Kane County

Joseph H. McMahon State's Attorney of Kane County

Patricia Dal Santo Regional Superintendent, Kane County Regional Office of Education