



THE CASA ADVOCATE

Court Appointed Special Advocates, A Division of Family and Youth

July – September 2022 Edition

Advocate Spotlight



This quarter, CASA is highlighting volunteer, Autumn Taylor for her impactful collaborations with the Department of Children and Family Services. Autumn has only been with our program for a few months but has already made a tremendous difference in the life of her CASA child.

The child that Autumn is assigned to recently faced a confusing and unexpected change in placement. During this transition, this volunteer took initiative to be present and offer comfort to her CASA child. Not only was she a friendly and familiar face for him, but Autumn also partnered with the agency in order to give the caseworkers the ability to focus all of their efforts on finding a new placement before the child's bedtime.

Thank you, Autumn, for showcasing our program's true value and working as a team to ultimately benefit your CASA child!

"Volunteers are the only human beings on the face of the earth who reflect this nation's compassion, unselfish caring, patience, and just plain loving one another."

– Erma Bombeck



Pictured Left to Right:
Paige Phillips, Cherie Benoit,
Judge Guillory, and Katy Rozas

Welcome to our CASA team!

During the third quarter of 2022, four new CASA volunteers were sworn-in by Judge Cynthia Guillory. Thank you for dedicating your time and effort to training in preparation to be a voice for the most vulnerable children in our community. Welcome to our CASA team and good luck on your advocacy journey!



Pictured Left to Right:
Sophia Cesarini and Judge Guillory



During the week of September 25 through October 2, Family & Youth held our eGala Online Auction to benefit the many divisions of Family & Youth.

Thanks to the efforts of all involved, a total of \$33,035 was raised.

Preventing Child Abuse and Neglect

by : Children's Bureau

How is this article relevant to CASA?

Research shows that parents and caregivers who have support are more likely to provide safe and healthy homes for their children. Organizations are realizing the best way to prevent maltreatment is to help parents develop the skills and they need to meet their children's needs and protect them from harm. This article lists protective factors that can lower the risk of abuse and neglect. It also discusses how individuals and communities can help in prevention.

<https://www.childwelfare.gov/pubPDFs/preventingcan.pdf>

**Volunteers, if you would like to receive in-service credit for this article, please turn in a paragraph review after reading the article.*

Working with Families and the Parentified Child

by : Jennifer Golick, PHD

How is this article relevant to CASA?

In its simplest form, parentification occurs when a child assumes adult-like roles and responsibilities. The overarching role of the parentified child can be described as that of caregiver. It is often observed and examined along two dimensions: instrumental parentification and emotional parentification. There are approximately 1.3–1.4 million parentified children aged 8–18 in the United States. This article discusses how parentification can affect children as they grow into adults as well.

<https://muirwoodteen.com/blog/working-families-parentified-child/>

CASA DIVISION UPDATE:

Our program is currently serving 215 children across 127 cases in our community!

We are now actively seeking new CASA Volunteer Advocates! If you or someone you know is interested in becoming a voice for a child in foster care, please contact crystar@fyca.org or call 337-436-9533 for more information.

CASA Volunteer Advocate Trainings are offered monthly! For more information contact Crystar.

For more information about CASA, A Division of Family & Youth
contact crystar@fyca.org or call 337-436-9533