

MARCH 2022

# CASA C RNER



## UPCOMING COURT DATES

### IBERIA PARISH

March 9, 2022

March 23, 2022

### ST. MARTIN PARISH

March 11, 2022

March 23, 2022

### ST. MARY PARISH

March 7, 2022

March 30, 2022

## CASA BIRTHDAYS

James Bertrand - March 1

Sarah Giroir - March 14

Heather Coleman - March 20

## LUNCH WITH CASA

A gathering of CASA of the 16th JDC, Inc staff and Volunteer Advocates for "brainstorming" on **breaking the ice with children in care, information gathering, court reporting, contact logs, testifying**, and any other topic you wish to review with your peers.

CASA of the 16th JDC, Inc is resurrecting "Lunch with CASA" (aka "Coffee with CASA", the virtual alternative during the recent pandemic), a "Dutch Treat" luncheon gathering is planned for **Saturday, May 14, 2022 at 11AM, Forest Restaurant, 1909 Main Street, Franklin, LA 70538.**

We plan to hold the Lunch with CASA in-service events on the **second Saturday of each month** and alternate restaurants in each parish (if you would like to suggest a restaurant in your area, please do so).

## THE 2022 ANNUAL CASA GALA

CASA of the 16th JDC, Inc would like to give a huge THANK YOU to all of our amazing Gala Sponsors! With your help we were able to host an amazing first Annual CASA Gala and celebrate with our community! To all those who attended, we hope you had as an amazing of a night as we did. Seeing familiar Advocate faces, as well as new faces from those all around the 16th JDC, was so heartwarming and encouraging. Knowing that the children in our care have such a large group of supporters who care about their well-being just as much as we do, makes us even more hopeful that we can Change a Child's Story into a Fairytale. We already can't wait for next year's Gala!

# MANDATORY MANDATED REPORTING (LCCTWA)

LCCTWA is a partnership between the Department of Children and Family Services, the Pelican Center for Children and Families, and the University Alliance comprised of seven university partners within the public schools of Social Work in Louisiana. The Academy ensures that child welfare staff and stakeholders (such as foster parents, mental health providers, various medical and educational professionals, law enforcement and other legal professionals, as well as child welfare staff) will have a comprehensive, fundamental, and common base of knowledge and skills necessary to effectively intervene within the child welfare system by providing both live and online in-service training and professional development opportunities.

LCCTWA provides resources for many different topics that involve children, from anything LGBTQ related, to Human Trafficking, to Bullying, and so much more. With issues of compassion fatigue and burnout so prevalent in this line of work, the Academy encourages those involved to take the initiative when it comes to focusing on their wellness. The Academy provides Child Welfare Staff Wellness Resources to help lead a healthy, balanced life and continue to be a compassionate professional.

The LCCTWA is the perfect resource for CASA Advocates to receive their **mandated annual 12 training hours** by simply completing their online courses! Your LCCTWA is already created for you by us here at CASA, so the first step to getting your hours is already completed! You can access your account at <https://moodle.lcwtwa.org/> If you have forgotten your account login or haven't received a login, **please contact your Advocate Supervisor.**

## Follow Our Social Medias



CASA of the 16th JDC



CASA16thJDC



CASA Sixteenth JDC Inc





# CASA OF THE MONTH

## KRISTA MAGERS

"I have been married for almost 34 years and since my husband just recently retired, we have been completing a lot of projects around the house. Much of our time is spent with our church and our family - especially grandchildren!! I spent 25 years teaching high school math at Franklin High School. When I left the school system, I worked for Louisiana **Adult and Teen Challenge** in Charenton, Louisiana. This program is a residential facility for women dealing with life-controlling issues. I still volunteer with the program by working with students who are preparing to take the high school equivalency test. I've wanted to be a CASA volunteer for many years, however, until I retired I didn't feel like I could give it the necessary attention to do the job well.

What I love most about being a CASA is that I can fight for my kids. So many times while working in the school system, I saw students who didn't have a parent who could, or would, fight for them. **Every child deserves adults who are looking out for them and their best interests.** There are three quotes/ideas that I always try to keep in front of me when I am dealing with others, and they have served me well in all of the areas in which I am involved:

- "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength...**you shall love your neighbor as yourself.**"
- "**Believe that everyone does the best that they can.** Nobody gets up in the morning and says, 'I'm not going to do my best today.'"
- "**Never give up on anyone** - miracles happen every day."

## CASA'S WITH CHILDREN WITH MARCH BIRTHDAYS

Alta David - 1 child (March 2nd)

Rhonda James - 1 child (March 3rd)

Bonnie Bonin - 1 child (March 6th)

Jerry Gonzalez - 1 child (March 17th)

Naija Jones - 1 child (March 20th)

**PLEASE contact the office about your party in a bag.**

## NEXT BOARD MEETING

Tuesday, April 5th at 5:30 pm in the Court House Annex Conference room.

## FRIENDLY REMINDER

LCWTA has a 1.5hr prerecorded session that is **mandatory** for all active CASAs.

