



The Gist

CASA of the Pikes Peak Region is an inclusive and accepting organization that is committed to serve fully all children and families in need.

gist (jist) n. : The central idea; essence **CASA Volunteer Newsletter**

May 2008

CASA of the Pikes Peak Region

Volume 3, Number 5

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Volunteer Birthdays for May:

Monica S.	1
Lee K.	1
Janet N.	8
Kristy W.	10
Lynette P.	14
Scot B.	14
Mary W.	15
Evelyn B.	15
Nancy G.	16
Julie M.	17
Bruce D.	18
Nod M.	19
Staci B.	20
Renae G.	22
Rosalie B.	22
Georgeann H.	27
Tamara G.	27
Molly J.	28

Annual Volunteer Appreciation Breakfast May 17th

Please join us for the annual volunteer appreciation which will be held May 17th at 9:00 am. You should have already received your invitation in the mail several weeks ago. This year we have changed locations and times, so please note that it is a breakfast held at the First Presbyterian Church, 219 E. Bijou Street. If you attended the volunteer in-service in January, this is the same location. We ask that you RSVP to Lena by May 7th if you are able to join us.

Questions? Please call Lori for all the details!

CASA Graduates a New Class of Advocates

Congratulations to a new class of advocates who were sworn in April 30th in Judge Samelson's courtroom. They were joined by a host of family, friends and staff members. The new advocates are:

Judy Ankeney	Molly Johnson
Barbara Cuccaro	Lisa Mitchell
Joyce Fleming	Laura Peacore-Belveal
Carol Goeson	Geneva Silas
Beverly Hartzman	Laura Speer



The next advocacy training will be held in July. Please encourage your friends, co-workers, neighbors and spouses to volunteer for one of CASA's programs. Thanks for all your support and congratulations new advocates!

Scholarships Available

CollegeInvest is offering 125 scholarships to everyday students without having to fill out an application or write an essay. CollegeInvest is a not-for-profit division of the Colorado Department of Higher Education. For more information and for sweepstakes rules, visit www.collegeinvest.org or call 1-800-448-2424.

Recently Closed Cases:

Ann Craig
Chris Dellacroce
Ranae Gannon
Susan Garman
Connice Inglis
Sue Meals
Joan White

Recently Assigned cases:

Chuck Donachy
Kathleen Gamblin
Linda Lewis
Yvonne Moffit



May is Supervised Visitation Month!

SEPT Contact #s

The following is the list for emergencies during the visiting and exchange time:

Monday –Aubrey x1017 or 330-1451 (cell)
Tuesday –Barbara x 1013, 330-1451 (cell)
Thursday –Barbara 330-1451 (cell)
Friday –Veronica x1020 or 330-1451 (cell)
Saturday and Sunday – Liz x1023 or 330-1451 (cell)

Reminder: SEPT is held at the Family Visitation Center the last Friday of each month.

Light of Hope a Huge Success

To generate awareness and support in the fight against child abuse during National Child Abuse Prevention Month, CASA of the Pikes Peak Region hosted the Eighth Annual Light of Hope Fundraiser on Friday, April 25, 2008 at the Antlers Hilton Hotel. More than 1200 people attended the breakfast and luncheon in support of local abused and neglected children. So far, the event has raised over \$275,000, and with late donations still arriving online and by mail, the figure continues to rise.



On the eve of our 20th year anniversary, CASA of the Pikes Peak Region has served more than 5,000 children. The generosity shown by the community at this year's Light of Hope event will fund support for 110 additional abused and neglected kids, and help CASA move closer to the goal of serving every child in need.

Teller County Casting Call

How would you like to spend a relaxing day in the mountains? Take a road trip to Cripple Creek; tour a 100 year-old historic courthouse; see Rocky Mountain big horn sheep en route; try your luck at casino slots... take a CASA case in beautiful Teller County.

It's a unique experience. Work with a small team - there is but one GAL, one Judge, one courtroom and three caseworkers. All court dates tend to be Thursdays. It's an informal process compared to El Paso County.

If that appeals to you please contact Terry Dickman, Teller County case supervisor at 447-9898x1007 or terryd@casappr.org. Or, if you know someone who lives in rural Teller who might be interested in a challenging volunteer position in a small community. Thanks for your help!

SEPT Notes, Announcements and Information

By Veronica Moore



May is Supervised Visitation Month! Supervised Visitation centers provide a safe place for children during parental visitations. CASA of the Pikes Peak Region is one of the few CASAs nationwide that run a supervised exchange and visitation program. We will celebrate this important month with various events and campaigns. In May of 2001, an orange ribbon was designated the symbol of Supervised Visitation Month. It is used to help raise awareness of the need for and positive effects of Supervised Visitation on the children and families in need of this service. CASA will hand out orange ribbons at the booth SEPT is sponsoring at the County Courthouse. Please come by and pick up your ribbon to show support for Supervised Visitation month!

Mark your calendars: Friday, May 9th and Friday, May 23rd: SEPT will host a booth at the County Courthouse from 8:00 – 10:30 am. Please join us for free coffee and pastries! Volunteers needed! If you would like to help with the booth, please contact Veronica at 447-9898 x1020.

STAFF Directory

Name	Ext.
Allison Worrell	1022
Aubrey Terry	1017
Barbara Bowen	1013
Deb Cline	1009
Dolores Martinez	1027
Evelyn Callihan	1014
Gina James	1012
Jill Wright	1002
Jon Whiteman	1030
Karri Baker	1006
Lena Ruiz	1000
Liane Shupp	1010
Liz Garcia	1023
Lori Jenness	1008
Mary Houchin	1018
Mary Stocco	1018
Mittie Pedraza	1001
Roz Stouffer	1003
Sunni Ball	1019
Terry Dickman	1007
Tracy Sellars	1005
Trudy Strewler	1004
Veronica Moore	1020



Ages and Stages Questionnaire Update

Thanks to volunteers Renee LaBard who searched the Kids' Closet and Jane Hegstrom who is shopping for the child kit items. We anticipate them being ready June 1 for check out by the advocates.

During May we will be scheduling four more training sessions for those who were not able to make the first round. If you have not attended an ages and stages training yet, you must attend one of these sessions. These dates will be e-mailed to you in the next week. You will need to RSVP to Lena at 447-9898, x 1000 or lenar@casappr.org.

Orphan Foundation of America Scholars Fund



High School seniors must become active in planning for post-secondary education now. Those in foster care should begin applying for the many grants and loans that are specifically set aside for them.

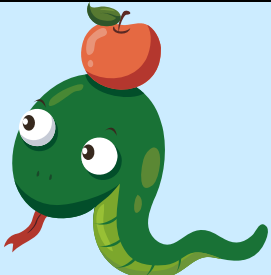
High School juniors also should learn about opportunities now in order to ensure the best eligibility for next year's scholarships. Some may want to attend summer programs or internships.

The Orphan Foundation of America in combination with the Casey Family Programs sponsors 100 new scholarships annually for young people out of foster care. For more information, go to www.orphan.org or contact Tina Raheem at scholarships@orphan.org.

Reminder: CASA Hosts an Online Discussion Board

CASA's Discussion Board is a place where you can ask your fellow volunteers a question, share an insight or helpful tip, or just browse the posts for information. To access the Discussion Board, visit www.casappr.org, click on the "Volunteer" tab, and chose "Volunteer Support." If you have questions about registering or using the board, please contact Tracy: 447-9898, x1005 or TracyS@casappr.org

Continuing Education Opportunities



Contact Us:

CASA
701 S. Cascade
CS, CO 80903
719-447-9898
www.casappr.org

MAY

- Wraparound community Orientation*, Sponsored by the Wraparound Coalition, Centennial Hall Auditorium, 200 S. Cascade, 9:00 am to 12:00pm OR 1:00pm to 4:00pm, Free. RSVP to Leigh at 635-7814 or Art at 444-5703.
- Secondary Trauma*, Cedar Springs Hospital Lunch and Learn, 2135 Southgate Rd., Dining Hall, 12:00pm to 1:00pm, Lunch provided, Free, but RSVP to 633-4114.
- Safety Planning for Children*, CASA office, offered by TESSA, 12:00pm to 1:00pm, Free, RSVP to Veronica at 447-9898, x 1020.