

The Child's Voice CASA CIS Quarterly Newsletter



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CHILD'S STORY.™



Our 26th Annual Evening Under the Stars

A GALA TO SUPPORT COURT APPOINTED SPECIAL ADVOCATES, CHILDREN'S INTERVENTION SERVICES

Our 26th Annual Evening Under the Stars



Friday, September 15, 2023
5:30-11 p.m.

Westfields Marriott
14750 Conference Center Dr, Chantilly, VA 20151

Purchase tickets
or sponsorship

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a room

Live entertainment by
**THE
DELOREANS
BAND**

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We are extremely excited for this year's 26th Annual Evening Under the Stars, which is being held on September 15, 2023, at **Westfields Marriott**. The evening begins at 5:30 p.m. with cocktails and our silent auction, followed by dinner, dancing, and lots of fun! We have a block of 25 rooms reserved at a reduced rate, so act fast if you would like to take

advantage of this offer!

Click on the links below for ticket and sponsorship information, room reservations, and to check out the phenomenal band we chose for the evening.

Purchase your tickets or sponsorships [HERE](#)

Reserve your room [HERE](#)

View the band [HERE](#)

We hope to see you there!

Become a Superhero to a CASA child!



With April being National Child Abuse Prevention Month and May being National Foster Care Month, we're focusing on the work we do for the most vulnerable children in our community - children who have suffered from abuse and neglect. We need your help and are asking you to join our efforts to help us advocate for the best interests of each abused and neglected child referred to us.

For \$25 a month - less than \$1 a day - you can become a superhero to a CASA child. Set up your recurring \$25 monthly donation through [our website](#) and help us ensure that each child's needs are identified and addressed with the goal of living in a safe and permanent home.

In Memoriam Patrick King

Patrick served on the CASA board for a number of years. His life story brought him to CASA and he had a passion for the organization because of his personal experiences. Patrick was a business owner, a volunteer, a community servant, and, to many of us, a good friend. Patrick never said no, he often committed himself to multiple tasks -- I had to tell him once that he needed to make sure his logo was on his work that he was doing for CASA -- he never sought recognition. The community has lost an important person -- but we have lost a friend. Please keep Rebecca, Victoria, and all of his family in your thoughts and prayers. -- Jason Hickman, CASA CIS Board Chair



We are forever grateful for the contributions Patrick made to our program and the brightness he brought to our lives.

In Loving Memory

Brenda Lipps Knowles and Beth Kirk



We have been amazed by the heartwarming and generous donations to CASA CIS in memory of Brenda Lipps Knowles, who passed away in March, and Beth Kirk, who passed away in April.

A heartfelt thank you to both Brenda and Beth's families and friends for their support of our vision where all children who are abused, neglected, or abandoned are given a voice and the chance to thrive in a safe and loving home. Our sincerest thoughts and prayers go out to Brenda and Beth's families during this incredibly difficult time.

"So it's true, when all is said and done, grief is the price we pay for love." -- E.A. Bucchianeri

June Advocate Training

On June 3, 2023, we welcomed 10 new trainees to our June training, including our newest Child Advocacy Supervisor, Fatima Lagos-Ochoa!

These future CASAs are hard at work completing their 30 hours of training before being sworn in as Court Appointed Special Advocates on June 22, 2023. Please join us in welcoming these amazing new volunteers to our program! We are so happy to have you on our team, Fatima, Sarah, Robert, Wendy, Michael, Thomas, Aurelio, Scott, Shelby, and Celina!



Our next training begins October 7, 2023! To join an upcoming virtual info session, please inquire at info@casacis.org for more information.

Recent Community Support



Hey, Manassas! Due to your support at Old Town Strong monthly happy hours over the last quarter, Old Town Strong was able to donate \$2640 to CASA CIS. We are so grateful for your ongoing community support! A huge thank you and shout out to all the incredible sponsors: **CJ Finz, Loveless Porter Architects, Imagine, Safe & Sound Inc., Mulcahy Services Lawn & Landscape, Manassas Asphalt Inc., MP Copiers, Inc., and Freedom Bank.**



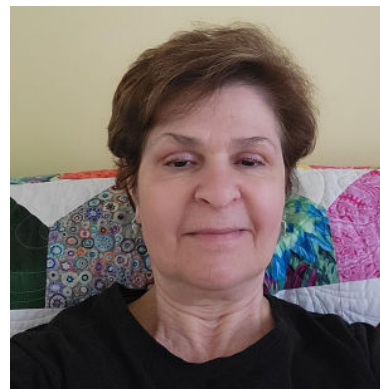
On April 26, 2023, The Giving Circle of Heritage Hunt hosted an educational meeting focused on youth mental health. Our Executive Director, Linda Krieg, along with Dwight Vick of Victory Life, were invited to be guest speakers. Linda and Dwight discussed important topics

that our youth face today, such as substance abuse, suicide, and mental health concerns. Thank you to The Giving Circle of Heritage Hunt for inviting us to speak to your members about these important topics, as well as our mission.



Advocate Spotlight

Joan Girardi entered the workforce as a Speech Pathologist in 1974 with a clear desire to help children overcome difficulties. After earning an M.Ed. in Special Education, she became a classroom teacher for students with special needs. Her M.S. in Organizational Learning underscored everything she learned in the past. Joan explained, "Becoming a CASA allowed me to continue helping children after I retired. I was fortunate to have trusted adults in my life to help and guide me. As a CASA, I can return the favor and help our children meet their challenges." Joan is a diligent, thorough, and engaged advocate for the children on her case, who she has been advocating for since 2021. Despite multiple placements, Joan has been visiting her CASA kids at least once a month, sometimes more, for over two years.



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