

# CASA Integrity

**JULY 2018**

**CASA of Bell &  
Coryell  
Counties**

112 N Main St  
Belton, Texas 76513  
(254) 774-1881

Website:  
[www.casabellcoryell.org/](http://www.casabellcoryell.org/)



<https://www.facebook.com/bellcoryellcasa/>



<https://twitter.com/casabellcoryell>

Hello CASA volunteers and friends,

The Board and staff of CASA of Bell and Coryell Counties hope you each had a great 4<sup>th</sup> of July full of great food, firecrackers, friends, and family!



I “declutter” on holidays. I use the free morning and noon hour to clear out that dark side of the garage or that spare room that keeps staring at me (or am I staring at it?). **If you find you declutter too and locate a 3 drawer locking cabinet with a key or a shelving unit with 4 shelves, 34 ½ inches wide and 71 inches tall collecting dust, let us know!** Don’t wonder who could use this - look no further than CASA of Bell and Coryell Counties.

CASA of Bell and Coryell Counties’ 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter review found we have assisted 110 new children thus far, not counting our continuing cases. Our target for the year; 100 new children. More children equated to more files for our limited shelving. Just this week, 8 more cases arrived. Why a locking cabinet with 3 drawers? We have privacy regulations to meet, plus the cabinet I have keeps tipping over on my legs and feet!

So while you are celebrating and contemplating decluttering, if you find you have one of these items, give us a call. We can help.

**Kelly Hardy, Executive Director**

amazonsmile  
You shop. Amazon gives.

<https://smile.amazon.com/ch/47-1771665>



## REMINDER

Advocate  
timesheets are  
due on the 5<sup>th</sup>  
of each month!

Make your  
time count!

Get  
**In**Involved  
unteer

## WELCOME, NEW VOLUNTEERS!



From left to right: Spencer Carroll, Lexie Diggs-Davis, Karli Barger, Christina Smith, Dorris Harris, Judge Charles Van Orden, Petra Mike, Ann Hendrix, and Claire Joseph.

On June 19, 2018, Judge Van Orden joined CASA in welcoming seven new volunteers to CASA of Bell & Coryell Counties. We are delighted to have each of you joining us in our mission to serve children in foster care. On behalf of the CASA staff, Board, volunteers, and your communities, **WELCOME TO CASA!**

## VOLUNTEER SHARING AND STORIES

### CHRISTINE FLETCHER

In her 8 years with CASA, Christine Fletcher has made countless contributions and continues to give and share the spirit of CASA in all she does. This month, Christine donated three bicycles that will go directly to the children our wonderful volunteers serve. While the Mongoose has already been claimed, **the two Hello Kitty tricycles are up for grabs!** If you think one or both of these tricycles would put a smile on the faces of the children you serve, let us know! Email Recruiter/Trainer Karli Barger at [kbarger.bccasa@outlook.com](mailto:kbarger.bccasa@outlook.com). First requests will result in reserving a bike for that lucky CASA Volunteer's child. Thank you for this incredible donation, Christine!



## WHO CAN BE A CASA?

If you or someone you know has **heart, strength, and compassion** to speak up for children, let us know!

Court Appointed Special Advocates are volunteers who pledge to give their time to help children journey through the foster care system. They speak on behalf of a child at court hearings and use their voice to put the best interests of the child first.

If you have or know someone that has the qualities to give children another chance, let us know by emailing [kbarger.bccasa@outlook.com](mailto:kbarger.bccasa@outlook.com).

## NAOMI ORTEGA

Naomi Ortega has been a fantastic volunteer since November 2016. At the end of June, Naomi completed a case that resulted in three special children finding a forever happy home. CASA Supervisor Vicki Israel stated "Naomi has been diligent in making her visits regularly and has created a special bond with the family and the three beautiful children. She has always been consistent in submitting her reports and time sheets in a timely manner. Naomi, you are an amazing Advocate and it has been an honor to serve as your supervisor." Great job, Naomi!

Here are a couple more worth sharing from our Supervisors:

1. **Our Win against Human Trafficking:** If you think it does not exist here, guess again. Our CASA volunteers and a dedicated Advocate Supervisor worked hard to work with this child saved from human trafficking and who has recently graduated high school! This child's ability to overcome these obstacles was difficult, placement changing and far, with times of concern for juvenile court intervention. This did not stop dedication. The CASA volunteers who stayed on the case provided support, encouragement, and caring oversight. This young person has shown determination to stay in the CPS system, go to community college, and begin a new life. Thank you, CASA volunteers and Advocate Supervisor.
2. **Overnight Hospital Vigil:** A CASA volunteer who interacted with both the child and the parents attended to the child at the hospital overnight. The child was injured and the parents were not allowed unsupervised contact. The hospital could not allow the parents to stay at the hospital. The dedicated CASA refused to allow this child to wake up alone, in a strange room, and have a lack of attention due to hospital staff needs. While at the hospital, nurses were appreciative and attentive to our CASA as the CASA volunteer was able to give the child attention the staff could not assure the parents of due to the many demands emergency rooms and health care facilities have.

Thank you CASA volunteers who shared their experiences and passion directly or with your supervisors. You are our heroes. Please let us know your *Volunteer Stories* so that we may shine light on how a CASA volunteer contributes and serves our community, children, and their families.

We are actively seeking information from our staff, those who have praised CASA volunteers in our communities, and from you - *the CASA volunteer!* Please send us your stories by email to Karli Barger, Recruiter/Trainer, at [kbarger.bccasa@outlook.com](mailto:kbarger.bccasa@outlook.com).



Happy Anniversary!

**FRED MORSE (4 YEARS), MARIETTA MUTTER (4 YEARS), AND  
COURTNEY ROBSON (4 YEARS)**

New CASA  
Volunteer  
Orientation:

July 12, 2018  
5:30–7:30 p.m.  
at the CASA office

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Strengthening  
the voices of  
children.

## CASA VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION

YOU'RE INVITED!

# CASA Volunteer Appreciation

JOIN US IN

## Exploring Downtown Belton

AND FINDING OUR WALDOS!

LOCAL BUSINESS SCAVENGER HUNT      SATURDAY, AUGUST 4, 2018

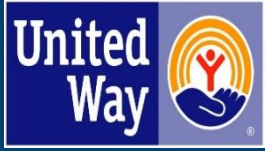
GIFTS AND PRIZES      12:00 PM - 3:00 PM

FOLLOWED BY LUNCH AT SCHOEPF'S BBQ      112 NORTH MAIN STREET, BELTON, TEXAS



We personally invite you, our valued CASA volunteer, to join us in exploring one of the many beautiful places in our communities. We will meet at the CASA office at 12:00 PM and divide our volunteers into teams, not only to find some hidden local treasures, but also some of the incredible individuals you work with as a CASA in Bell and Coryell Counties. Lunch will follow at 1:30 PM at Schoepf's BBQ. We hope you will join us in commending you for the meaningful work you do as a Court Appointed Special Advocate!

WONDERING  
WHO SOME OF  
OUR  
SUPPORTERS  
ARE?



Central  
Texas &  
Greater Fort  
Hood

Bell  
County  
Comm.  
Court

Coryell  
County  
Comm.  
Court

THE SWALM  
Foundation

The Subhani  
Foundation

Frank and  
Sue Mayborn  
Foundation

## NEWS FROM TEXAS CASA

### DFPS: 3 IN 30 PROGRAM

Child Protective Services recognizes that all children in the care of DFPS not only need, but deserve an immediate assessment of their health and behavioral needs. Because of this, DFPS has implemented the 3 in 30 Program, requiring that all children in the conservatorship of DFPS be assessed under 3 components;

1. Any child entering DFPS care is to receive medical attention within 3 business days of being removed from the home. Any needs that result from the initial assessment should be addressed immediately.
2. Children should receive a full medical check-up (including lab work) within 30 days of being in the care of the Department. This allows for immediate medical attention as well as helps caregivers understand how to support a particular child's growth and development early on.
3. All children should, within 30 days, receive a CANS assessment. The Child and Adolescent Needs and Strengths Assessment (CANS) is an evaluation that defines the level of trauma a child has experienced and defines appropriate services for the child to receive (to learn more, see the [DFPS CANS Assessment web page](#)). As a CASA, it is vital to ensure that the children you are serving are receiving the care they need as early as possible. If you would like to know more about the 3 in 30 Program, view the [Resource Letter](#).

**CHECK OUT THESE TEXAS CASA BLOGS BY CLICKING ON THE LINKS BELOW AND GET YOUR CASA NEWS FIRSTHAND!**



[The CASA Voice](#)



[Inside CASA](#)

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## SUMMER OUTREACH

Do you want to help spread the mission of CASA in our communities? Would you like to help connect passionate individuals with a truly worthy cause? If so, CASA is always looking for volunteers to assist with outreach! If you are interested in participating in or contributing to any of the following events on the CASA calendar this summer, contact Karli Barger by calling (254) 831-9880 or emailing

[kbarger.bccasa@outlook.com](mailto:kbarger.bccasa@outlook.com).



SATURDAY, JULY 7, 2018 | 9 A.M. – 5 P.M.  
**OPERATION FAMILY MATTERS SUMMER FESTIVAL**  
 T3L COMMUNITY OUTREACH  
 COPPERAS COVE, TX

FRIDAY, JULY 20, 2018 | TIME TBD  
**DINE AND DONATE: THE FEED MILL**  
 GATESVILLE, TX



WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 1, 2018 | TIME TBD  
**DINE AND DONATE: GATTI'S PIZZA**  
 KILLEEN, TX

TUESDAY, AUGUST 7, 2018 | 10 A.M. – 7 P.M.  
**CUPCAKES FOR A CAUSE AT LILY'S CAKES**  
 TEMPLE, TX



FRIDAY, AUGUST 10, 2018 | 10 A.M. – 2 P.M.  
**HOOD HOWDY**  
 ARMY COMMUNITY SERVICES & DFMWR  
 KILLEEN, TX

SATURDAY, AUGUST 18, 2018 | 9 A.M. – 12 P.M.  
**BACK TO SCHOOL BASH**  
 NAACP – KILLEEN BRANCH  
 KILLEEN, TX



THURSDAY, AUGUST 30, 2018 | 10 A.M. – 2 P.M.  
**WELCOME BACK BASH & RESOURCE FAIR**  
 CENTRAL TEXAS COLLEGE  
 KILLEEN, TX

**DON'T MISS OUT!**

**GET INVOLVED IN FUNDRAISING & OUTREACH**

The outreach and fundraising committees for CASA of Bell & Coryell Counties have extended an invitation to all volunteers to participate in the valuable work they do for our organization. I, Karli Barger, will be reaching out to each of you so that I can get to know each of you personally. I will also be reviewing files for those who expressed an interest early on and discuss the interest you expressed in being involved. For those of you who want to let me know now that you are interested, please contact me so that we can discuss the opportunities we have specifically for you! My direct office line is (254) 831-9880. You may also email me at [kbarger.bccasa@outlook.com](mailto:kbarger.bccasa@outlook.com).

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## UPCOMING EVENTS FOR VOLUNTEERS

### **Aware Central Texas: Open House**

Friday, July 20, 2018 | 11:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Aware Central Texas  
903 North Main Street  
Belton, Texas 76513

### **CASA Coffee Talk with the Recruiter/Trainer**

Friday, July 27, 2018 | 8:30 – 9:30 a.m.

Arusha's Coffee & Tea  
125 North East Street  
Belton, Texas 76513

### **Volunteer Appreciation**

Saturday, August 4, 2018 | 12:00 – 3:00 p.m.

Meeting at CASA of Bell & Coryell Counties  
112 North Main Street  
Belton, Texas 76513

### **CASA Game Night: Jeopardy! Edition**

Tuesday, August 21, 2018 | 6:00 – 7:30 p.m.

CASA of Bell & Coryell Counties Office  
112 North Main Street  
Belton, Texas 76513

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## VOLUNTEER IN-SERVICE TRAINING

Please join us in our next set of outstanding in-service trainings. All you need to do is review and sign up! We have skilled individuals and service providers in our counties willing to share information relevant to your service as a CASA volunteer. While volunteers should complete 12 hours of in-service training per year to continue handling cases, these are also GREAT opportunities to learn about new topics, meet other CASA volunteers, and to become more familiar with local agencies and resources. We have several new instructors, volunteers, and judges all offering to teach and cultivate your abilities for the children we serve!

### **Community Resources: Central Texas Youth Services Information Session**

*Presented by Central Texas Youth Services*

Thursday, July 19, 2018 | 1:00 – 2:00 p.m.

Central Texas Youth Services Drop-In Center  
100 S Ann Blvd, Harker Heights, TX 76548

[CLICK HERE](#) to register!

### **Autism: A Parent's Perspective**

*Presented by Ellen Wright, CASA Volunteer*

Tuesday, July 24, 2018 | 10:00 – 11:00 a.m.

CASA of Bell & Coryell Counties  
112 N Main St, Belton, TX 76513

[CLICK HERE](#) to register!

## ASK THE JUDGES!

### Lunch with Judge Mundkowsky (Coryell County)

Wednesday, July 18, 2018 | 11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Location: TBD

### Brown Bag Lunch with Judge Van Orden (Bell County)

Friday, August 3, 2018 | 11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Bell County Sherriff's Office

CPS Courtroom, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor

104 S Main St, Belton, TX 76513

## YES YOU CAN...

### COMPLETE 12 HOURS OF IN-SERVICE TRAINING FROM HOME!

1. Stop by our office and check out one or more of the many books, movies, and training videos available to you, the CASA volunteer.
2. If you attend a workshop, conference, forum, training, etc. related to foster care or want to attend a training you believe is relevant to your work as a CASA, bring it in or email it to Karli Barger at [kbarger.bccasa@outlook.com](mailto:kbarger.bccasa@outlook.com).
3. Texas CASA has multiple webinars, all worth a view for learning and credit.
4. **Brown Bags with Judge Van Orden and Lunch with Judge Mundkowsky always count! They field new and different questions every month and every session counts towards your 12 hours of in-service!**

In order to receive credit for any in-service training you perform on your own without signing in as a group, you will need to provide a one-page summary of the material covered. These summaries should include what you learned and how you believe it will benefit you in serving children in foster care.

***Be reflective and insightful!***

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## RECRUITMENT AND TRAINING



Be a  
CASA  
Volunteer.

### NEW CASA VOLUNTEER TRAINING

**Thursday, July 12, 2018 | 5:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. | CASA Office**

Do you or does someone you know want to make difference for a child in the foster care system? Visit our website to submit an application or call Recruiter/Trainer Karli Barger at (254) 831-9880 to receive an application packet!

**APPLY TO BECOME A CASA AT:** [www.casabellcoryell.org/volunteer/training/](http://www.casabellcoryell.org/volunteer/training/)

**If you know someone that has the passion and qualities to be a CASA,  
nominate them!**

**NOMINATE A CASA!**

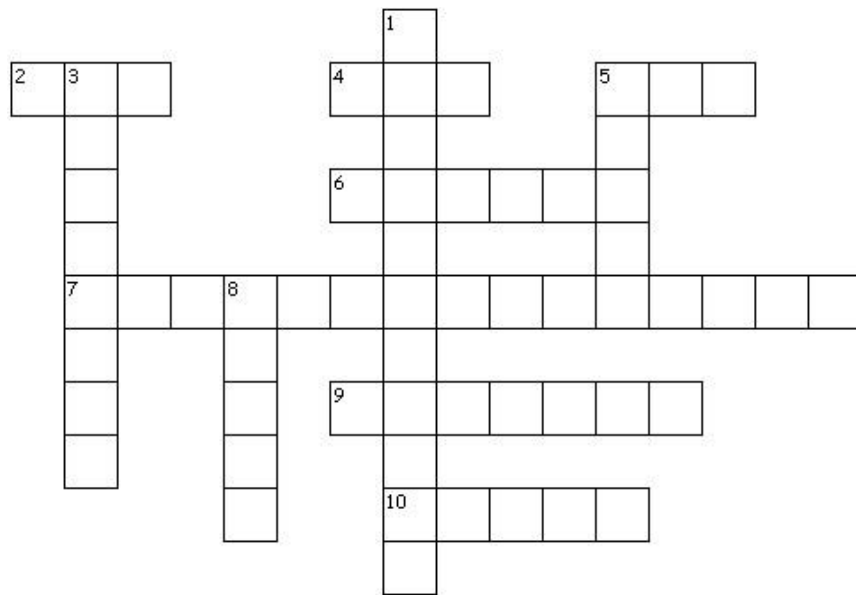
[CLICK HERE](#) to view the upcoming training schedule.



### GET YOUR CASA T-SHIRT TODAY!

New t-shirts are available for CASA volunteers, Board members, and staff! Advocate Nicole Slaughter has been a rock star volunteer and has continued her streak by designing new shirts for our CASA family to wear in order to share the CASA mission with our communities. The shirts are \$20 each and available in v-neck or crew neck. This is not a fundraiser and all money collected will go to the costs of producing the shirts. The deadline for orders is Wednesday, August 1 and money is due with order. Claim your CASA t-shirt today by emailing [volunteers.bccasa@outlook.com](mailto:volunteers.bccasa@outlook.com) to receive an order form!

# CASA CROSSWORD



## Across

2. Appointed by a court to represent the interests of a minor (abbreviation)
4. DFPS temporary custody of child (abbreviation)
5. Program to reimburse eligible victims of crime for out-of-pocket expenses (abbreviation)
6. Influential superior court judge; Seattle, 1970s
7. Ethical standard; pledged by all CASAs
9. Identifying with the feelings, thoughts, situation, or attitude of another
10. Coryell Judge (first name)

## Down

1. Increasing perceived self-efficacy; providing positive influences
3. Providing support or recommendations
5. Key federal legislation addressing child abuse & neglect (abbreviation)
8. Most fundamental information in CASA reports

**Be the first to submit all correct answers to receive a special prize! First in wins! Send your answers to [kbarger.bccasa@outlook.com](mailto:kbarger.bccasa@outlook.com).**

Turning in your time sheets each month allows CASA to receive funding for your hard work! Your local CASA program recognizes the incredible work you do and **we want you to be recognized for it!**

If you have questions or concerns regarding completion of your time sheets or how to submit your documentation, contact your CASA Supervisor, call (254) 774-1881, or email [casa.bccasa@outlook.com](mailto:casa.bccasa@outlook.com).



**Please remember to not use names – only the title of the person, (i.e. teacher, doctor, CPS worker, supervisor, child, mom, dad, foster mom, foster dad, etc.) to maintain confidentiality!**



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**Our team of volunteers, board, staff, and communities are beyond grateful to all of our supporters – and you, our individual donors and CASA Volunteers who continue to stand up for children and support CASA OF BELL AND CORYELL COUNTIES.**