AUGUST 2021

THE VOICE

The Official Newsletter of Southeast Nebraska CASA

A Note from Our Director

BY MARCI FEHLHAFER

I feel like I just wrote the newsletter saying "Summer is Here" and now we are gearing up for back to school. As children and youth prepare to start a new school year, the work of a **C**ourt-**A**ppointed **S**pecial **A**dvocate **(CASA)** volunteer is essential. Children who have experienced abuse or neglect are involved with multiple systems - the court system, the child welfare system, the health care system, and the school system. As a result, returning back to school can be difficult and unpredictable.

Our volunteers at Southeast Nebraska CASA are in frequent contact with teachers and school administrators to form a partnership to better understand the child's unique strengths and challenges. These interactions with the child's school, combined with the volunteer's relationship with the child, empower our volunteers to advocate in court for what the child needs to thrive academically. Our goal is not only to advocate in court, but also in the classroom. Our volunteers help to make sure the children we serve have everything they need to learn and perform in the classroom.

We need YOU! Southeast Nebraska CASA still has 30 children waiting for a volunteer. YOU can help us in many ways. We would love to have a conversation with you! By requesting more information on our website, we will contact you and explain all the ways you can help. Another simple way to help…. Is by sharing our newsletter! Please forward this to any of your friends and family and help us reach our goal of having a CASA volunteer for every kid.

Volunteer Support

Monday, August 9 : 7-8 pm
Volunteer Support Office Hours

Wednesday, August 11 : 12-1 pm
Foster Care Review Board

Monday, Sept. 13 : 7-8 pm
Volunteer Support Office Hours

Wednesday, Sept. 15 : 12-1 pm
Anchor in Resilience

Upcoming Events

Doane University Student Fair
Saturday, Aug. 14 : 10 am-12:30 pm

Concordia University Student Fair
Wednesday, Sept. 1 : 6-8 pm

Scare at the Fair
Sunday, Oct. 31st : TBA

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VOTE FOR SOUTHEAST NEBRASKA CASA!

More information on our profile and website!

https://southeastnebraskacasa.org/

Thank you

CASA Talk

The Official Podcast of Southeast Nebraska CASA

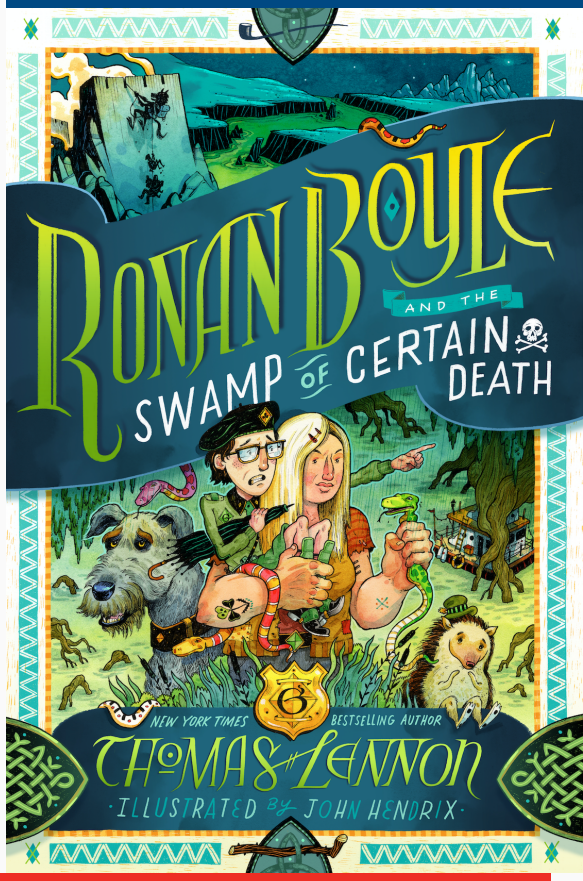
Our most recent podcast was released on Thursday, July 22nd, 2021! In this podcast, we visited with Author/Illustrator John Hendrix. We discussed and expanded on the idea of process...about all the things that go into a final product. We are learning to do and be something bigger than ourselves!

In talking with John, he discusses how anything that is valuable in our lives is going to come with a cost, and could be potentially painful. There is a process involved in creating or building anything....including life. You try one thing. It may work, or it may not. If it works, how can you make it better? If it doesn't work, what needs to be changed? You can build all areas of your life both intuitively and analytically....it takes practice, it's a process. We are willing to endure the hard parts because we have such a deep love for the 'things' we are making in our life.

Please take a listen to our interview with John! We know you will enjoy it as much as we have!

"Anything that is worth anything is going to come with a cost."

JOHN HENDRIX



Shout Out to Our Volunteers!!

Our volunteers are our CASA Champions! Over the summer months their work does not slow down. They have been busy meeting with their kiddos & families, providing support, helping organize services to help the families, and celebrating milestones!

Come and Let's Talk about CASA!!

We want to share our organization with you!

:: **Monday, August 9th** ::
Our office will be open in Seward and the Berkley Family Center in Fairbury will be staffed for you to come learn more about CASA!

:: **Wednesday, August 11th** ::
CASA Open House from 11:00 am to 12:00 pm
HEBRON ACTIVITY CENTER
329 Lincoln Avenue, Hebron NE 68370
~or~
CRETE PUBLIC LIBRARY
1515 Forest Avenue, Crete NE 68333

If you'd like to join us via zoom, shoot us an email and we will send you a link.

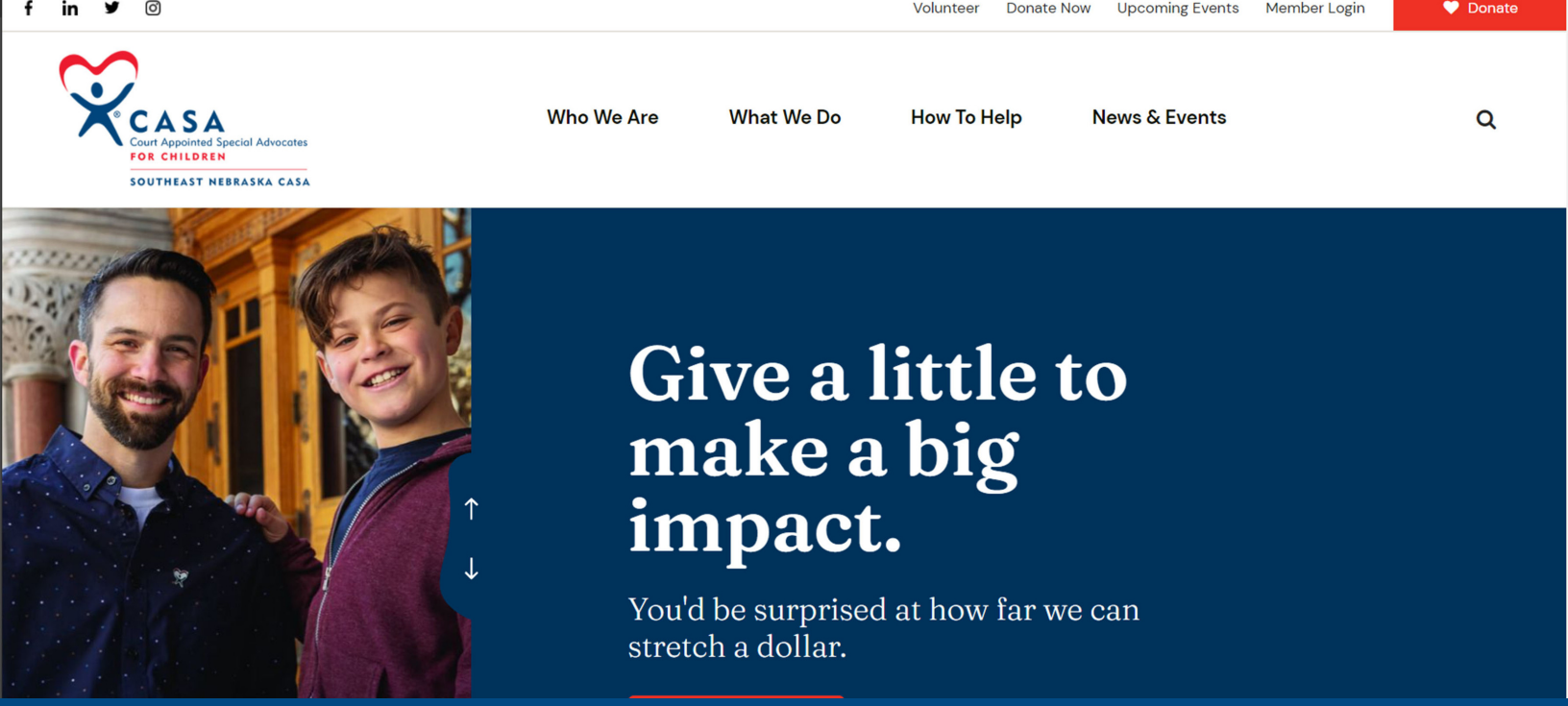
CONGRATULATIONS!!

TO OUR NEWEST VOLUNTEERS WHO WERE SWORN IN ON JULY 14, 2021!

Lisa Lindau
Seward/Saline County Program Coordinator

Andrea Kline
Jefferson County Volunteer

Sheila Adams
Jefferson County Volunteer



Our NEW WEBSITE is Live!!
Check it out at www.SoutheastNebraskaCASA.org

We are excited for the opportunities that our new website will bring to the organization! Within our new site you will find ways to make donations, applications for volunteering, internships, and becoming a board member. There, you will also find access to a number of resources for child advocacy! Thank you for taking a look!

Please help us Welcome Judge Jeff Gaertig to the Gage County Court!! We are excited to work with you!