



CASA

Court Appointed Special Advocates
FOR CHILDREN

CASA BUZZ

APRIL 2023



Dinner with the Judges!

We had some wonderful, solution-based conversations at the "Dinner with the Judges" event held on the 3rd. Areas of concern raised by Judge Propst: lack of placements, services, and workforce.

The staff will be discussing dates and times for the next round table discussion. This information will be shared as soon as possible.

Some information discussed was that BC CASA is currently serving 53% of the children in foster care that are eligible for a CASA advocate.

We are hard at work in new and creative ways recruiting in the community, but there is a need for our current volunteers and board members to assist by pulling possible volunteers from their networks of influence.



Please reach out to staff and supervisors if you are feeling overwhelmed or in need of assistance!

Spotlight!

Our employee spotlight this month is Martha Guelker! Sandra Shirey stated that "Martha's background working with the legal system enhances her CASA supervisor role. She effectively coaches her volunteers for their court appearances and is super at editing court reports." Sue Thomesen had this to say, "Martha saves me all the time. I hate writing Court reports and she is so willing to help get me started! And she listens to all of my trauma in dealing with my CASA kids. I couldn't be as successful without her help and guidance!"

Big Country CASA is a better place with Martha on staff. Congratulations on being recognized by your peers!!



WELCOME ALEX!



Meet the newest member to our Big Country CASA staff! Alex Garcia has been named our Program Specialist. He comes to us with a wealth of knowledge from his extensive background in child welfare.

Information you might find interesting:

- 2-day In-Person Training by Child Welfare Academy: May 15 - 16 at 8:30 - 5:00pm. Check email for link to register.
- Nominate A CASA - Texas CASA <https://texascasa.org/resources/nominate-a-casa/> Feel free to nominate someone you believe would make an amazing CASA through this link on the Texas CASA website.

Hope needs a helping hand

Info Meet Thursdays!

April 6th - 5:15 - 6:15pm at Front Porch Coffee Co & Bakery

April 13th - 9 -10am at Big Country Coffee on Buffalo Gap

April 20th - 10 -11am at the Big Country CASA Offices

April 27th 2 - 3pm at Tropical Smoothie

Virtual Info Meet

April 19th Zoom Info Meet 7 - 8pm ZOOM Link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83803455991>

Quote of the month:

"I do not agree with the big way of doing things. To us, what matters is an individual." - Mother Teresa

THANK YOU!

A big "Thank you!" to our volunteers and board members! None of this is possible without people like you!



**GET YOUR SHOES LACED UP...
THE CASA SUPERHERO 5K FUN RUN IS COMING!**

**Contact Rebel for more information:
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