

**For more information, contact:**

Florida Statewide Guardian ad Litem Program

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[www.GuardianadLitem.org](http://www.GuardianadLitem.org)

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**GAL** is central to fulfilling society's most fundamental obligation by making sure a qualified, compassionate adult will fight for and protect a child's right to be safe, to be treated with dignity and respect, and to learn and grow in the security of a loving family.



**Lift up a child's voice. A child's life.™**



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**A child's voice.  
A child's life.  
Lifted up.**

**By you.**



**Lift up a child's voice. A child's life.™**

In advocating for an abused or neglected child, you give that child a voice—and a chance for a better life.



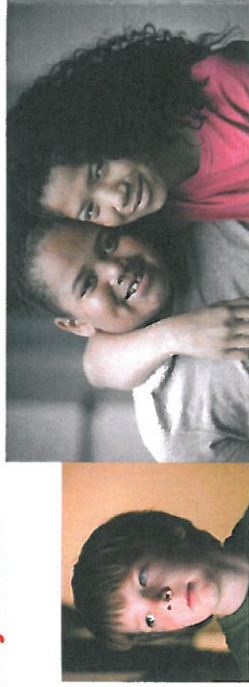


# Too many children in the child welfare system lose their families, their rights and their hope.

Join our fight to make sure they don't!

We see news stories every day about children taken from an abusive home, or because of the tragic loss of a parent—to illness or violence or incarceration. We assume there must be a program or system that will take care of these children and make sure they are treated with dignity, given a safe place to live, so they can recover from their hardship and be a child again.

**But there is a story behind the story** that few people speak about. It is the story of a six-year-old girl who has been moved to six group homes and three schools over the past two years. The story of a toddler separated from her brothers and sisters during the most vulnerable time in her life. The story of a child being handed all his belongings in a plastic bag at the age of 18, because he has “aged out” of the system. It is a story that occurs over and over again in America’s foster care and child welfare system.



**But these stories can have better endings**, because there is a group of trained volunteers, appointed by judges to advocate for these children. People who fight for these abused and neglected children, to make sure their basic rights and essential needs don't get overlooked or ignored by the system. These stories can have better endings because of people like you.

**We are volunteer guardians ad litem (GAL) for Children**, a volunteer-powered network of committed people—from all walks of life—who believe society has a fundamental obligation to these children. We are people just like you who believe that every child has the right to be treated with dignity, to be safe, and to thrive in the embrace of a loving family.

**With a GAL volunteer, a child is half as likely to languish in the foster care and child welfare system, and that much more likely to find a safe, permanent home.**

*“While my life was so uncertain, always switching houses and never knowing who my social worker would be from one week to the next, one factor remained constant, my Guardian ad Litem.”*



**Help us serve every child.**

Today, there are many children in the system that have no access to a GAL volunteer. Until every child has a voice, the GAL Program will not rest.

**Our mission is “Advocating for the child’s best interest is our only interest!”**

**Donate.**

We have a proven approach; our only challenge is to scale it. Your financial contribution is a sound investment. All donations are tax-deductible and help us expand programs and recruit and train volunteers. To Donate, please visit the Guardian ad Litem Foundation’s website at [www.fgal.org](http://www.fgal.org).

**Volunteer.**

This is one cause where the actions of a single individual can have a profound impact. You can be an integral part of the solution. One individual, trained and empowered to ensure that every child can thrive in the safe embrace of a loving home.

**Get involved.**

Don't have time to volunteer? You can still be a key part of the solution. Connect with us. We'll keep you informed on our progress and share the various ways you can help ensure abused and neglected children have their rights protected, and their future is bright. Not only is this a way to give back to your community but also to have a new life experience by making a difference in the life of a child.



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FLORIDA'S CHILDREN**  
FLORIDA GUARDIAN AD LITEM  
PROGRAM