



Thank you for making a difference in our lives!

## HOW HAVE WE DONE?

\*95 Cases \*174 Children

\*68 Advocates (11 have 2 cases)



CASA of Liberty/Chambers County is one of the fastest growing agencies in Texas outside the major cities. As we grow, we continue to help more and more children. OUR CASA is amazing and wonderful and we couldn't do it without YOU! As the number of children increase, we must increase the number of Advocates to insure that every case is covered. If you know of anyone who would like to be an Advocate or a CASA Compadra, please contact Debbie Dugger. Everyone may not be able to commit to being an Advocate, but just a few hours in the office, cooking for a training session, volunteering at a fundraiser or helping in the office is important, too. If someone is willing to commit, Debbie can find the right activity. The rewards will make your heart happy!



### CASA of Liberty/ Chambers Counties

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## Board of Directors

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## Dialog with Debbie

\* **Core Values** Advocate Coordinators will be contacting you about your Core Values – we are trying to develop a “core picture” of our Advocates! It was a great exercise from Texas CASA for the staff; we want to share it with the Advocates.

\* **Fostering Futures** is in full swing – we just held our 3rd class taught by **Fostering Futures** Coordinator - Janice Petrey. It is open to all Advocates with child/children between the ages of 13-17. This program is designed to teach life skills, such as laundry, cooking, grocery shopping, checking accounts, job/college applications, etc. Janice has had contact with each teen in the program, conducted an intro review, and taught at least one concept with most teens. We are looking for individuals who would like to help with specific “programs in a box.”

\* **Finding Family** - Kathy Dagle, Sr. Advocate Coordinator, has recently submitted 3 names to Seneca (search engine for additional family for various children in Foster Care). We are experiencing slow but promising results. If Advocates would like to see a search completed on their child/children, please notify their Advocate Coordinator. **Finding Family** is a new concept to locate a relative (close or distant) – that the child can connect with but not necessarily a “Dad” or “cousin” who could adopt. We are hoping to find a “forever family” but currently will be satisfied to find an individual to help with job applications and share a holiday.

**Children are great imitators. So give them something great to imitate!**

## Conversations with Kathy!

Many have asked for it and we are able to make it happen. Our first Advocate Conference Call is July 15 from Noon to 1:00 which will be hosted by Kathy Dagle. We hope you will be able to join us to share info and ask questions.



## Conference Call Instructions

1. Call 800-356-8278
2. Enter Conf. Code 768295. You will be joined into the call.
3. To mute your phone, enter 4\*.
4. To ask to speak to the host, enter 5\* 2



## CPS Corner

CASA works hand in hand with the Department of Children & Family Services (CPS.) Recently through a series of State of Texas initiatives, CPS is undergoing a transformation, which is a unique opportunity for the Field and State Collaboration to rigorously improve their processes to transform CPS into the most effective program possible. Part of the transformation is to hire the best candidates, provide quality training, develop great mentors, supervisors and leaders and streamline their processes so that all CPS workers feel they are in an environment where they look forward to coming to work and they want to stay.

So, the next time you visit your CPS caseworker, take a few moments to ask them about the positive changes their Department is undergoing, ask how it is going, and use your CASA empathetic ear to listen to them and encourage them. Remember, change feels strange, unless, of course, you are a baby!

## Letter from the editor

This newsletter is being published by Advocates Bill and Pat Baker. If you have any ideas, photos, etc., please feel free to contact us at 832-215-2428 or [billandpatbaker@gmail.com](mailto:billandpatbaker@gmail.com)



MARK YOUR  
CALENDAR!

### July @ Casa Office

- 7 – CPS Speaker – Lunch provided  
12:00 – 1:00
- 8 – Texas CASA Webinar – brown bag  
Noon
- 13-16 – Advocate Training Class  
9:00 A.M. - 3:00 P.M.
- 15 – Conversations with Kathy  
(Advocate Conf. Call) Noon to 1
- 16 – Holly Factors by Debbie Dugger  
6:00 - 8:00 P.M. Dinner provided
- 21 – Fostering Futures  
6:00 - 8:00 P.M. Dinner



### August @ Casa Office

- 12 – Texas CASA Webinar  
Noon
- 13 – Back to School by Dahl Rollins  
6:00 - 8:00 P.M. Dinner provided
- 18 – Fostering Futures  
6:00 - 8:00 P.M. Dinner provided
- 19 – Conversations with Kathy  
(Advocate Conf. Call) Noon to 1
- 24-27 – New Advocates Class  
9:00 A.M. - 3:00 P.M.
- 29 – Mi CASA, Su CASA Fundraiser  
Liberty Community Center



Children are the hands by which  
we take hold of Heaven

### Join us at fun, CASA fundraiser!

**Mi CASA, Su CASA** - Sat, Aug 29 - Liberty Community Center; begins at 6:30pm with a sit down dinner, beer & wine. CASAnettes will be performing, a special performance from business leaders/owners with “surprise” entertainment, a DJ for dancing, & eight GREAT auction items – a Lobster Boil, Astro tickets, shot gun, wooden bench, beach house in Galveston, Fish Fry for 50 & more

**Tickets are \$50 Contact Debbie Dugger**



### Monthly Reports

Your monthly reports are very important to CASA. They are the documentation that is required for funding. You are required to visit monthly and your reports are truly the voice for your child to CPS, the attorneys and the judge, too. CASA's really do make a difference and so do your reports!

To all CASA Advocates,

I so appreciate the time, energy and effort you have each put into your cases; 174 children are definitely in better places (physically, mentally & educationally) because of YOUR dedication and Fierce Advocacy!

Debbie Dugger, Executive Director



Save Nov. 2 for our Annual  
**THANKS**giving Dinner Honoring  
all CASA Advocates!



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# Summer 2015 Update