

QUALITY ASSURANCE REVIEW

As you may know, our program recently went through a QA Review with Texas CASA at the first of December. There were around 100 standards reviewed along with other Texas Administrative Code requirements. We have received the final report and are happy to report there were no findings which means we clearly passed. This is simply not possible without dedicated volunteers, staff and board members keeping the bar held high. Congratulations to all and thank you for your commitment to children and families. During the review, the Program Specialist evaluated: 12 randomly selected child files, 4 randomly selected volunteer files, 2 employee files, 12 months of board meeting minutes with attachments, and 3 months of bank statements.

Monthly Advocacy

Face to face contact with child – 97%
Communication with CPS/SSCC case manager – 100%
Communication with CASA staff – 99%
Communication with parent(s) – 100%
Monthly communication with caregiver – 97%
Monthly progress notes/summaries with current contact entries – 93%

Volunteer files scored 100%.

16+ ADVOCACY

To assist youth in preparing for adulthood, special attention should be given to the needs of the youth to set them up for success. Case files with youth 16+ had documentation of requesting the youth's drivers license, birth certificate and SS card, and then a follow-up to confirm the documents were received by the child.

Quarterly Advocacy

Communication with the Attorney ad Litem – 100%
Communication of documented educational advocacy – 100%
Communication of medical advocacy – 100%

Ongoing Advocacy

16+Advocacy communication and documentation – 100%
Safety advocacy communication and documentation – 100%

COLLABORATIVE FAMILY ENGAGEMENT (CFE)

This promising practice emphasizes connection and community for children and families. Big Country CASA begins teaching CFE in Pre-service Training. Volunteers are provided a "red folder" that includes a list of community services, case acceptance and CFE information. Volunteers are encouraged to conduct a CFE tool on their first visit with a child.

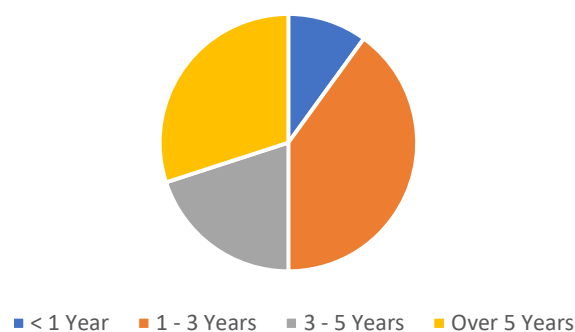
FUND DEVELOPMENT & DIVERSIFICATION

Big Country CASA has great community support, both financial and providing resources needed. The CPA and Administrative Assistant produce the financials with the assistance of the Board Treasurer. Financial reports are detailed for the board to review.

BOARD MEETINGS

In FY22, the board met the quorum 100% of the time with a yearly average of 71% attendance at the meetings.

STAFF RETENTION



GOALS

STRATEGIC PLAN FOR 2023-2028

1. Achieve and maintain fiscal responsibility within the organization via fund development allowing any surplus added to reserves or endowments.
2. Continue pursuit of BCC's goal to serve 100% of the children in Taylor County who need a CASA.
3. Grow the Volunteer Pool by 20% annually.
4. Diversify staff, volunteers, and governing board to reflect the population and meet the needs of the children served by 30%.

CASA DAY AT THE CAPITOL

A Legislative Advocacy Team (LAT) meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, January 25th, at 12:00 at the CASA Office. We will discuss travel to Austin (February 28th), the schedule for both the 28th and March 1st and hotel arrangements. We will cover the priorities for this session along with contact with the legislators for both here locally and at the Capitol. This process is very energetic and informative. Hundreds of CASA advocates from all over the state will be visiting legislative officials to spread the word about CASA and to raise awareness about challenges facing the child welfare system. This is a great opportunity for us to amplify our voices about the importance of CASA's work and our key role in the child welfare system. Contact Lee Ann if you wish to participate. (325) 677-6448 or lmillender@bigcountrycasa.org.



MARCH 01, 2023
TEXAS STATE CAPITOL

ARTICLE & ADDITIONAL TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

1. [How Communication Supports Youth in Foster Care | Clinician's Corner 2022 \(medium.com\)](#)
2. Situational Awareness Safety Training. We felt this might be beneficial to add to our toolbox. The cost is \$10 per person and is on February 14th 11:30 – 1:00p.m. If you would like to participate, you can call Beverly and she can get you signed up and pay the training cost. [Situational Awareness \(situationalawarenesssafety.carro.co\)](#)
3. Problem Sexual Behaviors -Typical vs Non-typical Behaviors for Children Under 12 Years. Provided by River Crest Hospital, January 26th, 10:00 – 12:00 p.m. via Live Webinar. To register [Registration \(gototraining.com\)](#) There is a pre and posttest.

POSITION OPENING

We are searching for a new Recruitment & Volunteer Coordinator. This position is responsible for recruiting a diverse and inclusive group of volunteers. Occasional evenings and weekends are required. Please contact Rebel for more information. (325) 677-6448 or rebeltaylor@bigcountrycasa.org.

PROGRAM NEWS

Welcome Michael Dean to the CASA Team. He is the new Training Specialist and will be assisting Rebel in training and succession planning for our CASA program. Michael has been a volunteer since September 2021 and recently retired from Dyess Air Force Base.

DIVERSITY, EQUITY, & INCLUSION COMMITTEE

Efforts are in the process of scheduling the first meeting of the DEI Committee so please do not think this committee will not be developed. It is a must per our National CASA grant. Due to holidays and other matters, there is simply a delay. For those expressing interest, please watch your email for further information and if you have not expressed interest but would like to serve in this role, please contact Lee Ann at (325) 677-6448 or lmillender@bigcountrycasa.org.

