



CASA

Court Appointed Special Advocates
FOR CHILDREN

MONTGOMERY COUNTY

Inside this issue:

Volunteer Spotlights	1
A Child is Waiting	1
Volunteer Anniversary Celebrations	2
Pre-Service Training Class Graduates	2
Above & Beyond	2
Run/Walk for Abused Children	2
Donors Making A Difference	3
CASA Program Update	3
Rockville Rewards	3
Upcoming Pre-Service Training	4
Workplace Giving Campaigns	4



Volunteer Spotlights

Patricia Villani has been the CASA for 17-year-old David * since March 2012. David came to the attention of Child Welfare Services in 2010, after his family became homeless and was staying at a hotel. David is diagnosed with autism and he is currently placed in a group home where he is working on improving anger management, developing coping strategies, and learning appropriate boundaries. David's father continues to visit him on a regular basis. Recently David's aggressive behaviors have increased and his current group home placement expressed that they could no longer provide him with the level of care that he requires. They requested that a new placement be identified. Due to David's challenging behaviors, placement options in Maryland were limited and out-of-state options were starting to be explored. Ms. Villani advocated for a Family Involvement Meeting to be held prior to a change in his placement to discuss the potential move and what placements were in David's best interest. A move out of state would have made visitation very difficult for his family to continue to visit David on a

regular basis. David has now been accepted to a new placement within Maryland and will soon move to this new program that will be better able to meet his individualized needs.

Noreene Stehlik is the CASA for 15-year-old Josie *. Josie became involved with Child Welfare Services (CWS) due to allegations of neglect. Josie's father died shortly after she came into care and CWS is working to reunify Josie with her mother. Josie is classified as medically fragile and CWS was unable to locate an appropriate placement nearby for Josie, and as a result, she was placed out of the County. During Noreene's visits with Josie, Josie shared that she missed attending her Korean church and missed spending time with her mother, as both the church and her mother are in Montgomery County. At a recent hearing, Noreene advocated for Josie to be placed in Montgomery County. The Court was in agreement and ordered CWS to begin exploring placements closer to her mother and her church. On August 14, 2012, Josie was happy to be moved to a foster home in Montgomery County.

A Child is Waiting

Abraham * is a 7-year-old who has been brought to the attention of Child Welfare Services (CWS) several times, dating back to 2008. The most recent report was received in March 2011, when it was alleged that Abraham was being neglected by his mother. Child Welfare records indicated prior concerns regarding neglect and physical abuse, as well. Shortly after CWS became involved in March 2011, Abraham was hospitalized after making suicidal statements. Abraham's mother was struggling to manage Abraham's behavior which by all reports was out of control because he was not getting his medication for Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD). As a result, CWS opened their case in order to provide support and services to the family. In July 2011, Abraham was deemed to be a Child In Need of Assistance by the Juvenile Court, and he was ordered to remain with his mother and grandmother under the supervision of CWS. His mother and grandmother continue to struggle to meet all of Abraham's needs. He could greatly benefit from being assigned to a CASA volunteer who could make sure he was getting all the help and support he requires.

* names have been changed

CASA Volunteer Anniversary* Celebrations

**from date first assigned to a child*

Ten Years

Pam Collins
Jessica McIntyre

Seven Years

Navjyot Chahal

Six Years

Judith Graef

Five Years

Joy Abel

Four Years

Michele Forzley

Three Years

Cathy Hodin
Leonard Kolsky
Karen Martinson
Hannah Sistare

Two Years

Sandra Boots
LaShonda Coleman
Jon Frank
Abi Gittens-Parker
Michele Hamilton
Carl Hayes, Jr
Rebecca Holsen
Kathy Katz
Ann Kim
Francesca Kim
Perry Sandler

One Year

Demelza Baer
Erin Band
Linda Brenner
Eva El-Khatib
Amanda Ford
Tiffany Ford
Amanda Krape
Michelle McLeod
Lauren Reich
Noreene Stehlik

CASA Board of Directors

Barbara Faigen
President

Sharon Kneiss
Vice President

John E. DeVan, III
Treasurer

Board Members

Melissa Curry

Scott G. Fass

Omari Faulkner

David Lease

Lesley Moore Vossen

Debbie Redman

Linda Stewart

Keerthi Swamy



Congratulations To Our Pre-Service Training Grads

George Afari
Julia Cosans
Cheryl Graunke
Judy Klein
Maria Latham
Victoria Reynolds

Lisa Shofnos
Daniel Teame
Claudia Vasquez
Janet Whitmore
Robert Thompson

Above & Beyond

Moira Notargiacomo has been assigned to 15-year-old Amy * since November 13, 2011. Amy was removed from her mother's home in December of 2002. Amy has been diagnosed as autistic, mildly mentally disabled and she has a congenital heart defect. Since entering care, Amy has been in three residential placements. Moira advocated that Amy return to her mother's home as long as supportive services were put in place. Amy was reunified with her mother and they continue to receive daily in-home supports through the Developmental Disability Administration. Moira was able to develop a strong relationship with both Amy and her mother. On March 2, 2012, Amy's Child Welfare case was closed; however, the judge requested that Moira remain on Amy's case. Moira has continued to visit Amy regularly and is in constant communication with Amy's mother. Her efforts on this case have been tremendous and she has helped the family receive the services they need without the services of Child Welfare.

** name has been changed*

Run or Walk for Abused Children



Maryland CASA is actively recruiting walkers and runners for its charity team – Team CASA – that will participate for the fourth year in the various races of the Under Armour® Baltimore Running Festival on October 13, 2012. This year, CASA is required to have at least 150 runners to qualify as a charity team. Please consider joining Team CASA – as a runner/walker, a volunteer at the event, a sponsor, or a donor and stand up for abused/neglected children around the state. For more information and to register, please visit www.goteamcasa.org.

Donors Making A Difference

Jonathan Agre
 Shivali & Anish Chikkaswamy
 E.C. Wareheim Foundation
 Scott & Patricia Fass
 Scott Faunce
 Charles & Estalle Feigenbaum
 GFWC Metropol. Comm. Club of MoCo
 John & Mary Gilbert
 Otto Graham
 Peter Karasik
 The Kay Family Foundation
 William & Joan Kenealy
 Agnes Leshner
 Morris and Gwendolyn Cafritz Foundation
 Potomac Presbyterian Church
 Daniel & Patricia Solomon

Nancy Stockbridge
 Keerthi Swamy & Ben Chikkaswamy

In Honor of Jay DeVan
 Glenn Harrell, Jr.

In Honor of Barbara Faigen
 Phyllis Schwartz
 Stan & Paulette Shulman

In Honor of Ted Smith
 David & Carolyn Hockstein

In Memory of Leon E. Lunden
 Liane Lunden

**Make a difference
 in a child's life
 with your donation.**

DONATE ONLINE
 Visit our website at
casamontgomery.org
 Click "Donate"

**Speak Up
 For A Child**

**Become A CASA
 Volunteer Today.**

CASA Program Update

CASA of Montgomery County has had a very successful year. In fiscal year 2012 (July 1, 2012—June 30, 2012), we held 4 pre-service trainings with a total of 118 participants. Volunteer advocates were assigned to 88 newly-referred children and 57 children were re-assigned an advocate due to turnover in volunteers.

CASA staff provided ongoing support and monthly supervision to 256 volunteers, serving a total of 305 children, and conducted 12 in-service training sessions for volunteers. In addition, CASA staff documented increases in the provisions of mental health, medical, and educational services for 100% of the children served. Of the 80 children whose cases closed, 72 (90%) were in safe, permanent homes at the time of their case closure.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank our volunteers for their hard work and our donors for their support. Thanks to all of you we can make a difference in the lives of so many children!



Rockville Rewards Give a Little, Save a Lot



CASA of Montgomery County is pleased to announce its participation in the 2012-2013 Rockville Rewards program. By purchasing a Rockville Rewards card, you can support local businesses, access unlimited discounts, and help raise money for CASA. The card is just \$25 and cardholders will have one year to enjoy discounts at more than 100 businesses all around Rockville.

On Tuesday, September 11, CASA partnered with Gordon Biersch Restaurant for the Kick-Off Event of the Rockville Rewards program. It was a big success; CASA sold 29 cards! We would like to thank Gordon Biersch for the hospitality.

If you wish to purchase a card, please visit our website www.casamontgomery.org. Please make sure to mention Rockville Rewards in the Comment Section of the Payment page. You can also mail a check to CASA of Montgomery County, Rockville Rewards, 1010 Grandin Ave., Ste. B-3, Rockville, MD 20851.

100% of the proceeds will go directly to CASA if purchased through our website or office.

For more information on the Rockville Rewards program, visit www.rockvillerewards.com.

Program Staff

Francha Davis
Executive Director

Jennifer Carson
*Director of
 Children's Services*

Jennifer Antolick
Sr. Case Supervisor

Jaime Dohn
Case Supervisor

Shayla Poole-Diarra
Case Supervisor

Maria Rivera
Case Supervisor

Angie von Stein
Case Supervisor

Danielle Verbiest
*Development &
 Operations Manager*

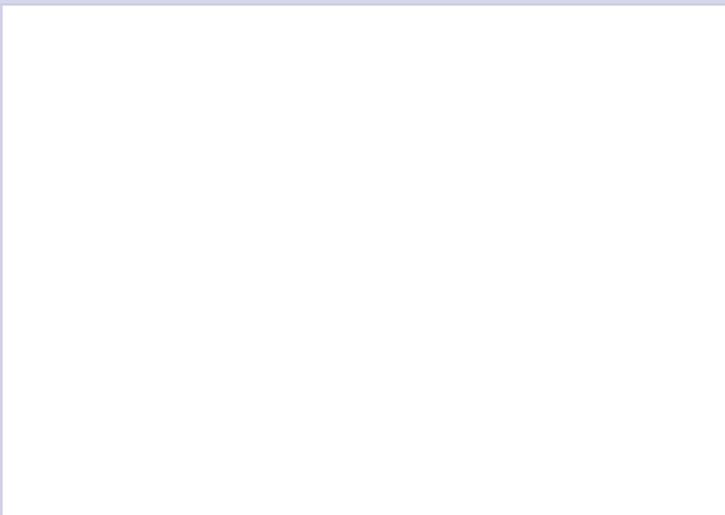


NONPROFIT ORG.
 U.S. POSTAGE
 PAID
 SUBURBAN, MD
 PERMIT NO. 5067

**Court Appointed Special Advocate
 (CASA) Program of Montgomery County**

1010 Grandin Avenue
 Room B-3
 Rockville, MD 20851

Phone: (301) 340-7458
 Fax: (240) 319-7210
 Email: mail@casamontgomery.org



Make A Difference In A Child's Life

This project is supported by a CASA Grant from the Maryland Judiciary, Administrative Office of the Courts, Department of Family Administration.

Upcoming Pre-Service Training: Winter 2012

Saturday, 1/12/13	9:00 am to 4:00 pm	Thursday, 1/24/13	6:00 pm to 9:30 pm
Monday, 1/14/13	6:00 pm to 9:30 pm	Monday, 1/28/13	6:00 pm to 9:30 pm
Wednesday, 1/16/13	6:00 pm to 9:30 pm	Wednesday, 1/30/13	6:00 pm to 9:30 pm
Friday, 1/18/13	8:15 am to 4:30 pm	*Monday, 2/4/13	6:00 pm to 9:30 pm

* make-up day

Pre-service training dates are tentative and subject to change. Contact the CASA office for more information at 301-340-7458 or visit us on the web at www.casamontgomery.org.

Workplace Giving Campaigns

Workplace giving is a means by which employees donate to charities they care about, primarily through payroll pledges. Once a year, you can decide which issues are most important to you and contribute a few dollars per paycheck. It's that easy. Your employer might even match your donation!

If your workplace has a giving program, please consider supporting CASA. Your pre-tax donation will make a huge difference in a child's life!

CASA's designation numbers are:



#8814



90448



#4197