

Child Advocates of Silicon Valley Awarded Grant from the Intero Foundation

Milpitas, CA June 10, 2015 – Child Advocates of Silicon Valley has received a grant from the Intero Foundation for \$8,000. “This generous contribution will help serve eight foster children with a Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) volunteer for one school year. More foster children receive the educational, therapeutic and medical services they need when they are matched with a CASA,” says Karen Scussel, executive director of Child Advocates of Silicon Valley.

Since 1986, Child Advocates has matched more than 15,000 foster children with a CASA volunteer. This year, our CASA volunteers will serve more than 700 foster children in Santa Clara County. Our five-year strategic goal is to provide a CASA for every child in foster care by 2018. That’s about 1,000 children.

Cathy Jackson, the President of the Intero Foundation, stated, “I am proud that Intero is committed to the mission of the Foundation. Furthering the education and well-being of children in our community is a goal our entire team can support—and this grant is how we express our dedication.” Money is raised for the Intero Foundation through the agents and employees of Intero in addition to fundraising events.

“As Realtors we earn our living by serving the community, so when we formed Intero it was fundamental that we figured out a way to give back to those communities. We do this through the Intero Foundation,” says Tom Tognoli, President and CEO of Intero Real Estate Services, Inc., a Berkshire Hathaway affiliate and wholly owned subsidiary of HomeServices of America, Inc. The Intero Foundation presents grants to deserving organizations chosen by the members of Intero offices in different regions on a quarterly basis.

About Child Advocates of Silicon Valley:

Child Advocates of Silicon Valley recruits, trains and supports Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) who serve the needs of children in the foster care system by providing a powerful, independent voice for the child. These dedicated community volunteers spend time with a child and become a trusted friend, mentor, and consistent adult presence. They work with foster parents, teachers, social workers, counselors, and others to build a complete picture of the child’s life and needs. CASAs attend hearings in dependency court to advise the judge on the child’s best interests when key decisions are being made. The CASA volunteers stay with their case until their child has a safe, loving home.

Child Advocates was founded in 1986 by a dependency court judge and a social worker. The agency was modeled after the original Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) program, developed by a dependency court judge who recognized the need for children in court to be represented by an impartial advocate who could speak on behalf of the child.

Find out more about our CASA program at www.BeMyAdvocate.org.

About the Intero Foundation:

Funded, promoted and governed by Intero agents and employees, the Intero Foundation is a non-profit organization guided by the principle that one must give in order to receive and committed to helping children in need. Since its inception in 2002, the organization has raised more than \$3 million and has supported over 140 charities that positively impact the growth and well-being of children in need.