



The Gist

Volunteer Newsletter



August 2015

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

Volume 11, Number 8

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CASA's Volunteer Appreciation Breakfast

Saturday, August 29th

Please plan to join us as we celebrate you...our fantastic volunteers! You give of yourself all year long. It's time to sit back and receive, if only for a couple of hours! We've planned a delicious breakfast with Aspen Pointe Café and will have our staff on hand to cater to your every need!

The event will be held at the tent at New Life Church located at 11025 Voyager Pkwy., Colorado Springs, 80921 on Saturday, August 29th, 9:00-11:00 am.

We would be happy to have your friends and family join us for this very special event, so feel free to bring along one guest.

If you haven't had the chance to do so already, this is a great opportunity to meet our new Executive Director, Jenny Bender.

Please RSVP to Kelly at kellyp@casappr.org or 719-447-9898, ext. 1033.

We'll see you all on August 29th!



CASA Staff Contacts:

Ext. Name

1031-Adam Biddle
1018-Angela Komar
1015-Angela Rose
719-338-8741 Berkeley Davis
1051-CFIT
1014-Catherine Sidor
1030-Crystal Karr
1011-D&N Emergency Line
1009-Deb Cline
1012-Gina James
1037-Janet Stoddard
1023-Jennifer McKee
1004-Jenny Bender
1025- Jessica Courtney
1032-Jill McCormick
1053-Jillian Wiker
1027-Karen Hughes
1006-Karri Baker
1033-Kelly Peterschmidt
1028-Kristeen O'Donnell
1026-Laura Speer
1000-Lena Ruiz
1024-Lois Gracz
1035-Maegan Brundage
1020-Michael Maestas
1008-RoseMary Jaramillo
1003-Roz Beall
1040-Sarah Wendt
1007-Terry Dickman
1036-Tiffany Anderson
1005-Tracy Sellers
1002-Trish St. John
1013-Yvette Griego

CASA Welcomes a New Staff Member to the Fund Development Team

CASA is very pleased to announce the addition of Event Coordinator Tiffany Anderson to the Fund Development Team. Tiffany recently moved to Colorado from Northern California with her husband, Charlie and their dog, Brinkley. She has numerous years of non-profit event planning experience, including the coordination of events for Ronald McDonald House Charities and the American Heart Association in Lubbock Texas. Tiffany will be a tremendous asset to CASA and we are grateful to have her on board.



Please stop and say hello to Tiffany the next time you are in the office!

Volunteer Support Group

Lois Gracz is the current facilitator for the Volunteer Support Group. She began the support group in 2010 in an effort to reach out to CASA volunteers in an objective, supportive, confidential and caring way. Volunteers seemed to ask for this type of venue to learn, share, affirm and support themselves and each other.

“I think that a support group offers insights from people who experience the same things we all experience in our work. When we hear other’s insights we become aware that there are other ways to think about things. We come away with new ideas, refreshed commitment, and a clearer sense of expectations.”

The support group is always held at CASA. The new Support Group schedule will begin on September 3rd, 10:00 am – 12:00 pm.

Please RSVP to Kelly at 719-447-9898, ext. 1033 or kellyp@casappr.org.

Volunteers Take to the Airwaves for CASA

Big thanks to Steve Lente and Lauren Yanez for using their voices to advocate for children in the courtroom, the community, and now over the airwaves. Steve recorded a new radio spot now airing on Q102.7 KBIQ, and Lauren shared her insights and experiences in an interview on KCME 88.7. Steve and Lauren are both Court Appointed Special Advocates and Peer Coordinators. We appreciate their leadership and their help with outreach/recruitment.





Recently closed cases:

Kaye Anderson
Sandy Bridgewater\
Jonathan Downing
Kate Killian-Gioglio
Jane Hegstrom
Cathryn Karmondy
Tonya Lark
Sara Marcipan
Kellye Nielsen
Bob Sallee
Michael Thieme



Recently assigned cases:

Molly Brown
Shirley Dunbar
Karlene Duncan
Gayle Felder
Diana Fernandez-Millan
Jane Hegstrom
JoAnne Hilton-Gabeler
Julie Hovde
Cathryn Karmondy
Brian Matthies
Jessica Niles
Stephanie Parker
Maria Ramos
Wendy Simonson
Sarah Stowell
Michele Strub-Heer

Light of Hope North Event Wednesday, October 21, 2015

We are in the planning stages for our Light of Hope North Event taking place on Wednesday, October 21st at the Pinery in Black Forest at 12:30 pm. This one-hour luncheon helps CASA raise money and awareness about child abuse issues in the northern area of Colorado Springs. We are currently seeking Table Captains for this event.

If you live or work in the following zip code areas: 80132, 80133, 80921, 80908, or 80920 and are interested in hosting a table of eight (you + seven guests) for this fundraising event, please call Karri Baker (ext. 1006) or Tiffany Anderson (ext. 1036) at 719-447-9898 for more details.

Teen Job opportunity

Kimball's Peak Three Theater is looking for high school students willing to work 10-15 hours per week-mainly on the weekends. Applicants must be at least 15 years of age or have proof of a work permit. Applicant must possess strong customer service skills, a positive attitude, dedication to work with others, but most importantly, a love for movies!

Please apply in person at 115 E. Pikes Peak Avenue, Downtown Colorado Springs. Please no phone calls or emails.

Free Books for CASA Kids

The Colorado Springs book store, *Hooked on Books* has offered to donate \$20 in books to each CASA child that comes to the bookstore with their advocate. The age limit for children receiving books is 10 and under. This is a great opportunity to get your CASA children excited about reading and to give them a book of their own. Please make sure your CASA child is present with you and that you show your ID badge or business card. They have a wonderful assortment of books and greeting cards.

Hooked on Books is located at 3918 Maizeland Rd. in Colorado Springs (at Maizeland and Academy in the Maizeland Moors Shopping Center). Call 719-596-1621 or email hookedonbooks@qwestoffice.net. Hours of operation are Monday – Friday, 10:00 am-6:00 pm. Closed Sunday.



Volunteer Birthdays

August

02-Sandy I.
02-Randy W.
02-Taylor M.
04-Pam G.
04-Jeanne N.
05-Danielle T.
05-Lauren M.
06-Hilary L.
06-Joyce S.
08-Hannah M.
08-Kathy C.
15-Deborah W.
15-Mary O.
16-Scharlotte R.
16-Greki R.
18-Kaye A.
19-Carmen M.
19-Barry J.
19-Marianne B.
21-Joanie R.
22-Ernie M.
22-Jason G.
23-Samantha G.
24-Jesse M.
27-Vicki R.
27-Lisa B.
28-Dennise R.
28-Tim G.
29-Tanya B.
31-Kyle F.
31-Brian M.

Helping Students Transition to New Schools



The Secondary Student Transition Project was created to address a variety of problems with students changing schools due to placement changes when staying in their school of origin is not possible or in their best interest. Student mobility rates are increasing in Colorado. Mobile students are more likely to fall behind academically and have higher dropout rates. Districts often do not receive sufficient information to appropriately support students, which increases the likelihood of academic failure.

This project collected information and resources related to the processes of enrollment, class placement, withdrawal, and transcript development for students. It was developed in response to requests from school districts for support of secondary students with mobility issues. These webpages provide resources for school and district personnel to use to fully support students through school transitions.

With these transition resources, the Colorado Department of Education hopes to minimize the academic impact of student mobility and enable pilot schools to easily transfer relevant transcript-related data required to ensure students' needs are met, including course placement, when they enroll.

Go to the following link for a wealth of information on this very important topic:

<http://www.cde.state.co.us/dropoutprevention/transitions>

Thank-You to our Supporters

CASA would like to acknowledge the many foundations, trusts, and corporations that help fund our programs throughout the year. Recently we received grants from the following supporters:

- Helen K. and Arthur E. Johnson Foundation – Dependency & Neglect program support.
- Boeing Employees Community Fund - Dependency & Neglect program support.
- Al Serra Chevrolet, Al Serra Chevrolet South, and Al Serra Volkswagen – general operation support.

Thank you for your continued support of CASA of the Pikes Peak Region!

Volunteers Needed for the Teen Programs Committee

The Hanger's Teen Programs Committee is seeking adult volunteers that are detail oriented, enjoy working with foster youth and excel at coordinating and running teen events. If you, or someone you know, are interested in helping the Teen Programs, please contact Laura at 719-351-3769 or lauras@casappr.org.

SEPT Contacts

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

SEPT Cancellations
719-314-5008

Weekday call:

Monday –
Michael/Yvette
x: 1020 or x: 1013
314-5008 (cell)

Tuesday –
Kristeen x: 1028
314-5008 (cell)

Wednesday-
Yvette x: 1013
314-5008 (cell)

Thursday-
Michael x: 1020
314-5008 (cell)

Friday-
Angie
314-5008 (cell)

Weekend call:

Sunday-
Angie/Michael
314-5008 (cell)

MILTON FOSTER CHILDREN'S FUND

Our Purpose: To enrich the lives of children in foster care throughout the Pikes Peak Region.

We Have Money
So Please Submit Your
MFCF Applications



The Milton Foster Children's Fund (MFCF) provides opportunities that build resiliency, caring and support that are not funded by existing agencies or programs. These enrich the lives of children in foster care in El Paso and Teller Counties.

MFCF can provide opportunities such as:

Music/Sports Lessons or Camps
Educational Opportunities/Tutoring
Sports/Special Equipment

The foster parent, case worker or CASA must complete an application. The Allocations Committee meets once per month to review requests.



214 N. Tejon St.
Colorado Springs CO
719-337-1462
Open Saturdays 1-4 pm

The Milton Foster Children's Fund, a program of CASA of the Pikes Peak Region, operates The Hanger, a store exclusively for teens in the foster care system. Gently used clothing and accessories for teens will be available free of charge. Teens can volunteer to work in the store to receive additional items, as well as participate in exclusive parties and workshops.

UPCOMING TEEN EVENTS:

- Aug. 9th – "Way Beyond Measure"

Learn how to "Stand Up & Stand Out" against bullying and teen suicide using a mix of high-energy music, comedy and animated storytelling.

Time: 5:30-7:30 pm (David Verdu)

Location: Community Prep School, 332 E. Willamette Ave.

RSVP to Laura at lauras@casappr.org or 719-351-3769

- Aug. 12th – Jewelry Re-design Class (Class #2)

Come learn to make and repair jewelry as well as re-design old jewelry into something more modern.

Time: 5:30-7:30 pm (Dottie Sutton)

Location: CASA Office, 701 S. Cascade Ave.

Sign up at The Hanger or call Laura at 719-351-3769

- Aug. 19th & Sept. 9th - Painting / Drawing for Art Show

Come prepare your painting or drawing for the Fall Art Show.

Time: 5:30-7:30 pm (Joyce Bedell)

Location: CASA Office, 701 S. Cascade Ave.

Sign up at The Hanger or call Laura at 719-351-3769

Learn more at:

<http://www.casappr.org/news/hanger/>

Email mfcf@casappr.org

Call 719-447-9898, ext. 1026