

## CASA Program Update

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### Fall Events

Temperatures may not bear witness, but summer is winding down! Kids are back in school, and CASA is hopping as we gear up for Oktoberfest and two events that epitomize community collaboration in the child welfare system: the Sibling Reunion Picnic

and Adoption Day in the Park. Additionally, we are deeply involved in Community Partners Initiative and the **Each One Reach One** campaign. Please check this issue for details about these events and how to get involved.

### Make your Consortium "Green"

The July CASA Consortium was the inaugural electronic edition and it went extremely well. In addition to providing almost instantaneous delivery, going electronic is "greener" and reduces printing/ mailing costs. Please consider receiving the Consortium electronically and contact Maria at maria.romero@pcjcc.pima.gov or at 740-5024 to be added to the electronic distribution list.

### Farewell Amy

July also brought the tough task of saying farewell to Amy Kirch. Amy was a fabulous CASA Coordinator and contributed significantly to the Program not only by providing extraordinary support to her CASAs but also by adeptly juggling a variety of additional duties,

including facilitating ALERT Teams. Amy is a high-quality professional who will be sorely missed in CASA, but the good news is that Pima's children and families will continue to benefit from her expertise and passion as she pursues an exciting new opportunity in child welfare. We wish Amy the greatest success in her new position!

### Welcome, Ali!

Although we have not filled Amy's position (but hope to do so in the next several weeks), it gives me great pleasure to announce that Alison "Ali" Boelts has joined the CASA Team as our Recruitment & Marketing Coordinator, a position created through our award of a National CASA Expansion Grant. Ali's expertise lies in marketing, graphic design, and event planning and we are thrilled to have her with us. We've been told by many that the CASA Program is "the best kept secret in town." While we never wanted that to be the case, limited resources impacted our ability to change it until we were awarded the National CASA grant. Ali's position will include a variety of responsibilities, but her primary goals are to help us recruit more CASAs and ensure that we move off the "best kept secret" list!!

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***We apologize  
for the delay  
in getting this  
issue of the  
Consortium  
to you.***

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### Milestone Reflections

Finally, I would like to acknowledge an upcoming milestone. Late October will be my third anniversary with Juvenile Court and the CASA Program. While much work remains to be done, we've also made great strides in

You will come to know that what appears today to be a sacrifice will prove instead to be the greatest investment that you will ever make.

- Gordon B. Hinkley



Pima County Juvenile Court  
CASA Program  
2225 East Ajo Way  
Tucson, Arizona 85713  
Tel: 520 740 2060



## PROCEDURE

### Long-Distance Phone Calls

CASAs can use the AOC Switchboard to place long-distance phone calls pertaining to their cases.

Please call 1-800-352-8400 and state that you are with the CASA Program.

Just give the operator the number you are calling from and the number you are trying to reach including the area codes.

If you are asked to provide an EIN (Employee Identification Number), please state that you do not have one and that you are a CASA volunteer. If you experience any problems, please call your Coordinator so we can work with State to resolve the issues.

enhancing the quality of our Program, retaining experienced CASAs, and increasing CASA support. The following list highlights a few of our many significant accomplishments:

- *Creation of the CASA Focus Group, the Community Partners Initiative, and ALERT Teams*
- *Increased community outreach, media exposure, and community agency outreach*
- *Modernized the newsletter and revised content to be more informative*
- *Representation of Pima County CASA on Capitol Hill in Washington, DC*
- *Secured local training for new CASAs (versus traveling to Phoenix)*
- *Revamped new CASA orientation/training and in-service training*
- *Award of a National CASA grant (two year position dedicated to recruitment/marketing)*
- *Improved technological capabilities*
- *National CASA assessment score of 98% (85% is considered "passing")*
- *Increased program funding and Coordinator salaries*
- *Creation and implementation of the CASA Baby Brigade and case support meetings*
- *Arizona's CASA of the Year from Pima County in 2006 and 2007*
- *National CASA of the Year from Pima County in 2008*

This column typically includes a quote. Reflecting over the past three years, one of the first that came to mind was "You don't have to be crazy to work here...but it helps!!" However, that was quickly overridden by the wise words of Chief Sitting Bull who said, **"Let us put our minds together and see what life we can make for our children."** The CASA Program's progress is not due to my efforts alone. It truly does take a village to raise a child, particularly a child involved in the dependency process. I am fortunate to have the support and collaborative spirit of the Arizona CASA Program, our Support Council, our community partners, and our Court leadership as we move forward with

the important work of the CASA Program. CASA Coordinators and Support Staff contribute vast knowledge, diverse talent, initiative, creativity, and tremendous dedication; I am fortunate to work with them and have them on this team. Last, but certainly not least, it is the CASAs' passion, hard work, determination, dedication, and ability to smile in the face of adversity that continues to inspire and motivate me, for there would be no CASA Program without these extraordinary individuals who genuinely desire to effect positive, permanent change for our children, our community, and the child welfare system – and they do so through the selfless act of volunteerism. By putting our minds together, we are accomplishing great things for our kids. Please accept my sincere thanks for whichever role you have played in that.

*Trish Biddix*

CASA Program Supervisor

## Calling All CASAs

Please send in your suggestions for great books to read and movies to watch for training credit. These ideas should be directed to your Coordinator. In addition, Jamie Roach has been working on a handy list of inexpensive and free activities and healthy restaurants for CASAs to enjoy with their CASA kids. Please contact Jamie at jamiesroach@aol.com if you have any suggestions to add. Be sure that you are familiar with the venue to supply a pertinent age range suggestion. Jamie's list will be made available to CASAs on the website; stand by for its unveiling soon. Finally, Kathy Miller is working on a court-wide project to help teens in, and aging out of, the system. She is looking for input from CASAs on this process. Contact Kathy at 297-2975.

## Upcoming Events

The Sibling Reunion Picnic is scheduled for Saturday October 4; Adoption Day this year takes place on November 15; and the annual Oktoberfest dinner will be held on October 17. Look for details on page six of this issue of Consortium.

## CPI and EORO

This alphabet soup really means that two exciting new programs have been launched and will be coming your way soon. **The Each One Reach One** Campaign and the Community Partnership Initiative are highlighted on page six.

# Mini Learning Event Recap

On July 16, 2008, a showing of the film, *White Oleander*, was held at the PCJCC Training Center. *White Oleander* is a movie about a single mother who is sent to prison for committing a crime and the teen daughter who finds herself on her own and shuttled through a series of foster homes. A brief discussion was held afterward regarding trying to understand the perspective of children in the foster care system who experience multiple placements. A variety of “movie” snacks were served and a good time was had by all. The next “CASA Theatre” showing will be December 10, 2008.

## Mini Learning Recap

The Child and Family Team (CFT) meetings are an extremely important forum to discuss the needs of the child and family and come to consensus on services that will meet their needs. Dr. Beverly Tobiason, PCJCC Clinical Director, presented information (with input and support from CASA Joe Roth) on understanding the history, guiding principals, participant roles, and practices of CFTs. This article highlights the main points of her presentation.

### The 12 Principles of the Behavioral Health Services “Arizona Vision”:

1. *Collaboration with the child and family.*
2. *Functional outcomes (services should increase functioning in the home, school, and community).*
3. *Collaboration with others (other systems and informal supports).*
4. *Accessible services.*
5. *Best practices (based on research and expert opinion).*
6. *Most appropriate setting (what setting will best meet the needs of the child and family).*
7. *Timeliness (services are initiated quickly).*
8. *Services tailored to the child and family (services are individualized, not “cookie cutter”).*
9. *Stability (services should work towards stability in functioning and stability in placement).*
10. *Respect for the family’s unique cultural heritage (services are culturally sensitive and provided by culturally competent staff).*
11. *Independence (services should work toward family independence).*
12. *Connection to natural supports (services should include natural supportive [non-paid] relationships).*

### CFT Practice – The 9 essential activities that comprise effective CFT practice:

1. *Engagement of the Child and Family*
2. *Immediate Crisis Stabilization*
3. *Strengths, Needs and Cultural Discovery (SNCD)*
4. *CFT Formation*
5. *Behavioral Health Service Plan – Development*
6. *Ongoing Crisis, Safety and Wellness Planning*
7. *Behavior Health Service Plan - Implementation*
8. *Tracking and Adapting*
9. *Transition*

### Responsibilities of the CFT Facilitator:

- Encourage each CFT member to identify their priority concerns, work proactively to minimize areas of potential conflict, and acknowledge the mandates of others involved in child-serving systems.
- Utilize consensus-building techniques, such as compromise, reframing, clarification of intent, and refocusing efforts on the best interest of the child/family. In addition, the behavioral health service provider is expected to avoid any “positions” or predetermined solutions in meeting the needs of the family.
- Establish and sustain an effective team culture by inviting CFT members to propose, discuss and accept ground rules for working together.
- Engage all CFT members and identify their needs for meeting agency mandates and the strengths that each person brings to the team. Highlights of the expectations relative to a CASA’s involvement are:
  - *Identify their perspectives on the child/family’s strengths and needs, provide CFT members with an overview of CFT practice, and clarify their role and responsibilities as a team member in this process.*
  - *Identify family support, peer support or other “system” and community resources that can assist the child/family with exercising their voice in the CFT process.*
  - *Developing a meeting agenda with the child, family, and other CFT members. Also for scheduling meetings at a place/time that is comfortable and convenient for all CFT members while giving special consideration to the preferences of the family.*
  - *Attending to the needs of the child/family for transportation to facilitate their participation. Informing all CFT members of the date, time and location of each meeting.*



- *Contacting CFT members who are unable to attend a meeting, in advance, to elicit their input.*
- *Ensuring all CFT members receive documentation of CFT meeting activities, discussions and task assignments.*

#### **What a CASA can expect:**

- That they will be invited to, and allowed to be an active member of, the CFT by the CFT Facilitator.
- That the CFT Facilitator will take into account the scheduling issues of all parties and accommodate them the best they can.
- That all documentation needed for or developed by the CFT will be made available to them in a timely manner.
- That if CASAs cannot attend a CFT their input will be sought by the Facilitator and included in the meeting.

The Department of Behavioral Health Services (DBHS) Practice Protocol for Child and Family Team Practice can be found at: <http://www.azdhs.gov/bhs/guidance/cft.pdf>. It is highly recommended that CASAs review this document to help establish responsibilities toward the Child Family Team process and to understand participants' rights.

CASAs may contact their Coordinator to obtain a copy of the handout provided at the MLE. Part 2 of Dr. Tobiason's presentation will be held on September 24, 2008, from 5-7 p.m. in the PCJCC Training Center. Part 2 will cover understanding how to be an effective CFT member, disagreement and conflict, needs vs. services, and DBHS practice protocols. CASAs who are unable to attend Part One are welcome to attend Part Two

#### **ICWA Training Stresses Communication**

An Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA) Training was held at the San Xavier del Bac Mission. The event was a collaborative effort by the Division of Child and Family Services, the Pasqua Yaqui Tribe and the Tohono O'Odham Nation. CPS Workers, Foster

Parents, and CASAs participated in the discussion with a panel including Tribal Attorneys, Tribal Social Workers, and CPS Attorney General representatives.

Topics included a historical review of ICWA and how it relates to the dependency process, the importance of cultural considerations when working with Native American families, and permanency planning.

ICWA was created in 1978 to preserve cultural rights. The law gives Tribal Court exclusive jurisdiction over proceedings involving members enrolled in the Tribe. Determination of Tribal eligibility is a Tribal responsibility. Enrollment criteria may vary from Tribe to Tribe and is the burden of the State to find out if the child is Indian or not. If the Tribe is not informed, the case can halt and will have to start all over again.

The Act established the Tribe's right to intervene and obtain party status in all proceedings in a State Court, which must transfer to the Tribal Court upon petition by the Tribe or by the parent unless the State Court finds good cause. One of the distinctions between the Tribal Court System and the State Court System is that neither parents nor children are provided attorneys. Children are also not provided GALs. The Tribal CPS workers often act as the attorneys for the children and can argue cases.

Cultural considerations were also a topic of discussion. The Tribal representatives spoke of the importance of understanding the intricacies of each Tribe. They noted that cultural misunderstandings often led to delays in gathering and sharing information with Workers and CASAs. They suggested that those persons working with Native American families look to Tribal representatives as cultural guides since each Tribe has different customs and there may even be differences depending on which District of the Nation or Tribal lands one was on.

The final highlight of the training was the discussion regarding Permanency. Whereas the State Court must follow state laws, ICWA outlines a specific course of action for the process. Tribes are also able to develop their

own process. The Tohono O'odham Nation follows ICWA Permanency guidelines while the Pasqua Yaqui Tribe has developed its own.

The ICWA Placement Preference Order for Foster Care is: (1) a member of the Indian child's extended family, (2) a foster home licensed, approved, or specified by the Indian child's Tribe, (3) an Indian foster home licensed or approved by an authorized non-Indian licensing authority, or (4) an institution approved by an Indian Tribe or operated by an Indian organization that has a program suitable to meet the child's needs.

The ICWA Placement Preference Order for Adoption is: (1) a member of the Indian child's extended family (2) other members of the Indian child's Tribe or (3) another Indian family.

The first four of nine preferences for the Pasqua Yaqui Tribe are: (1) A local Yaqui extended family member, (2) A local non-Yaqui extended family member, (3) A local non-related Yaqui family, (4) A local non-Indian family.

In certain cases the court may determine that good cause exists not to follow the placement preferences. ICWA requires qualified expert testimony in state court proceedings. Termination of Parental Rights will occur "Beyond a reasonable doubt (higher than clear and convincing) plus testimony of an expert witness."

The training provided an overview of a very dynamic legal system. The panel participants emphasized the desire for this training to lay the foundation for improving communication and cultural understanding in order to better serve Indian children in the dependency process.

## Recreational Activities for CASAs

Some fun activities for CASAs to enjoy with their CASA kids. These passes are available in the CASA Office.

**Reid Park Zoo** – 2 passes that admit 2 adults and 4 children

**Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum** – 14 passes that admit 1

**Golf-n-Stuff** – present CASA badge at ticket window

**Funtastics** – present CASA badge at ticket window

**Funtastics** – individual tickets are available at CASA office for rides, laser tag, and miniature golf

**Pima Air & Space Museum** – 9 passes that admit 1

## Outings and Opportunities

### Fall Pumpkin Celebration

Apple Annie's Produce & Pumpkins  
September 27-28; October 4-5; October 11-12; October 18-19; October 25-26  
9:00 AM - 5:30 PM

Enjoy old-fashioned family fun picking pumpkins, fall vegetables and apples. Pumpkins of all sizes, shapes and colors will be available for picking in a huge pumpkin patch. The fee (\$3/person) includes hayride to the pumpkin patch and children's play area; children 2 and under are free. We-pick pumpkins will be available at the pumpkin stand, and the corn maze is perfect for all ages. An "All-You-Can-Eat" pancake breakfast will be served from 8:30 AM - 10:30 AM, or partake in the Apple Smoked Burger lunch served from 11 AM - 4 PM.

### Nightfall at Old Tucson Studios

Horror-themed event at the West's most famous film location, with a motley gathering of characters in Hollywood-style makeup, gruesome stunts, and frightening pyrotechnics.

(520) 883-0100

### Oktoberfest on Mt. Lemmon

In the pines and aspens, German food and beer, music, dancing. Mt. Lemmon Ski Valley.

(520) 576-1400

### Skate Country

7980 E 22nd St., 520-298-4409, Open: weekdays 1-4 P.M., 4 to 6 P.M., weekends 1-3 P.M. and 3-6 P.M. Cost: \$6 to skate (no cost to watch) and \$3 to rent skates. Snack bar available.



## PROCEDURE

### Checking on Hearing Status

It is always a good idea to verify that your case hearing will be held and has not been continued or vacated before making the trip to PCJCC. We do our best to let you know about any hearing date changes, but don't always receive word in a timely fashion.

You can confirm the day before that a hearing is taking place by calling your Coordinator who can check the court calendar.

As an alternative, you can check by calling the Calendar Office at 740-2900 between 8 am and 5 pm. Be prepared to provide the case J number as no information will be released without it.



We are pleased to announce the arrival of the CASA Baby Brigade! The Baby Brigade is a pilot project consisting of specially trained CASAs who understand the unique needs of infants and toddlers in the court system. These CASAs receive training on developmental delays, brain development, and the effects of maltreatment on young children. Seven CASAs, upon completion of the "Best for Babies" training, have signed up to launch this exciting pilot project.

CASAs interested in learning more about this project and the "Best for Babies" case support groups may contact CASA Coordinator, Tamara Sargus at 740-4496.

### Each One Reach One

The goal of this new program is to recruit more volunteers to serve more children. Our experience is that the most effective recruiters of new CASAs are those who are already dedicated to child advocacy work. CASAs are invited to participate in the **Each One Reach One (EORO)** recruitment effort by encouraging people to join the CASA Program. By sharing your stories and giving real-life examples of your involvement, you will convey the personal rewards of this volunteer experience and you will encourage others to learn about the program and consider making the commitment as well.

CASAs will receive **EORO** recruitment referral cards to give to people who you think would be great CASAs. They can also refer a potential volunteer to the Arizona CASA website, [www.azcasa.org](http://www.azcasa.org), to complete an on-line **EORO** (CASAs will receive credit for these referrals.)

As an incentive to CASAs, the campaign includes a Grand Prize drawing —*for an all-inclusive weekend stay at a premier Arizona Resort including a gas card*—

CASAs may contact Coordinator, Ali Boelts or their Coordinator or the CASA Office if they have questions, or would like to request additional EORO recruitment cards.

## Community Partnership Initiative

This project, in progress and scheduled to launch early in 2009, is a unique collaboration between CASA, CPS and CPSA. This communications tool, spearheaded by the Pima County CASA program, will increase communication between agencies in order to better serve the children involved in dependency cases. The goal is inter-agency understanding and enhanced working relationships. Learn more about CIP in upcoming issues of the Consortium or ask a CASA coordinator for updates.

## Adoption Day in the Park

On Saturday, November 15, the Tucson Adoption Celebration will take place from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Udall Park. The Tucson Adoption Celebration will include food, games, prizes and the finalization of adoptions for many adoptive families. This event is planned by a collaboration of public and private adoption agencies, the local juvenile court, local attorneys, the local adoption subsidy office and the local CASA program. The Pima County Juvenile Courts will participate and will set up 'court rooms' to complete adoptions providing permanent homes to children. The attendance for this event has been approximately 1200 persons as all adoptive families are invited to attend. There will be photos to commemorate the day for all the families who finalize adoptions. Local media has been contacted and families will be able to speak with them. State and local officials have been invited to attend. This event is in need of volunteers to perform a variety of duties. Please contact Athena Babb at 740-4747 or [Athena.Babb@pcjcc.pima.gov](mailto:Athena.Babb@pcjcc.pima.gov).

## Sibling Reunion Day

This year's picnic will be held on Saturday October 4, from 10:00 am to 3:30 pm. We are in desperate need for CASA volunteers to help with this event, as they have a special and specific role to play with sibling groups. Please contact Cathleen as soon as possible at 740-4461 if you can help.



# SEPTEMBER 2008

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 <b>Labor Day</b>	2	3	4	5 <b>Contact Logs Due</b>	6
7	8	9 <b>Model Court 12:15 pm</b>	10 <b>Reimbursement Requests Due</b>	11 <b>CSCPC Board Meeting 1 pm</b>	12	13
14	15	16	17	18 <b>Focus Group for ALERT Teams 1-3 pm</b>	19	20
21	22 <b>* CPSA 9-11 am Storytelling for Native Clients</b>	23	24 <b>Mini Learning Event 5-7 pm</b>	25 <b>ALERT Team Oro Valley 7-9 pm</b>	26	27
28	29	30				
<b>All Staff Unavailable Mondays 9–10:30 am</b>		<b>Coordinators Unavailable Thursdays 10–11:30 am</b>		<b>* Contact CPSA to register for CPSA Training <a href="http://www.CPSA-RBHAS.org">www.CPSA-RBHAS.org</a></b>		

# OCTOBER 2008

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 <b>ALERT Team North Central 2 - 4 pm</b>	2 <b>ALERT Team Northwest 2 - 4 pm</b>	3 <b>Contact Logs Due</b>	4
5	6	7 <b>ALERT Teams GV 12-2 pm NE 6-8 pm Central 3-5 pm</b>	8	9 <b>CSCPC Board Meeting 1:00 pm ALERT Team East 6-8 pm</b>	10 <b>Reimbursement Requests Due</b>	11
12	13 <b>COLUMBUS DAY OFFICE CLOSED</b>	14 12:15 pm <b>Model Court * CPSA 930-1130 Uncovering Perceptions of Diversity</b>	15 <b>Mini Learning Event 5-7 pm</b>	16 <b>Focus Group for ALERT Teams 1-3 pm</b>	17 <b>ADVOCACY ACADEMY</b>	18 <b>ADVOCACY ACADEMY</b>
19	20 <b>* CPSA 9-12 pm Covered Services– Back to Basics</b>	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	
<b>CASA Program Recruitment Events</b> CASAs interested in participating in recruitment events should contact Coordinator Ramona Panas at 740-2069					Due to the Holidays, there will be NO ALERT Teams Meetings for the months of November and December 2008. Check the next issue of the Consortium for the January and February meeting schedules.	

## Message from our Support Council President

The CASA Support Council is proud to inform all CASAs, new and seasoned, that our busy fall season is already filled with success. We are excited to announce that over the past few months, new officers have been elected, new members have been inducted, and we have begun our outreach to CASAs who may be interested in serving on one of our committees. Most importantly, we are thrilled to announce the Council has awarded \$6000 in college scholarships to current and past CASA-involved students and funded numerous requests of CASAs as they strive to improve the lives of the children they advocate for. These successes and plans for the upcoming months are what keep us energized and help us to move forward. However, we need you to know that your support is the key ingredient to our success.

I am proud to take the reins as President of the CASA Support Council because I have a strong Executive Board that shares the same belief that "bottom line... it is for the kids."

### **President**

Elaine Flaherty

### **Vice President-Fundraising**

Steve Lyders

### **Vice President – Programs**

Eloise Williams

### **Secretary**

Jan Webster

### **Treasurer**

Ron Palmer

I would also like to extend an official welcome to our newest Council Members, Kathy Miller, Diane Sheehy and soon- to- be member Peter Spear. Although our Council positions are currently filled, our committee structure has taken hold and we are continuing to look for dedicated persons who would like to join us. Each committee will work with current Council members and report on a monthly basis as to their plans and progress. This ensures that the committees remain active and work in an orderly fashion to fulfill their goals and in turn reap the benefits from the improved lives of CASA children.

### **Committees:**

**Fundraising**—Golf Tournament, Annual Appeal, Grants, Co-chair of Endowment

**Programs**—Gift Closet, Recognition Luncheon, Community Partners, Holiday trees

**Education**—Scholarship, Tutoring, Co-chair of Endowment

**Public Relations**—Speaker's Bureau, Media, Website, Database

We have been in touch with many CASAs and have recruited new members for some of these committees but we are in need of more. If you have a special talent or area that you would like to be involved in, please contact Elaine at 603-3028 and she will forward your name to the correct person. First meetings for our committees are to be scheduled by October 1st. Those who have already expressed interest will be contacted shortly regarding meeting times and locations.

Watch next month for our plans already in the making. In the meantime, if you have any thoughts or suggestions, please contact us through the CASA office or directly at any time.

—Elaine

The next time you shop at Basha's, tell them you want to register your "Thank You" card to number 23451. Then the CASA Support system will receive a percentage of all your purchases! Our last check from Basha's was \$542, so it's a great and easy way to raise money for our CASA kids!

# Oktoberfest Dinner

Friday October 17, 2008

5:00 pm—5:30 pm No-Host Cocktails

5:30 pm—7:00 pm Dinner

The Knights of Columbus,  
Council 5133

invites you to an

Oktoberfest Dinner

to benefit the

CASA Support Council for Pima County, Inc.



## Donations:

ADULTS \$7.00

CHILDREN \$3.00

(6-12 yrs. of age)

RSVP by October 1, at 740-2060

Attn: Maria

(limited to first 150 participants)

## Menu:

Freshly Made Bratwurst

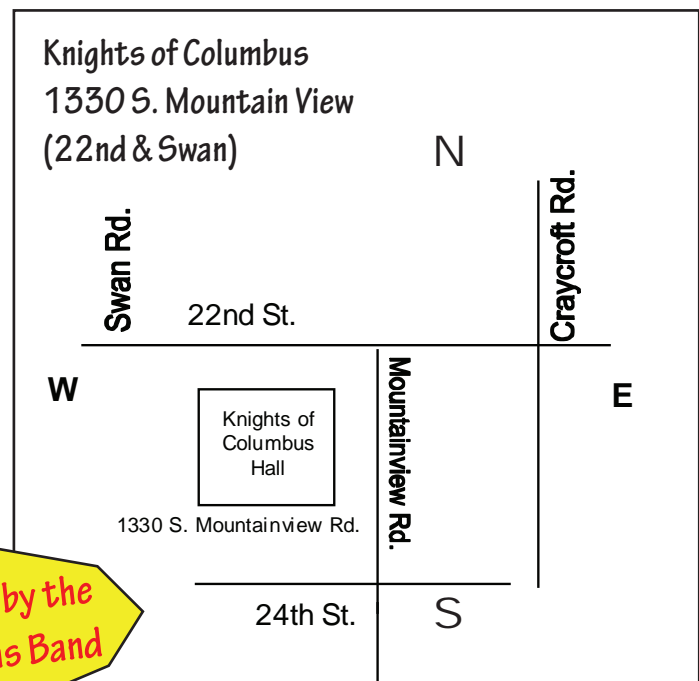
German Potato Salad

Steaming Sauerkraut

Dinner Rolls

German Chocolate Cake

Coffee



Entertainment by the  
Bouncing Czechs Band



# CASA Kudos!

Congratulations, **Jessica Martin**, for being commended by the caseworker and the FCRB team. Judge Wagener commended Jessica for her thorough and comprehensive court report.

Thank you to **Suzie Musser** for helping transition her CASA child to Tucson following graduation.

Congratulations, **Mark Brill, Susan Hirsch and Carolyn Stewart**, for being assigned their first cases!

Thank you, **Gloria Olvera and Sandra Rohen**, for conducting outreach at the Valencia and Wilmot Libraries and showcase how volunteerism makes a difference!

The court thanked **Roger Pinkstaff** for his efforts on his case.

Congratulations to **Ceci Rivera, Rosemary Rosser, Elaine Flaherty, and Paul Kline** whose cases recently ended successfully in adoptions!!

**William Wenger** received a Courtroom thank you from Judge Rubin for this "efforts on behalf of the minor".

Thank you, **Rita Hall**, for offering your assistance in Pima County CASA recruitment efforts. And to **Anastasha Lynn**, for allowing a new CASA to observe your FCRB and answering any questions. Great teamwork!!

Congratulations, **Laura Walters**, for being acknowledged by the CFT Facilitator stating that she appreciate Laura's dedication to her CASA girl and **Diane Minisci** on the successful adoption of three CASA children.

**Diane Sheehy** was commended by the FCRB for her dedication to her CASA child.

**Kathleen Elsberry** was acknowledged by the FCRB for her continued dedication to her CASA child.

Thank you to **Kathy Miller, Norm Essex, Linda Koral, Gloria Olvera, Joe Roth and Sandra Rohen** for facilitating the July-August Alert Team meetings.

**Gloria Olvera** was complimented by Judge Wagener for doing a terrific job on a complicated case.

Congratulations to **Dimple Smith** whose case recently ended successfully in adoption.

Thank you to Co-CASAs **Sandra Rohen and Robyn Kessler**, and **Sharon Inorio and Susan Cash** for working well together on a complicated case serving many medically needy children.

Congratulation to **Joan Baron**, who was commended by the court for her exemplary commitment to her case. Joan also received high praises from the mother's attorney on her case who stated she is an "amazing" CASA.

Thank you to **Jim and LuAnn McCarty** for their many years of service in the CASA program. Jim & LuAnn will be moving to Idaho where they plan to continue their CASA career. The CASA program wishes them all the best!!

The Foster Care Review Board commended **Adrienne Faye** for going above and beyond in ensuring that the minor receives the appropriate educational and behavioral health services.

Thank you to **Dan and Polly Smith** for all the hard work they have done on their case. They have dealt with difficult parties on this case, and they were able to handle it in a professional and diplomatic manner.

Thank you to **Allyson Baehr** who graciously offered to be the co-CASA to **Laura Walters** and to assist her with sibling visitation. Such teamwork is much appreciated.

Congratulations to **Martin and Jo Balk**, who were commended by the court for all their efforts on behalf of their CASA child.

Congratulations to **Marilyn Buchsieb**, who was commended by the court for her efforts on behalf of the children.

**Demetria McNeal** was commended by the FCRB for maintaining her involvement and connection to her CASA child.

Thank you to **Mary and Christina Nebe** for their many years of service in the CASA program. Mary will be working on her dissertation and Christina recently became a mother. The CASA program wishes them all the best!!



**Pima County CASA Program**  
Advocates Learning, Enjoying & Relating Together

**EAST**

**THURSDAY OCTOBER 9**

**6:00 – 8:00pm**

**Miller-Golf Links Library**

**9640 E. Golf Links Rd.**

**(Golf Links, just east of Harrison)**

**Facilitator: Holli McGarry, 481-6791**

**NORTHEAST**

**TUESDAY OCTOBER 7**

**6:00 – 8:00pm**

**Dusenberry-River Library**

**5605 E. River Rd. #105**

**(North side of River, just east of Craycroft)**

**Facilitator: Norm Essex, 403-8002**

**CENTRAL**

**TUESDAY OCTOBER 7**

**3:00-5:00pm**

**Martha Cooper Library**

**1377 N. Catalina Ave.**

**Facilitator: Gloria Olvera, 237-4275**

**GREEN VALLEY**

**TUESDAY OCTOBER 7**

**12:00 – 2:00noon**

**Sam Joyner Green Valley Library**

**601 N. La Canada Dr.**

**Facilitator: Joe Roth, 360-0377**

**NORTH CENTRAL**

**WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 1**

**2:00 – 4:00pm**

**Sandra Rohen's House**

**7920 N. Christie Dr.**

**Facilitator: Sandra Rohen, 219-2496**

**ORO VALLEY**

**THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 25**

**7:00 – 9:00pm, 6:30 – 7:00pm**

**Meet and Greet**

**Resurrection Lutheran Church**

**Fellowship Hall "A"**

**11575 N. 1st Avenue**

**Facilitator: Linda Koral, 544-4168**

**NORTHWEST**

**THURSDAY OCTOBER 2**

**4:00 – 6:00pm**

**Nanini Library**

**7300 N. Shannon Rd.**

**Facilitator: Linda Koral, 544-4168**

Due to the Holidays, there will be NO ALERT Teams Meetings for the months of Novemebr and December 2008. Check the next issue of the Consortium for the January and February meeting schedules.

**Please be aware that meeting times, days of the week, and locations are subject to change from month to month due to meeting space availability. Please check the Consortium for upcoming ALERT Teams meeting dates or contact your meeting facilitator or CASA Coordinator.**

## Pima County CASA Staff, Coordinators, Supervisors and CASA Support Council for Pima County

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