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eBay Foundation Awards Grant to Child Advocates of Silicon Valley

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GOOD DEED DEPT.: Aileen Tokuda and Susan Schmitt have volunteered for the past few years as Court Appointed Special Advocates, receiving training from Child Advocates of Silicon Valley and working one-on-one with foster children in Santa Clara County. But the two are also employees of eBay and thanks to that relationship, Child Advocates of Silicon Valley has been awarded a \$10,000 grant from the eBay Foundation.

The grant was recommended by eBay Foundation's employee-led San Jose Bay Area Global Impact Team and the funding will be used to recruit, train and support other Court Appointed Special Advocates. Child Advocates reviews the case of every child who enters the Santa Clara County dependency system -- more than 1,700 over a year -- and had a goal this year of matching 780 foster children with a CASA volunteer.

Child Advocates Executive Director Karen Scussel says that the grant will enable the nonprofit to recruit 40 new special advocates to serve 40 kids currently on the wait list.

WINTER BREAK: That's it from me for 2015, and thanks to everyone for reading. Have a safe and happy new year, and I'll see you back at this space when we all have new calendars.

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