

APRIL 2022

THE VOICE

The Official Newsletter of Southeast Nebraska CASA



A Letter from Our Director...

Awareness vs. Prevention

Awareness is defined as the knowledge or perception of a situation or fact. **Prevention** is defined as the action of stopping something from happening or arising. Both are important - And at Southeast Nebraska CASA we want to bring awareness for our program's mission to help teach our communities prevention of child abuse and neglect.

Child abuse. Child neglect. I know these aren't easy topics. It is painful to think about children and youth experiencing abuse or neglect. Sadly, it happens every day. Many times, these children are removed from their homes and placed in foster care. This happened to more than 1500 children in Nebraska last year. At Southeast Nebraska CASA, we are dedicated to helping these children.

This April during Child Abuse Prevention Month, we will be hosting many different awareness events. We hope you will join the conversation and help us recruit more volunteers to be the voice for these children.

Abuse and neglect can happen to a child at any age. Whether a three-month-old baby or a 15-year-old teenager, experiencing abuse or neglect has a lasting impact on a child. Fortunately, having a caring, consistent adult - like a Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) volunteer - can make all the difference.

Southeast Nebraska CASA is determined to make sure every child in the counties we serve who has experienced abuse or neglect has a volunteer who will advocate for their needs and best interests.

Please help us spread awareness about our program so we can teach prevention to our communities.

Volunteer Portal

We are excited to announce a new feature to our website... the Volunteer Portal! Here you will find all the resources you need to do your job! If there's something you'd like to see here, please let us know and we can add it!

[Click Here to Log In](#)



Upcoming Events

Our entire newsletter is filled with fun events happening in April for Child Abuse Prevention Month! Check them out and make plans to join us for as many as you can!!



APRIL IS CHILD
ABUSE PREVENTION
MONTH. JOIN US TO
LEARN HOW YOU
CAN HELP.

SOUTHEAST NEBRASKA CASA FREE COFFEE

Join Us!

- APRIL 1ST | 7-10 AM AT BELLA ROSE BOUTIQUE & COFFEE HOUSE IN FAIRBURY, NE
- APRIL 8TH | 7:30-10:30 AM AT NEUTRAL GROUNDS IN SEWARD, NE
- APRIL 22ND | 7:30-10:30 AM AT BLUE BISON IN HEBRON, NE
- APRIL 29TH | 9 AM - 12 PM AT ARTISAN MARK IN CRETE, NE

Like us on Facebook @ Southeast Nebraska CASA



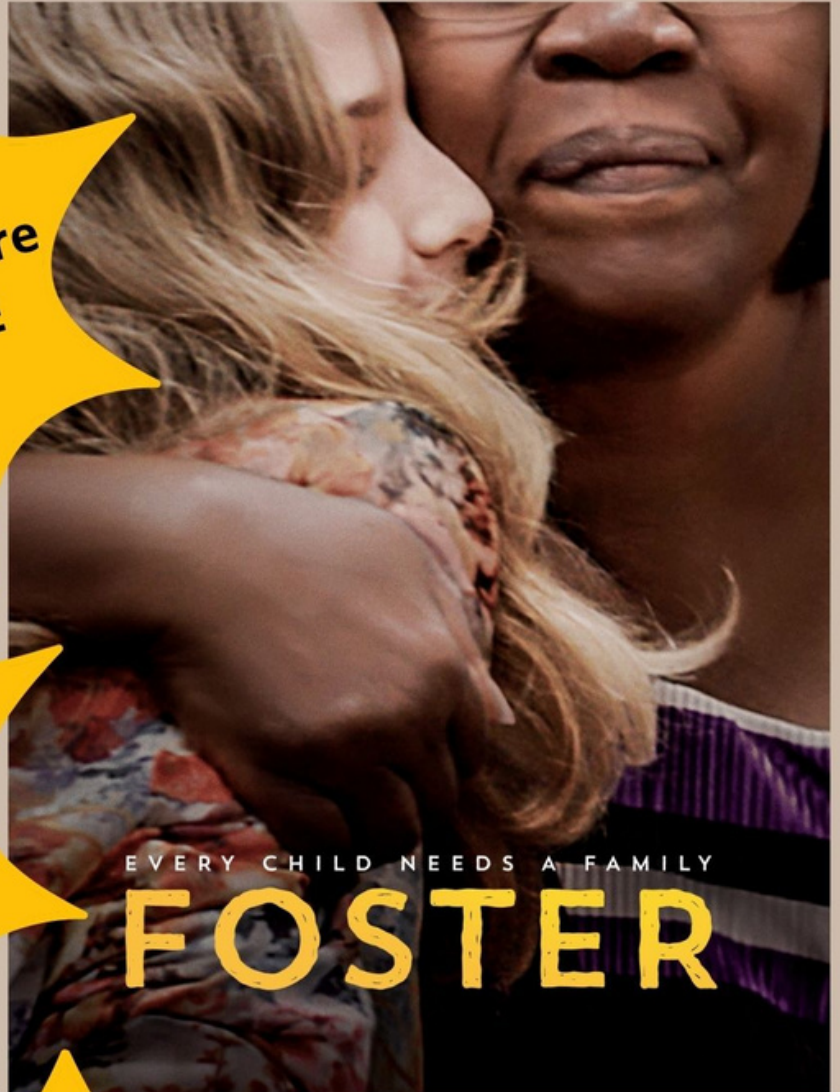
FREE Movie Showing

JOIN US

**April 2nd
Bonham Theatre
Fairbury, NE
2:00 pm**

**April 9th
Rivoli Theatre
Seward, NE
2:00 pm**

**April 23rd
Majestic Theatre
Hebron, NE
2:00 pm**





CASA SUPERHERO 5K/FUN RUN

APRIL 30TH CRETE, NE

**DRESS AS
YOUR FAVORITE
SUPERHERO
& JOIN US!**

**JOIN US FOR THE FINALE OF A SPECTACULAR
MONTH RAISING AWARENESS FOR CHILD
ABUSE PREVENTION!**

**5K & 1 MILE RACE OPTION | WALKERS ENCOURAGED!
REGISTER ONLINE BY SCANNING THE QR CODE
FIRST RESPONDERS RUN/WALK FOR FREE!!
A FAMILY FRIENDLY EVENT!**



REGISTER HERE

**SOUTHEAST NEBRASKA CASA
PRESENTS...**

BLUE SUNDAY



**PLEASE JOIN US FOR A
NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER FOR
ALL THE ABUSED CHILDREN**



April 24, 2022



CASA

Court Appointed Special Advocates
FOR CHILDREN

SOUTHEAST NEBRASKA CASA



DID YOU KNOW...

The month of April is
Child Abuse Prevention
Month

HOW TO PRAY

- pray they will be rescued
- pray they are placed with caring people
- pray their minds and bodies can heal
- pray they find hope
- pray for those who rescue them

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Contact Blue Sunday at 956-454-4531 or at www.bluesunday.org





CASA Talk

The Official Podcast of Southeast Nebraska CASA

This episode I am joined by New Orleans native musician and singer/songwriter, Joy Clark. Listen as we hear Joy tell us about her life, her music and becoming who she is today. She'll share about her experiences around community, creativity, being a black female guitarist and this moment in Americana that is celebrating black voices and artistry coming to forefront thanks, in part to the Black Opry House from Americana Fest 2021.

Find out where Joy is playing next:

www.joyclarkmusic.com

Get her newest single at

www.joyclark.bandcamp.com

Find out more about the Black Opry in this Rolling Stone article by Jon Freeman:

<https://www.rollingstone.com/music/music-country/black-opry-country-music-1301297/>



**A podcast produced by
Southeast Nebraska
CASA**



Advocate Spotlight

FEATURING KIRBY ROTH INSURANCE

This month we are thrilled to recognize Kirby Roth Insurance as one of Southeast Nebraska CASA's business sponsors. Kirby Roth Insurance is a family-owned and operated agency based in Seward, NE that provides sound risk management solutions to their neighbors. They take great pride in the ability to provide all of their customers with personal attention and exceptional service. When we sat down with them for this article, we learned they have built their business around relationships. Serving their customers is a priority that was instilled to them by their father who previously owned the agency. Kerwin said that after he and his sisters took over the business from their dad, one goal they had was to find local programs to partner with, whether that be financially or volunteering. In some cases, dollars that may have been spent on advertising are now donated to organizations like CASA. As siblings who work together, they also share their faith in Jesus Christ by attending church together, which is the key driver to their servant attitudes towards customers and community. Kiann was sworn in as a CASA volunteer in May 2018. She took her first case in July 2018, and served as a CASA volunteer until June 2020. Kiann explained that sometimes it is easier to throw money at a cause than to put in the time and effort. However, she also stated that as a volunteer, she feels she received more than she gave so she encourages everyone to go through the 30 hours of CASA training. She stated it really opened her eyes to the struggles people face, right here in her community. Southeast Nebraska CASA met Kirby Roth Insurance in 2016 through the Seward BNI Chapter. Kirby Roth Insurance has supported our program, by recruiting volunteers, participating in events, and helping us with financial donations. We are so thankful for our relationship Southeast Nebraska CASA has with Kirby Roth Insurance.



**Kirby Roth
Insurance**

VOLUNTEER TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES



Child Advocacy Center Community Training

Zoom or
Seward Civic Center

All are welcome!
12:00pm-1:00pm

ALL ARE
WELCOME!
ZOOM OR
IN PERSON



JOIN
US!

APRIL
13TH
NOON

REGISTRATION NOW OPEN
Ages and Stages that Impact Rapport Building
by Lauren Geier, LPC-S

Tuesday, April 26th at 6 PM CT

Objectives:

1. Review typical child development markers.
2. Review the role rapport building plays in advocacy.
3. Deviations from developmental expectations often seen with children involved in the child welfare arena.
4. Develop new strategies for rapport building with consideration of special circumstances.

Questions, Contact: necasa.christina@gmail.com

NEBRASKA CASA PRESENTS

Putting
Efficiency
Into CASA Court Reports
by Dawn Rockey and Kristi Morrow

Wednesday, April 13, 2022, 11:30 - 12:30 PM CT

REGISTRATION

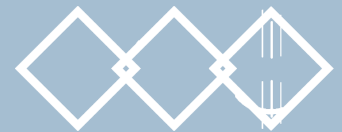
Objectives:

1. Focus on putting efficiency into CASA Court Reports.
2. Review challenges you are experiencing with editing CASA reports.
3. Focus on how to best mitigate challenges.
4. Review National CASA Standards.

Local Program Staff Training
Questions, Contact: necasa.christina@gmail.com

Report

Are You Interested in
Becoming a Volunteer??



Our Volunteers do
SO MUCH MORE than just
advocate for children inside
the Courtroom!
Visit our website to fill out the
[Volunteer Application](#)
and take the next steps toward
becoming a CASA Volunteer!!

We Love Our Volunteers!

April is also Volunteer Appreciation Month, so we want to recognize all of our amazing Volunteers & Board Members!

SALINE COUNTY

Sonia Almodovar
Barbara Dreyer
Jeanne Stec

SEWARD COUNTY

Dean Davis
Anna Headlee
Virginia Fraser
Elizabeth Heyen
Cynthia Snyder
Michelle Meyer
Abigail Meier
Kiann Stutzman
Jenny Holle
Jetta Tegeler
Nyla Helge

THAYER COUNTY

Connie O'Hanlon
Jack Roegner

JEFFERSON COUNTY

Shelby Rickley
Thomas Rickley
Susan Thomas
Katie Durfee
Brenda Beachler
Andrea Kline
Sheila Adams

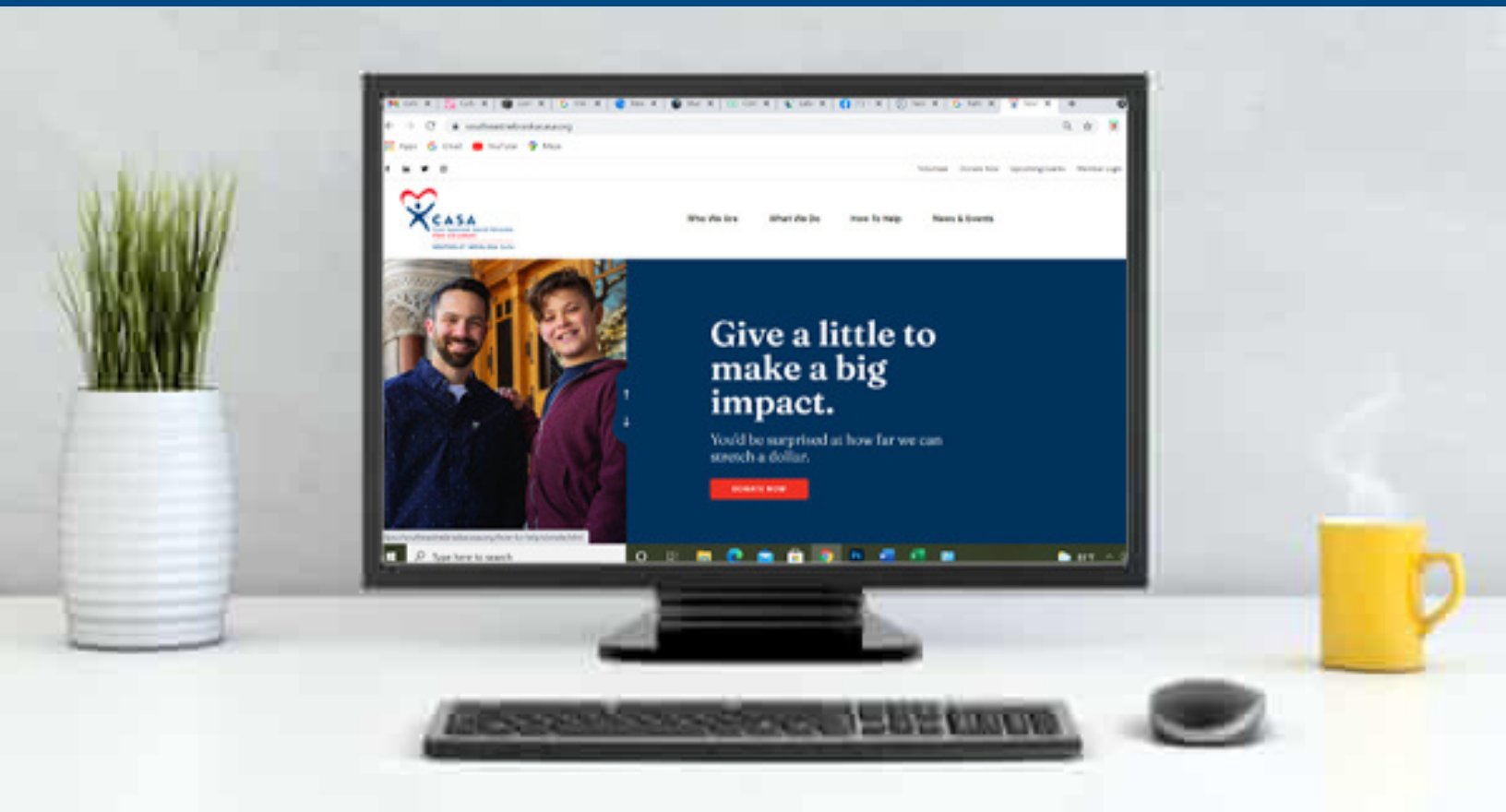
GAGE COUNTY

Heather McKinney
Heather Grove
Nancy Oltmans
Becky Whitehead
Kathie Menck
Deb Goosen
Monica Sedlacek
Kim Barnes
Tiffany Fiester
Arynne Horton
Corrine Kolm
Stacie Bruns
Lillianne Schmale
Ernesto Medina
Katie Bohlmeier

BOARD MEMBERS

Amber Fiala
Andrew Christensen
Bob Vrbka
Connie Borchers
Glenda Dobbertien
Janet Henning
Jennifer Marr
Jessica Hilderbrand
Morgan Kozisek
Nancy Tellez
Nicki Vinsonhaler
Zoraida Ramos

Southeast Nebraska CASA Online



**Check out our website where you can find
all the information about **CASA!****

Fill out a Volunteer, Board Member or Internship Application

Stay up to date on CASA News & Events

Make a Monetary Donation

Find out more about our Programs & Services

Listen to our Podcast 'CASA Talk'

Purchase CASA Apparel

Find out more about our Mission, our History, and our Location

Contact Us with Questions or to see how you can become involved with CASA

[Click here to visit our Website!](#)