

Follow My Footsteps



Champions4Children Walk

May 14, 2011

On **Saturday, May 14, 2011**, walkers from across Illinois will lace up for a statewide walk in support of the Children's Advocacy Centers of Illinois (CACI).

"Each walker - each supporter - is a true Champion for Children," explains Billie Larkin, Executive Director of CACI. The fourth annual **Champions4Children Walk** will bring awareness to child abuse issues. Additionally, **Champions4Children** will increase knowledge about the services of local Children's Advocacy Centers and the difference these services make in a child's life.

Walkers are encouraged to lace up and make a difference for our children! In the past, Illinois' Children's Advocacy Centers have provided support and service to over 10,000 children annually. Clairice Hetzler, Executive Director, Advocacy Network for Children, Quincy, says, "We walk for 10,000 voices. We walk to ensure that children have champions in their lives. We walk to be the difference."

Established in 1995, CACI is the network that coordinates and provides a comprehensive response to child sexual and severe physical abuse in Illinois. To increase awareness, knowledge, and education, the CACI is proud to have 28 local Children's Advocacy Centers participate in the fourth annual **Champions4Children Walk**.

In 2010 1820 walkers trekked across the state of Illinois, this year we are being joined by Minnesota, Michigan, Iowa and Ohio, bringing awareness to the Midwest. The goal for the Illinois walk is 2500 walkers!

Governor Pat Quinn serves as Walk Grand Marshall and Erwin McEwen, director of the Illinois Department of Children and Family services, serves as Honorary Chair for the **Champions4Children Walk**.

Support the Walkers! Register and pledge today!

To register, make a donation or pledge to the Walk, please go to www.CACIonline.org.

Additional information about the Champions4Children Walk can also be found on our site or you may contact Jill Roberts at jill@cacionline.org or (217) 528-2224.

