

OCT 2023

# CASA C RNER



## UPCOMING COURT DATES

### IBERIA PARISH

October 04, 2023

October 19, 2023

### ST. MARTIN PARISH

October 06, 2023

October 26, 2023

### ST. MARY PARISH

October 02, 2023

## WE'RE ACCEPTING CHRISTMAS DONATIONS

CASA of the 16th JDC, Inc. will be accepting monetary and toy donations for Christmas 2023.

We currently have over 60 children in our care and are looking to provide gifts to each and every one!

**Children 14+ receive \$50 gift cards and children 13 & under receive \$50 in gifts!** Gifts

can be wrapped before drop off. Monetary donations and child sponsorships can be made at

[www.casa16jdc.org/donate-2](http://www.casa16jdc.org/donate-2)

## CASA BIRTHDAYS

Crystal Knope - Oct. 15

Melissa Dempsey - Oct. 18

## The 2023 Annual CASA Gala is...

scheduled! Mark your calendars, **April 12, 2024** will consist of a wonderfully fun night of celebration and awareness! We love sharing this night with the public and showing you just how much we are able to achieve with your help. Our Galas are not only to celebrate all things CASA, we want to celebrate **YOU!** Further details to be determined.





**CASA**

Court Appointed Special Advocates  
**FOR CHILDREN**

CASA OF THE 16TH JDC, INC.

# **COLOR**

## **A CHILD'S STORY**

**5K & 1 MILE**  
**COLOR RUN**  
**& CRAFTS FAIR**

**New Iberia, La**  
**October 7, 2023**



# OCTOBER IS Domestic Violence Awareness Month

Domestic violence is prevalent in every community, and affects all people regardless of age, socio-economic status, sexual orientation, gender, race, religion, or nationality. Physical violence is often accompanied by emotionally abusive and controlling behavior as part of a much larger, systematic pattern of dominance and control. Domestic violence can result in physical injury, psychological trauma, and even death. The devastating consequences of domestic violence can cross generations and last a lifetime. Although there has been substantial progress in reducing domestic violence, **an average of 20 people are physically abused by intimate partners every minute**. This equates to more than 10 million abuse victims annually. Millions of Americans live in daily, silent fear within their own homes. **In addition, every year millions of children are exposed to domestic violence**. Domestic violence incidents affect every person within a home and can have long-lasting negative effects on children's emotional well-being, and social and academic functioning.

Children may find their own coping strategies and some do not show obvious signs of stress. Others struggle with problems at home, at school, and in the community. You may notice changes in your child's emotions (such as **increased fear or anger**) and behavior (such as **clinging, difficulty going to sleep, or tantrums**) after an incident of domestic violence. Children may also experience longer-term problems with health, behavior, school, and emotions, especially when domestic violence goes on for a long time. For example, children **may become depressed or anxious, skip school, or get involved in drugs**. Children may try to protect an abused parent by refusing to leave the parent alone, getting in the middle of an abusive event, calling for help, or drawing attention to themselves by bad behavior. They may want to be responsible for "fixing" their family by trying to be perfect or always tending to younger siblings. Some children take sides with the abusive adult and become disrespectful, aggressive, or threatening to their nonviolent parent. Children who live with domestic violence may learn the wrong lessons about relationships. While some children may respond by avoiding abuse in their own relationships as they grow older, others may repeat what they have seen in abusive relationships with their own peers or partners. **They may learn that hurtful behavior is somehow part of being close or being loved.**

A strong relationship with a caring, nonviolent parent is one of the most important factors in helping children grow in a positive way despite their experiences. **Your support can make the difference between fear and security, and can provide a foundation for a healthy future.**

**DOMESTIC VIOLENCE HOTLINE**

**1-800-799-7233**

**CLICK FOR**

**NATIONAL TRAUMATIC STRESS  
NETWORK RESOURCES ON  
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE**





Lakondra Hines

HAPPY

CASAVEERSARY



Theresa Burleigh



# TRICK-OR-TREATING SAFELY

## Costume Safety

- Decorate costumes and bags with reflective tape or stickers and, if possible, choose light colors.
- Choose face paint and makeup whenever possible instead of masks, which can obstruct a child's vision.
- Have kids carry glow sticks or flashlights to help them see and be seen by drivers.
- When selecting a costume, make sure it is the right size to prevent trips and falls.

## Walk Safely

- Cross the street at corners, using traffic signals and crosswalks. Look left, right and left again when crossing and keep looking as you cross.
- Put electronic devices down, keep heads up and walk, don't run, across the street.
- Teach children to make eye contact with drivers before crossing in front of them.
- Always walk on sidewalks or paths. If there are no sidewalks, walk facing traffic as far to the left as possible. Children should walk on direct routes with the fewest street crossings.
- Watch for cars that are turning or backing up. Teach children to never dart out into the street or cross between parked cars.
- Join kids under age 12 for trick-or-treating. If kids are mature enough to be out without supervision, tell them to stick to familiar areas that are well lit and trick-or-treat in groups.

## Drive Safely

- Slow down and be especially alert in residential neighborhoods. Children are excited on Halloween and may move in unpredictable ways.
- Take extra time to look for kids at intersections, on medians and on curbs.
- Enter and exit driveways and alleys slowly and carefully.
- Get rid of any distractions - like your phone - in your car so you can concentrate on the road and your surroundings.
- Turn your headlights on earlier in the day to spot children from greater distances.
- Popular trick-or-treating hours are 5:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. Be especially alert for kids during those hours.



OCTOBER IS

# BREAST CANCER AWARENESS MONTH

Every day, more than 700 women in the U.S. are diagnosed with breast cancer.

Other than skin cancer, breast

cancer is the most common cancer affecting American women, with **1 in 8** receiving the diagnosis of breast cancer during one's lifetime. Early detection provides the best chance of successful treatment and cure. **Over 3.5 million breast cancer survivors are alive today thanks to advances in screening, detection and treatment.** For these women, the impact of breast cancer extends well beyond the single month dedicated to awareness. This October, make Breast Cancer Awareness Month (BCAM) about more than awareness.



NATIONAL BREAST  
CANCER FOUNDATION