

CFE Tool of the Month

Who Loves this child?

For many of our children experiencing foster care in the Big Country area, family is a distant dream.

Kids in care see other people celebrating with relatives, exchanging gifts, hugs, making memories, and all they want is their own connection with that special someone in their lives.

Children can be lonely and isolated without their loved ones.

Do you know who loves your CASA kiddo? How about you let them complete the CFE Tool "Who Loves this Child?"

Let them tell you which family members, neighbors, friends, teachers, or community members are connection to them.

This tool is very simple as you are letting the child tell you who loves them. The child/youth can write as many or as few names as they please.

The hope here is to allow them to tell us who loves them so we can ensure that we are helping facilitate connections with those individuals and our CASA kiddos.



- Family
- Neighbors
- Friends
- Teachers
- Church Family



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

Spotlight!

Congratulations, Beverly, for being recognized by your peers!

Beverly has been with us for 2 years and she brings a wealth of support and insight.



Executive Director, Lee Ann Millender, states, "She is a beacon and a sensible guiding light for us. I often call her our CASA Mom because she is always looking for ways to love and nurture while being sure we have the tools we need to be the best advocates for our children and volunteers. Wouldn't want to be in this office without her."

Recruitment & Community Engagement Specialist, Dana Ward, said, "Beverly has been a kind and helpful presence since I stepped foot in the doors of CASA! She always has an encouraging word or a smile to start my day on the right track. She is a great office neighbor and a fantastic friend!

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!

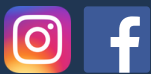
If you would like tickets for a game, please contact Dana Ward at danaward@bigcountrycasa.org.

You must reserve tickets by noon the Monday before the game.

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



Don't forget to like,
share, and comment on
our social media posts!



Info Meet Thursdays!

In Person:

January 4th, 9-10am @ Summer Moon

January 11th, 10-11am @ Tea2go (Catclaw)

January 18th, 2-3pm @ Starbucks (Buffalo Gap)

January 25th, 5:15-6:15pm @ Mad Coffee & More

Virtual Info Meet:

January 17, 7-8pm

Zoom Link: [https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84430834190?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84430834190?pwd=SHZOcXk0UXlNYmdKUjl4bVB0T09xQT09)

[pwd=SHZOcXk0UXlNYmdKUjl4bVB0T09xQT09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84430834190?pwd=SHZOcXk0UXlNYmdKUjl4bVB0T09xQT09)

Other Important Dates:

Winter New Volunteer Training - Refer a friend!

Begins Thurs, Jan 18 and concludes Thurs, Feb 8

For a complete schedule, please visit our website:

www.bigcountrycasa.org

Reminder:

CEU hours start over in 2024 - 12 hours for the year!

January CEU Opportunity:

Key Connections Conference: January 23, 8:30 - 4pm

@ Beltway Park North

Office Closed:

January 15 - Martin Luther King Jr. Day



Quote of the month:

"The best antidote I know for worry is work. The best medicine for despair is service. The best cure for weariness is the challenge of helping someone who is even more tired."

-Gordon B. Hinckley

Gifts Galore!

CASA was fortunate in December to receive large donations of gifts from our friends at Las Aficianodos, Pioneer Drive, New Hope (Spanish), and Telemundo, for our advocates to take to their CASA kiddos!



STRATEGIC PLANNING WILL BE
HAPPENING IN THE SPRING!

ANY VOLUNTEERS CAN LET **LEE ANN**

KNOW BY CALLING THE OFFICE AT

325-677-6448 OR EMAILING HER:

LMILLENDER@BIGCOUNTRYCASA.ORG

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO PARTICIPATE!



Celebrating Success:

We love celebrating the successes of our CASA kiddos and we want to give a special "thank you" to Rizae Almaguer. Rizae recently aged out of care at 19 and is living life on her own, working, attending college and raising her 2 children. She and Rebel did a commercial and interview with KTXS that first aired in Dec but will continue on this month.

Rizae is also on our Key Connections panel so join us to hear her talk about her journey to adulthood and how her CASA, Selma Lee, and her case worker, Alex Garcia, helped her successfully navigate the transition out of care! We are so proud of Rizae!

Key Connections 2024 Shared Experiences, Shared Successes



KEY CONNECTIONS

Join us for this citywide conference for those in involved in child welfare. The conference will focus on the services, support and joint efforts to help children experiencing foster care find success after care.

January 23, 2024. Doors open at 8:15am and concludes at 4pm. Registration not required. 6 CEU hours earned for full day attendance

Email Rebel for info: rebeltaylor@bigcountrycasa.org