



Spring 2010

New Tulsa CASA Volunteer Advocates

Tulsa CASA welcomed new volunteer advocates. After completing 30 hours of training and court observation, these volunteers were sworn in and assigned cases in Juvenile Court.



Front row: Gary Johnson, Connie Bailon, Traci-Michelle Hamilton, Laurie Johnson, Andrea Moore, and Bianca Townsend. **Back row:** Judge Doris Fransein and Inger Laws



Front row: Bob Lanier, Abir Bhan, Alex Lengen, Greg Davis
Middle row: Barbara Armijo, Phyllis Joseph, Julie Lacy, Judge Kyle Haskins, Paige Nichols, Ashley Parrott, Brender Martin
Back row: Beth Vitali, Shelly Bogans



Tulsa County Juvenile Court Chief Judge Doris Fransein (pictured left) was named Oklahoma CASA Association Judge of the Year. Judge Fransein was honored at a luncheon in Oklahoma City in April. Congratulations and appreciation for her dedication and years of service to the children of Oklahoma. Pictured left: Tulsa CASA volunteers and staff with Judge Fransein.



2009 Tulsa CASA Statistics

Number of volunteer advocates: 112
 Number of children served: 369
 Number of cases: 183

Tulsa CASA, Inc
 700 S. Boston, Suite 230



Become a fan of Tulsa CASA.
 See our latest class of volunteer advocates and photos from our Justice is Served event. Write on our wall and tell us why you are a fan.

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HAPPY BIRTHDAY TULSA CASA! A Message from Executive Director Pam Dose

Yes, 2010 marks our 25th anniversary. During this year we will honor the past, celebrate the present and look forward to the future. This newsletter highlights a little of all three. Jane Hayden, our staff person who has been with CASA the longest, has prepared some interesting statistics and reflections on our past. Our present is represented by our current board members who are leading us through another successful year. And, our CASA volunteers are our future. Their advocacy for the children is what our past and present are based on as they help children have a better future.



I have a file with letters and emails from those who have had a CASA volunteer. Occasionally, when the day to day grind seems to be closing in I open the file and sit and read their notes and comments. It helps me focus once again on the importance of our past, present and future and the reason we are here. My daily grind is nothing compared to what some of our children go through and I am so grateful that we have volunteers, board members, staff and donors who have seen the importance of our work since 1985!

THANK YOU ALL! HAPPY BIRTHDAY TULSA CASA!

Tulsa CASA Over the Years



CASA Manager Jane Hayden was recognized by the Board of Directors for 15 years of service to Tulsa CASA. Jane offers some reflections on her now almost 16 years with Tulsa CASA.

Since working with CASA, there have been 4 executive directors, one temporary director, and one period of staff reporting directly to the board president. There have been 32 staff working in a variety of positions. Tulsa CASA has occupied 6 offices in 3 different buildings. I have worked with several judges and children's attorneys and too many assistant district attorneys and child welfare staff to even count.

I've had the pleasure of working with over 150 volunteers and applaud their hard work in speaking for the "best interest" of our abused and neglected children. It is a difficult job to deal with the complexities of a "deprived" case and effectively communicate with the many parties to the case in their advocacy for a child. Often CASA volunteers do not receive the recognition and respect they deserve. The dedication of CASA volunteers continues to amaze me.

CASA currently has the largest budget ever and I appreciate the efforts of the board, staff, volunteers and community in achieving this level of funding. I continue to believe in the mission of CASA and am pleased that we are celebrating our 25th birthday and have maintained a positive reputation in the Tulsa social service and court communities.

I hope we keep our focus on program issues with continuous evaluation and improvement. Our ultimate goal is to have a sufficient number of volunteers so that each child is appointed a CASA when they enter the judicial system. Our ongoing goal is to provide quality child advocacy and excellent support and mentoring to our volunteers.

Thanks to each of you for whatever part you've played in strengthening CASA so we may fulfill our mission with professionalism, accountability, and commitment.



Tulsa CASA Board President 2010 is Stacey Butterfield.

Stacey is the Associate Superintendent of Jenks Public Schools. She has a Bachelor's and Master's Degree from Oklahoma State University and is currently pursuing a doctorate degree from the University of Oklahoma. Stacey has a tuxedo cat named Cosmo. She enjoys spending time with family and friends, traveling, and exercising. Stacey has been a board member since 2008. **Asked why she joined the board:** *To support the efforts devoted to making a much needed difference in the lives of young people in the Tulsa area.*

Featured Board Member Corner: Pat Atkinson

Pat is currently a Communications Consultant after a long career with the local media. **Asked why she joined the board:** *Homeless, forgotten, unwanted, sick, abused, and discarded children and animals who are innocent and unable to find their way without guidance deserve all the assistance and compassion we can provide them. My interests are connected to missions that help society's "underdogs" – children and pets. I've long admired CASA's mission and value in the community.*



Justice is Served 2010 is a huge success!

Honorary Chairs: Curtis and Brenda Dinan

Thank you to Justice is Served Sponsors:

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Celebrity Waiters:

Dave Been
Deirdre Dexter
Drew Edmondson
Tim Harris
Lucky Lamons
Judy Eason McIntyre
Ron Peters
Jabar Shumate
John Smaligo
Allen Smallwood



Guests at the E.L. and Thelma Gaylord Foundation Table toast Tulsa CASA's 25th anniversary.



Pictured left: Event Chairs Curtis and Brenda Dinan and event emcee, Lt. Gov. Jari Askins.

Pictured below: Celebrity Waiter Drew Edmondson (right) gets a tip from Barbara Smallwood and (left) Judy Eason McIntyre serves dessert to guests at the Williams table.

Pictured below: Juvenile Court Judge Edward Hicks receives special recognition upon his retirement. CASA Volunteer Advocate Wade Fisher speaks about his experience as a CASA.



Justice is Served raised \$47,000 to help recruit, train, and support volunteer advocates for children in the court system in foster care. Members of **Kappa Alpha Theta**, TU, helped with the live auction. Cast members from **Jenks High School "All Shook Up"** performed (pictured below). Celebrity Waiters **Ron Peters** and **Lucky Lamons** were recognized as celebrity waiter emeriti along with **Tim Harris** (not present) and received a CASA red apron (pictured right.) Also pictured: Veteran auctioneer **Jay Litchfield** at work during the live auction.



Tulsa CASA Board of Directors

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Tulsa CASA Staff:

In case you have any questions, please feel free to contact the staff at 584-2272. Also listed are the staff e-mail addresses and extensions:

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Attention Volunteers!

Phone in your hours: 584-2272

Fax in your hours: 584-5740

E-mail your hours: tulsacasa@tulsacasa.org

Any way you like it...please report your hours monthly.

The mission of Tulsa CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates), as authorized by Oklahoma law, is to speak for the best interests of abused and neglected children in court. We promote and support volunteer representation for the children in an effort to provide each child a safe, permanent, nurturing home.



Tulsa CASA is pleased to have provided volunteer advocates to speak up in court for Tulsa area abused and neglected children in state custody for 25 years and counting.

Voca
The Office of Victims of Crime
Provides Funding to CASA

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