

The Child's Voice CASA CIS Quarterly Newsletter



Donate

You can change
a child's story.



Our 2nd Annual "Give the Joy of Toys" campaign was a huge success!

In collaboration with #GivingTuesday, CASA CIS held its Give the Joy of Toys campaign for the second year in a row. Because we had such great success last year, we again asked our community to help by purchasing a gift from our Amazon wish list so our advocates could "shop" for their kids for the holidays from the donated toys!

Again, the response from our

community was overwhelming. This campaign has been incredibly special for our advocates and the children they serve. We are thrilled with its success and are grateful to all those who purchased toys or donated.



A new way to donate!

A special thanks goes out to Robin Briceno and the Briceno Layson Foundation. In December 2022, Robin Briceno and her son, Erik Briceno of V2 Systems, Inc., reached out to CASA CIS wanting to donate stock, but we were not set-up to accept stock donations.

We reached out to our amazing board member, John Frisch at Savant Wealth Management, and he set up a brokerage account for CASA CIS. On December 22, 2022, we received our first gift of stock. So, to all our partners, from this point forward we can now accept stock donations!

We are truly appreciative of the thoughtfulness of the entire Briceno family for their amazing donation. Thank you for your support.

Announcing our 26th Annual Evening Under the Stars

We are thrilled to announce that we've chosen the date for our 26th Annual Evening Under the Stars gala! Please save the date for September 15, 2023. The gala will be held at Westfields Marriott again this year, with music by The Deloreans Band! We hope to see you there! Please continue to check our **Facebook** page for updates. There will be a block of rooms available at a discounted rate, and we will be posting the link to reserve them in the upcoming weeks!

Save the Date

Our 26th Annual

Evening Under the Stars

Friday, September 15, 2023

Westfields Marriott

14750 Conference Center Dr, Chantilly, VA 20151



Entertainment by
**THE DELOREANS
BAND**

Rooms available

Recent Community Support



A special thank you to Manassas Bull Run Kiwanis Club for their donation of \$2,500. We are honored to be one of your charities of choice! With this donation, we can continue to help find permanency for the kids we serve.



The 10th Annual Gainesville-Haymarket Rotary 9 Hole Golf Tournament Fundraiser was held in October with a portion of the proceeds benefitting CASA CIS. In December we were blown away when they dropped off a check for \$7,000!



The Giving Circle of Heritage Hunt chose CASA CIS as their charity recently. In December we received a generous donation of \$7,050. We could not do what we do without the help of our community. A giant thank you to all who participated, and for choosing CASA CIS as your charity.

We also want to acknowledge and give a special thanks to the I.J. and Hilda M. Breeden Foundation for their donation of \$5,000; and the Louise B. Cochrane Charitable Foundation, with their donation of \$5,000. We are honored and humbled at your support for our mission and we depend on community support like yours to help us continue to serve our children.

February 2023 Training

This month we've been busy training new advocates and preparing them to take on their first cases. They've been working hard to get through their 30+ hours of training and were sworn in on February 28, 2023. They will be assigned to their cases in the next few weeks!



Meet the Advocate



Roberto Saldana is one of our newest advocates. Rob fills a lot of gaps in our organization -- we are always seeking more male advocates, and he's Spanish-speaking, as well! His supervisor hand-picked him for a specific, complicated case before he even finished training. On why Rob became a CASA:

To be able to be a part of an organization that is dedicated to helping every abused or neglected child find an opportunity to thrive in a safe and loving home is an honor and a privilege. I can genuinely empathize with kids who deal with such hardship. I grew up in a broken home with no father and a mother who did her best to keep our family together despite dealing with an almost insurmountable amount of stress and adversity. Quite often, I experienced the perils of neglect and abuse from the hands of other family members who lived in the household with us. What I would like to accomplish as a CASA is uncomplicated and straightforward: to be a beacon of hope for a child who is going through such hardship and be that anchor for him or her during such troubling times.

Additionally, I would like to support the parents in any way I can by ensuring that they are meeting all their court-appointed stipulations as required. At the end of the day, the overarching goal I would like to accomplish is that both the parent(s) and child(ren) are in a position where they can be happy in their situation. Given my childhood, one of the things I always strived to do was help underprivileged communities see that there is hope and better days moving forward. I have been able to rise from my troubled upbringing and been fortunate enough to join the Army and attain my Master's in Public Health. What I

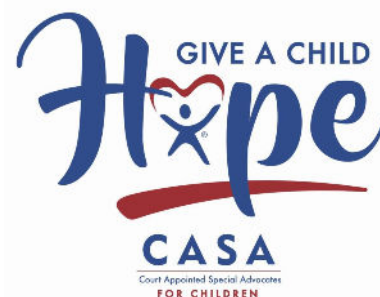
would like to do now is to give back and help those in need, and I believe the CASA program is a perfect place to start doing so.

Upcoming Info Sessions and Training

Our upcoming info sessions will be held on March 8, March 22, April 5, April 19, May 3, and May 17. The application deadline for our next training is May 19, 2023.

Our June training dates are June 3, June 6, June 8, June 10, June 13, June 15, June 20, with the swearing in date scheduled for June 22.

If you are interested in attending an upcoming info session, please reach out to info@casacis.org for registration information.



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Court Appointed Special Advocates
FOR CHILDREN

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