



COURT APPOINTED SPECIAL ADVOCATES FOR CHILDREN
Kay & Noble Counties
2203 N. Ash, Ponca City, Ok.. 74601

August/September 2007
www.kaynoblecasa.org

THE DIRECTOR'S CORNER

By Sharon Clark, CASA Director

Every year about this time, the movement of the earth catches up with me or vice versa. I find myself wondering where the days of the year have gone. It seems summer has only just begun and now we are in full swing making fall plans.

Due to recent staff changes in the CASA of Kay & Noble Counties office, we have had to modify our newsletter and in-service training schedules. This abbreviated newsletter is to update you and allow you to mark your calendars for upcoming CASA events.

We have cancelled the regular in-service training which was scheduled for September 11. As you will see when you read further in this newsy-letter, we have two big events scheduled in September- the inaugural Book Club discussion group and our 10th Birthday Celebration.

Just a bit of Good News! In the past year, CASA of Kay & Noble Counties served 120 children whose cases were appointed to 40 CASA volunteers. With the help of CASA volunteers, 60 children were either safely returned to their families or moved out of the foster care system in to safe, loving adoptive homes. Also, we have seen the time between CASA volunteer appointments and case closures consistently shorten from an average of 28 months three years ago to an average 16 months this year. Those statistics are very much worthy of a celebration! See you at the Party!

Sharon

Fall Pre-Service Training Begins October 1st!

The new National CASA Volunteer training curriculum has been released just in time to be used for Fall Training. The new training is a re-shaped model with new exercises and activities geared toward adult learners. DVD movies and digital slides help move volunteer candidates through the course materials. Another welcome change is that the volunteer manual weighs much less than ever before!

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Our 5 week Pre-Service Training for new volunteers will occur on Mondays and Thursdays, October 1st through November 1st, from 5:30 pm—8:30 pm at the NOYS Conference Room.

So, do you know anyone who would like to help our program kick-off a new decade of service to children? Tell them about CASA! Or, are you lacking some in-service credit hours? Get a schedule of topics from CASA Staff & pick a class that you could use for a refresher!

Book Club Begins September 10 at 6:30pm in NOYS Training Room

The Book Club is an alternative way for CASA volunteers to receive in-service training credits. Our reasoning is that traditional in-service training may not fit with all schedules and or interests of our volunteers. The Book Club will offer a forum in which CASA Volunteers can meet and learn from each other.

Book Club discussion groups will meet quarterly. CASA volunteers will receive 4 hours in-service credit- 2 hours for reading the book and 2 hours for attending the discussion group. Even if volunteers can't attend a discussion group, they can earn 2 hours in-service credit by reading any book from the list below and completing an alternative continuing education form. The form is available in our office, for download on our website at www.kaynoblecasa.org, plus a copy can be found on the back of the included "dates-to-remember" insert. We will update the reading list continually. If you have a book suggestion, pass it on to us.

Our first Book Club selection is, "I Speak for This Child" by Gay Courter. Ms. Courter was the keynote speaker at the 2007 Oklahoma CASA Conference in May. She is a CASA/GAL in Florida with almost 20 years experience. A discussion guide will be available by September 4.

The next Book Club discussion group will meet January 14, 2008. The CASA office will have at least one copy of Book Club selections. Selections can be ordered through Amazon.com or Brace Books.



Reading List:

Orphans of the Living: Stories of America's Children in Foster Care, by Jennifer Toth
The Glass Castle, Jeanette Walls
A Love Like No Other: Stories from Adoptive Parents edited by Pamela Kruger and Jill Smolove
Me, May, Mary, by Mary Cameron Kilgour
Soul of a Citizen, by Paul Loeb
Enrique's Journey, by Sonia Nazario
Becoming Anna, by Anna Michener

CASA of Kay & Noble Counties' Dates-to-Remember

Post me next to your calendar!

Court Dockets

September 10

S. Boettcher
P. Haynes
L. & D. Meyer
J. Robison

September 11

S. McKeown

September 17

S. McKeown

September 24

C. Baker

October 2

L. & D. Meyer

October 8

K. Jones
D. Jorgensen
N. Murphy

October 15

T. Doerksen
N. Niemann
D. Topper

October 22

A. Bandy
S. Russel

October 29

S. Harrison
J. Jaggars
T. Robertson
T. Rowell

Birthdays



Sandra Shore	August 2nd
Yinka Ogundipe	August 3rd
Jackie Jaggars	August 3rd
Dr. Nancy Niemann	August 11th
Ann Bandy	August 12th
Debi Topper	August 18th
Sharon Clark	August 20th
Sandy Harrison	August 24th
Tracy Robertson	August 25th
Our CASA Program	September 16
Norma Reusser	September 21
Michelle Daine	September 30



Events

- 1st Meeting of the CASA Book Club
Monday, September 10th at 6:30 pm, NOYS Conference Room
- Kay & Noble County CASA's 10th Birthday Party
Sunday, September 16th, from 3:00 pm to 5:00 pm,
At NOYS Conference Room
- Coffee with CASA
Friday, September 21st at 8:30 am—9:30 am
Ponca Townsite Company, 116 N 4th St.
Visitors get a free cup o' joe while they learn more about CASA.
- Fall Pre-Service Training
Mondays and Thursdays, October 1st through November 1st,
from 5:30 pm—8:30 pm at the NOYS Conference Room.
Tell a friend!

REMEMBER TO TURN IN YOUR ACTIVITY LOGS BY THE 5TH OF EVERY MONTH!