

2024 CASA Superhero Fun Run

Don't forget to register for our 2024 Superhero 5K Fun Run at ACU on May the 4th!

Share the posts online and tell all of your friends! It is a great opportunity to spend time with people who value the work we do at CASA and to dress up!



We Need Your Connections!

Do you have a past CASA kiddo who has aged out of care who might want to help us by starring in a video?

We are in the process of trying to put together a group of people who can help us create a promotional/informational video for Big Country CASA!

Please contact Dana Ward or Lee Ann Millender if you have any connections that would be helpful! 325-677-6778.

Volunteer of the Quarter

Congratulations to our volunteer, Christi Macnoll. Christi was recently recognized by our Board of Directors as the Volunteer of the Quarter for Winter of 2023.



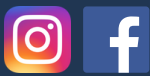
Christi was sworn in on March 10, 2020, and just closed her case in January 2024. She served on the same case advocating for the same children, who were brothers, over the course of her 4 years. Within those four years she built a relationship not only with the children, but the family as well... especially, the mother and grandmother. Her advocacy for the children's best interests sometimes put her at odds with not only the family members, but other parties in the case as well. But as families do, they don't always agree and usually forgive, and Christi had definitely become a part of the family... comfortable enough to discuss her expectations for the children's permanency with the family and other parties even though it may have not lined up with theirs. She was a mentor for the young mother trying to get her life straight so she could get her children back and gave "tough love" when needed. Through the disagreements, arguing, and quarreling, Christi never lost focus on the children's best interests.

During these 4 long years, Christi traveled 2,207 miles and put in 699 volunteer hours and is seen as part of the family of the children. Though the case did not turn out as Christi had hoped, it exemplifies how Christi remained committed, focused and dealt with the adversities of how sometimes as a CASA, one may not be a favored entity but in the end, devotion pays off by remaining a part of the family.

Congratulations, Christi for being recognized for your hard work and dedication by our board and staff! Big Country CASA is better because of you!

Hope needs a helping hand

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



Info Meet Thursdays!

In Person:

April 4th, 9-10am @ Monks Coffee Shop

April 11th, 10-11am @ Tea2Go (North)

April 18th, 2-3pm @ Mezamiz

Virtual Info Meet:

April 17th, 7-8pm

Zoom Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84430834190?pwd=SHZOcXk0UXlNYmdKUjl4bVB0T09xQT09>

Volunteers are Welcome to

Attend Info Meets and Bring a Friend!

Other Important Dates:

Summer New Volunteer Training

Refer a friend!

Begins June 6, 2024 through June 27, 2024!

For a complete schedule, please visit our website:

www.bigcountrycasa.org

Reminder:

CEU hours start over in 2024 - You have 9 more months to get your 12 hours for the year!

April CEU Opportunity:

Champion for Childrens Conference- April 4-5 @ Hilton Double Tree downtown

April 23rd, Advocate Led Lunch and Learn "Not Just a Case!" - Come share your experiences!

Keep an eye out for other opportunities in your email!

April Events:

April 12th, Family Fun Night

Abilene Zoo-6-9pm-Free Admission!

April 10th, 10 Year Ribbon Cutting

Big Country CASA - 11-11:30am

Don't forget, April is Child Abuse Prevention Month!



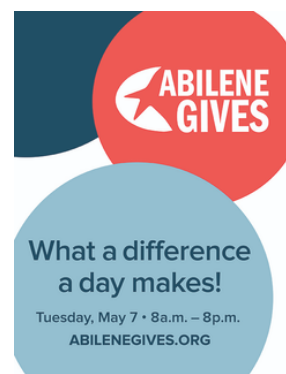
Quilt displayed along with raffle tickets (\$1 each or \$5 for 6 tickets) will be available April 1-5 at R' Quilt Haven at 115 N. Leggett.

Quilt to be displayed at CASA from 4/15-19!

Drawing to be held in June!

Quilt is donated and fundraiser is conducted by the Abilene Quilters' Guild, quilt pattern by Deb Tucker, pieced by Dianne Hawley and Stephanie Patterson, quilted by Jana Bailey

Abilene Gives kicks off May 7! Let's help keep Abilene generous!



We have been given a generous \$25,000 match for this years campaign!



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

STRATEGIC PLANNING WILL BE HAPPENING IN THE SPRING! ANY VOLUNTEERS WHO WOULD LIKE TO PARTICIPATE CAN LET LEE ANN KNOW BY CALLING THE OFFICE AT 325-677-6448 OR EMAILING HER: LMILLENDER@BIGCOUNTRYCASA.ORG



Quote of the month:

"Raise your words not your voice. It is the rain that grows flowers, not thunder."

-Rumi