

JULY 2022

# THE VOICE

The Official Newsletter of Southeast Nebraska CASA

## A Letter from Our Director...

**The Storms in June are nothing compared to what some kids go through - EVERY DAY.**

June was a bit "Stormy" at Southeast Nebraska CASA. Our Seward Office sustained a lot of damage from a tornado/hail storm on June 14th and we are all working at home while waiting on the repairs. We are thankful, no one was hurt in the storm and we are reminded that the children we serve at Southeast Nebraska CASA sometimes live in stormy situations EVERYDAY. However, the storms the kids see every day can't be fixed with a contractor. They need a support network. They need dedicated caseworkers, GALs, foster parents and **THEY NEED A CASA VOLUNTEER.**

CASA volunteers play a critical role in the lives of children. CASA volunteers are appointed by judges and they get to know the child and talk to family members and other adults in the child's life to find out what they need to heal and thrive.

Children in foster care may have experienced physical, psychological and/or emotional trauma, and may endure long periods of uncertainty in the system as they wait to go home, be adopted or see what happens next. Our highly trained CASA volunteers step up to provide judges with the information they need to act in the best interest of the child.

Having a CASA volunteer, a caring consistent adult - someone who listens, checks in, follows up, holds the system accountable and puts the child's best interest before all others, can make all the difference.

While our CASA volunteer can't always "Fix" the storm for the child, our volunteers do advocate and champion for the safety of that child, so the kids can find the safe, happy, healthy homes built with resources to help them thrive

## 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](#)



**NATIONAL  
MAKE A  
DIFFERENCE  
TO A CHILD  
MONTH 2022**



## June Hit Us Like a Storm!!

Many of you have probably already seen the damage from the storms that blew through our area a couple weeks ago. Unfortunately our Seward office sustained A LOT of damage, and we will not be able to work there until everything gets repaired. We are, however, still focusing on the children from our homes, the local coffee shop, or even the park when it's not too hot!! Here are a few of the photos from our office damage....



The good news is that our Hebron office continues to be open on Mondays and Wednesdays, or by appointment. Please also continue to contact us via phone and email with anything you may need!!



## CASA Talk

### The Official Podcast of Southeast Nebraska CASA

We've had a busy month of new podcasts! Please click on the red title bar to listen to each of them!

#### SOCIAL WORKER AWARENESS PODCAST

Just because Social Worker Awareness month was back in March doesn't mean we can't keep appreciating this amazing changemakers among us! This week I am joined by Licensed Clinical Social Worker, Nikki Allen, from Denver, Colorado. She is also a coach serving helping professional with Mindful Maven Coaching.

<https://mindfulmavencoaching.com/>

#### RESILIENCE PART ONE WITH KIM MARXHAUSEN

Kim Marxhausen returns to the podcast to talk about Resilience- what it looks like, how to build it, how to work on it in our own lives and help children develop their own. We had such a great conversation that we decided to make this a two parter, so be sure to tune in again soon for the continuation of our conversation.

Kim Marxhausen is an author, educator and presenter. Her book, "Weary Joy: The Caregiver's Journey" is available everywhere. To find out more about Kim, visit her website: [kim.marxhausen.net](http://kim.marxhausen.net)

#### RESILIENCE PART TWO WITH KIM MARXHAUSEN

This episode is the continuation of our conversation around resilience. Kim Marxhausen brings her expert knowledge and wisdom back to CASA Talk to discuss resilience. If you haven't heard the previous episode, I suggest starting there.

To find out more about Kim and her work, visit her website: [kim.marxhausen.net](http://kim.marxhausen.net)



**A podcast produced by  
Southeast Nebraska  
CASA**







# VOLUNTEER TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

## Advocating Alongside LGBTQ+ Youth Community Training

Zoom or July 27th  
Seward Civic Center 12:00-1:00pm



REGISTER  
HERE!



July  
27th  
NOON

## Are You Interested in Becoming a Volunteer??



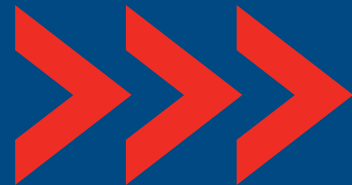
Our Volunteers do SO MUCH MORE than just  
advocate for children inside the Courtroom!

Visit our website to fill out the Volunteer Application  
and take the next steps toward becoming a CASA  
Volunteer!!

## CULTURAL COMPETENCY

JUNE 7TH 10:00 AM

**SHEKINAH FAITH DAVIS**



## CULTURAL COMPETENCY TRAINING LINKS:

What is Implicit Bias- Kirwan Institute:  
<https://vimeo.com/262430144>

Individualism vs Collectivism  
<https://youtu.be/CW7aWKXB5j4>

Colorism  
<https://youtu.be/46rj3kfl714>

Ageism  
<https://youtu.be/UYCxAIqjyCA>



# Congratulations!

Between the middle of May and the first of July, we proudly swore in  
FOUR new volunteers!! Congratulations and Welcome to Kalie Ward,  
Jenny Holle, Nyla Helge & Tracey Hanson.

# Nebraska CASA Conference



*hope* needs a *helping* *hand*

THE NEBRASKA CASA CONFERENCE IS COMING UP ON AUGUST 26TH & 27TH, AND WE WOULD LOVE TO HAVE AS MANY OF OUR VOLUNTEERS ATTEND AS POSSIBLE! SOUTHEAST NEBRASKA CASA WILL PAY FOR OUR VOLUNTEER'S REGISTRATION FEE ONLY. WE ARE SUPER EXCITED THAT OUR VERY OWN SHEENA HALVERSTADT, SONIA ALMODOVAR & MARCI FEHLHAFFER ARE ALL SPEAKING AT THIS YEAR'S CONFERENCE!

YOU CAN REGISTER FOR THIS YEAR'S CONFERENCE HERE:  
[HTTPS://WWW.NEBRASKACASA.ORG/STATECONFERENCE.HTML](https://www.nebraskacasa.org/stateconference.html)

AND THE OTHER FANTASTIC THING ABOUT THE NEBRASKA CASA CONFERENCE IS THAT YOU CAN ATTEND VIRTUALLY! ALL SESSIONS ARE RECORDED, AND ARE VIEWABLE FOR UP TO 6 MONTHS FOLLOWING THE EVENT. DON'T MISS OUT ON THIS YEAR'S CONFERENCE!

# Join us for Ice Cream!!



Join Southeast Nebraska CASA for



# FREE



# ICE CREAM

YOU ARE INVITED TO JOIN US  
AT THE SEWARD PAC N SAVE  
FOR SOME FREE ICE CREAM  
COURTESY OF CASA!

**Pac n Save Grocery**  
**1519 US-34 #1, Seward, NE 68434**  
**July 29th, 10:00am-3:00pm**

We want to give back to the community for  
your continued support of CASA! Start your  
weekend off with some free ice cream and  
come learn about CASA!



# OTHER CASA HAPPENINGS

SOUTHEAST NEBRASKA CASA AND FOSTER FRIENDS PRESENTS

**OCTOBER 30TH 2022**

More to come!  
Stay tuned!

**SCARE AT THE FAIR**

  
**CASA**

*Save the date!*

  
Foster Friends  
(402) 540-3082


  
**CASA**

*Save the Date*

Save the date for the first annual

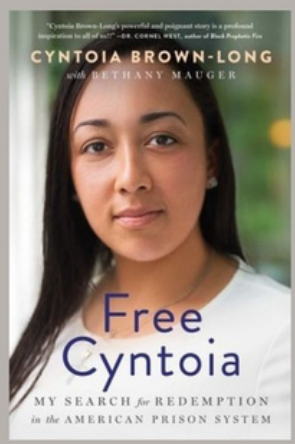
**SOUTHEAST NEBRASKA CASA GALA**

April 1st, 2023 | Junto Wine | Seward, NE

  
**CASA**

**SOUTHEAST NEBRASKA CASA BOOK CLUB**

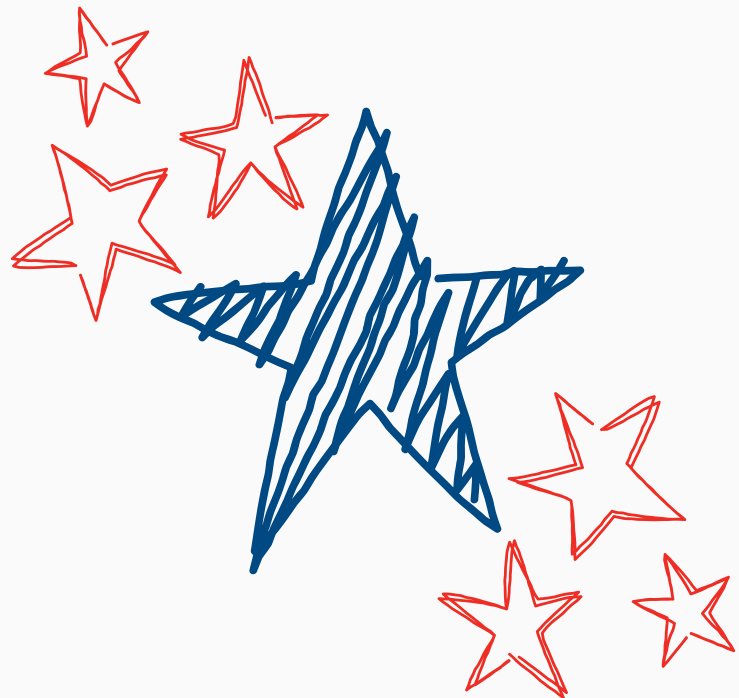
**FREE CYNTOIA**



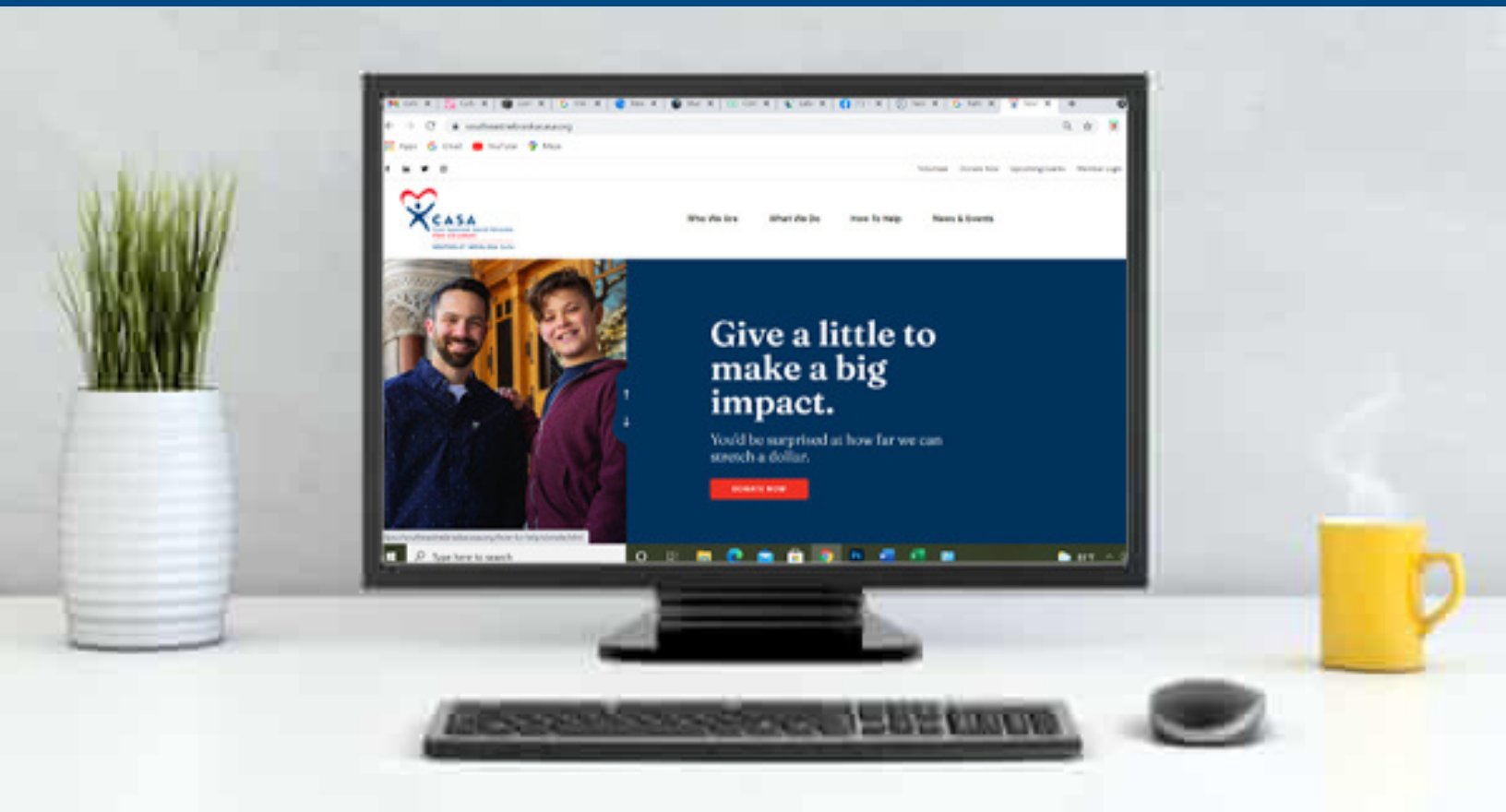
By: *Cyntoia Brown-Long*

**SEPTEMBER 19TH  
7:00PM  
BOOK CLUB MEETING**

[REGISTER HERE](#)



# 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!](#)**