## PRESS RELEASE

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## Tax Collector Mike Fasano Announces Guardian ad Litem Month

**Tax Collector Mike Fasano** announces that during the month of April the Pasco County Tax Collectors Office will be spotlighting the Guardian ad Litem program in Pasco County. Guardians ad Litem are volunteer advocates who provide a voice for abused or neglected children who are under the protection of the court system. The Pasco Tax Collectors Office is helping raise awareness for the need of additional volunteer Guardians ad Litem in Pasco County.

"Currently, almost 500 children in Pasco County are in the dependency system without a guardian speaking for them in court proceedings," **Mike Fasano** states. "Guardians help ensure that the needs of the children they advocate for are known to judges and social service agencies. During the month of April the Pasco Tax Collectors Office is committed to doing all it can to raise awareness of the need for volunteer guardians. Information about the Guardian ad Litem Program is available in Pasco County's four tax offices."

A child with a Guardian ad Litem receives more services, and spends less time in the foster care system, than a child without an advocate. For more information about the Guardian ad Litem Program please visit <a href="www.HelpThemNow.com">www.HelpThemNow.com</a>, by calling 866-341-1425 or by visiting the Pasco County Tax Collectors Office in New Port Richey, Gulf Harbors, Land O' Lakes or Dade City.