

# CASA BUZZ.

DECEMBER 2023

## **CFE Tool of the Month**

**CFE Mobile App** 

Providing an engaging way for tools to be completed while meeting people where they are - often on their phones!

Have you ever said, CFE has some great tools that we can use with our kiddos, but I don't want to carry a folder or paper with me all the time? Or this is great a tool, but this new generation does not like to write on paper and all they ever want to do is play on their iPad or phone.

CASA has a simple solution; you can go to your Google Play Store or your iPhone App Store and download the CFE Tools App directly onto your phone.

Once downloaded, create an account using your CASA' email and your own password, then you will receive an email from us asking you to allow time for us to verify your information before approving your account.

As soon as we approve your account, you will receive an email informing you of your approved status.

The app provides another option for members of the CFE Team to complete engagement tools in-person with youth, parents, family members, caregivers, or other important people in the case.

The App has the following tools available: Circle of Trust, Connectedness Map, Connect Cards Deck 1 and 2, Ecomap, Mobility Map, Three House and Three of Life. (Some tools require drawing, some writing, and some are more in game form.)



## Spotlight!

Congratulations, Rebel, for being recognized by your peers!

Rebel started her career at BCC as a volunteer in the fall of 2013 and later became a staff member



as our trainer in December of 2017, fearlessly leading the charge to champion our children.

She has served as the CASA on 6 cases serving 11 children!

"Rebel is a passionate and enduring advocate for not only her CASA children but all children. She serves with an intensity to make all things right for children and advance the CASA program in every way possible." said Executive Director, Lee Ann.

"When we were writing the foster Care Simulation, Rebel played a vital role in organizing the actual simulation project in way not imagined by others. She is a valued asset to BCC and the entire child protection network."

Big Country CASA is better because you are here!

## Wildcat Basketball!

ACU has generously provided 10 tickets to Big Country CASA for select Men and Women's home basketball games!

If you would like tickets for a game, please contact Dana Ward at danaward@bigcountrycasa.org. You must reserve tickets by noon the Monday before the game.

Home Game dates and times can be found here: https://acusports.com/





## **Info Meet Thursdays!**

#### In Person:

December 7th, 10-11am @ Monks Coffee Shop December 13th, 9-10am @ Big Country CASA

## **Other Important Dates:**

Winter New Volunteer Training - Refer a friend! Begins Thurs, Jan 18th, and concludes Thurs, Feb 8th For a complete schedule, please visit our website: www.bigcountrycasa.org

#### Reminder:

This is the last month to complete the remainder of your 12 CEUs for 2023!

Last CASA Cafe of 2023 Tues, Dec 12th @ 5:45 – Looking at CPS Cases Through the Lens of a Child by Amy Boone

Office closed Dec 22, 2023 - Jan 1, 2024 Reopen on January 2, 2024



Join US for a Volunteer Christmas Open House Wednesday, Dec 13th 3 - 4:30



Key Connections Conference January 23, 2024 @ Beltway Park North Details to come!

### **Quote of the month:**

"Maybe Christmas (he thought) doesn't come from a store. Maybe Christmas perhaps means a little bit more."

The Grinch

## KUDOS TO KATHY.... THE POWER OF ADVOCACY

CASA Advocate Kathy Arno is an outstanding CASA who always keeps the best interest of the children she serves as a top priority.

Recently a 14-year-old girl on Kathy's watch needed a new placement. One was located but due to the timing of the actual placement, the child found herself in a temporary shelter awaiting formal placement.

While in the shelter the child's maternal grandmother requested becoming placement for the child and had been working to make her home suitable for her granddaughter.

A home study was conducted, but a court hearing was held before the home study was approved or denied. The reasons why the grandmother was not an approved placement were explained to the Judge by the department.

When it was Kathy's turn to speak, she stood confidently to her feet and explained to the Judge why she believed being placed with the grandmother to be in the best interest of the child.

She and the child's attorney were asked to take a walk through the home, and if they found it suitable, the child could go on a visit until the judge could make a final decision

The grandmother had worked very diligently to make her home suitable for a teenager, and the CASA and attorney agreed.

The young lady was placed with her grandmother and with Kathy's help is traveling to D.C.



Invite a friend to our Christmas Open House December 13th from 9-10!