



## APRIL ACTIVITIES

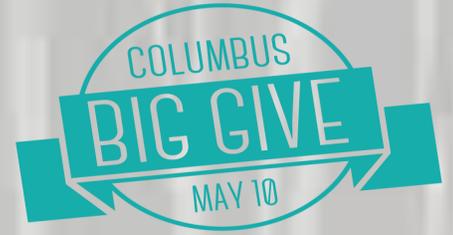
**April was a busy month for our staff & volunteers.**

- ★ Our staff members & several volunteers attended the Nebraska State CASA Association conference in Kearney. The weekend was filled with lots of networking, fellowship and excellent presentations including the keynote speaker, Brad Butler. Many said they could have listened to him for hours as he spoke about illegal drug use.
- ★ Attorney Jason Mielak was a guest presenter during April's Continuing Education series. He explained the GAL's role in child abuse/neglect cases. We appreciate Jason taking the time to speak to us.
- ★ We celebrated Child Abuse Prevention month. A nice group of supporters gathered in our conference room for a "Go Blue For Child Abuse Prevention" photo.



“If I can sit down for freedom,  
you can stand up for children.” Rosa Parks

Thank you to everyone who helped with the Columbus Big Give event held May 10. Whether you shopped at the rummage sale the weekend before, assisted during event, helped with the promotion or made a donation to CASA Connection, **WE THANK YOU!**



A big **THANK YOU** to CPD Investigator Jaymee Levander who was the presenter at our June CEU training sessions. Jaymee spoke about the investigation process of child abuse/neglect cases which was very informative & interesting. A couple attendees said they could have listened to her presentation for much longer.

**Thank you Jaymee for your work & dedication.**



New CASA volunteers, from left to right: Kim Schmidt, Joy Dannelly and Carrie Kreber were sworn in by Platte County judge, The Honorable Frank J. Skorupa on Thursday, June 7, 2018.

**Congratulations ladies!**

## Meet Our New Volunteers



Joy Dannelly, is a nurse & mother of 2 grown sons. She enjoys reading, sewing, & volunteering.



Carrie Kreber, this teacher & mother of 2 enjoys scrap-booking, knitting & photography.



Kim Schmidt is a 6th grade teacher & mother of 2 & was also a foster mom. In her spare time she enjoys playing cards & being with her grandchildren.

**WELCOME**

# Upcoming Events!



## COLFAX COUNTY FAIR

CASA Connection will have a booth at the Colfax County Fair in Leigh July 20-22. Stop by & learn how you could become a CASA Volunteer Advocate.

## COLUMBUS DAYS

Stop by the CASA Connection booth in Frankfort Square on Saturday, August 18 during the "Big Red Block Party".

## "I'M A LITTLE CUTIE" BABY CONTEST

CASA Connection will host the "I'm a Little Cutie" baby contest for children ages 0-18 months during the Columbus Days celebration, Saturday August 18 starting at 8:30 am in Frankfort Square.

*Pre-registration is required. Registration forms can be picked up during regular business hours at the Columbus Chamber of Commerce, Shelley Stempek State Farm Insurance Office, Corner Stop or CASA Connection office located at 1465 27th Ave. You may also email [casacon@megavision.com](mailto:casacon@megavision.com) or call (402)563-4944.*



## NEW VOLUNTEER TRAINING

We will be starting a New Volunteer Training Class in July with volunteers from Platte & Colfax Counties. If you would like to become a volunteer please email Lisa at [casacoord@gmail.com](mailto:casacoord@gmail.com)



### BIRTHDAYS



Annette Davis	July 11
Jamey Price	August 22
Carrie Trofholz	August 27
Tammy Micek	September 1
Tami Altstadt	October 11
Robbin Cutsor	October 24



## Help Us Reach Every Child

The majority of abused and neglected children do not have a CASA volunteer by their side. You can help change that.

Join the **I** am for the child movement.



## ***I'M A CASA BECAUSE.....*** Testimonials from some of our volunteers

### **Bonnie: "I am a CASA because....**

it is amazing the powerful voice one person can have to affect the life of another, especially those that have no voice. My goal in life is that I want to make a difference no matter what I do; in my career, in my personal life and in my volunteer life. Becoming a CASA has allowed me to make a difference for society's most vulnerable; our precious children. I have been truly blessed to have been given the opportunity to become a CASA."

### **Renee: "I am a CASA because....**

When I went through Leadership Columbus, the mission and purpose of CASA left a mark on me. To learn about children in the court system due to neglect or abuse and caused me to wonder if I would be able to help these children. After much thought, I reached out to the CASA director to learn more about this program. After learning more about ways that CASA volunteers have helped the children I decided to "sign up"! My time volunteering has helped me to realize the hurdles that children go through once they are found to be neglected or abused. These children need someone to be "in their corner" and someone that truly cares about their current well being and future. "

### **Rhonda "I am a CASA because....**

I am a CASA because of the kids. Their voices need to be heard. It is a fulfilling volunteering job. Each child touches my heart in a different way. Children are innocent and have lots of issues when dealing with adult situations that they don't understand. So to help them voice their questions and concerns is a privilege to me."



## **CASA Connection sends a huge Thank You to the following for all of their past support, funding, and in-kind donations!**

***Platte County, Nebraska  
Colfax County, Nebraska  
Columbus Area United Way  
Nebraska CASA Association  
National CASA Association  
Snow Redfern Foundation  
Cornhusker Goodwill Fund  
Walmart  
Linda K. Price  
VOCA  
BD Medical***

## **CURRENT PROGRAM STATISTICS SINCE JANUARY 1, 2018**

**12 Children referred to our program  
40 Children served with an advocate  
3 New volunteers sworn in**

**46 Cases monitored  
19 Active volunteers**

## **Board Members**

**Lisa McFarland ~ President**  
**Robbin Cutsor ~ Treasurer**  
**Harriet Berlin ~ Secretary**  
**Travis Hill**  
**Zach Johnson**  
**Doug Pauley**  
**Shelley Stempek**  
**Carrie Trofholz**

## **Volunteer Advocates**

**Tami Altstadt**  
**Rolaine Blaser**  
**Dan Britt**  
**Jean Britt**  
**Dee Condon**  
**Joy Dannelly**  
**Annette Davis**  
**Tracy Duncan**  
**Renee Held**  
**Carrie Kreber**  
**Tammy Micek**  
**Wendi Petersen**  
**Jamey Price**  
**Jeanne Quinn**  
**Kim Schmidt**  
**Rhonda Scott**  
**Carrie Trofholz**  
**Brenda Vermeire**

### **CASA Connection**

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CASA Connection is affiliated with the Nebraska CASA Association and the National CASA Association.

CASA Connection is a  agency.

