



CASA CONNECTION

Volume 4: Issue 10

October 2017

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Abuse Hotline
1-800-222-8000

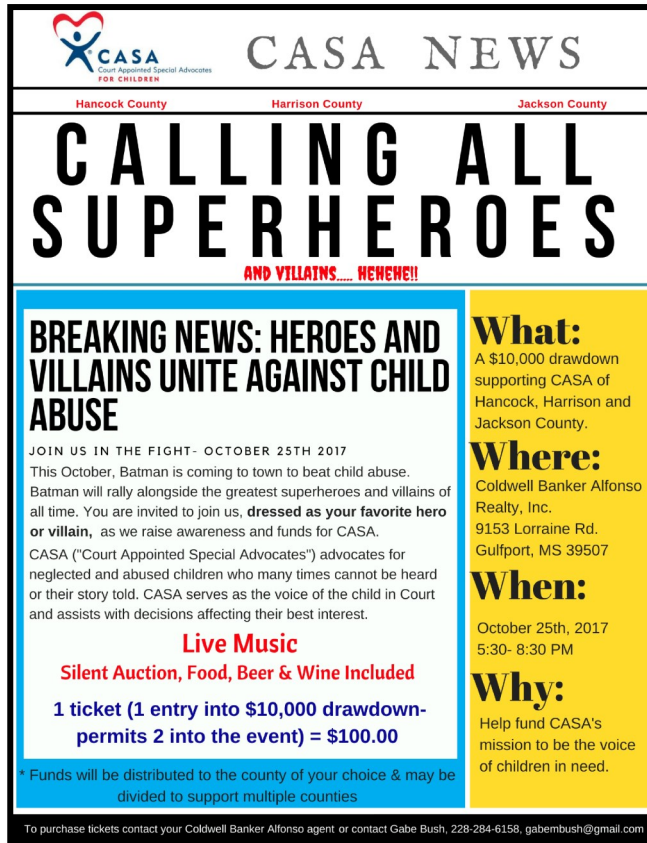
Drawdown for Coastal CASA Programs

Coldwell Banker Alfonso Realty of Gulfport is "Calling All Superheroes" as they host a Drawdown to support the CASA programs of Hancock, Harrison and Jackson Counties. The event will be held at Coldwell Banker Alfonso Realty, Inc. in Gulfport on October 25, 5:30—8:30 p.m.

Tickets to the **\$10,000 drawdown** will be \$100, which is good for 1 entry into the drawdown and will admit 2 guests. Tickets will include a silent auction, live music, food, beer and wine for guest to enjoy.

Sponsorships for this important event are still available. The **\$1000 "Super Sponsorship"** will not only support the program of your choice, but will provide you with 12 tickets-12 drawdown entries and admit 24 guests. The **\$500 "Captain America Sponsorship"** will support the program of your choice and provide you with 6 tickets-6 drawdown entries and admit 12 guests. Sponsorships will provide additional perks such as recognition in the event program.

For tickets, sponsorship information or to donate silent auction items, contact Gabe Bush at Coldwell Banker Alfonso Realty, 228-284-6158, gabembush@gmail.com or any CASA staff.



CASA NEWS
Hancock County Harrison County Jackson County

CALLING ALL SUPERHEROES

AND VILLAINS..... HEHEHE!!

BREAKING NEWS: HEROES AND VILLAINS UNITE AGAINST CHILD ABUSE

JOIN US IN THE FIGHT- OCTOBER 25TH 2017
This October, Batman is coming to town to beat child abuse. Batman will rally alongside the greatest superheroes and villains of all time. You are invited to join us, **dressed as your favorite hero or villain**, as we raise awareness and funds for CASA. CASA ("Court Appointed Special Advocates") advocates for neglected and abused children who many times cannot be heard or their story told. CASA serves as the voice of the child in Court and assists with decisions affecting their best interest.

What:
A \$10,000 drawdown supporting CASA of Hancock, Harrison and Jackson County.

Where:
Coldwell Banker Alfonso Realty, Inc.
9153 Lorraine Rd.
Gulfport, MS 39507

When:
October 25th, 2017
5:30- 8:30 PM

Why:
Help fund CASA's mission to be the voice of children in need.

Live Music
Silent Auction, Food, Beer & Wine Included
1 ticket (1 entry into \$10,000 drawdown- permits 2 into the event) = \$100.00

* Funds will be distributed to the county of your choice & may be divided to support multiple counties.

To purchase tickets contact your Coldwell Banker Alfonso agent or contact Gabe Bush, 228-284-6158, gabembush@gmail.com



October Birthdays

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|--|
| October 6
Troy Ross | October 23
Rachel Armstrong
Lucy Selman |
| October 20
Dylan Demouey | October 24
Cassie Crocker
Debbie Gill |
| October 21
Conal Lancaster | October 27
Middie Blake |



Court Dates

Your Court date is **very important**. Your **presence is needed** at all Court hearings. However, if you are unavailable to attend, please contact the CASA office and provide an update of your case. CASA staff will present your report to the Court. **Your input is essential. Your child/children are counting on you to provide their voice in Court. Please review the schedule carefully. If you have any questions contact Amy or any staff for assistance.**

Confidential

Information unavailable



County Conference's

County Conference's are held every six months to discuss and review the permanent plan of the child/children in foster care. Your attendance and input is requested. The review is **NOT** a court hearing, however, the testimony delivered during the conference will be provided to the Court to aid in making decisions about the Child's best interest. **Please contact the CASA staff if you are not able to attend.**

Confidential

Information unavailable

Latest Program Statistics

JC CASA is a volunteer-powered organization that advocates for the abused and neglected children of our county. We have an amazing group of dedicated volunteers that provide a voice for these children throughout their court process. As of August 31, 2017 we have **111 Volunteers** serving **142 children** from **83 families** with **14,401 donated hours of service**.

We want to thank our Volunteers for making a difference in the lives of children in need.

In-Service Dates for Volunteers

To maintain your CASA standing you are required to complete 12 hours of In-Service training each year. Be sure to include any completed In-Service hours on your monthly reports. We would like to discuss topics that would be beneficial to you. Please contact the CASA staff if you have special requests.

October 9 and 10 we will host an In-Service on Human Trafficking: October 9, 6:00 p.m.—8:00 p.m. at the Jackson County Youth Court and October 10, 9:00 a.m.—11:00 a.m. in the CASA office building. The In-Service is being presented by Advocates for Freedom. **Reservations are required.** You are welcome to bring an adult guest to this very important presentation. For more information, contact the CASA office.

October 14 the Dixie Dart Association will host a dart tournament to benefit our CASA program. The event will be held at O'Diddles Night Club, 16305 Big Ridge Road, Biloxi. Registration begins at 11:00 a.m. and the tournament will begin at noon. There is a \$10.00 entry fee for each tournament. This is a great way to have a lot of fun and spread the word of our mission.

October 18 Gulf Coast Center for Nonviolence will host GREEN DOT BYSTANDER TRAINING, 12:30—4:30 p.m. at the Ocean Springs Library, 525 Dewey Ave., Ocean Springs. The Green Dot program teaches easy methods of bystander intervention that anyone can do to help prevent and respond to incidents of violence in our community. Space is limited so call 228-436-3809 or email rdavis@gcwcfn.org to reserve your spot for this free training before October 17.

October 25 Coldwell Banker Alfonso Realty of Gulfport is "Calling All Superheroes" as they host a Drawdown to support the CASA programs of Hancock, Harrison and Jackson Counties. Tickets to the \$10,000 drawdown will be \$100, which is good for 1 entry into the drawdown and admits 2; silent auction, music, beer and wine included. For tickets or sponsorship information contact Gabe Bush at Coldwell Banker Alfonso Realty, gabembush@gmail.com 228-284-6158 or any CASA staff if you would like to assist with this fundraiser. See page 1 for more information.

October 26 is set for our Taters for Tots fundraiser. Your assistance with this major event is greatly needed. There is a lot of time and effort involved in putting this together. FOC Mark Roberts has been working for the past several months securing the items needed to prepare the lunch boxes. Now it is time to pull together and sell, package and deliver the meals. We are in need of volunteers to assist in several capacities over the next few weeks. Hopefully, you will find one of the options suitable for your schedule. Any time that you spend helping with this important fundraising event will count as In-Service hours. Please check the article *Taters for Tots Workday* on page 4 for details. We need you!

Fall Training Completed

Our Fall Volunteer Training was held throughout the month of September. Gertrude Elaine Croon, Marena Harper, Dan Hentges, Curt Loosli, Sherry Loosli, Vickey Lovorn, Cindy Mason and Janice Westfaul began their training September 7 and were scheduled for Induction on September 28. The Induction Ceremony had to be rescheduled. The two Summer Training participants, Evelyn Douglas and Shannon Triplett will join the Fall Training group on October 2 for their long awaited Induction.

The training was conducted by the CASA staff and guest facilitators. We would like to extend our sincere gratitude to those who assisted with the training. We were honored to have Judge Sharon Sigalas from Jackson County Youth Court present information regarding the law, the child protection system and the courts to the new advocates. Assisting the staff as guest facilitators were CASA Volunteers Middie Blake, Karen Bradley, Debbie Braudis, Paula Perry and Patty Waters.

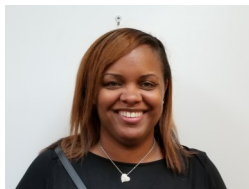
On October 2, the new volunteers will proudly stand before Judge Sigalas in a courtroom filled with special guests and family members as they accept the CASA Oath and become advocates for children of abuse and neglect. This will definitely be a proud moment for all. We are looking forward to the Induction! Meet our new Volunteer Advocates for 2017.



Gertrude Elaine Croon



Evelyn Douglas



Marena Harper



Dan Hentges



Curt Loosli



Sherry Loosli



Vickey Lovorn



Cindy Mason



Shannon Triplett



Janice Westfaul

Taters for Tots Workdays

HELP NEEDED!

Our Taters for Tots fundraiser was started in 2014 with 100 lunch boxes being sold. Due to the overwhelming success of our first attempt, we increased the number of lunchboxes to 200 in 2015 and 300 in 2016. Our Taters for Tots fundraiser for this year is scheduled for October 26 and we are going for our maximum of 300! Of course we are going to need a lot of help to make this happen. We are in need of volunteers to assist in several capacities over the next few weeks. If you would like to help with securing orders, delivery, washing potatoes, preparing boxes, etc. just call the CASA office and we will schedule a time for you to work. Hopefully, you will find one of the options suitable for your schedule. Once again, FOC Mark Roberts has secured the items needed to prepare the meals. The items will begin to arrive at the CASA office on October 23 and we will need assistance in getting them ready for the lunch box meals. We also offered delivery on large orders of 10 or more and expect to have several requests. Drivers for pick-up and delivery will be needed for October 26. We have created a work plan to help us prepare for the big day.

Taters for Tots Work Schedule

October 1— October 20

Contact the CASA office for instructions and order forms

October 23, 24 and 25

9:00 a.m.— 11:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m.—4:00 p.m.

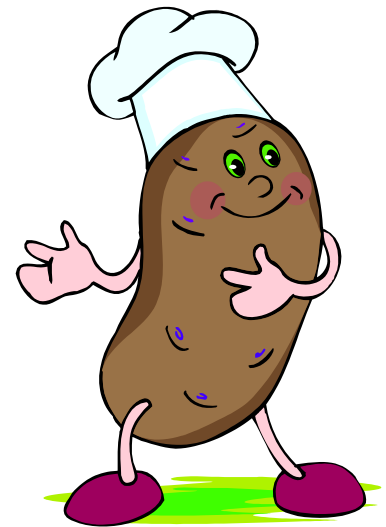
- wash potatoes and dry
- package condiments (cheese, chives, bacon bits)
- wrap cookies
- stuff condiment bags for box lunches
- prepare labels for lunch boxes and receipts for condiment bags
- attach labels to lunch boxes and receipts to condiment bags

October 26

8:00 a.m.—1:00 p.m.

Time will vary according to your assigned tasks. Any time you can assist will be greatly appreciated.

- Pick-up chili and potatoes and deliver to the CASA office
- Package chili bowls
- Assemble meals
- Package large orders for delivery
- Deliver lunches to designated locations; most orders are requested between 10:00 a.m. and noon
- Designated Runner for miscellaneous errands
- Accountant: collect and receipt all money
- Cleanup



Please let us know immediately, but no later than October 19 if you plan to participate. We need to make sure that we have all the necessary help for the big day. Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

FYI



Frances Allsup is ready for an interactive game with guests of the United Way Campaign Kickoff Event

The United Way 2018 Campaign got off to a big start at the September 8 Kick-Off Event which was held at the Family Interactive Center in Pascagoula. CASA, represented by Frances Allsup and Brenda Lancaster, and the other United Way agencies were on hand to provide information about their organizations through fun, interactive games. We want to take this opportunity to thank the United Way for their continued support of our mission and wish them good luck for a successful campaign season.

September 25, Eva Wood delivered beautiful handmade quilts, made and donated by Frances Hartman of Hampton, VA, to the CASA office. The quilts will be presented to children during the upcoming holiday season. Ms. Hartman has been a dedicated supporter of our CASA program for many years.



Frances Allsup with Eva Wood

IMPORTANT REMINDER: Your CASA children's Christmas wish lists are due to the CASA office by October 31. Please talk with your CASA children and try to find out what they would like Santa to bring them for Christmas. As you know these lists will be provided to the sponsors to use as a guide when making their purchases. If you know of a business, organization or individual that would like to help provide Christmas for CASA children, please have them contact any CASA staff as soon as possible.