



CASA

Court Appointed Special Advocates
FOR CHILDREN

COLES COUNTY CASA

CASA News

Coles County Court Appointed Special Advocates
651 Jackson Avenue, Room 13, Charleston, IL 61920
217-348-0599
colescountycasa.org

Spring 2014

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Mission: Coles County CASA is a not-for-profit corporation that advocates for the best interests of abused and neglected children brought into the Coles County juvenile court system.

Coles County CASA 20th Anniversary!

It was over 20 years ago that Barbara Brown walked into Judge Ashton Waller's office and told him that a CASA program could work in Coles County. Judge Waller convened a courthouse meeting to explore the idea of a CASA program in December 1993.

The Board of Directors was formed in February 1994 and by June the first three advocates were sworn in. They were Barbara Brown, Sue Stoner and Mary Chandler. Ed Fidler, who still serves as a CASA volunteer, was sworn in shortly after.

Over our twenty years, CASA has served nearly 1,000 abused and neglected children. CASA has made a difference! We are grateful to the many advocates and members of the Board of Directors who have served faithfully over the years.

Look for our pinwheels and banners in Charleston and Mattoon and celebrate 20 years of being a voice for the children!



New Advocate Class Begins This Summer



Volunteers are needed to advocate for the best interests of abused and neglected children in Coles County. Advocates must complete 30 hours of training prior to being sworn in by the judge. The time commitment averages 10 hours per month.

Questions? Contact the CASA office at 348-0599 or see our website at: www.colescountycasa.org
Be a voice for a child.
Be a CASA volunteer.



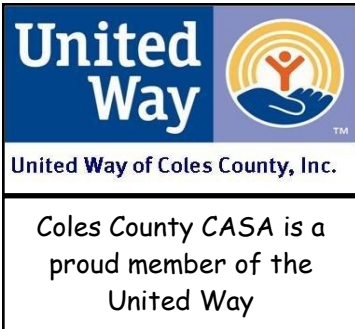
EASTER BINGO!

Our Annual Longaberger Bingo will be held on Tuesday, April 15 at the American Legion, 1903 Maple St. in Mattoon. Doors open at 5:00 P.M. and early bird games begin at 5:30 P.M. Tickets are \$10 for entry and include three sets of cards for 10 games. Additional game tickets are available individually or all four of the extra game packages can be purchased together for a special price of \$20 (savings of \$3). Door prizes and raffles provide more chances to win. Dinner and snacks may be purchased. Plan to attend and bring your friends to win some fabulous prizes! Entry tickets can be purchased on our website and extra game packages will be sold at the door.

The first 50 in the door will receive extra treats!



Thank you!



Thank you to Consolidated Communications for the printing and distribution of *The CASA News*

**Special Thanks to.....
Charleston Carnegie
Public Library
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Find us on Facebook!
Friend us at :
Coles County CASA
for Children.

- Bingo Donors:
- City of Charleston Recreation Dept.
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 - Lake Land College Bookstore
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 - Penses Bookshop
 - Staples
 - Starbucks
 - WEIU
 - What's Cookin'



Champions for Children



This year's CASA of the Year Award goes to Marcy Cunningham. Marcy has been an advocate for 7 years and has advocated for 5 children. Marcy's sense of humor is one of her best traits, but she is quite serious about her work for abused and neglected children. She is consistent and determined, and she allows no obstacle to interfere with her advocacy for her assigned children. "CASA is well worth all the heartaches and stress you go through, because when the system works and you help one child find a permanent home and loving parents, that's what it's all about." she says. "It doesn't always work but if you help just one child, it's all worth it." Thank you, Marcy, for giving a voice to abused and neglected children!

Adopt-A-Child

Did you know that the cost of CASA advocating for the best interests of one child is about \$1000 per year? This includes the recruitment, training and monitoring of volunteers. You can help CASA by committing to donate over a period of 3 years to help defray that cost.

Please consider making a three year pledge to support CASA's efforts. Your monetary contribution will enable us to continue to provide a voice to children who have no one to speak for them!



Adopt-A-Child Pledge

Your gift will allow Coles County CASA to provide all training and advocacy efforts needed for a neglected and/or abused child for 3 years. We are asking you to consider a 3-year pledge. Your gift may be given as:
[] A gift of \$1,000 per year
[] A gift of \$500 per year
[] A gift of \$250 per year
[] Other: _____
Name : _____
Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
Phone: _____ Email: _____
Please make checks available to Coles County CASA, 651 Jackson Ave. Room 13, Charleston, IL 61920

Can You Help Coles County CASA Advocate for Children?

- Friend of CASA** \$0 - \$99 Name _____
- Silver Level** \$100 - \$249 Address _____
- Gold Level** \$250 - \$499 City _____ State ____ Zip _____
- Platinum Level** \$500 - \$999 Phone # _____
- Millennium Level** \$1000 and up Email address _____
- I am interested in becoming an advocate.** I prefer newsletter delivery by **U.S. Mail** **Email**

This gift is in honor of _____ * Your donation to CASA is

This gift is in memory of _____ tax deductible.

Please notify _____ Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Please make check payable to Coles County CASA, 651 Jackson Avenue, Room 13, Charleston, IL 61920



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