

# Speak Up for Kids..You Are Needed

By Helen Vogt Greene

There are NO words that can tell you how important the work of Speak Up for Kids is to Palm Beach County. Their mission is a “100 percent advocacy for every abused, abandoned and neglected child of Palm Beach.” This should get your attention.

Today, Coleen LaCosta, Executive Director, Traci Sigel Israel, Community Coordinator, staff and volunteers are changing children’s lives from suffering, to lives filled with potential. They are quick to spell out that they, with the people’s help (this means you), are the “exclusive 501(c)(3) fun-

draising arm of the 15th Judicial District Guardian Ad Litem.” Every program, every event, every letter is everyone’s way to “Speak Up for the Kids.” It is their vision, each of the 1600 children in foster care in Palm Beach County, will have their needs met and there will be no need for foster care.

These advanced plans will allow Coleen LaCosta’s volunteer ‘heroes’, those volunteers who work so hard and give back so many neglected children can finally put their heroes capes away. But, sad to say...That is not today! The mission of Speak Up for Kids remains “100 percent advocacy for every



Speak Up for Kids...”The Go To Team” for a program like no other: R/L Coleen LaCosta, Executive Director, Traci Sigel Israel, Director Community Outreach and Development, Danielle Sebrell, Asst. Director/Administration, Jonathan Blair, Victim Advocate Resource.

EVERYONE  
CAN DO SOMETHING  
TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE.

ADVOCATEFOSTERDONATEVOLUNTEER

“There can be no keener revelation  
of a society’s soul than the way  
in which it treats its children.”  
- Nelson Mandela

STUDENTS  
SPEAK UP FOR KIDS

HEART

SPEAK UP FOR KIDS

HEART

GUARDIAN  
AD LITEM

HEART

FLORIDA PALM BEACH

EVERY FOSTER CHILD DESERVES AN ADVOCATE  
EVERY CHILD DESERVES A HOME  
EVERYONE CAN SPEAK UP

INFO@SpeakUpforKidsPBC.org  
www.SpeakUpforKidsPBC.org

abused, abandoned and neglected child in Palm Beach County.” That is the reason your help is needed. Speak Up for Kids, since 2008, has been the support team for the court appointed advocates who are called the Guardian Ad Litem (GAL). This program “improves the lives of the children in foster care and they need volunteers.” I hear that voice... “I don’t know how to be a volunteer. I wouldn’t know what to do.” Call the number 561-408-7779 and say... “I would...” and someone will help you find the opportunity to learn how to be that volunteer that changes lives. Speak Up for Kids needs all types of volunteers, of all ages, all careers, from

all walks of life. This is the time for you to make a difference. There are programs and networking programs that can meet the needs of the ‘Kids.’ There is even one called “Music Buddies Program.” Can you teach piano or voice? There are 14 chapters of students helping other students. It is called Students Speak Up for Kids. Last year they donated over 3700 hours of time helping other students in need of help. Now, that is giving back. Florida’s kids need you more than ever. With Speak Up for Kids, GAL and YOU, we can make a difference, Lift Up a Child’s Life...Now, by calling 561-408-7779. The life you change may be yours.

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