



CASA CONNECTION

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Jackson County CASA, Inc.
4903 Telephone Road
Pascagoula, MS 39567

Phone: 228-762-7370
Fax: 228-762-7385

frances_allsup@co.jackson.ms.us
brenda_lancaster@co.jackson.ms.us
amy_guidry@co.jackson.ms.us
adrian_mccullum@co.jackson.ms.us

www.jccasa.net



Frances L. Allsup
Executive Director

Brenda M. Lancaster
Permanency
Coordinator

Amy L. Guidry
Volunteer
Coordinator

Adrian D. McCullum
Program Assistant

Board of Directors:
Marilyn Montgomery
Ken Rice
Troy Ross
Misty Russell
Lucy Selman
Shannon Vincent
Karen Whitford

www.jccasa.net

Jaimee Dorris has been providing and maintaining our CASA website since its inception. Unfortunately, she is moving on to new ventures. We want to thank Jaimee for all that she has done for our program. Because of Jaimee's departure and the fact that our website is such an important tool for our program, we had to look for other options.



Anna Scovel

For the past several weeks our website has been undergoing a revamping and it is almost ready for the big unveiling. Thanks to the diligent efforts of our Program Assistant, Adrian McCullum and Anna Scovel, it will be up and running by the first week of August.

Anna is a student of Mississippi University for Women. She has worked very closely with Adrian and the entire staff to ensure that our needs are met. Their goal was to create an inviting website that would be informative and easy to navigate; and they have done just that.

We are very excited about our updated website and can't wait for all of you to see the new look and improvements. We are sure you will be pleased with the transformation.

Please take some time and visit our website at www.jccasa.net You will be glad you did!

August Birthdays

August 3
Virginia Brink

August 4
Lucy-Hurst Gordon

August 9
Lenita Long

August 15
Jamie Farnham

August 26
Karen Bradley

August 28
Paula Perry
Patty Waters

August 29
Cecil Colson
Dana Newell

August 30
Frances Allsup
Kea Theroux



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Santa Clause is Coming to Town



Yes, Christmas is a mere five months away and it is time for us to gear up and get ready for the magical chaos in the CASA office. It is about this time each year that we are contacted by various organizations, individuals and groups asking for a list of children and their Christmas wishes. These lists are hard to provide without help from our volunteers.

Please talk with your CASA children over the next couple of months 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. Knowing the children's sizes (pants, shirts, jackets, shoes, etc.), and any details (such as their favorite color, hobby, sport, team, game, etc.) can also be very helpful.

Send the information to the CASA office by October 31.

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.

**Abuse Hotline
1-800-222-8000**



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

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.

Volunteer Recruitment: Volunteers are NEEDED. If you know someone that has expressed interest in getting involved with our program, please let them know about our upcoming Fall training which will be held throughout the month of September. **If each volunteer would recruit just ONE person then we could increase our ability to serve more children.** Anyone interested can drop by the CASA office to pick up an application, call us and we will mail them a copy or they can access the application on our website www.iccasa.net



Fundraising Event

The Hardee's Fundraising event came to an end on July 31 and it was a big success. We want to thank the Paradigm Investment Group, parent company of the local Hardee's restaurants, for this wonderful opportunity; with special thanks to Zachary Dotson, manager of Gautier Hardee's and Denise Meeks of Paradigm Investment Group for their efforts in orchestrating this fundraising event. We also want to thank all of you who helped make it a success with your generous donations.



July 26, The CASA staff and members of our Board of Directors visited each participating restaurant to thank the managers and their staff for their dedication toward the fundraising efforts. They will never know how much they are appreciated.

Our heartfelt thanks go out to the Paradigm Investment Group, the restaurant manager and their staff, and each of you for your generosity and support of our mission. Pictured at left: The CASA group visits the Gautier Hardee's Restaurant

FYI

Frances Allsup and Zachary Dotson, manager of the Gautier Hardee's Restaurant, were interviewed by Dr. Sherman Blackwell, WGUD TV on June 26. The interview helped promote the Fundraising event that would be held in the Jackson County Hardee's restaurants throughout July. Proceeds from the event will benefit our program.

Back to school supplies for our children are ready for pick up. Thanks to Biloxi-Ocean Springs Junior Auxiliary each CASA child will receive an age appropriate backpack filled with basic school supplies. Additional supplies, donated by Dixie Dart Association, will be available on a first come first serve basis. Either the CASA Volunteer or the foster parents may come by the office and collect the supplies for the children. **Supplies will be available for distribution July 26 – August 4.**

Debra and Terry Franklin, owners of Sweets Lounge and Cock of the Walk in Ocean Springs, made a monetary donation to our program to assist with the purchase of additional school supplies if needed. Frances met with Debra on July 11 to accept the donation. We are grateful for their continued support of our mission.



Frances Allsup and Debra Franklin

Save the Date: November 17



What better way to start the holiday season than spending time with friends and family. November 17, we will host our *Thankful for You* luncheon at the Fountainbleau Community Center, 3905 Highway 57, Ocean Springs. So, mark your calendars and join us as we celebrate our CASA family.

Plans are well under way for the big day. Guests will enjoy a traditional holiday meal while mixing and mingling with our CASA family. Not only will there be food, fun and fellowship but there will be door prizes too! You don't want to miss out on this special event.

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 June 30, 2017 we have **110 Volunteers** serving **169 children** from **95 families** with **12,529 donated hours of service.**

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