

131

children
are in need
of a **CASA**
Volunteer!

Silvana Santos-Alegria

Volunteer of the Month



Silvana Santos-Alegria was sworn in as a CASA volunteer on 12/20/2017. On 1/16/2018, she was assigned to her first case of 3 children, a school age child and a set of infants. From the moment she was told you are assigned, Silvana took those childrens' lives and best interests to heart like they were her children. She immediately took the information and began to analyze where her advocacy would be needed the most based on the childrens' ages. Silvana made contact with all family members and care providers. She went into every visit with a blank canvas and an open mind.

Silvana always makes people feel like they matter regardless of their choices. She provides information and gives suggestions to resolve basic issues and information on how to follow up with current situations. From the beginning of her case she noticed some educational deficits with the oldest child so she called a meeting to hold everyone accountable for what was occurring. During this meeting they were able to provide additional services and she was able to provide information to the teacher about the child's recent transition from being with her parents to being in a relative placement. Not that she wanted sympathy for the child, but she wanted them to understand what this child was going through. During Silvana's visits she made sure that she reviewed sight words, but she also made time to play fun games or just have girl time, and also note the babies' progress through observation and play. The school year ended and there was progress.

As the new school year rolled around, Silvana requested a meeting with the new teacher after the first 9 weeks to inquire about her CASA's progress or lack of progress. As a result of her advocacy, her CASA child is now part of the School Building Level Committee (SLBC). Silvana continues to work with her CASA children. She often encourages the older child to read to the little ones, which they love. Silvana has a way of turning any situation into a positive one. Although she is still working on mastering the English language, her vocabulary and writing skills are incredible. Silvana will write out detailed emails and send them to DCFS, teachers, counselors and her CASA supervisor to make sure everyone is held accountable.

We recently received a call from a Judge requesting a CASA on a delicate case. The office immediately thought of her, because of her personality and level-headed decision making. When she was approached about it, she agreed. She knew that there would be a lot of work to be done in a short period of time. The same day she was assigned she made a visit with her CASA child and made arrangements in her personal life to make sure she visits with all of the parties prior to court. We are grateful that she is part of our CASA family. Silvana will be receiving a donated polo shirt by Shelly Touns at Artistic Embroidery.

BOARD MEMBERS

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Way to Go!

- **Dillon Dumond** for submitting a court report and attending court for your CASA children.
You got this!
- **Corree Eschete** for attending court and staying with your case until closure. You are amazing!
- **Destiny Clement** for submitting your court report and attending court for your CASA child.
You are magnificent!
- **Annette Bilello** for submitting a court report, attending court, and visiting your CASA child in her new placement. You rock!
 - **Lacy Poiencot** for submitting a court report and attending court for you CASA child.
You are remarkable!
- **Emily Gilmore** for submitting a court report, attending court, and staying connected with your teen during his difficult time. You are the best!
 - **Amber Ward** for attending court and being so dedicated to you CASA children during unusual court proceedings. You are remarkable!
 - **Patti Charpentier** for writing a court report and attending court. You are ideal!
- **Silvana Santos-Alegria** for taking on another case and working diligently to obtain all necessary information! You are fantastic!
- **Dean Schouest** for attending court and testifying on behalf of his CASA child's custody to be transferred to his Aunt. Great Job!
- **Blayne Bergeron** for attending court and always being a stable member of his CASA child's life and exposing the good truth under the facade of what is believed to be "bad". Way to go!
- **Joni Oncale** for attending the FTM and court date for one case and finally making that connection on your other case!! You are doing a fantastic job!! Thank you for all you do!
- **Michelle Verret** for submitting your court report and continuing to keep that connection with your CASA child out of state! Awesome job!
- **Betty Wallace** for submitting your court report and visiting all three of your CASA children! Amazing!



Paddle the Kayaks Fishing Rodeo



Fishing Winners:

Redfish:

- 1st--Mike Trahan --261/8"
- 2nd-- Taylor Lewis 25-5/8"
- 3rd --John Melancon --24-1/2"

Raffle Winners:

- | | |
|--|-----------------------|
| 1 st --\$1,000 cash | Lillian & Cole Guidry |
| 2 nd -- \$500 cash | Allen Fitzgerald |
| 3 rd --Quilt | Breanna Boquet |
| 4 th --\$250 cash | JJ Ledet |
| 5 th --\$250 from Fakier's | Gerald Michel |
| 6 th -- \$150 gift from Rod's | Ida Moore |
| 7 th --Cutco Knife | Hunter Whitney |
| 8 th --Outdoor Speaker | Morgan Ledet |
| 9 th --Wine Basket | Mary Guidry |

Thank you to all our sponsors who supported us to make this event possible!

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|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| B. Z. Rentals | Trapp Cadillac Chevrolet |
| LaCarreta on St. Charles | Morris P. Hebert, Inc. |
| Hebert Insurance Agency | Cane Cutters |
| The Schwab Law Firm | Rod's Superstore |
| Cannata's | Blue Runner Food, Inc. |
| Big Mike's BBQ | Fanguy Brothers |
| Cutco Knives | Fakier Jewelers |
| Cenac Marine Services | Louis Mohana Furniture |
| Trade Winds Marina | Drop-N-Fix of Houma |



Fishing Winners:

Speckled Trout:

- 1st--Mike Tahan -13-3/4"
- 2nd--Mike Trahan --14-5/8"
- 3rd --John Melancon --14-1/2"

Happy Birthday!

CASA Kids:

- Yvonne White 11/3
- Ann Beeson 11/23
- Jon Russo 11/8
- Amber Ward 11/16
- Sallie Preston 11/9
- Mary Healey 11/23
- Heather Pulley 11/7
- Suzanne Vice 11/22
- Betty Wallace 11/19

CASA Volunteers:

- Skipper Kornegay 11/14
- Charlene Wallace 11/16
- Corree Eschete 11/13
- Jill Pere 11/13
- Whitney Miller 11/19
- Suzanne Vice 11/1
- LEEANNE Deroche 11/3
- Hannah Becnel 11/8

Supervisor Corner:

Congrats

Raymonda Guidroz, you have won a gift card of your choice for seeing your child and putting in your contact logs by the last day of the month.

To be entered into this monthly drawing all you have to do is see your CASA child prior to the 26th of the month and put in your contact logs by the last day of the month.

Support CASA of Terrebonne as your favorite organization.

You shop. Amazon gives

Welcome to
amazonsmile

smile.amazon.com

1. Sign in to **smile.amazon.com** on your desktop or mobile phone browser.
2. From your desktop, go to Your Account from the navigation at the top of any page, **and** then select the option to Change your **Charity**. ...
3. Select a new **charitable** organization to support.

Volunteer Statistics:

49 volunteers advocated for 78 children.

Spent 128 hours on cases.

Traveled 793 miles to see their CASA kids and families.

In-service:

The Power and Purpose of the Teenage Brain

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kH-BO1rJXbQ&t=350s>

Credit: 1.5 Hour

Document your in-service hours into Optima

Donations & Grants:

- CASA AP
- Charlene Wallace
- Halliburton
- Amazon Smile