

**CASA OF TERREBONNE****FEBRUARY 2020 NEWSLETTER****MESSAGE FROM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, DONNA M. BRUNET**

New and exciting things are happening at CASA of Terrebonne. We have implemented a new program called the "Traveling Tutors". This program will place trained tutors with children in foster care who are lagging behind their peers in school and need that extra one-on-one help to get them to grade level. Nearly 70% of school-aged children in foster care have Individualized Education Plans (IEP's), only 50% will graduate from high school and less than 3% will graduate from college. Specialized tutoring for at-risk students can help them improve academically while preventing them from dropping out of school. We trained our first group of tutors on February 4 and will soon be placing them with a child in need of tutoring.



On the evening of **March 6**, in celebration of CASA's 20 year anniversary, we will be hosting "*A Night for Children's Sake*" at the home of Parish President Gordon Dove. There will be food from local vendors, an open bar, live music and both silent and live auctions. All proceeds will go to benefit CASA of Terrebonne and more importantly the children in foster care in Terrebonne Parish. Tickets are \$80/person and can be purchased on the CASA website. The public is invited so please let all your friends know.

Also, mark your calendars for **May 2, 2020** for the 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Southdown Bar and Grill/CASA crawfish boil. It will be held at the Marriot again this year and hopefully we will have beautiful weather!

**Hope you all have a very happy Valentine's Day and Mardi Gras!!**

**VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT**

Kathi Murphy was sworn in as a volunteer on November 15, 2018. She chose a case soon after and immediately began putting her training to use. Kathi has been a huge asset in her child's life; both in the foster home and at the school. Kathi attends almost every family visit and the family has all grown to love and appreciate all she does for her CASA child. The foster mom raved about Kathi's presence in their lives. She has played a vital role in ensuring the child's educational needs were being met. At the last hearing, Kathi advocated for her CASA child to be returned home to her parents with six months supervision.

The family was thrilled! The child was thrilled! After letting the family get settled for the first week home, Kathi visited to ensure things were going well. Again, Kathi is playing a vital role in ensuring that all needs are being met for her CASA child. The family is grateful for the help, as she has proven to be an asset for not only the child, but the whole family. CASA is also grateful for such an amazing advocate serving in the community. Thank you, Kathi, for all you do!

Kathi will be receiving an embroidered polo shirt donated by Shelly Toups at Artistic Embroidery.

## JANUARY VOLUNTEER STATISTICS:

**53** VOLUNTEERS ADVOCATED FOR  
**85** CHILDREN  
 SPENT **160** HOURS AND  
 TRAVELED **1213** MILES



**CASA of Terrebonne**

*We currently have*

**141**

*children on our waiting list!!*



Sexual



Physical



Neglect



Substance Abuse



<b>Jennifer Burrough</b>	<b>2/9</b>
<b>Leah Voisin</b>	<b>2/14</b>
<b>Sara Bond</b>	<b>2/15</b>
<b>Allison Eschete</b>	<b>2/17</b>
<b>Charles Brown, Sr.</b>	<b>2/19</b>
<b>Kimberly Eubanks</b>	<b>2/28</b>

### Congratulations to **LEAH VOISIN**

She has won a gift card of her choice for visiting with her CASA child and putting in her contact logs by the last day of the month.



To be entered into the monthly drawing, volunteers must see their CASA children and enter contact logs by the last day of the month.

## BET YOU DIDN'T KNOW! FUN FACTS ABOUT CARL "BUDDY" MCHABB — BOARD MEMBER



1. At birth, he weighed 10 lbs., 9ozs.
2. He took dance lessons as a child and at 16 he was Catholic youth of the year.
3. At 10 years old, he worked his first job shining shoes at Floyd's Barber Shop. At 12, he worked as a paperboy and as an adult, he spent 12 years working offshore.
4. He eats a peanut butter and banana sandwich every day for breakfast.
5. He grew up with a crew cut until he was old enough to present a valid argument against it.
6. His mom called him "Boo" all his life and she was the only person allowed to do so.

# SHOUT OUTS

- ♦ Terissa Boquet for attending a Family Team Meeting for her CASA children.
- ♦ Tasha Lirette for attending a court hearing and a Family Team Meeting for her CASA children.
- ♦ Tim Hitt for attending court for his CASA children.
- ♦ Connie Fremin for seeing her case through to adoption for her CASA child.
- ♦ Rhonda Lovell for attending a Family Team Meeting for her CASA children.
- ♦ Bill and Rhonda Lovell for attending a court hearing for their CASA children.
- ♦ Buddy McNabb for attending a Family Team Meeting and completing his first court report for his CASA children.
- ♦ Tressa Hebert for attending a court hearing for her CASA children.
- ♦ Priscilla Callais for attending a court hearing for her CASA child.
- ♦ Silvana Brown for attending a meeting for her CASA children.
- ♦ Earleather Celestine for attending a court hearing for her CASA child.



To request a tutor for your CASA child, fill out the online application on our website and we will match your child with a Traveling Tutor.

## FINDING FOREVER HOMES



Connie Fremin is pictured here with her CASA child and his new adoptive parents along with Judge Bethancourt at the adoption hearing.



WE APPRECIATE YOUR COMMITMENT  
AND SERVICE TO CASA

February Anniversary

Joy Tingle

17 Years

Save  
the  
Date

MARCH 6, 2020 6:30-10:00pm

*"A Night for Children's Sake"*

*at Gordon Dove's residence*

*Tickets available online at  
[www.casaofterrebonne.org](http://www.casaofterrebonne.org)  
or call 876-0250*

*All proceeds to benefit CASA of Terrebonne.*

## JANUARY DONATIONS



**CASA AP**

**Schwab Orthodontics**

**Monique Boudreaux**

**Patricia Reeves Floyd**

**Diana & Edward LeBoeuf, Jr.**

**LCD Management, Linda Ayers**

**Kathy Hardy** *(In memory of Skipper Kornegay)*

**Jack & Ida Moore** *(In memory of Skipper Kornegay)*

**Ronnie Haydel**

**Justine Duplantis**

**Michele Stringer**

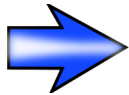
**Carolyn McNabb**

**Danna Schwab**

**Charles Kornegay**







***It's not too  
late to  
register online at  
[www.casaofterrebonne.org](http://www.casaofterrebonne.org)***



## **LUNCH & LEARN: CASA IN THE COURTROOM**



**Presenter:** Ellen Doskey, ADA

**WHEN:** Thursday, February 6, 2020

**WHERE:** CASA Office - 402 Canal Street

**TIME:** NOON - 1:00pm

### **Earn 1 Hour of Continuing Education on YouTube:**

Kansas City Star recently published an investigation called "Throwaway Kids " about the foster care system.

There are 9 short videos in this series including powerful testimonies from former foster children.

### **IN-SERVICE:**

#### **SELF CARE**

**PHYSICAL ♦ MENTAL ♦ EMOTIONAL**



**WHEN:** MONDAY, MARCH 30, 2020

**WHERE:** CASA OFFICE, 402 CANAL STREET

**TIME:** 5:30PM-8:00PM

**PRESENTERS:** Christine Aucoin, CASA staff  
Tina Evans, CASA Advocate  
Amanda Gibson, LSU AgCenter



**The following topics will be discussed:**

- ♦ Compassionate care
- ♦ Healthy nutrition
- ♦ Relaxing with yoga, massage and exercise

**REGISTER ONLINE AT  
[www.casaofterrebonne.org](http://www.casaofterrebonne.org)**





# SAFETY AND THE CASA CHILD

TALKING TO CHILDREN ABOUT SAFETY

**Presented by: Carla Burgos, Director of Program Services**

Safety and the CASA Child was developed to provide CASA Volunteer Advocates with an understanding of Safety Decision Making as it relates to the role of CASA in Child in Need of Care (CINC) cases. It is important for CASA Volunteer Advocates to connect their advocacy to child safety driven measures that improve safety outcomes for children and youth.

## Learning Objectives:

- Learn the key elements of Safety Decision Making
- Learn the definition of a safe and unsafe child
- Learn how DCFS determines a child is safe
- Learn what Judges need to know to make safety decisions
- Learn the difference between a safety plan and case plan
- Learn the key concepts to assessing safety
- Putting information together and making a safety decision
- Assessing safety and the CASA Volunteer Advocate
- CASA tools for engaging children and youth to promote child safety

**Tuesday, March 10, 2020**

**5:30 pm to 7:30 pm**

Terrebonne Parish Library – North Branch  
4130 W Park Ave.  
Gray, LA 70359

**Register Today: [www.louisianacasa.org/events](http://www.louisianacasa.org/events)**



**NOTE: REGISTER AT ABOVE WEBSITE NOT AT  
CASA OF TERREBONNE'S WEBSITE**



## IS IT FRIDAY YET?

JOIN US THE SECOND FRIDAY  
OF EVERY MONTH FOR TBRI® FRIDAYS!

TBRI® Fridays is a statewide strategy designed to elevate the level of care children across Louisiana receive by providing regular, consistent TBRI® training to DCFS, foster parents, service providers, and community partners.

# FRIDAY FEBRUARY 14TH

9:00AM - 3:00PM

## NEW TO TBRI® FRIDAYS?

Join us for our TBRI® Introduction and Overview  
**TBRI® INTRODUCTION & OVERVIEW**  
will focus on understanding the meaning of child behaviors, the brain chemistry of a child from a hard place, and how to help these children and families heal and connect. This multi-disciplinary training is designed to give caregivers, volunteers, and professionals who serve children and families the knowledge and practical skills they need to bring hope and healing.

**Feb 14, 2020**

9:00AM-3:00PM

Region 1 - Orleans  
Region 5 - Lafayette  
Region 6 - Lake Charles  
Region 9 - Monroe  
Region 8 - Shreveport

## BACK FOR MORE?

After attending an Intro and Overview, participants are eligible to attend any of the "deep dives" into Connecting, Empowering, and Correcting Principles.

**Feb 14, 2020**

9:00AM-3:00PM

**TBRI® CONNECTING PRINCIPLES**  
Region 4 - Thibodaux

**TBRI® EMPOWERING PRINCIPLES**  
Region 2 - Baton Rouge  
Region 3 - Covington

**TBRI® CORRECTING PRINCIPLES**  
Region 7 - Alexandria

## CROSSROADSNOLA.ORG/TBRI-FRIDAYS

Get tickets online. \$15 General Admission

FREE tickets for Child Welfare System Involved Parents (Foster, Birth, Adoptive) and DCFS Staff  
GOT QUESTIONS? Email us at [training@crossroadsnola.org](mailto:training@crossroadsnola.org) or call 504-482-9135.

This training is approved for 5 foster parent training hours, 5 LCA CEUs, & 5 clinical social work CEUs by LCWTA.  
This course has also been approved by the Louisiana State Bar Association for 5 hours of general MCLE credit.



## Current Board Members

**Marty Majewski, III—President**  
**Mary Guidry—Vice President**  
**Bonnie Naquin—Treasurer**  
**Shelly Toups—Secretary**

**Charles Brown, Sr.**  
**Christopher Chiasson**  
**Patricia Floyd**  
**Douglas Gregory**  
**Heather Hebert**

**Charles Kornegay**  
**Buddy McNabb**  
**Ida Moore**  
**Angelle Thibodeaux**