

# 13th Circuit Court: Family Division & Probate Court Volunteers

280 Washington St., STE B150

Traverse City MI 49684

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## New Vision Academy 2019



Pictured Right: Volunteers Darcy Schlitt, Susan Schmidt, & Maswe Hennick during one of our nutrition classes!



New Vision Academy is a summer program designed to give kids on probation an opportunity to find new, positive ways to look at the world they live in. They did activities such as nutrition classes, a scavenger hunt at the downtown farmers market, visiting the chickens and horses at Reigning Liberty Ranch, yoga, and much more! A special thank you to the awesome work of our summer intern, Mary, who spent countless hours in the office arranging so many interesting and educational segments for these kids to partake in. Also, a HUGE thank you to our long-time New Vision Volunteer, Darcy, for many wonderful years of service to the program. She has decided to pass the torch of service on, leaving big shoes to fill for future summers. It has been a joy to work together, and she will surely be missed next year!

As we begin the new school year, we have 12 students matched with 12 Learning Partner Volunteers. We have several new Volunteers ready to start with students as they are identified. We hope to continue to grow our program back to supporting at least 20-25 students at any given time.

If your student needs a backpack or school supplies, please contact Laura. Rotary Club of Traverse Bay Sunrise has donated them to several schools and programs, including ours!

If you have time to give, the need for occasional homework helpers/mentors for older students (while they are in our offices to wait-out school suspensions) is a great on-call Volunteer Role. You would have our Staff immediately available as your support, while you support learning for an otherwise bored or struggling youth.



Grand Traverse County  
Probate & Family Court  
Volunteer Services

**Learning Partners Meetings:**

**Tues., September 10: 4-5pm**

**Tues., October 1st: 4-5pm**

Top: Meghan learns how to properly fit a belly chain so that it will not fall off the waist, if the youth pushes their stomach out while being handcuffed.



Center photo: Volunteers prove to state staff that they can make quick and accurate decisions for attendant and youth safety placements in our make-shift vehicle.



Both Meghan and Laura were able to attend the Regional Detention Support Services Training on August 20th, which took place in Mt. Pleasant. This event is held by the State of Michigan, training volunteers to safely transport youth on probation when going to or from detention, or to Midcourse Challenge Camp. They were joined by 6 new transporters, and all passed the training with flying colors!

This training provided volunteers the opportunity to learn how to safely frisk, handcuff, and shackle the youth for transport. Other skills, such as understanding the importance of where each individual sits in the car, and how to properly serve as the attendant for a transport were learned. Attendants are responsible for ensuring the safety of the driver, as well as observing the youths to make sure they remain safe during travel. There must always be two adults with the youths at all times— one of them being of the same biological sex as the youth being transported. This is why male/female teams are so needed!

At the end of the day, a practical assessment was required to prove that all requirements were met before becoming certified.

If you're interested in taking this training in the future, be sure to call the office at 922-4827 to get more information!

# CASA Training Fall 2019

**CASA** is a national program that trains and supports court appointed advocates to act in the best interest of children whose parents have allegations of abuse or neglect of children. **Court Appointed Special Advocates** advocate for the best interests of the children to assist the Court in determining the best placement for the children.

**CASA** training takes place Mondays and Wednesdays for 5 weeks. Our next session of training begins Monday, Sept. 16th, and Volunteers will be sworn in on Tuesday, October 15th.

We are always looking for interested persons who may want to apply for training— applications are accepted year-round. Please contact our main office at **922-4827** with any questions or concerns, and to schedule your pre-training interview.

Your involvement will make a direct impact on a child's life, perhaps for generations to come.



## September

Richard Derthick	Alex Moore
John Evans	Marilyn Vlach
Pam Forton	Susan Wilgus
Peggy Friess	
Ruth Jones	
Karen Mauro-Doren	
Wendy McWhorter	

## October

Jen Carlson	
Jim Doman	
Martha Falk	
Peg Gove	
Dorothy Grow	
Brenda Knaack	Caroline Starr
David Lloyd	



GRAND TRAVERSE COUNTY PROBATE AND FAMILY COURT  
MELANIE D. STANTON, PROBATE & FAMILY COURT JUDGE  
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231-922-4827

Or Current Resident

### **Learning Partners**

Tuesday, September 10: 4-5pm

Tuesday, October 1st: 4-5pm



### **CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocate)**

**NO SEPTEMBER MEETING**

Tuesday October 15th, 2019 3-5:30 p.m.



\*All meetings are held at the Volunteer Services office unless  
otherwise mentioned.