

MILESTONE MOMENTS OF 2023

REFLECTING BACK AND THANKING YOU



02

**WRAP & RAVE HOLIDAY
PARTY SPREADS JOY TO
OVER 175 CHILDREN**

PLUS: ROSA CLARK NAMED
VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR

04

**TWO DECADES OF
ADVOCACY:**

**CASA-EP CELEBRATES
20 YEARS OF BUILDING
BRIGHTER FUTURES**

THANK YOU

As we find ourselves well into the year 2024, it is with great gratitude that we take a moment to look back at the remarkable achievements of 2023. In the pages that follow, we delve into a journey of compassion, resilience, and positive impact on the lives of vulnerable children and families. The past year has been a testament to the unwavering commitment of our dedicated team and the invaluable support from individuals and organizations that share our vision. Together, we have created meaningful change, fostering a brighter future for those who need it most. This year-end newsletter serves not only as a celebration of accomplishments but as a heartfelt thank-you to all who have played a role in making a profound difference in the communities we serve. Your dedication and partnership have helped make the following possible:

- **Our Program Grew in 2023.** In the pursuit of serving every child across the Eastern Panhandle, we staffed and supported 84 volunteers, and we are now serving over 400 children and youth.
- **We Trained and Empowered Advocates.** To prepare volunteers for the complex issues they will face, CASA-EP provided 140 hours of comprehensive and relevant pre-service training to 23 new volunteers and facilitated over 30 hours of continuing education training.
- **We Strengthened the Quality of Programs.** Through strong governance and controls, we strengthened operations and strategically expanded programs to better meet the needs of vulnerable children we serve and bring support to our under-resourced child welfare system. We are dedicated to alignment with National CASA/GAL program standards. As reported in annual surveys, 90% of volunteers believe they are making a significant difference in the lives of the children we serve. We continued to earn accolades through our independent annual audit with 95% of all operating funds supporting direct program costs. Positive feedback continues to be received from our local judges, child welfare colleagues, and community stakeholders who highlight the professionalism and competency of our incredible mission-driven staff team and the dedication of our volunteer advocates.
- **Sixty youth are receiving comprehensive advocacy, mentoring and educational programing.** Our Fostering Futures program works with youth 13+ over who are on track to “age out” of the child welfare system. Through one-on-one supportive relationships and group programs—including our annual Youth Leadership Summit—youth build essential life skills, improve their social emotional wellness, and feel less alone with connections made with peers.
- **Our 20th Anniversary Gala was a great success,** raising \$100,000 through contributions, live auction “experiences,” and the kick-off of our **Scholarship Fund** that provided support this year to two college-bound youth from our Fostering Futures program. The Superhero Challenge added to our community-building efforts where participants earned a total of 8,453 miles for CASA-EP all matched with donor designations.
- **And last but not least, CASA-EP brought holiday cheer to more than 175 children** through our annual gift drive made possible by the Eastern Panhandle Charitable Foundation. The wrapping of over 500 gifts took place at our annual Wrap and Rave Holiday Party, generously sponsored by ARGOS Martinsburg. During this event we took the utmost pleasure in naming **Rosa Clark as the 2023 Val Smith Volunteer of the Year** for her steadfast commitment and tireless efforts advocating for our community’s most vulnerable children and youth.

I’m looking forward to continued success in 2024 as we work to grow our programs to reach even more children and families who need us most.

Best wishes for a healthy and meaningful year ahead,



Michelle Sudduth

Executive Director

2023 YEAR-END HIGHLIGHTS



419

Number of
children served,
+36% vs. 2020



54%

of Children

involved in abuse and neglect cases
who **STILL NEED AN ADVOCATE**



84

Volunteers
+20% vs. 2020

60

Youth



receiving advocacy,
mentoring, and
educational programming
through our Fostering
Futures initiative

25%



Increase in number
of abuse and neglect
petitions filed across our
3 counties vs. 2022

23



New Volunteers
vs. 19 in 2022

23 Parents supported by a
CASA-EP parent navigator

57%

The increase of number of
WV children in foster care
between 2012 and 2021

8,463



Total community miles



completed during the Superhero
Challenge, vs. 250 in year 1 (2020)

\$100,000
Funds Raised



to support children and youth at the 20th
Anniversary Garden Gala



2

Scholarships
awarded to youth served



WRAP & RAVE HOLIDAY PARTY SPREADS JOY TO OVER 175 CHILDREN

ROSA CLARK NAMED VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR

In a heartwarming celebration, Court Appointed Special Advocates of the Eastern Panhandle (CASA-EP) worked to bring cheer to more than 175 children during their annual year-end event, the 2023 Wrap and Rave Holiday Party. The festive occasion was held in honor of the dedication of over 60 current CASA-EP volunteers who play a vital role in supporting over 400 children who have experienced abuse or neglect.

“At a time when our community faces unprecedented challenges, the Wrap and Rave event showcases the grace and unwavering spirit of giving of CASA-EP volunteers, staff members, and the organization’s generous group of

community supporters,” said Michelle Sudduth, CASA-EP’s executive director.

The gift drive was made possible by the Eastern Panhandle Bar Charitable Foundation who provide not only the funds but shoppers from the legal community who take a child’s wish list, check it twice, and ensure all children CASA-EP serves receive gifts for Christmas.

A highlight of the event is the naming of the 2023 Val Smith Volunteer of the Year award. This year’s recipient was Rosa Clark who was recognized for her steadfast commitment and tireless efforts to CASA-EP as a board member as well as a volunteer child advocate. Her journey,

“Rosa embodies a rare combination of caring and service, offering a calm, sincere, and dependable presence that resonates profoundly with the children and youth she interacts with.”

spanning decades of dedicated service as an educator, showcases her heartfelt dedication to fostering hope, resilience, and a brighter future for the thousands of children whose lives she’s touched. In addition to her board leadership and child advocacy contributions at CASA-EP, Rosa spearheaded the creation of the organization’s Fostering Futures program tailored to address the unique challenges faced by teens on track to “age out” of the foster care system without ever finding home-life permanency.

“Rosa embodies a rare combination of caring and service, offering a calm, sincere, and dependable presence that resonates profoundly with the children and youth she interacts with,” said Sudduth. “Through her efforts, Rosa has instilled trust, respect, and positive change in the lives of countless children and families CASA-EP serves.”

The Wrap and Rave event was generously sponsored by Argos Martinsburg, demonstrating for a second year its commitment to vulnerable children in the Eastern Panhandle community. Not only did they make this Wrap and Rave event possible, but the company and their employees alike have contributed over \$10,000 in the past year to benefit programs like Fostering Futures and support events such as the Superhero Challenge and CASA-EP’s 20th Anniversary celebration.

These funds are instrumental in driving CASA-EP’s growth and core-mission programming in order to serve the hundreds more vulnerable children and youth in our community who can benefit from court appointed child advocacy.



A close-up photograph of a woman with dark hair tied back, smiling warmly. She is wearing a light blue patterned top and large silver earrings. In the background, other people are blurred, suggesting a social gathering.

TWO DECADES OF ADVOCACY

CASA-EP CELEBRATES 20 YEARS OF BUILDING BRIGHTER FUTURES

A highlight of 2023 was the celebration of our organization's 20th anniversary. From a tiny office down by the train station, to our current office building on the Mid-Atlantic Parkway in Martinsburg, and a move to an office in Saint Joseph Catholic Church in between, CASA-EP advocates have tirelessly defended its children and fought to give them better lives.

More than 800 community members have advocated for children and families as CASA volunteers since our founding on April 11, 2003. Working in nearly every corner of Berkeley, Jefferson and Morgan counties in West Virginia's Eastern Panhandle, our volunteers and advocates have supported more than 5,000 children, including 2,000 children in the last five years alone.



Founder Val Smith thought back on all the children CASA-EP advocates have helped through the years, and said she had a hard time grasping the total number.

“To look after and find homes for over 5,000 children, I never would have dreamt we’d been able to do that. But we have.” Smith said.

In July, CASA-EP marked its 20th Anniversary with the inaugural Garden Gala, raising \$100,000 to expand programs and establish a new scholarship fund for youth emerging from foster care. The Garden Gala, chaired and hosted by Joy Lewis, brought together more than 200 attendees who celebrated this vital work. The event featured moving testimonials from CASA-served youth, insights from Judges Debra McLaughlin and Bridget Cohee, and a successful auction that raised over \$22,000.



Val Smith, Founder of CASA-EP discusses the early days of the organization and the people she has met along the way.





AMS Group generously donates \$50,000

In honor of CASA-EP's 20th Anniversary, the AMS Group generously donated \$50,000, emphasizing its commitment to serving children facing abuse and neglect. Tim Gale, Chairman of AMS, presented the check, expressing ongoing support for CASA-EP's impactful work. AMS recognized the crucial role CASA volunteers play in providing stability for traumatized children navigating the complexities of the court system. CASA-EP continues to thrive with the invaluable support of organizations like AMS, ensuring a brighter future for the youngest members of the community.



Superhero Challenge participants

Participants in the month-long Superhero Challenge collectively covered nearly 8,500 miles, raising an impressive \$8,890 in Mile Match donations. Launched in 2020, this self-paced challenge supports the CASA-EP mission, ensuring children who have faced abuse or neglect have an advocate working on behalf of their best interests and are given the opportunity to thrive in a safe and loving home. Over the last four years, the Superhero Challenge has raised nearly \$125,000 for children in foster care served by CASA-EP volunteers.

In reflecting on the remarkable journey of CASA-EP over the past two decades, it's clear that your support in advocating for children has played a significant role in making a lasting impact on the community. As we look to the future, our commitment remains steadfast, driven by the belief that every child deserves a safe and thriving environment. Building on our foundation, we aspire to expand our reach, strengthen our programs, and foster even greater positive change in the lives of the children we serve.





MISSION MOMENT

SURVIVING TRAUMA AND THRIVING AFTER

It was unfortunate that Jayme Stuckey and Pat Machete ever had to cross paths. But both eventually came to find a lifelong supporter in each other.

A judge assigned Pat, a Court Appointed Special Advocate, to Jayme when her case began, as she dealt with the trauma that comes in every foster care case.

Jayme, now 18 years old and a recent graduate of Musselman High School, said she did not like Pat upon meeting her. This was just another stranger she didn't know, and she again was required to share the details of her trauma.

"At first, it was rocky," Jayme said, "but she became a really important person in my life, and she's made an impact."

Jayme was the first child Pat served as a CASA volunteer. Living everywhere from Florida to Hawaii to Baltimore throughout her life, Pat eventually settled in Martinsburg a few years ago. Pat earned degrees in social work while living in Maryland.

During that first meeting, Jayme said she began to move past her initial feelings toward Pat and began to see her in a different light. This was a person who was calm and understanding and helped make her begin to feel safe.

"I knew that I wanted to become a social worker when I was in high school," Pat said. "I have my own trauma history and have been in and out of institutions. Then, I met a social worker who saved my life. So I knew from then on that I wanted to become that kind of person in someone else's life."

Due to living with a physical disability for about eight years now, Pat said she turned to local nonprofits looking for volunteer work. She was unable to do the work she'd been doing – therapy sessions on the floor with children, or just being active with them – and that time of her life brought great uncertainty.

“She was really just a dream,” Pat said of Jayme. “She is articulate. She’s smart. She’s socially aware. I absolutely adore her.”

In turn, Jayme said that Pat has become a role model to her. Her tenacity in making sure her child is cared for was always visible, Jayme said.

“It was very, very difficult for me,” Pat said. “As someone who was working like 60 hours a week – my identity and my personality was very much part of the work that I did. In my private life, it was very hard for me to reconcile not working with kids anymore, and helping them heal their trauma.”

“When she’s on a case, she’s all about the kid,” Jayme said. “Nothing else matters. She just wants to make sure the kid is happy, healthy – mentally and physically.”

Jayme said Pat kept in contact with her throughout her case. They’d have long meetings together about once a month, Jayme said, but Pat would also text her to be sure doctor and therapy appointments went okay. Pat also always made sure to ask Jayme how she was doing emotionally.

As she grew older, Jayme became involved with CASA-EP’s Youth Leadership Summit, where children in the foster care system participate in a camp with each other – having fun and connecting. Pat said she was impressed by Jayme’s natural leadership and ability to make other children feel welcome and loved.

Jayme said that CASA-EP’s volunteers and advocates made her realize that where you came from or who raised you does not form your path. She said you create your own path, take those experiences, and learn from them.

Pat always told me, ‘No one makes your life except you,’ Jayme said.

Pat said that because of CASA-EP and Jayme’s helpful extended family, they were able to protect Jayme throughout the case.

Pat served many children before and after Jayme, and over time, Pat said she’s learned the key to connecting with children is meeting them where they are and being willing to learn from them.

Most importantly, Pat said, is an understanding that these kids aren’t broken or damaged; they are traumatized. The symptoms they may exhibit – PTSD, depression, anxiety – can be treated through understanding and acceptance. “You just have to care,” Pat said.

Jayme will attend West Virginia University in Morgantown in the fall to pursue a mental health and addiction studies degree. Pat said she is incredibly proud of Jayme for knowing what she wants and plans to use her life to help others in need.

Jayme said that without the support of Pat and CASA-EP, “I wouldn’t be who or where I am today.”



From left to right: Tara Lusby, Anne Mortensen, Pamela Brown, Monica Cunningham, Michael Cunningham, Judge Debra McLaughlin, Amber Morris, Brittany Baxter; Sworn in December 12

CASA-EP WELCOMES 23 NEW VOLUNTEERS IN 2023

We extend a warm welcome to the twenty-three dedicated individuals who were sworn in as volunteers during 2023. Judge Debra McLaughlin of West Virginia's 23rd Judicial Circuit officiated the swearing-in ceremonies, instating the newest classes of court appointed special advocates (CASA).

In December, Brittany Baxter, Pamela Brown, Michael Cunningham, Monica Cunningham, Tara Lusby, Lucius Michael, Amber Morris, and Anne Mortenson joined the ranks of court appointed special advocates (CASA) at the Berkeley County Courthouse.

Additionally, we offer a sincere welcome to Brianna Stock, Jessica Dombrowski, Scott Daines, LaDeana Bohrer, Chelsea Garcia, Trina Ihle, Dayna Fellows, Tanika Hyman, Addyson Alig, Kate Kramer, Dawn Saddler, Samantha Fernandez, Karen Calhoun, Stephanie Cox, and Judith Zoll, who have all committed to serve children and families in West Virginia's Eastern Panhandle.

CASA-EP, committed to ensuring every child who has experienced abuse or neglect receives dedicated advocacy, now has a team of approximately 84 advocates. These individuals,

from various backgrounds, provide a voice for children in Berkeley, Morgan, and Jefferson counties.

Dave Mulvihill, volunteer supervisor for CASA-EP, expressed gratitude for the commitment of the volunteers, stating, "We're always very grateful for our volunteers and the commitment they make to CASA, and the kids unfortunate enough to need them."

CASA-EP's mission is to train, educate, and empower community volunteers, ensuring that each child's needs remain a priority in an overburdened child welfare system. Community members from all walks of life are encouraged to apply to be a court appointed special advocate for children. No specific background or experience is required to volunteer. Recent classes have included retired attorneys, business professionals, nurses, former foster children, teachers, social workers, and many others.

For those interested in volunteering or becoming a CASA volunteer, more information can be found on the CASA-EP website [here](#).

THE YEAR AHEAD

EMPOWERING LIVES AND SHAPING FUTURES

As we embark on 2024, CASA-EP is preparing for a year of impact and growth. Our primary focus is to expand our volunteer base, extending our reach to more children and providing them with the crucial support they need. The continued expansion of our Fostering Futures program remains a key initiative, specifically designed to assist youth aged 13 and above who have experienced abuse or neglect as they navigate the transition to independent adulthood.

Looking ahead, our goal is to elevate awareness regarding the challenges faced by children in foster care, cultivating a deeper sense of empathy and understanding within the community. If you share a passion for making a positive impact in the lives of children and are ready to be a voice for those who need it most, we invite you to consider joining CASA-EP as a [volunteer](#).

Embracing this new year and the exciting chapter ahead, CASA-EP extends a heartfelt thank you to our dedicated

supporters. Your unwavering commitment has been instrumental in making a lasting impact, and together, we continue to create a future where every child has the opportunity to thrive and succeed. With your ongoing support, we look forward to achieving even greater milestones and fostering positive transformations in the lives of the children we serve.

WELCOME HEATHER POLINIK: CASA-EP'S NEW DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS AND OUTREACH



In December, CASA-EP welcomed Heather Polinik as the organization's new Director of Communications and Outreach.

Heather comes to CASA-EP after serving seven years as the Director of Resource Development and Marketing for United Way of the Eastern Panhandle. She brings with her a passion for child advocacy and a wealth of experience in strategic communications, steering our efforts towards reaching more children and youth in need.

As she steps into this key role, Heather shares her excitement, stating, "I'm thrilled to collaborate with the incredible team at CASA-EP and engage with our supporters to create a brighter future for children who have faced adversity."

CASA-EP extends a warm invitation to all our supporters to connect with Heather, share your valuable thoughts, ideas, and support. We eagerly anticipate achieving great things together and invite you to [read more here](#).

CASA-EP WELCOMES NEW MEMBERS TO BOARD OF DIRECTORS

CASA-EP proudly announces the appointment of three new members to the organization's board of directors for 2024. The newly appointed directors, serving a three-year term are: Connell Cuffie (Proceed 2 Lead), Brad Snowden (Advancement Director), and Marellen Aherne (Corporate Executive/Consultant (retired)).

In recognition of their service, special gratitude is extended to outgoing members Kelly Hart (Shepherd University) and Dean Lawrence (Faith Leader). CASA-EP recognizes the significant impact they have had on the organization's growth and mission. Their dedication played a pivotal role in shaping CASA-EP's commitment to serving the community's most vulnerable children and youth.

For a complete list of CASA-EP's board of directors, click [here](#).



SAVE THE DATES:

Feb 2 | Coffee with CASA – Curious about CASA? Join us on February 2nd at Everything Cheesecake from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. for an information session. Explore CASA-EP's mission, understand our purpose, and learn about the impactful ways in which you can contribute to making a positive difference. No registration required – enjoy coffee and cheesecake, as we share CASA-EP's vital work.

Feb 13 - Mar 7 | Pre-Service Training Are you ready to make a difference in the lives of foster children? Complete your volunteer application and participate in our pre-service training, happening February 13 - March 7 on Tuesdays and Thursdays 5:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. In person and online options available. Learn more [here](#).

Mar 23 | Women's Luncheon and Expo – Mark your calendars for the Women's Luncheon and Expo on Saturday, March 23 from 9 AM - 3:30 PM, hosted by the Shepherd University Foundation and Women for Shepherd. The event highlights alumnae owned small businesses and local nonprofits through an all-day expo at the Suzanne Shipley Wellness Center.

Jun 1 | Clays for CASA – Join us on June 1st for Clays for CASA. Suitable for all skill levels, this event, organized by Leadership Berkeley, invites sponsors and teams to network while aiming at clays for a meaningful cause. There will be food trucks on-site and awards will be presented for the best team and individual scores, adding an extra layer of excitement to the day.

TBD | Garden Gala – Join us for an enchanting evening at the 2nd Annual Garden Gala. The Garden Gala promises to be more than just an event; it's a celebration of inspiration and impact. Stay tuned as we unveil details for the upcoming Garden Gala.

2023 CASA VOLUNTEER ROSTER

With deep appreciation for bringing hope and changing the trajectory of young lives.

Addyson Alig
Sheila Anders
Nina Armstrong
Bob Ashby
Kathy Barker
Laurie Biggs
LaDeana Bohrer
Vicki Bradfield
Pamela Brown
Dale Buck
Kerstin Budlong
Karen Calhoun
Jim Chittock
Rosa Clark
Jane Cook
Katie Coon
Stephanie Cox
Page Croyder

Michael Cunningham
Monica Cunningham
Scott Daines
Allison Davenport
Jessica Dombrowski
Pamela Donato
Shelly Dowell
Dayna Fellows
Mita Felman
Sam Fernandez
Cathleen Frein
Chelsea Garcia
Kristen Gingery
Dorothy Goodman
Melissa Hall
Jean Hamilton
Jim Hill
Nancy Hill

Karen Hollandsworth
Bob Howard
Donna Hubbard
Tanika Hyman
Trina Ihle
Vicki Jenkins
Cindy Johnson
Heather Kahsay
Darah Kehnemuyi
Mikel Kendle
Lori Kiley
Kathryn Kramer
Lea Krohn
Cathy Longerbeam
Tara Lusby
Pat Machate
Yakiya Mitchell
Amber Morris

Stefany Morris
Lorie Mullan
Jimmy Oates
Kirsten Owens
Sarah Piper
Sharon Price
Cindy Reiffen
Sandra Roberts
Dawn Saddler
Shirley Stanton
Brianna Stock
Brian Truman
Scotty Turner
April Younker
Judith Zoll

2022-2023 CASA-EP INDIVIDUAL SUPPORTERS

Gifts Received January 1, 2022 - December 1, 2023

Christine & David Abruzzi
Ashley & Jared Adams
Marellen Johnson Aherne
Mary & Melissa Alvaro
Aaron Amore & Ann Marie Paonessa
Heather Amsley
Johnna Armstrong
Pam Arnold
Carol & Erwin Asam
Bob Ashby
George Athey
Patty Bain Bachner & John Bachner
Alice & Neal Barkus
Corinne Baronner
Margaret & Ronald Bartles
Christina & John Barton
Lisa Beard
Terri & Chris Beard
Clint Bischoff
Melissa Bittner
Merrie Blocker
Heidi Boyd
Tezhina Bradley
Nancy Broadley
Bonnie Bundy
Eliana Burnham
Michael Bush
Evie Caperton
Susan & Gat Caperton
Rosa Clark
Wilma & Frank Coe
Elizabeth Coffey
Sara & Dustin Cohick
David Conroy
Jean Cooney
Amy Cooper
Colby Cox
Stephanie Cox
Leslie & George Crabill
Christine Cubby
Pamela & Ross Curtis
Thomas Curtis
Joyce Cutlip
Chasidy Darfus
Patty Davis

Andrea Davis
Donna Joyce Dean
David DeJarnett
Stacey Diaz
Jessica & Thomas Dombrowski
Rhonda Donaldson
Mark Dowd
Shelly Dowell
Kelly Effland
Amy & Jason Enterline
Mary Clare & James Eros
Dayna Fellows
Mita Felman
Avi Felman
Holli & Danielle Fergus
Eleanor Finn
Jerry Fogle
Dana Fogle
Betty Gainer
Jennifer & Tim Gale
Jackie Gandy
Alan Gibson
Bondy Shay Gibson-Learn & Cindy Learn
Ian Gibson-Smith
Amanda Ginck
Kristen Gingery
Marie Goodman
Dorothy & Rick Goodman
Jeanene Goodman
Lyn Goodwin
Leslie Gould
Elizabeth Grant
Colleen Greer
Carole Guzzetta
Heather Haldeman
Jean Hamilton
Heidi Hanrahan
Ann Harkins
Kelly & Wendy Hart
Alix Hazel
Donald Heitman
Kim & Brian Himes
Betse & William Hinkley
Denelle & Craig Hollern

Eliza Horne
Timothy Hott & Justin Schooley
Christine Huddle
Candace & Erik Hurst
Sherri & Chris Janelle
Vicki & Glenn Jenkins
Norval Johnston
Judith Jones
Kathy Jones
M. Caryl Jones-Swahn
Carrie Jordan
Benjamin Keaschall
Darah Kehnemuyi
Jeff Keller
Cindy Keller
Susan Kemnitzer
Gloria Keyser
Cindy & Stephen Kitner
Kathy Klein
Jessica Knipe
Colleen Kradel
Diane & Paul Kradel
Molly Kramer
Isaiah Kubovcik
Deborah Kupecz
Patricia LaBrosse
Vicki Lanham
Carol & Bruce Lapham
Calvin Lease
Cari Lefeber
Douglas Lehman
Carolyn Leporini
Joy & Eric Lewis
Ronald Lewis
Kristin Lilly
Nolan Lindstrom
Karen & Chris Luttrell
Michele Ours Maiden & Tom Maiden
Bill Mandros
Shirley Marcus Allen
J Craig Martin
Lyndsey Matschat
Michael McGinnis
Heather McIntyre
Debra & Kevin McLaughlin

Tia & Bob McMillan
Sue Ann & Charles Meister
Heather Miller
Stefany & Jamie Morris
Emily & Garrett Morris
Stacy & Jeremy Morris
Anne Mortensen
Doris Mosser
Vanessa Nagengast
Kimberly Naiman
Rubith Naupac
Alyssa Newton
Denise & James Oberndorf
Lily Olson
Kirsten Owens
Amy & Chris Panzarella
Tyler Panzarella
Andrew Panzarella
Sarah & Patrick Pauletti
Ryan Perks
Judith & Clarence Pharr
Denise Phelps
Heather Polinik
Donna Porter
Andrew Potts
Tim Pownell
Charles Printz
Jones Ranale
Tally & Kenneth Reed
Tracy Regalia
Tina & Steven Roach
Linda & Scott Roach
Shannon Roberts
Mary Lynn & Larry Robinson
Amanda Rostorfer
Patricia Rucker
Kaveh Sadat
Kathy & Michael Santa Barbara
Jaime Schmidt
The Rev Dr. & Mrs. GT Schramm
Malinda Eve Shaver
Susan & Timothy Sheehan
Holly Silveous
Jenny Sipe
Bonnie Sitman

[more >](#)

2022-2023 CASA-EP INDIVIDUAL SUPPORTERS *continued*

David Skillman
Anne & Dennis Small
Bob Smiles
Shannon Smiles
Valerie & Clifford Smith
Laura Smith
Leanne Snodgrass
Susan & Bradley Snowden
Amy Stiffler
Stephen Stolipher

Melody & Roger Stotler
Louann Stovall
Courtney Struthers
Christopher Stubbs
Fay & Greg Stump
Michelle & Scott Sudduth
Danielle Swope
Ann Taylor
Darlene & Brian Truman
Joshua Unger

Linda Urquhart
Scott Urquhart
Diane Vari-Alquist
Kristen Vogel
Diana Lynn Walch
Linda Wanger
Mrs. Robert L. Weinberg
Michael Whalton
Zac White
Caroline Wieland

Maureen Williams
Roy Winkel
Natalie Winzer
Paul Wolverton
Amanda & Benjamin Worley
April Yamamoto
Megan Yeh
Ramona Zammetti

2023 MISSION SPONSORS

Thank you to our Corporate Mission Sponsors who provide significant funding for innovative, high-impact program expansion efforts.



2023 CORPORATE SPONSORS

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Erie Insurance Group
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G.E. Davis Trucking, LLC
Greentree Realty of Shepherdstown
Hollywood Casino at Charles Town Races
IHeart Media
Jefferson Distributing Co, Inc
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Kegerreis Outdoor Advertising, LLC
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Luttrell LC
Newland Insurance Agency, Inc
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Procter & Gamble
Reed's Pharmacy
Shepherd Consulting, LLC
SVG Commercial Cleaning, LLC
Tek Advisors, LLC
Tema North America, LLC
The Bavarian Inn
The Design Center, LLC
United Bank
Valley Health
Washington Navigators, LLC
WVU Medicine

FOUNDATIONS & COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Berkeley County Council
Berkeley County Association of Retired School Employees
City of Martinsburg
City of Ranson
Eastern WV Community Foundation
Jefferson County Convention & Visitors Bureau

John Vos Family Foundation
Martinsburg Elks 778
Morgan County Partnership, Inc
National CASA/GAL Association
Professional Business Womens Association
Rotary Club of Berkeley Springs
Rotary Club of Charles Town

Rotary Club of Martinsburg Charitable Foundation
The Martinsburg Initiative, Inc.
The Tom & Virginia Seely Foundation
United Way Eastern Panhandle
WV Bar Association
WV CASA Association, Inc.

2023 FAITH-BASED SUPPORTERS

Bunker Hill United Methodist Church
New Street United Methodist Church
Shepherdstown Presbyterian Church

St. Agnes Catholic Church
Trinity Episcopal Church - Martinsburg
Trinity Episcopal Church - Shepherdstown

Trinity House Thrift Shop

2024

BOARD MEMBERS

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Rev. GT Schramm

Trinity Episcopal Church
(retired)

Vice-President

Amy Panzarella

Leadership Coach & HR
Consultant

Secretary

Kim Himes

Bank of Charles Town

Treasurer

Amy Enterline

Jefferson Security Bank

Directors

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Financial Services Executive
(retired)

Mary Álvaro

Jefferson Security Bank

Aaron Amore

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Terri Beard

Blue Flame, Inc.

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Eastern WV Community
Foundation

Rosa Clark

Education Administrator
(retired)

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Connell Cuffie

Proceed 2 Lead

Kristen Gingery

Morgan County Partnership

Darrell Jones

SVG Commercial Cleaning LLC

Gloria Keyser

Procter & Gamble

Cindy Kitner

Jefferson Security Bank

Tim Pownell

United Bank

Brad Snowden

Advancement Director

Emeritus Board

Carol Asam

Kathy Santa Barbara
Val Smith

WHEN A CHILD HAS A CASA THEY ARE...



MORE LIKELY
TO SUCCEED IN
SCHOOL



MORE LIKELY TO
FIND A SAFE,
PERMANENT
HOME



HALF AS LIKELY
TO RE-ENTER
THE FOSTER
CARE SYSTEM



WHAT DOES A CASA DO?

CHANGE A CHILD'S STORY



WATCH NOW



CHANGE A CHILD'S LIFE


YOU'RE NEEDED MORE THAN EVER

You can help change the trajectory of a child's life by becoming a CASA-EP volunteer. Your help is needed now more than ever! As a volunteer advocate, you can ensure that the voices of children in the Eastern Panhandle are heard and their needs remain a priority in an overburdened child welfare system.

Due to such factors as the opioid epidemic and rising poverty, record numbers of children have been removed from their homes in recent years in the Eastern Panhandle. Volunteers are needed to help advocate for children involved in the nearly 800 cases currently in the court system.

Learn more about becoming a CASA volunteer.

mycasaep.org/ways-to-help 



“What would I do as a court appointed special advocate?”

First you would participate in a nationally accredited training and development program consisting of over 45 hours of training. Then you would get to know the child in your case and gather information from everyone involved in their family life.

Throughout your work as a volunteer, you would have the ongoing support of your volunteer supervisor. You can also participate in peer mentoring and Chat & Chew discussions as well as volunteer with a friend or partner so casework can be shared. We are here to help you!

DID YOU KNOW?

YOU CAN BUILD A CASA CREW

Volunteer with your best friend, spouse or coworker and help foster kids find permanency in their lives.





“—

"What does it take to be a CASA-EP Volunteer?"

As a volunteer advocate, you can ensure that the voices of children in the Eastern Panhandle are heard and their needs remain a priority in an overburdened child welfare system.

Here is what it takes to be a CASA-EP Volunteer:

- Be 21 years of age or older
- Be committed to improving the lives of vulnerable children
- Possess passion, positivity, and professionalism
- Be able to effectively communicate orally and in writing
- Be comfortable with word processing and database technology
- Have availability to participate in 35 hours of training and 10-15 hours per month on child engagement and advocacy
- A willingness to learn and an open mind toward life experiences different from your own

Make a Difference Today



Complete a Volunteer Inquiry Form to Learn More



You can make a meaningful and lasting impact with a gift to CASA of the Eastern Panhandle. We are working to make sure every child in our community who has experienced abuse or neglect has a caring adult who will be there for them during this tough time, no matter what.

Help us reach more children by making a gift today.

Help a child THRIVE.

GIVE NOW



CASA

Court Appointed Special Advocates
FOR CHILDREN

CASA OF THE EASTERN PANHANDLE

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