

NEWSLETTER

What were we up to this summer?

Casino Night



This summer, CASA hosted another fantastic Casino Night, bringing our community together for an evening of fun, fellowship, and support for our mission. Thanks to the generosity of everyone who attended, sponsored, donated, and helped make the event possible, Casino Night brought in tremendous support for our organization and the children we serve. We are incredibly grateful to everyone who came out to enjoy the evening and to all of our sponsors and supporters who invest in CASA. Your generosity makes a meaningful difference, and we could not do what we do without the continued support of our amazing community.

Thank you for helping make this year's Casino Night a success! We look forward to hosting Casino Night 2027 next summer!

Interested in becoming a CASA volunteer? Scan the QR Code!

Please note that these might be the only dates available for 2026, so be sure to take advantage of this opportunity while you can!



UPCOMING EVENTS

New Volunteer Training will be held September 29th, October 1st, October 6th, and October 8th from 5:00 PM- 8:30PM at the CASA office. Reach out to programdirector@ctacasa.org to register!

TBRI Training will be held October 20th, October 22nd, October 27th, and October 29th from 5:30-8:30 at the CASA office. Reach out to kristy.allen@ctacasa.org to reserve your spot. Spots are limited!

Volunteer Spotlight

Our volunteers are at the heart of everything we do! Each month, we are proud to shine a spotlight on the individuals who give their time, energy, and compassion to support CASA and the children we serve.

This summer, our amazing volunteers collectively traveled 12,473 miles while giving their time, energy, and hearts to make a difference in our community!

That's a LOT of miles—and we want to give a very special shoutout to our Top 10 Volunteers!

TOP 10 VOLUNTEERS

1. Cheryl Elston — 2,276.00 miles
2. Mike Waguespack — 1,997.50 miles
3. Kim Bishop — 1,169.40 miles
4. Bill Sullivan — 849.00 miles
5. Lacy Barton — 823.00 miles
6. Susan Birchfield — 791.00 miles
7. Paula Perschke — 759.00 miles
8. Tonya Dobson — 619.00 miles
9. Jessica Edwards — 569.20 miles
10. Sally Lloyd — 517.00 miles



To highlight Cheryl's miles, she went above and beyond to support her placements and help them stay connected to the people and activities that are important to them. She made the trip to Houston to take one of her placements to church, while also making sure the other two siblings were able to attend their former church's youth group on a Wednesday evening. Her willingness to make the extra trip and coordinate transportation allowed all three siblings to continue participating in a familiar and meaningful part of their lives.

Thank you to ALL of our volunteers for showing up, putting miles on the road, and making a difference all summer long. We are so grateful for each and every one of you!

Impact Moment

Since February 2024, one young man had been navigating life in foster care. As he approached his 18th birthday and aged out of care, CASA wanted to make sure this milestone did not pass without being celebrated.

CASA provided him with a birthday cake—complete with all 18 candles.

When he saw the candles, he was confused. He quietly asked why he needed them and explained that he had never had a birthday cake with candles before.

After some encouragement, he finally leaned forward and blew out all 18 candles. Then came the moment that said everything: he smiled.

For many of us, blowing out birthday candles is a simple tradition we may have experienced every year without giving it much thought. For this young man, it was something completely new—a small moment that carried a much bigger meaning.

He was given the opportunity to make a wish, to celebrate turning 18, and to know that someone cared enough to make his birthday special.

Sometimes, the smallest acts of kindness create the biggest memories. And sometimes, one birthday cake can remind a young person that they are seen, valued, and worth celebrating.

- Kristen Riola

