

CASA OF TERREBONNE NEWSLETTER

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In this issue:

Message from Executive Director & Volunteer Spotlight
Shout-outs & Anniversaries
Fun Facts, Birthdays, and Statistics
Donations, Pre-Service & In-Service Training

July 2019

Volume 7



Message from Executive Director, Donna M. Brunet

As we all celebrate Independence Day a/k/a the 4th of July, let's take the time to reflect on how lucky we are to live in a country where we are free and have choices.

We all remember the beginning of the second paragraph of the Declaration:

"WE hold these Truths to be self-evident, that all Men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Happiness..."

Of course there is a lot more to it and everyone should really take the time to read it. Our forefathers had a way with words!

Here are a few fun facts about Independence Day:

- July 4, 1776 wasn't the day that the Continental Congress decided to declare independence -- they did that on July 2, 1776.
- It didn't become a federal holiday until 1870.
- There are 33 places in the United States with the word "liberty" in their names. Four of them are counties located in Georgia, Florida, Montana, and Texas.
- The Liberty Bell rings 13 times every Independence Day to honor the 13 original states. Descendants of people who signed the Declaration of Independence tap the bell, located in Philadelphia, PA, at 2 p.m. eastern time every 4th of July.
- The Pennsylvania Evening Post was the first newspaper to print the Declaration. It came out in the newspaper on July 6, 1776 for everyone to see, after a local printer named John Dunlap produced copies of the declaration's manuscript.
- Thomas Jefferson was the main author of the Declaration of Independence. Four others were also on the committee: Roger Sherman, Benjamin Franklin, John Adams, and Robert Livingston.

HAPPY 4TH OF JULY – HAVE FUN AND BE CAREFUL!!

Spotlight on Carey Redmond



Carey Redmond was sworn in on 8/25/2016. She has advocated on three different cases: two that ended in reunification with the parents; and her most current one that is still ongoing. As the years pass, Carey grows more comfortable in her role as a volunteer as is seen by how much she enjoys working with the families and her CASA children. She has experienced a child being moved, broken promises, and dysfunction surrounding the children. She understands how important her consistency is and how this makes for better relationships, not only with the parties involved but also with the child. Due to her educational background, Carey knows exactly what services will assist her CASA children to become better students. Carey takes the time to visit with the teachers and follows up often to see the progress, or lack of progress. She attends school functions, meets the families at little outings, and ensures that she is at special events to show her support. The relationship Carey has built with her CASA child is truly beautiful. Carey has not only grown in her role as a CASA but she has also taken the time to educate our office about IEP's and has been very helpful in assisting us to be able to better advocate in the other cases we serve. Carey will receive a polo shirt donated by Shelly Touns with Artistic Embroidery.

SHOUT-OUTS FOR A JOB WELL DONE

- ♦ Joni Oncale for attending court for multiple cases.
- ♦ Suzanne Vice for attending court for her CASA children.
- ♦ Tressa Hebert for attending court for her CASA children.
- ♦ Connie Fremin for attending court for her CASA children.
- ♦ Mary Healey for submitting a timely court report for her CASA child.
- ♦ Kim Eubanks for accepting her first CASA case.
- ♦ Kristy Ledford and Leah Voisin for accepting their first CASA case.
- ♦ Brittany Jones for taking over an existing CASA case.
- ♦ Jon Russo for accepting a new case and for attending court for his CASA children.
- ♦ Linda Fleniken and Mary Grace Adams for accepting a new case.
- ♦ Yvonne White for attending court for her CASA children and for accepting a new case.
- ♦ Mary Grace Adams for attending a FTM for her CASA children.
- ♦ Eddie Olivier for attending court for his CASA children.
- ♦ Rushelle Fitzgerald for attending court for her CASA child.
- ♦ Sarah Ghery for submitting a court report and attending court for her CASA children.
- ♦ Gabby Hernandez for attending a quarterly staffing for her CASA children.
- ♦ Amber Ward for submitting a court report for her CASA children.

Thank you for your commitment to CASA !
Volunteer Anniversaries this month:



Jody Dusenberry	9 Years	Norma Macks	1 Year
Tressa Hebert	1 Year	Eddie Olivier	9 Years
Jennifer Kryvanick	1 Year	Heather Pulley	1 Year
Amanda LeBlanc	1 Year	Mitzi Rieve	1 Year

JUNE - VOLUNTEER STATISTICS:

56 Volunteers advocated for
98 Children
Spent **160** Hours
Traveled **1322** Miles



CASA of Terrebonne

We currently have

150

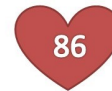
Children on our waiting list!!



Sexual



Physical



Neglect



Substance
Abuse



Silvana Santos-Alegria	7/2
Penny Hebert	7/4
Tim Hitt	7/7
Carol Bergeron	7/10
Linda Ford	7/13
Rebecca Clement	7/20



Congratulations to

***Penny
Hebert.***

She has won a gift card of her choice for visiting with her CASA children 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 prior to the 26th of the month and enter contact logs by the last day of the month.

Bet you didn't know!

Valentine Verdin - Advocate Supervisor



1. She comes from a VERY large family: she is 1 of 8 kids; her kids are 2 of 34 grandkids; she has one great-niece; her mom is 1 of 15 kids; and her dad is 1 of 12 kids.
2. She likes to draw and has taken several art classes.
3. She wrote a poem in the 7th grade that's been published in a book.
4. She likes to travel and has been all over the country attending events such as Comic Con, Vampire Diary Conventions, and Backstreet Boys cruises.
5. She has completed 4 of her 5 "things to do before I turned 30". The only one she missed out on was skydiving so she'd love to do it before her 35th birthday...which is in January. Anybody up to go with her?

JUNE DONATIONS

MONETARY:

CASA-AP

Michael Gilpin

Charlene Wallace

Cedric Brown

Cody Chatagnier

Doug Davis & The Shack - In memory of Manuel Merlos & Kathy Clement

Bayou Community foundation (Bayou Gives)

OTHER:

Jane Adkins & sewing friends - rag dolls

Edward Andrews - Island View Casino



*Thank you Jane Adkins
& friends*



*Thank you Bayou Community
Foundation*

*Thank you
Doug Davis
&
**THE
SHACK***

CURRENT BOARD MEMBERS:

President - Marty Majewski, III

Vice-President - Mary Guidry

Treasurer - Bonnie Naquin

Secretary - Shelly Touns

Charles Brown

Christopher Chiasson

Kathleen Duplantis

Patricia Floyd

Douglas Gregory

Heather Hebert

Carl "Buddy" McNabb

Angelle Thibodeaux

NEW ADDITIONS TO VOLUNTEER LIBRARY

BOOKS:

- ♦ *Finding Noel* by Richard Paul Evans
- ♦ *Three More Words* by Ashley Rhodes-Courter
- ♦ *The Body Keeps the Score: Brain, Mind and Body In the Healing of Trauma* by Bessel Van Der Kolk, MD
- ♦ *The Boy Who Was Raised as a Dog: And other stories from a Child Psychiatrist's Notebook* by Bruce D. Perry, MD, PhD. and Maia Szalavitz

MOVIE:

My Flesh and Blood

PRE-SERVICE & IN-SERVICE TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

TBRI CONTINUED..DON'T MISS THIS ONE..SIGN UP TODAY!!

Trust Based Relational Intervention - Connecting Principles

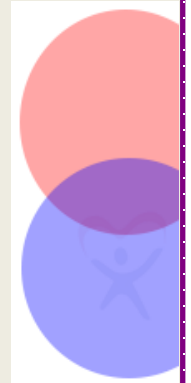
Guest Speaker: Leslie Adams, Certified TBRI Practitioner

Date/Time: August 13, 2019 / 5:30pm - 8:30pm

**Location: Terrebonne Parish Main Library
2nd Floor / Distance Education Room**

Meal provided and RSVP via e-mail is required.

RSVP: caucoin@casaofterrebonne.org



SAVE THE DATE

NEXT VOLUNTEER TRAINING CLASS

SEPTEMBER 10, 2019

Help us spread the word!!



Noon until 1:00 pm at the CASA office

- ♦ **Thursday, July 25, 2019 - Topic: Bridging the Gap Between CASA & Foster Parents
Presented by Erin Martin, DCFS Caseworker & Celeste Rodrigue, Foster Parent**
- ♦ **Thursday, August 22, 2019 - Topic: Optimizing Your Optima Use
Presented by CASA staff**

Lunch provided and RSVP REQUIRED VIA E-MAIL- caucoin@casaofterrebonne.org

