



BREVARD County
Guardian ad Litem

Public Information Release

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Guardian ad Litem Training Offered

VIERA, Fla. – Brevard County’s Guardian ad Litem program will offer training for new volunteers next month in Viera.

Guardian ad Litem are volunteers who speak in the best interest of children in dependency court. When a child is removed from their home for allegations of abuse, abandonment or neglect, within 24 hours the claim is taken in front of a judge and if the concern is valid, the court assigns a Guardian ad Litem. The program has 30 days to find a trained, certified volunteer who will oversee the case.

Guardian ad Litem are not foster parents; they cannot transport the children or families. They must visit the children a minimum of once a month and will go to court to speak on the child’s behalf, on average every 90 to 120 days.

The Guardian ad Litem will talk with parents, caregivers, friends, schools, or anyone else who can tell them what is going on with the child. It is not a time-consuming position, and most of the time, working on the case can be done at their leisure.

Volunteers must be 19 years of age, never have had a felony, pass the background screens and take the training of 30 hours for certification. This free volunteer training is offered four times per year.

For more information, call (321) 690-6823 or visit
<http://www.brevardcounty.us/guardian-ad-litem>.

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