



The Gist

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

July 2010

CASA of the Pikes Peak Region
A Member of the National CASA Association

Volume 5, Number 7

- Thank You, Boeing
- Birthdays
- Assigned cases
- Closed cases
- DR Info Session
- SEPT Announcement
- SEPT Reminders
- Shaken Baby Syndrome Prevention
- Garage Sale
- Volunteer Support Group
- Staff Directory
- Educating Children of Color
- Did You Know?
- Thanks to Juneteenth Booth Volunteers
- Circle of Impact
- Your Name Is Volunteer
- Betty Ford Children's Program
- Funds for Foster Children
- Welcome Karen Hall
- Books for CASA Kids
- Free Haircuts
- Check your CASA ID
- Non-Profit Garage
- KODAK Moment

Boeing Employees Roll up Sleeves for CASA

CASA sends a big thank you to the employees of Boeing and their families who volunteered their time to clean the interior of the CASA office on June 12. Boeing supports various community organizations with volunteer projects several times each year. We also appreciate Boeing's generous financial support of CASA over the years.

The Boeing crew will be back on July 10th to paint our parking lot. Volunteers include: Tresa Taysom, Al Taylor, Patty Hahn, Dave Lewis, The Alcorn Family (Ben, JoAn, Danika & Erin), Kevin Williams, Rebecca Martinez, Rachel Nealy, and Olivia Vialpando.





Volunteer Birthdays for July

- 4 - Lisa M.
- 7 - Sarah R.
- 8 - Genevieve W.
- 10 - Julie H.
- 15 - Kent C.
- 16 - Sheri G.
- 17 - Tiffany C.
- 21 - Nicole G.
- 22 - Patricia S.
- 23 - Karen M.
- 25 - Renee T.
- 26 - Susan S.
- 26 - Carolyn S.
- 26 - Barbara B.
- 28 - Terry R.
- 30 - Barb M.
- 31 - Kim G.

Recently closed cases:

- Janet Black
- Deborah Crowley
- Karen Hughes
- Karen Rulo
- Judy Thompson

Recently assigned Cases:

- Patty Clarke
- Jennifer Davis
- Dee Kinsey
- Sharron Langhart
- Phoebe Lostroh
- Carmen McDermott
- Deborah Mussack
- Judy Thompson
- Susan Woessner

Want to Know More About Domestic Relations Cases?

Come to CASA at **3:30 pm** on **July 15th** to learn about the dynamics and protocol of Domestic Relations. Judge Jann DuBois will explain how a DR case is ordered, what CASA must do, what happens when the case goes to court, how decisions are made and more!

SEPT Announcement

With summer officially here and many family vacations being taken, the SEPT office may ask for facilitators to help out an extra day or two as we have many people taking leave or are on hiatus for a few months.

Luckily, we have two wonderful interns assisting at the site. We do need help with the following dates: **Friday, July 16, 23, and 30th** as well as a **Captain and facilitator on Saturday July 24th**.

Please contact Lona Mayfield, SEPT Volunteer Liaison (lonam@casappr.org or 447-9898 ext. 1020) if you are available to help on any of the above days.

A few helpful reminders while at the SEPT site

1. Seek help from staff. While staff is on site, be sure to utilize our assistance. Our job is to model positive facilitation, mentor facilitators, and assist wherever needed.
2. No cell phone use, including staff and facilitators. Remind clients to turn their cell phones off upon entering the area. Phones should remain off prior to and during their visit. For staff and facilitators, if there is an emergency call, notify the CPT or staff so that there is adequate coverage of the area. Then, please take the call away from clients' view.
4. No video taping allowed or taking photos with cell phones.
5. All areas with families require supervision. With the new space, we are limited in moving about freely. Please make sure if you decide to move to another room there is adequate coverage.
6. Read through notes. When reading through the notes, make sure that you do not share any of the information with the clients.

Shaken Baby Syndrome Prevention

Presented by: Family Connections (Nurturing Family Program
Coordinator - Tami Clark)

Where: CASA Training Room

When: Tuesday, August 17th

Time: 3:30 – 4:30 pm

RSVP: amyp@casappr.org or 447-9898 ext.1033

Garage Sale Items Wanted

Each year CASA advocate Jan Altman organizes and hosts a garage sale to benefit CASA. The garage sale will be held in September but we are collecting items now. Items will be placed in storage until the event in the fall. If you have an item to donate, please contact Jan Altman at 685-4351.

Only good quality items that are sure to sell, please.

Special thanks to Tim at Daniels Moving & Storage for donating the storage space.



MORE THAN CHAT, LESS THAN THERAPY ALL ARE INVITED TO ATTEND

Lois Gracz, MS, LPC, CASA case supervisor will be starting a support group for CASA volunteers. The purpose of the support group is to provide a forum to share and process your CASA experiences with a group of like minds. The support group is not therapy, but could be therapeutic for those participating in the group. Discussions will be confidential unless permission is given to speak to program management about specific issues.

There is no formal registration, but an RSVP for each group is appreciated. The group will confer on the **last Wednesday evening** of every month unless noted otherwise. It will be held in the CASA training room **from 6:30 pm– 8:00 pm**. The first meeting will be held on July 28, 2010.

Schedule of 2010 meetings:

July 28	August 25
September 28*	October 27
November 30*	December 29

*denotes Tuesday evening due to schedule/holiday conflict.

CASA is excited to be offering this new resource to all of you and we are looking forward to serving you better. Please respond to amyp@casappr.org to attend each meeting.

Ext. Name
 1000-Lena Ruiz
 1001-Mittie Pedraza
 1002-Jill Wright
 1003-Roz Stouffer
 1004-Trudy Strewler
 1005-Tracy Sellars
 1006-Karri Baker
 1007-Terry Dickman
 1008-RoseMary Jaramillo
 1009-Deb Cline
 1010-Liane Shupp
 1011-D&N Emergency Line
 1012-Gina James
 1013-Barbara Bowen
 1014-Evelyn Callihan
 1015-Angela Rose
 1017-
 1018-Mary Stocco
 1019-Sunni Ball
 1020-Lona Mayfield
 1023-Jennifer McKee
 1024-Lois Gracz
 1025-Mary Houchin
 1026-Michelle Geng
 1027-Dolores Martinez
 1028-Clinton Cooper
 1029-SEPT
 1030-Jonathan Whiteman
 1031-Karen Hall
 1032-Jill McCormick
 1033-Amy Pattin

SEPT Contact #s

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

Weekday call:
 Monday –Barbara x 1013 or 314-5008 (cell)

Tuesday –Cooper x1028 or 314-5008 (cell)

Wednesday-Sunni x1019 or 314-5008 (cell)

Thursday – TBD or 314-5008 (cell)

Friday-Jen x1023 or 314-5008 (cell)

Weekend call: Saturday and Sunday –Tina 314-5008 (cell)

SAVE THE DATE

REACH HIGHER



EDUCATING
CHILDREN OF COLOR

MINORITY OVERREPRESENTATION COMMITTEE OF THE FOURTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT



UNIVERSITY
OF
COLORADO
AT COLORADO SPRINGS

The Educating Children of Color Summit and the UCCS College of Education Culturally Responsive Teaching, Leadership and Counseling Symposium will combine forces for the 2011 event.

Sponsored by the University of Colorado at Colorado Springs and the Minority Overrepresentation Committee of the Best Practices Court of the Fourth Judicial District.

Friday, January 21st and Saturday, January 22nd 2011
Location: University of Colorado at Colorado Springs

Who's invited? High School Students & Parents, Educators, Juvenile Justice Professionals, and Child Welfare Professionals.

Keynote Speaker: Christine Sleeter

Proposed Content:

Classroom Strategies & Tools for Teachers; Techniques for Professionals working with Youth; Understanding Colorado Springs-the community and disparity issues; Campus Experience for students. Scholarships and laptops for students.

CLE/CEU & Cornerstone credits given

<http://www.educatingchildrenofcolor.org>

<http://www.uccs.edu/~coe/qecls/index.html>

CASA Receives the African American Voice John Holley Award

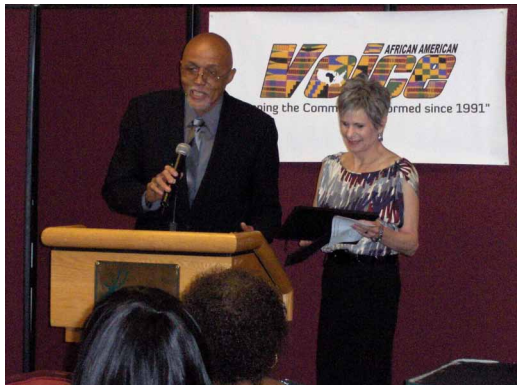
On Friday, June 18, the African American Voice sponsored a Freedom Awards Dinner in conjunction with the Juneteenth/Caribbean Festival. The event was held at the Elkhorn Catering & Conference Center on Ft. Carson. At this celebration, a number of Colorado Springs community members and organizations were honored, including CASA. James Tucker, Editor and Chief of the African American Voice presented Trudy Strewler Hodges with the John Holley Organization Award for the work that CASA does on behalf of children and the strides we have made towards diversity. CASA staff and interns also volunteered their time to help serve food at the Festival.

John Holley wrote a book called "The Invisible People of the Pikes Peak Region: An Afro-American Chronicle," which records the accomplishments of many members of the black community who contributed to the city's heritage.

John Holley was the first executive director of the Urban League of the Pikes Peak region, serving from 1967 to 1975. He was credited with transforming the local chapter into an influential advocate for black civil rights.

The CASA staff is very honored to be presented with this award.

Copyright 2001 Provided by ProQuest Information and Learning Company. All rights Reserved



James Tucker and Trudy Strewler Hodges



Mittie Pedraza, Gina James, Dawud Salaam, Trudy Strewler Hodges, Tracy Sellars and Rose-Mary Jaramillo.

TLC Committee

CASA of the Pikes Peak Region has an inclusion/diversity committee called TLC.

What TLC stands for:

Teaching about differences, *Learning* how to respect them and *Changing* the way we look at the world.

The Mission of the TLC is:

To promote discussion and responsible action within the organization and in the community that seeks to understand the people and cultures of our own and those who may be different from us with an emphasis on the people we serve.

Cont. page 9...

Did You Know?

July is Independence Month for many countries, not just the United States!

July 1st: Burundi, Canada, Rwanda, Somalia

July 4th: United States of America

July 5th: Venezuela

July 6th: Malawi

July 9th: Argentina

July 10th: Bahamas

July 11th: Mongolia

July 12th: São Tomé and Príncipe

July 14th: France, Iraq

July 17th: South Korea

July 20th: Colombia

July 21st: Belgium

July 22nd: Poland

July 23rd: Egypt, Ethiopia

July 26th: Liberia, Maldives Islands

July 28th: Peru

Smiling Faces Behind the CASA Booth

Thanks to volunteers Susan Woessner, Melinda Rossman and Ben LaBadie for representing CASA at the NAACP Juneteenth Celebration on June 19th. CASA participated in the fair as a way to educate the community about our mission to serve local children, and to show support for civil rights and diversity in the Pikes Peak Region.

21 Extraordinary Women are Creating a *Circle of Impact* for CASA

"What an inspiration it is to see women of all ages and backgrounds coming together to promote philanthropy and share a desire to improve the lives of children." To read more of Trudy's blog, visit www.casappr.org and click on the "Blog" icon.

Your Name Is Volunteer

by Nancy Jo Grim

Your Name Is Volunteer

Your name is love,

because you showed me love and compassion when I needed it the most.

Your name is patience,

because you took time to listen to me when my stories were long and my heart was heavy.

Your name is kindness,

because you used your healing hands to touch my pain and guide me when I was lost.

Your name is mentor,

because you taught me the lessons that life cannot teach so soon.

Your name is a volunteer,

you are love, patience, kindness, a mentor and so much more...

We celebrate you the volunteer!





Betty Ford Children's Program

Hello,

I am writing to you regarding the Colorado Children's Program in Colorado Springs July 22-25, 2010. We are excited about coming to Colorado Springs and serving families which otherwise are not able to attend the program in Denver. As of this morning we have three children scheduled for the upcoming July program. If we are unable to have a full program--eight to twelve children--we will not be able to continue to provide service in Colorado Springs after this upcoming program. During our last program in Colorado Springs we had eight children attend, of that eight, six came from CASA Colorado Springs--thank you Jon for all of your effort. It is my sincerest wish to provide this service in the Colorado Springs Area in the future, however, we can not do so without your commitments as we are unable to be in Colorado Springs seeking support for the program on a regular basis. I would like to remind everyone that cost is never an issue for the family, there are scholarships available and families are never turned away due to an inability to pay. Remember our program is for children ages 7-12 years old who have been affected by a loved ones addiction to alcohol or drugs.

If you have someone you would like to refer have them contact David Meggitt at 303-918.0684 or Lindsey Chadwick at 303.220.5440 to register for the July 22-25, 2010 program. Children are involved in the program all four days Thursday 8:00 am - 3:15 pm, Friday, Saturday and Sunday start at 9:00 am and run until 3:15 pm, 3:00 pm, and 2:30 pm each day respectively. Parents/caregivers participate Thursday 8:00-9:00 am and the same hours as the children on Saturday and Sunday.

Caregivers may be parents, foster parents, grandparents, aunts or uncles, someone who is safe and available to participate with the child(ren). We ask that any caregiver(s) that will attend with the child(ren) abstain from alcohol and mind-altering substance use during the program. If the caregiver is the addicted loved one, 30 days of abstinence is required in order to attend. Sometimes the person with the addiction is an older sibling, if they have younger siblings aged 7-12 years old, then they are welcome to attend as well.

With all of that said, spaces will be available on a first come first serve basis. If the program is filled, we will be coming back next year and anyone who is on the waiting list for the July program will automatically receive a scholarship for the next Colorado Springs program in February 24-27, 2011.

Please see our flier for further information.

http://files.e2ma.net/24386/assets/docs/july_flier_1_co_springs.pdf

Sincerely,

David Meggitt
Manager, Colorado Children's Program
303.918.0684

FUNDS AVAILABLE FOR FOSTER CHILDREN

CASA's Milton Foster Children's Fund continues to grow and this means funds are available to help local foster children in many ways. If you have a youth who is in need, please don't hesitate to complete an application for assistance.

Remember, the application is brief and readily available at www.casappr.org. If you have questions, you may leave a message for Michelle Geng at 447-9898 ext. 1026 or call her on her cell at 213-7795.



Welcome New Case Supervisor

We are very excited to announce that Karen Hall is the newest addition to the D&N Team as a Case Supervisor! We are so excited to have her as she brings a wealth of experience working with children to our agency. Karen comes to us from Tennessee and most recently worked as a Case Worker for their equivalent of DHS.

Karen will be shadowing other Case Supervisors over the next couple of days and will begin the advocacy training next Monday with incoming volunteers. Karen will be sharing an office with Lois downstairs, so please stop by to help us welcome Karen to our agency by introducing yourselves.

FREE BOOKS FOR CASA KIDS

The Colorado Springs book store, *Hooked on Books* has offered to donate twenty dollars in books to each CASA child that comes to the bookstore with their advocate. This is a great opportunity to get your CASA children excited about reading and to give them a book of their own.

The current owner established the special fund for CASA children in memory of her brother, Bob Francis who cared greatly for both books and children. Although "Uncle Bob" never had children of his own, he wanted to leave something for the children of Colorado Springs. All you need to do is bring your CASA children to the book store, tell them you are an advocate and receive twenty dollars in merchandise for your children as well as 10% discount for yourself.

Hooked on Books is located at:
3918 Maizeland Rd in Colorado Springs
at Maizeland & Academy in the
Maizeland Moors Shopping Center.

Call (719) 596-1621 or e-mail
hookedonbooks@qwestoffice.net.

Business Hours:
Mon- Sat 10 am-6 pm;
Closed Sunday.



Cont. from page 5...

Purpose of the TLC:

We want to offer you (D&N/DR Advocate and SEPT Facilitator) our assistance as you work to advocate for the children you serve. Here is what we can do for you.

1. If you would like us to arrange a cultural training to meet needs that have become apparent to you in your work, please let us know.
2. If you are on a case and need more understanding of a cultural issue, please let us know. (Please use your case supervisor for the case dynamics). However you could invite, as an example, a member of the TLC committee to a CASA informal staffing.
3. If you seek to have a conversation about diversity and culture, please let us know.

The TLC does not have all the answers, but our mission is clear.

1. We can promote the discussion which will result in action.
2. We can arrange to bring you the cultural training which is needed in your work.
3. We are available to assist with research and/or guide you to organizations which can help.

HAVE YOU CHECKED YOUR CASA ID LATELY?

Is your CASA ID card expired? If so, please either stop in to take a new photo or email one to us so we can make you a new ID card. Please no cartoon photos and one taken within the last couple of years.

Also, make sure you update your vehicle insurance and drivers license.

Non-profit garage

Repair and Share fixes cars and charges on a sliding scale based on salary.

Check it out at www.repairandshare.com

1731 S. Academy Blvd.

597-4146

A CASA-KODAK Moment!



Help raise funds for the Milton Foster Children's Fund by having your family picture taken ANY time of the year by photographer, Robin Stieber. She will photograph you, your kids, grandkids, or even your pets at a location of your choice for a donation towards MFCF. Suggested minimum donation is \$25. Call for an appointment and tell your friends! It's a great way have a cherished keepsake forever. Please email robin@thestiebers.com or call (719) 357-6133 for more information. References available upon request.