



September 2010 Edition of Heartland CASA

Volume 1 Issue 11

Heartland CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocate) supports abused and neglected children in the court system through recruiting and training informed, caring volunteers who speak for these children.



WHAT ARE WE DOING?

Ramping up for the Fall New CASA Volunteer training class that begins on Monday, September 13th from 6-9 p.m. in the Canterbury Room here at St Stephen's Community Center. Apps are available at our office for 30 hours of interesting/enlightening training about: CASA Advocacy Child Abuse and Neglect Federal and State Child Welfare Legislation and Systems The Juvenile Court Cultural Diversity The Dynamics of Today's Families Child Development Communication Investigation Report Writing Self Discovery

CASA volunteer training, in and of itself, is a rewarding experience designed to teach skills in providing the help children need and deserve during a very traumatic time in their lives.

HOW?

With 30 (73%) of total volunteers actively assigned as CASA volunteer advocates.

IMPACT?

There are 99 children waiting for a CASA advocate. As of today, Heartland CASA advocates are working to improve the lives and future prospects for 66 of the 165 abused and neglected children in our four county area.

CASA FACT

Average age of a child in foster care is 9.7 years, average length of foster care is 27.2 months. Nebraska ranks 4th in the nation with 34.2 % of abused and neglected children represented by CASA Volunteers.

HEARTLAND CASA THANK YOU !!

To ALL of the volunteers helping at the Heartland United Way Ice Cream Parlor at the State Fair!!

Bradley Schmid for his artistry on our Heartland CASA State Fair Hay Bale located at Trucks N More on E Hwy 30. It is very special, Brad!!

Friends, old and new, who believe in children and their right to live in safe, loving homes.

HEARTLAND CASA NEEDS

Help to coordinate and/or participate in Heartland CASA events.
Help in the CASA office preparing mailings, copying, shredding.
Office supplies ie. copy paper, sticky notes, scotch tape, masking tape, 8 1/2"x11" lined notepads, "used & works" vacuum cleaner.
New CASA volunteers to "be a voice" for CASA children.
Financial Donations are ALWAYS welcome!!

Heartland CASA Board of Directors

Chair, Robbie Wilke Treasurer, Lee Mohr Jimmy Olson
Vice Chair, Bob Humiston Bob Beran Andrea Rodriguez
Secretary, Jan Cook Dan Govier Vicki King
Advisory Members
Judge Philip Martin, Bob Cashoili, Gary Quandt

Meet Heartland CASA Advocate—Bonnie Blair!!



Fourteen years of CASA advocate experience gives Bonnie Blair expertise status on tough situations and tougher decisions. Bonnie was a CASA volunteer in Columbus before moving to Grand Island and joining Heartland CASA. Many children have benefited from her drive and determination in seeing that their best interest is a priority factor in their permanency plans. Pert, perky, enthusiastic and friendly, Bonnie shares her life with husband, Alan, their three married children and 9 grandchildren. She finds time for her family, as well as her CASA children, while working full time as a Medical Technologist at the Grand Island Clinic. **We are proud to have you on our team, Bonnie!!**

September CASA Birthdays

Terry Eyler Sep 5
Christi Aycock Sep 6
Laura Stephens Sep 19

WHAT'S HAPPENING ??

August Timesheets Are Due!!

Upcoming Heartland CASA Events

September 2—CASA Volunteer In-Service on Cultural Diversity 6:00-7:30 at St. Stephen's in the Canterbury Room.
September 13—New CASA Volunteer Training—6:00 pm-9:00 pm
September 14—Board Meets—St. Stephen's Canterbury Room 5:00 pm
October 9—Saturday, Case Studies In-service Training, Home Federal @ Stolley Park and Webb Rd. 8:30 am-11:30 am
November 5-7—**SAVE THE DATE—Vintage Family Photos at the Conestoga Mall—Watch or call for details.**

Upcoming CASA Related Events—

Aug 27-Sept 7—State Fair Heartland U-Way Ice Cream Store!
Sept 14-16—Husker Harvest Days!
Sept 18—Stuhr Museum Health Fair 10:00 am -5:00 pm
September 24—Through the Eyes of a Child Regional Conference, Hastings, 8 am-4:30 pm

Heartland CASA Office Schedule Mon thru Fri 9 am to 4:30 pm

Stop in and see us!

Do we have your e-mail address ??

We would like to send your newsletter by email (in color!!)
Please call us as (308 385-5125) or email us at casa@kdsi.net to share your email address with us. THANKS!!

Heartland CASA Staff

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