

© CASA Court Appointed Special Advocates FOR CHILDREN

#### CASA OF THE 16TH JDC, INC.

The Mission of the CASA of the 16<sup>th</sup> JDC, Inc. is to recruit, train and engage community volunteers to advocate for abused or neglected children in the 16<sup>th</sup> Judicial District Court System.

## 337-359-9016 121 West Pershing St.

www.casa16jdc.org

March 2021

#### **UPCOMING** EVENTS

#### **Pre-Service** Training – April 10/11 å **April 17/18**

\*Must attend both weekends. Contact for more info 337-359-9016 or www.casa16jdc.org

## Happy Birthday!!

Amanda -3/8 Bonnie - 3/8 Sarah G - 3/14 Sarah D - 3/18 Heather - 3/20



A Message from the Executive Director

Resilience...Continuing challenges of this past year has demonstrated the resilience we as a people enjoy. A pandemic, multiple strong hurricanes, civil unrest, and a freeze all has us taking deep breaths. However, my thoughts turn to the children in our care. They are experiencing all of these "threatening" events while facing the trauma of separation from all that is good and should be enjoyed by a child. Not much can be more traumatic than the separation of home, family and any comforts which formally existed for you. Observation of this suffering and the difference that CASA Volunteer Advocates bring to these deserving children while bolstering their resilience is remarkable. Since becoming a part of this wonderful program I have felt privileged to know many "superheros." The kindness, compassion, and generosity this sacrifice of determined effort and valuable time validates the good of our wonderful community. The world we leave our children is the world we continually create. For everyone associated with CASA of the 16th JDC, Inc., I am grateful. Bonnie

# WWW.casa16jdc.org 337-359-9016 121 West Pershing St. March 2021

#### UPCOMING EVENTS

Upcoming Court Dates Iberia- 3/11/2021 & 3/25/2021

St. Martin- 3/5/2021 & 3/19/2021

St. Mary -3/4/2021

#### Next board meeting will be

held March 9<sup>th</sup>, in the Courthouse Annex Conference Room. At 5:30pm

Contact Logs should be completed within 48-72 hours of ANY contact. Thank you!

## Rhonda James

CONGRATULATIONS!!

CASA OF THE MONTH

Rhonda, a retired educator, and military veteran will soon celebrate her third year with CASA of the 16<sup>th</sup> JDC, Inc. For most of this time she has worked two cases simultaneously. On all cases the children are visited monthly, the contact logs and court reports are both fact-based and timely entered. Rhonda is an outstanding asset to our program. Our gratitude and congratulations to you Rhonda.

Rhonda states: "As a CASA for the 16<sup>th</sup> JDC, I am privileged to serve the needs of abused or neglected children. CASA has provided excellent ongoing training and support to better accommodate these needs. Making a difference in the lives of children who find themselves in situations detrimental to their well-being gives me a great feeling of giving back. I have met some wonderful foster parents and children who just need to know that we care. I love being a CASA!"



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The staff would like to give a shout out to the Volunteers that díd In-servíce hours ín February. Your dedication does not go unnoticed! Leah Cowie Heather Coleman WAY TO GO!



### Please help me give a warm welcome to our new Advocate Supervisor, Katherine Friend!







Kappa Alpha Theta Fraternity sponsors our CASA children on their birthday with a "Party in a Bag." This allows foster parents to have most of the items needed for a small birthday celebration at their fingertips. The bags include cake mix, icing, candles, plates, etc. The bags are available for delivery by volunteers before the preceding month end of your child's birthday.

Personalization of the birthday bag is desired. Please contact me at the beginning of the month **prior** to your child's birthday with preferential information so an appropriate gift can be included. Telephone, email, or text your child's interest, i.e., Spiderman, Batman, is mature for their age, cartoon preference, scared of puppies, hates chocolate, is a girly-girl or tomboyish, likes to draw, etc. The gifts may include fingernaill polish, a puzzle or a truck for example. The older kids are especially difficult to buy for so please be as specific as possible with their prefernces.

Thank you! Susan 337-380-1757 susan.mcfarland@casa16jdc.org







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## **CASA CORNER** www.casa16jdc.org 337-359-9016 121 West Pershing St. March 2021

## **General Office Updates**

 If your child has a birthday next month, Please contact Susan McFarland for the "Party in a bag" project at 337-380-1757. Or email her at susan.mcfarland@casa16jdc.org.

Pre-Service training
The next training will be April 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup>.
The second part will be on April 17<sup>th</sup> and 18th. If you are interested in participating with this training, please get in touch with Amanda or Amy.

If you have a facebook account we Ask that you please like and share CASA of the 16<sup>th</sup> JDC, Inc.'s Facebook page. The more exposure The more volunteers we can recruit To help Change A Child's Story!

Find us on Instagram! @casa\_of\_the\_16<sup>th</sup>\_jdc

# CASA CORNER

www.casa16jdc.org

337-359-9016

121 West Pershing St.

March 2021

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