

CASA VOICE



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A MESSAGE FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR PAMELA PERRILLES

Grow With Us! It is that time of year when seeds sprout to produce future benefits for our well-being. CASA of Peoria County is excited to announce that we are planting seeds to benefit abused and neglected children in four additional counties: Tazewell, Marshall, Putnam and Stark. Along with Peoria, these counties comprise the Tenth Judicial Circuit.



Going forward under our new name, CASA of the Tenth Judicial Circuit, we will continue to support children going through the court system. Funding for the expansion is through a VOCA (Victims of Crime Acts) grant awarded by ICJIA (Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority).

Our expansion means we will open a second office. The new office, in Pekin near the Tazewell County Courthouse, will be led by Ryan Lacerna, Tazewell County Coordinator. Thank you, Ryan!

The timing of this expansion highlights a critical need for more—many more—Court Appointed Special Advocates to support the 1,000-plus children currently in need of an Advocate. We need you, or someone you know, to step up to support these children. To help them thrive and be given the chance they deserve. These children are our future.

If you're interested in learning more about how to become an Advocate, please contact us at 309-669-2939 or CASA@PeoriaCounty.org

Pamela Perrilles, Executive Director

Welcome to the July 2017 Volunteer Class



*Pictured from left to right:
Judge Gorman,
Leah Campbell,
Todd Condrón,
Amy Kinsinger,
Betsy Yemm,
Karen Hodge,
Monica Watson,
Annie Weeks*

Welcome to the October 2017 Volunteer Class



*Pictured from left to right:
Samer Aldroubi,
Courtney Hale,
Donald Cummings,
Hannah Godsil,
Christina Behm,
Judge Gorman,
Tony Knox,
George Burrier*

Welcome to the April 2018 Volunteer Class



Pictured from left to right: Michael Baker, Brent Oest, Jennifer Williams, Judge Brown, Roberta Parks, Kris Hohulin, Bianca Kamm, Jennifer Young, Leslie Hopkins

CASATIME 2018 Tentative Calendar

June	July	August
Childhood Trauma pt4	Child Sexual Abuse Prevention	The Effects of Domestic Violence on Children
September	October	November
TBD	Movie – TBA	No Class
December		
Holiday Party		



IN MEMORIAM

Michael "Mike" Waters

November 6, 1951 – February 28, 2017

Michael Waters was a member of the first Peoria County Court Appointed Special Advocate Training in 2005. Mike was an attorney in Peoria for thirty-eight years focusing in personal injury, employment law and complex civil litigation. He helped recruit additional CASAs including his wife and his legal assistant, Sue. Mike believed it was important to bring people's attention to CASA of Peoria County to work with the hundreds of children who were involuntarily caught up in the court system. Mike was a great foundation to the CASA program. He served as an active volunteer from November 2005 when he was sworn in until July 2011. The CASA of Peoria County program appreciates Mike's dedication to being the voice for the children we serve.



IN MEMORIAM

Karla J. (Turner) Williams

August 22, 1963 – August 31, 2017

Karla volunteered as a Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) since being sworn in on November 24, 2014. She was assigned as a CASA volunteer to a brother and sister in January 2015. She advocated tirelessly for these children. She visited with them at least monthly in their foster home, observed visits with their parents, and met with their teachers at school. When Karla became ill, she continued to advocate for these children from her hospital bed. She made phone calls to the children, their caseworker, and her Advocate Supervisor at CASA. Karla's dedication to her "CASA" children was truly amazing and said much about her as a person. The staff at CASA of Peoria County is proud to have known and worked closely with Karla.

Thank you to all those who attended and supported our 2017 events!

CASA Caballos was a great success and the weather was perfect for a family friendly day at the Weaver Farm for some polo! Be sure to mark your calendar for next year – you don't want to miss the fun.  Check out more of the fun in our Facebook albums.

Thank you to our sponsors for their support!



CASA's Eighteen Hole, Par 3 Challenge & \$1 Million Hole-in-One Shootout was so much fun!



The switch to eighteen holes was enjoyed by all.  Check out team photos on the course in our Facebook albums.

PAR 3 CHALLENGE

Prairie Home Alliance: 1st Overall
JR Runkel, Mike Miller, Kevin Pogue, John Petrakis

Illini Golf: 2nd Overall
Gale Frahm, Kent Folkerts, John Cliff, Tom Auen

Longest Putt Made (Front): JR Runkel
Longest Putt Made (Back): Kent Folkerts

Closest to Pin (Front): Tyler Peterson
Closest to Pin (Back): Kyle Portugal

\$1 MILLION HOLE-IN-ONE

Closest to Pin: Brian Draher
2nd Closest to Pin: Kyle Portugal

PUTTING CONTEST

RLI: 1st Place
Mark Wright, Tom Brown, Pat Ferrell, Tyler Peterson

Illini Golf: 2nd Place
Gale Frahm, Kent Folkerts, John Cliff, Tom Auen

Many thanks to the CASA Hole-in-One committee:

Jeff Doeden, Chair
Brian Nemenoff
Scott Williams
Pam Perrilles

Thank You!

Presenting Sponsor





Putting Sponsor







Deluxe Sponsor

Mission Sponsor







Hospitality Sponsor

Cart Sponsor







CASAblanca "Dancing with the Local Stars" was bigger than ever!

The room was packed and Par-a-Dice even got creative with us to make an overflow area to accommodate all our guests!
Thank you to everyone who attended, participated and sponsored this event!

PALS Preschool

Hilltop Wealth Management Raymond James • Baker McKenzie
Par-A-Dice Hotel and Casino

CORE Construction • CSE Software

Adam & Erin Hawks • Strong Law Offices • DRAKEphoto • Dr. Phillis Dewitt
Peoria Regional Office of Education

Kevin & Summer Sletten • Amy Kinsinger • Cook Travel • RLI Corp. • Essential Wellness Pharmacy
Neighborhood House • NAWBO • Becky Rossman Supporters • Karoline Seitz-Goddard • ATS
GHD Environmental • Brian and Leslie Lewallen • Peoria Toyota • Lund/Kwon • Murphy & Dunn PC
Demonica Kemper Architects • Pearl Companies • Elias, Meginnes & Seghetti, P.C. • CEFCU
Element Building • Methodist College • James & Christine Kemper • RLG Consulting Engineers
Green Ford • Altorfer Power Systems • Central Illinois Bank • Linda Waters • MJ Schettler
Cyr/Woertz Financial Group • Dr. Terry Ho Supporters • Caterpillar LPP Building HH • Illinois Eye Center
Children's Home • Leslie Paulson • Peoria Public Schools • Kathleen Horchler • Pat & LeRoy Hagenbuch • Doug Hoerr
Dr. Phillip & Debra Olsson • A+ Children's Academy • Bearce Companies
OSF Medical Group • The Smith Team—Keller Williams Premier Realty
Ron's Carpet • Doug and Diane Oberhelman • Waugh Foods • GZA GeoEnvironmental

[Click here](#) to check out guest photos on Facebook

[Click here](#) for performance photos in our Facebook albums

[Click here](#) to check out the dancers in action

**Winners of the "2017 Critics' Choice Award"
AND "2017 People's Choice Award" (Voting with Dollars)
went to Adam Hawks of Hilltop Wealth Management of
Raymond James with instructor Ellen Cook**

Congratulations to all our dancers for a great performance!



Additional Local Stars and Dancing Pros included:

- Kelli Drake with instructor Jon Young
- Becky Rossman with instructor Jason Banks
- Beth Crider Derry with instructor Mike Hinchman
- Zan Ransburg with instructor Tyler Smith
- Brian Lewallen and Leslie Lewallen with coach Elena Paine
- Kristin Mathers with instructor Don Coven
- Dr. Terry Ho with instructor Emily West
- David Desmond with instructor Michelle Rouland
- James Kemper with instructor Meredith Garrison
- Destini Edwards and Javier Guyton with coach Debi Redington



United Way Day of Caring

On Friday September 8, 2017, the CASA of Peoria County staff participated in the Heart of Illinois United Way's Day of Caring. Several of the staff helped load food into a truck at the Civic Center drop off location for the United Way's food drive; while, other staff visited Crittenton Center to read a story to the children about kindness and assist them in painting kindness rocks to spread throughout their community.



Toy Distribution

CASA of Peoria County received a donation of 1,000 toys from the Toy Foundation. G&D Integrated generously donated their time to pick up the toys from Chicago and deliver them to Peoria for distribution. On Saturday, December 2nd, foster care workers, foster parents, and CASA Advocates were invited to pick up toys for children in care. The George Washington Carver Center opened their doors to CASA of Peoria County to help house and distribute the toys. The remaining toys were donated to the Carver Center for distribution to families in their community.



Holiday Give away

In the spirit of giving and bringing joy to others, CASA of Peoria County ran a giveaway on Facebook. Individuals who liked and commented on either of the two holiday toys posted were entered to win. It was great to see the joy on the faces of our winners! We hope Britta Jost and Carmen O'Conner Jackson enjoyed their prizes!



Pamela Perrilles and Carmen O'Conner Jackson

Showing of Polar Express at Riverfront Museum to Children in Care

For the third year, Greg and Lori Birkland have generously provided an opportunity for CASA of Peoria County to invite children in care and their families to the Peoria Riverfront Museum for a free private viewing of The Polar Express. Children and their families were treated to free hot chocolate while enjoying this unique experience. To wrap up the event, Santa made a special appearance to visit with the children. As a past CASA Advocate and current Board Member, Greg understands how remarkable an event like this can be for the children in the court system.



Donors:
Greg & Lori Birkland



Santa and CASA Staff: Angela te-Nuyl,
Lisa Norwood, and Liz Stufflebean

Pamela Perrilles, Britta Jost
and Todd Condon

LEAVE A LOVING LEGACY



You can create a legacy of hope for vulnerable children through a planned gift to CASA of Peoria County.

Bequests through your will: A bequest to CASA of Peoria County is a simple, effective way to make a lasting impact on the lives of vulnerable children. All you need to do is specify the amount (or percentage) you wish to give by including language in your will similar to the following: "I, [name], of [city, state, ZIP], give, devise and bequeath to CASA of Peoria County a nonprofit public benefit corporation having its principal office at 324 Main Street, Room 215, Peoria, IL 61602, [written amount or percentage of the estate or description of property] to be used for the furtherance of its charitable purposes in the discretion and at the direction of its Board of Directors for its unrestricted use and purpose."

If you are considering making a gift by bequest, please meet with your attorney to discuss the ramifications and, if appropriate, to update your will. Additionally, please let us know if you have included CASA of Peoria County in your estate planning.



OUR MISSION

The mission of CASA of Peoria County is to advocate for abused and neglected children in Peoria County through the services of specially trained community volunteers.

DID YOU KNOW?

The CASA of Peoria County "Impact" Story

CASA of Peoria County is not state funded and relies on individual donations, corporate sponsorships, and grants to implement our direct services. The average cost per child placed outside of the family home costs taxpayers approximately \$5,700 per month. CASA involvement reduces the time children spend in foster care by an average of 8 months. A case with a CASA volunteer provides a potential savings to taxpayers of \$45,591 (8 months of foster care) per closed case.

CASA of Peoria County Gives Special Thanks To:



Heart of Illinois
United Way



Violent Crime Victim Assistance Grant



Click on the Links Below to Stay in Touch!

-  [CASA of Peoria County Website](#)
-  [CASA on Facebook](#)
-  [CASA on Twitter](#)

_____ Yes, I would like to support a CASA Child for one year @ \$100 per month.

_____ I would like to make a one-time gift:

_____ \$25 _____ \$50 _____ \$100 _____ \$250 _____ \$500 _____ \$1,000 _____ Other \$ _____

_____ I am interested in learning more about CASA

_____ I would like to give of my time. Please contact me about being involved:

_____ Board Member

_____ CASA volunteer

_____ Other volunteer

_____ Help with special events

_____ Other: _____

Name: _____

Phone # (_____) _____

Address: _____ City: _____, IL

Zip: _____

Email Address: _____

The best time to reach me is during _____ day or _____ evening.

Method of Payment: Visa _____ MasterCard _____ Check # _____

Account Number: _____

Expiration Date: ____/____/____ Security Code: _____

Name as it appears on card: _____

Signature: _____

Make checks payable to: CASA of Peoria County
Return to: 324 Main Street, Room 215, Peoria, Illinois 61602

THANK YOU.

Make A Difference!

UPCOMING EVENTS

Save the Dates



CASA Caballos
Saturday, August 18, 2018
Gates Open at 2 p.m.
Polo Match starts at 4:30 p.m.
Weaver Farms

Bring your family, friends and jazzed-up picnic baskets for a tailgate party unlike the Peoria area has ever seen! Enjoy family-friendly games and a beautiful afternoon of polo.



CASA Golf Event - Par 3 Challenge & \$1 Millions Hole-in-One Shootout
Thursday, September 27, 2018
Start 1:30 p.m.
Country Club of Peoria

Enjoy a day of golf—and earn the opportunity to win \$1 million!



CASAblanca Dancing with the Local Stars
Saturday, November 3, 2018, 6 p.m.
Par-A-Dice Hotel and Casino

CASA's primary fundraising event of the year is a fun-filled evening of entertainment. Join us for great food, cocktails, live auction and dancing.

Thanks to our volunteer training meal sponsors...



...and to the excellent classroom facility at Advanced Medical Transport.



Advanced Medical Transport
of Central Illinois

Save Lives. It's what we do

Newsletter design provided by:

