

CASA VOICE

CHANGE A CHILD'S STORY.™



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A MESSAGE FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR PAMELA PERRILLES

CASAs are everyday heroes— people just like you have chosen to speak up for a child.



Welcome back to our newsletter! It's been a while since we last published but we are back and eager to share what CASA of the Tenth Judicial Circuit has been up to these last few months and what we plan on doing in the future!

Summer is coming to a close and now it is Back to School time for many children in our community! At CASA of the Tenth Judicial Circuit, children are always at the forefront of our minds and hearts and we reflect on the children we have helped and those who we could not. So this month, like every month, is a call to action! CASA of the Tenth serves Peoria, Tazewell, Stark, Marshall and Putnam counties. We are here to make a difference in the children's lives, **but we need your help!**



During the calendar year of January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2022 there were 1,670 pending cases of child neglect or abuse in our community: 38 in Marshall County; 919 in Peoria County; 8 in Putnam County; 9 in Stark County and 696 in Tazewell County. CASA of the Tenth was able to advocate for 524 children leaving 1,146 children left without a CASA Voice throughout the court process. That's why we are intently focused on recruiting a great number of volunteers to help these 1,146 children.

You can help by becoming a Volunteer Advocate and spreading the word about the virtues and important Mission of CASA to friends, family and acquaintances. We are resolute on helping all children in need of CASA's services and we look forward to another remarkable and rewarding year!

Together, we can **CHANGE A CHILD'S STORY.™**

Warmly,
Pamela Perrilles, Executive Director



CASA of the Tenth Attends Illinois State Conference



Judge James Mack and CASA's Executive Director, Pam Perrilles, as well as Volunteer Supervisors, Karen Heinemann, Torree Watson, Dominique Adams, Sally Stevenson, Todd Condron, Anna Galang and Ryan Lacerna and five Volunteer Advocates attended the Illinois CASA State Conference.

Held April 20th-21st in Springfield, IL at the President Abraham Lincoln Springfield Double Tree Hilton Hotel, there were several presenters throughout the mornings and afternoons as well as a myriad of interesting topics to learn and discuss.

During our conference, we were thrilled to honor CASA Illinois' choice for Judge of the Year, the Honorable James A. Mack, presiding Judge for Marshall, Putnam and Stark Counties.

Executive Director Pam Perrilles said of the Honoree, "Judge Mack was very open and helpful in establishing CASA services in his courtroom in July 2018 [in Tazewell County]. His commitment and compassion to serve the Abuse and Neglect Courtroom for many years have provided a great service to our community. Judge Mack is very deserving of being recognized for his leadership and vision in helping children who have experienced abuse and neglect."

Another one of our own was recognized as a recipient of the President's Volunteer Service Award. CASA of the Tenth Judicial Circuit is proud to laud the many skills and services of Leslie Koch.

Getting to Know New Advocate Supervisors Tom Bridgman & Anna Galang

Tom Bridgman



I am a lifelong Peoria resident. I retired in 2020. Upon hearing that there was an opening at CASA, I jumped at the chance to work for such a great organization, one that gives so much back to its community. So, I pursued the possibility to work for this organization.

My hobbies include cooking, reading, hiking, road trips and gardening. I am a cat dad to two crazy 10-month-old kittens. I also enjoy quiet nights at home on the patio.

What have you liked most about working at CASA? I was a CASA volunteer for almost 10 years before taking some time away. I strongly believe in the CASA mission and the work CASA does to support children and the entire family that is in turmoil.

Anna Galang

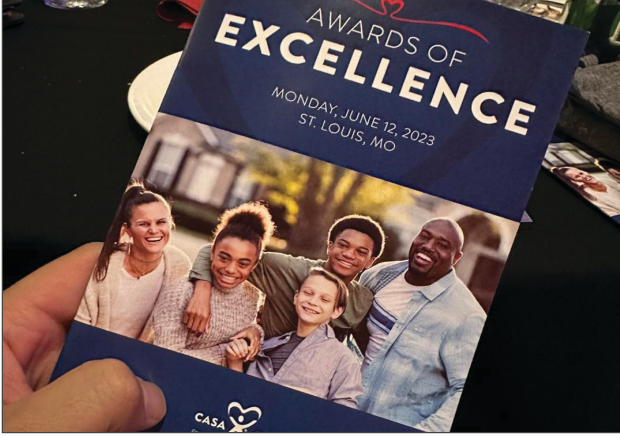


I graduated from Illinois State University (ISU) in 2020 with a Bachelor's in Criminal Justice Sciences. I moved to the Peoria area in December 2022 and before working at CASA, I worked at Aldi. I am a foodie so I love food and I am always willing to try all kinds of foods. In my free time, I like to play video games and go to the gym.

I have a fiancé named James. We met at ISU and have been together for almost three-and-a-half years. He's my best friend and one of my favorite people in the world. My parents are both Filipino and they were one of the first people in their families to come to the US.

What have you liked most about working at CASA? I love the team most of all. My coworkers are super welcoming and supportive, always willing to help out when needed whether it is offering advice or just overall being the most friendly people I have encountered. I love our mission and what we work for.

CASA Team Attends National Conference



The CASA Team made the trip down to St. Louis to attend the 2023 National CASA/GAL Annual Conference held on June 10-13. The team had the opportunity to hear from dynamic speakers, attend breakout sessions to learn about topics and trends, and connect with other professionals in the CASA Network.



Congratulations to our New CASA Volunteers.

CASA of the Tenth is proud to announce its latest class of CASA volunteers. Cathy Dare instructed her class of seven to great success, and on February 28, 2023, Judge Brown in Tazewell County swore them in!

We are grateful and proud to have them on board. Pictured left to right are Doug, Amber, Joanne, Elmer, Anna Galang, Andrew, Angela and Judge Brown.

Cocktails for CASA

2023 was just the second Cocktails for CASA, but certainly not the last! The event is, by design, a small and cordial get-together, including signature drinks, mixology tutorials and food pairings. The 30-plus guests also learned more about CASA, the impact of the Advocate Supervisors and Volunteers in our community and what they could do to help, making Cocktails for CASA the perfect mid-week outing.



Annual Sip Savor Smoke Fundraiser

The annual Sip Savor Smoke fundraiser was held on May 25, 2023, benefitting CASA of the Tenth and helping all children in need of CASA's services. Thank you to all of our attendees and sponsors for making it such a great event!



Thank You, Sponsors!

PRESENTING SPONSOR



VIP SPONSOR



Volunteers Recognized at Annual Appreciation Dinner



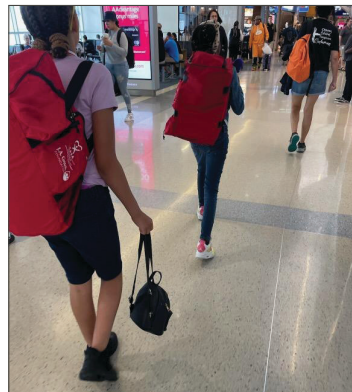
In late April, we recognized our extraordinary volunteers at CASA's Annual Volunteer Appreciation Dinner. The evening included awards for volunteer years of service including five- and ten-year awards, keynote speaker Kenneth Godbolt III, and an impromptu 10k donation match by Sun Collectors! Thanks to all of our volunteers and supporters past, present and returning! We appreciate your continued commitment to serving children and building up families in our community.

CASA Awarded Grant by Kiwanis Club of Pekin!



CASA of the Tenth Judicial Circuit is thrilled to be chosen as one of the grant recipients by the Kiwanis Club of Pekin! This grant will enable us to provide quality advocacy to more children in our community. We extend our gratitude to the Kiwanis Club of Pekin for their continued support of our mission and for all they do to support children in Central Illinois.

Going Home!



Special thanks to Grifols who donated these wonderful bags for CASA of the Tenth's children. And special thanks to Nancy Reams whose hard work and dedication helped make this day possible!

Content to have his girls live with their mom, their dad, who lives in a different state, stayed in regular contact with almost daily video chats and phone calls. As the case was nearing its conclusion, things abruptly took a turn for the worse and now dad made it his mission to have his daughters come live with him.

The girls were not removed from him so he believed this would be an easy process. It was not! CASA volunteer Nancy Ream spoke with dad regularly, making sure that he stayed informed and that his wishes to be the present parent were also heard in court.

Both girls had expressed their wish to live with their dad several times. One of CASA's main objectives has always been to make known to the court the wishes of the children. With the judge finally agreeing, he ordered the girls home to dad. Thinking of how the girls should travel with their "stuff," their caregiver remembered the "big red bags" that they had received from Nancy/CASA. This picture captures the girls walking through the Peoria Airport on their way home.

PAR 3 CHALLENGE & \$1 MILLION HOLE-IN-ONE SHOOTOUT

12th ANNUAL

27TH
SEPTEMBER
2023



Country Club of Peoria
4700 Grandview Drive
Peoria Heights

Registration: 12:45 to 1:15 p.m.
Shotgun Start: 1:30 p.m.
\$1 Million Shootout:
Approximately 6:30 p.m.



Support a great cause, enjoy a day of golf and earn the opportunity to win \$1 million!



CASA

Court Appointed Special Advocates
FOR CHILDREN

CASA OF THE TENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
www.CASAoftheTenth.org

DETAILS & PRIZES

EIGHTEEN HOLE, PAR 3 CHALLENGE

- Country Club of Peoria is converting the entire course to Par 3 play
- Field limited to first 20 teams of four golfers
- \$250 per golfer

HOLE-IN-ONE SHOOTOUT

- Top 10 teams will select one individual from their team to compete in the shootout
- \$1 million grand prize awarded to the first finalist who sinks a hole-in-one

EXTRAS!

- Food, drink tickets and a cash bar
- Team putting contest as you come off the course
- Raffle and other prizes awarded at the event

PRESENTING



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PUTTING



MISSION



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FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO BECOME A SPONSOR, CONTACT:
CASA OF THE TENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT AT 309-669-2939 OR CASA@PEORIACOUNTY.ORG.

2023 Events

Please be on the lookout for more info about our 2023 events.



Par-3 Challenge & \$1 Million Hole-in-One Shootout

September 27, 2023
Country Club of Peoria
Peoria Heights



Kappa Alpha Theta Tea Party in Honor of Joan French

October 7, 2023



CASAblanca: Dancing with the Local Stars

November 4, 2023
Par-A-Dice Hotel Casino
East Peoria



CHANGE A CHILD'S STORY.™



OUR MISSION

Ensure that every abused and neglected child is placed in a safe and permanent home, by utilizing specially trained community volunteers who advocate for abused and neglected children going through the court system.

Keep Up with CASA



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