

DEAR VOLUNTEERS,

We are SO *grateful* for you!!! We asked... you answered and for that, we at the Pierce County CASA/GAL program are so *grateful*!! There was a recent list of “Kids Who Need a CASA” sent out and a special request for volunteers to help out our heavily burdened GALs assigned to the Tacoma DCYF office due to continuous high filings. We want to let you know within less of a weeks’ time, all but two cases are left remaining in the Tacoma DCYF office. We are not only *grateful* for your quick response to help your fellow staff GALs, but we are also *grateful* for what you do today and every day in your strong and compassionate advocacy for our most vulnerable population – our dependent children.

WE ARE *GRATEFUL* FOR YOU ALL!!

Welcome Tracey Czar - New Program Supervisor

Over the last several years, the need for our advocacy in the Dependency system has resulted in our program growing to 31 staff and over 200 hundred active volunteers. We have been fortunate with the court recognizing our important role and the need to support our program. Recently, a decision was made to further support our team by adding a third program supervisor.

We were fortunate to have a great pool of candidates both internally and externally. Tracey Czar was offered the position and has accepted this promotional opportunity. Tracey has worked in the CASA/GAL program for the last 12 years as a CASA Coordinator, and many of you may know her from training. Although she is licensed to practice law, she has found her passion working with children in the Dependency system as an advocate. She is a hard worker who maintains a positive attitude and growth mindset, is a skilled problem solver, and values relationships. In addition to her CASA duties, Tracey has been a contributing member of the Equity Team and the Care Team. Her commitment to improving not just the Dependency unit but the entire Juvenile Court is acknowledged and appreciated.

WHAT TO CALL OURSELVES?

With the news that the Pierce County CASA/GAL Program will not be renewing our membership with National CASA in 2020, volunteers are asking, “what do we call ourselves”.

Thank you to all who participated in our “naming” survey. We have voted and have a name proposal. We must get approval from our judicial leadership before we can make any formal announcements. So, moving forward into the new year, you will just keep referring to yourself as CASAs until we announce the new name. Sorry to leave you in suspense.

News From the CASA Kids Board

At the CASA Kids Annual Board Meeting in November, the board elected a slate of new officers for 2020. They are as follows:

President – Kathy Bertram

Vice President – Mary Bartley

Treasurer – Dan Casey

Secretary – Lauren Stasiak

Joining the board in January as new members are three CASAs:

Starr Mayer, Stephen Markham, and Emily Hall

CASA Kids is happy to report that we were able to donate \$500 worth of gift cards to the Wishing Well’s Annual Holiday Event this month.

A special shout out to our fund-raising chairperson, CASA **Mike McCown**, for his tremendous efforts to raise funds that will help support CASAs, foster kids, parents, and more. We truly appreciate the time he spends contacting community businesses and organizations on our behalf.

We look forward to a busy 2020. We meet on the second Wednesday of every other month beginning January 8, 2020 in the CASA Conference Room. All CASAs are always welcome to attend to see what we’re up to!

--President-Elect Kathy Bertram



CASA Kids is pleased to announce that we are now able to assist with the following needs:

- Rent and/or utility deposits when needed to secure or maintain safe housing for a dependent child. This could be available to a potential relative placement or to a parent needing suitable housing in order to reunite.
- Court fees, certification costs, and other miscellaneous expenses to secure permanence for a child in either a relative placement or in-home dependency.
- CASAs who advocate for a child placed out of state may apply for airfare to visit the child.

Here are some things CASA Kids recently approved:

- Filing fees for a grandparent's divorce (needed to finalize guardianship).
- Fee for a parent with an in-home dependency to become licensed as a health care aid (so that Mom could become employed).
- Back rent that parents incurred when Dad was briefly laid off (prevented family from becoming homeless and child again being placed out of home).

*Please Note: CASA Kids is flexible and we can approve and pay for requests quickly, but **our funds are limited so please explore other options for funding before applying.** While we can't promise to honor every request, don't hesitate to ask. If you have questions, feel free to reach out to any of our board members.*

Guidelines and the request form for applying for this assistance are posted at www.casakids-pierce.org

Article about Ryther no longer accepting foster youth

[A Seattle treatment center closes its doors to foster children, adding to debate over how Washington cares for them](#)

CASA On Going Training Requirement

You all know that being a CASA is not just a volunteer opportunity. Being a CASA is a professional volunteer opportunity that has the same requirements under the law as a paid GAL. One of those requirements is that we have 12 hours of on-going training person. Our program is required to monitor and track those training requirements. To help you all in this process we have created a form for you to turn in when you complete a training and a form that answers questions about the on-going training requirements.

Frequently Asked Questions About Annual Training

How many hours of training do I have to complete? How often?

All CASA/GAL staff members and volunteer advocates must complete 12 hours of continuing education every calendar year, after your first full year of volunteering. This is a requirement separate from the initial Core Training that is completed prior to taking a case.

In your first year of being a CASA only, continuing training hours will be prorated depending on when you complete the initial core training. Prorated training hours are as follows:

- Training completed January-March: 9 hours
- Training completed April-June: 6 hours
- Training Completed July-October: 3 hours
- Training Completed October-December: 0 hours

What Trainings are Mandatory?

In addition to the initial 4-day training, you are required to attend the “5th day” of training, GAL Rules Training, and the County Diversity Training. You only need attend these trainings one time.

Of these trainings, the GAL Rules training is the only training that counts towards your ongoing education credits.

What counts towards in-service training?

- GAL Rules Training
- Trainings hosted by Pierce County CASA/GAL Program
- Conferences, workshops, webinars, or other on-line training hosted by partner agencies
- Approved non-fiction books/movies/documentaries
- Observation of Termination Trials
- Participation in CASA Book Club

Only 50% of the required in-service training hours (or 6 hours) may be completed by “self-study” (books/documentaries/movies/webinars). At least 6 hours must be completed by attending “in-person” training events.

How does a volunteer document their training?

- **CASA/GAL Program Hosted Training (including attending book club):** sign-in when you arrive.
- **Conferences/Workshops/Trainings Hosted by Outside Agencies:** Provide your coordinator with copy of your certificate of training/completion which must have the following information: name of the training, the name of the facilitator(s), the date(s) it was completed, and the number of hours or CEU’s completed.

If you did not receive a certificate of completion from the training then complete the “CASA Training Credit Form” and email it to your coordinator.

- **Non-fiction Books/ Documentaries/Movies/Webinars:** Complete the “CASA Training Credit Form” and email it to your coordinator.
- **Observation of Termination Trial:** Complete the “CASA Training Credit Form” however you are only required to answer questions 3-6.

What type of books and films will count towards training?

The Pierce County CASA/GAL Program has a list of recommended reading as does the National CASA Website. Many of these books are available in the “CASA Library.” If there is a book/film you would like to use and it is not on the list, check with your coordinator first.

How many hours of training are received for reading books?

You will earn 1 hour of credit per 100 pages, with a maximum of 3 hours of credit. Everyone reads at a different pace and takes in information and processes it at a different pace.

Car Seat Laws are Changing – share with caregivers

Effective January 1, 2020, Washington State car seat laws are changing. You can learn more at www.wacarseats.com. Please share information attached to this email with caregivers and those who may transport children in care.

Car Seat Awareness Trainings

Amara is presenting monthly opportunities for you to attend a car seat awareness class! See attached flyer...

CASAs as Agents of Change

By Starr Mayer

In the midst of a conversation about a difficult case, a foster parent once asked me: “How much power do you have?”

To answer this question, I first had to consider the fact that during my four years as a CASA, my role has largely been to add value by joining with others involved in the case and showing up – at meetings, at visits, at court – to best represent the children I’ve come to know, hoping for the best possible outcome on their behalf.

Many times, adding value as a CASA means functioning as a glorified nag. Because others frequently carry much larger caseloads than CASAs and multi-task constantly, it is often left to us to ask if papers have been filed, if applications have been filled out, if packets have been sent. And then it is our role to ask again, after an appropriate amount of time, in a somewhat stronger voice.

The process of adding value, however, doesn't negate the fact that CASAs have real power. Judges pay close attention to our opinions. Generally, those opinions are in line with the other professionals working on the case. Occasionally, others appear to be going in a direction that potentially puts the children at risk, and we must dash into the phone booth and put on our "Agent of Change" cape.

I don't like being out on a limb by myself. I don't like being the lone voice. I don't like demanding, rather than asking nicely. I prefer that people like me rather than resent me. But sometimes it is necessary to be the agent of change and to be so in a confident and persistent way.

Here are some suggestions for those rare times when we have a differing view of the case than others involved, be they social workers, service providers, foster parents, or family members.

1. Ask for help. Start with your Coordinator who knows you and the case and can advise about policy or legal constraints that we may not realize exist.
2. Consider whether this is a case that could benefit from a Case Consult, especially if the circumstances are complex or even volatile and we feel objectivity is difficult to achieve.
3. Remember the value of incremental change. Start small and work up. Begin with the social worker, then – in coordination with your coordinator – the supervisor. Morgan Chaput, the attorney for our CASA program, is an excellent resource as well. And finally, if necessary, state your opinions before a judge.

Finally, if you find that you need to function as an agent of change, check yourself periodically to be sure your motives and methodology are as free from bias as possible.

Whether we provide added value or promote change, our main role as CASAs never changes: we must be committed to the children we represent and be their voice when they cannot advocate for themselves.

Letter to Judges and Commissioners re: BRS Out of State Placements

*See attached for less fuzzy version 😊



STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN, YOUTH, AND FAMILIES
1500 Jefferson Street, SE • P.O. Box 40975 • Olympia WA 98504-0975

December 6, 2019

Dear Judges and Commissioners,

I am writing today to discuss the issue of placement of foster children in out-of-state group care facilities. I hope to shed further light on our approach to placing dependent children in out-of-state group care facilities.

I share with many others the belief that placing children in out-of-state facilities is in most cases not as good an option as placing them in-state. In the past year DCYF has significantly reduced the number of out-of-state group care facility placements from 83 to 32. While we continue our commitment to keeping children and youth in Washington whenever possible, I want to clarify that we also anticipate some limited use of out-of-state group care facility placements when they are appropriate and there is no comparable, available placement in Washington to meet the needs of a specific youth.

The decision to place a child or youth in an out-of-state facility is not a decision that we take lightly. When facility-based Behavioral Rehabilitation Services (BRS) is indicated for a child or youth, our first goal is to place that young person in a Washington group care facility that contracts with DCYF to provide BRS. DCYF has implemented added layers of review for all facilities, whether in-state or out-of-state, to ensure that foster youth receive the appropriate level of service in their placement (Policy 4533). Prior to making a decision to place out of state, DCYF exhausts all available in-state resources capable of safely meeting the identified needs of the child or youth (Policy 4535). This includes exploring the option of entering into child-specific contracts with Washington State providers to attempt to meet the specialized needs of certain children. In the end, an out-of-state placement is typically better for a young person than a hotel or office stay, which could be dangerous for both the child and staff, and does not provide the support or services that we expect in an approved placement.

Additionally, BRS contracts may be issued to out-of-state agencies when they are located within 50 miles of Washington State (Policy 4535). For example, the Northwest Children's Home that is located in Idaho within a mile of the Washington border is a facility that, while located out of state, meets the contractual requirements to provide BRS, as if it were an in-state facility. In addition, DCYF staff conduct monthly visits to the youth in our custody who are placed in this facility in the same way they would if the facility were located in Washington. Because of its close proximity to Washington, our heightened ability to closely monitor placements there, and the fact that Northwest Children's Home holds a BRS contract that imposes stringent requirements on the facility, when evaluating the appropriateness of a placement, we treat it as an in-state placement.

Judges and Commissioners
December 6, 2019
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We appreciate and value your partnership as we work together to ensure children have timely placements that meet their needs.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Ross Hunter".

Ross Hunter
Secretary

Best for Baby's MythBusters

The Best for Baby's Program held a 1-hour MythBuster's training over the lunch hour, here are the takeaways...

Best for Babies started in 2014. The goal was to work with high number of infants and toddlers coming into care. It is based on National Zero to Three Infant-Toddler Court Teams. Pierce County is an official Zero to Three court site. A dedicated court docket began in 2016 with Judge Hickman. We have a maximum of 20 families total and are working on expanding.

Core components of the program:

- Judicial leadership – more frequent review hearings
- Local community coordinator
- Active court team – focused on the BIG picture
- Focusing on infants and toddlers – comprehensive, targeted services
- Valuing birth families
- Limiting placements and concurrent planning
- Encourage shared parenting with caregivers
- Increased family time
- Continuum of mental health services (services not provided directly by B4B) Parent/Child Psychotherapy (HopeSparks) and WISE 0-4 (Comprehensive Life Resources)
- Training and technical assistance from Zero to Three
- Understanding the impact of the work

Doing the work differently:

- Meeting more frequently (court every 60 days and Family Team Meeting every 60 days)
- Early engagement with parents and caregivers
- Setting expectations for caregivers about the program
- Strengths based
- Relationship building
- Collaborative/cooperative – focused on problem solving
- Shared parenting with caregivers (including distance engagement)
- Dedicated staff (DCYF SW, AAGs, specially trained CASA volunteers)

Why does all this matter:

- Why we treat infants and toddlers differently?
- 80% of brain development happens by age 3
- Early relationships shape brain development
- Building strong foundations for kids is critical
- Stable, nurturing caregivers are the most important at this age for later relationships
- Remember attachments can be transferred with thoughtfully planning transitions

What are people saying about Best for Babies?

- **Best for Babies is a fast track to termination or adoption**
 - MYTH!
 - Reality is the law is the same
 - Timelines for B4B cases are the same as a normal dependency
 - Also, not a fast track to reunification
 - There are faster timelines in Best for Babies
 - Data – 13 cases have closed since 2016
 - 10 reunifications (approx. 13 months)
 - 5 adoptions (approx. 23.5 months and 3 were relatives and 2 fictive kin)
 - 2 cases are currently on the legally free docket (1 relative adoption & 1 foster care adoption)
 - Currently there at 18 cases (27 children in Baby Court)

- **Parents are cherry picked**
 - MYTH!
 - No crystal ball to know ultimately who will be and who won't be successful
 - Exclusion criteria
 - 3 children or under and do not meet one of the current exclusion criteria (1 parent must opt in)
 - At least on child under 3
 - Have to agree to dependency
 - Exclusion criteria
 - Significant mental health issues
 - Criminal charges pending (related to why the children came into care)
 - Siblings group larger than 3
 - Cases with an already open dependency (case by case)
 - Ultimately, it is the judges' decision if a case comes in

- **Amara is an adoption agency. Why are they involved?**
 - MYTH!
 - Amara is a foster care agency
 - They are temporarily supporting the Community Coordinator positions to grow the program
 - Community Coordinator works at PCJC

- **Best for Babies is too time consuming:**
 - True-ish?
 - There are more meetings and reports/memo
 - court every 60 days
 - Family team meetings every 60 days
 - But communication and information is easier

- **Parents will see their kids more often in Best for Babies:**
 - There is no dedicated provider to B4B
 - This is a court ordered services
 - Many factors to determine how often and where this occurs
 - B4B does advocate for more time, for distance engagement, parents attending doctors' appointments, etc.
 - Encourage family time in more innovated ways (voice recording, pictures, etc.)
 - Relationships formed with shared parenting and have seen caregivers step up to support.

- **Best for Babies only talks about the good stuff:**
 - MYTH!
 - We do not address parental deficiencies challenges
 - It is still a dependency – look at conditions to return home and safety threats
 - We try to be strength based

- **Best for Babies has their own services:**
 - MYTH!
 - There are no specific services to Best for Babies (WISE, BOOST, Parent Allies, Multi-care, etc. in the community and available to all people)
 - Dependency cases are approached differently
 - Have community coordinator (help with resources, get to appointments, get clothing, etc.)
 - Do have connections with HopeSparks and Health Department
 - Think outside the box
 - Meet more frequently
 - Team approach
 - Promote shared parenting
 - Strengths based
 - Dedicated staff

- **Best for Babies team talks to the judge off the records:**
 - MYTH!
 - This just does not happen
 - Judges are clear about no ex parte communication
 - Never talk about case specific information

- **Best for Babies and Family Recovery Court are in Competition:**
 - Families should go to the program that best meets their needs. They should know all their options.
 - There is a flyer that outlines the program components

Things you can do even if not in Best for Babies:

- Be strength based
- Child centered planning
- Supportive transitions
- Individualized approach
- Family time
- Shared planning

“It’s about the kids. People talk about parents getting their children back. But really it is about children getting their parent’s back.” – Judge Douglas F. Johnson (Omaha, NE)

Volunteer Spotlight



CATHY

5 Fun facts:

- 1) I have 6 children and 8 grandchildren.
- 2) I've visited 48 of our states, only Alaska and Hawaii are left.
- 3) I graduated college at age 50.
- 4) I've been in People Magazine.
- 5) I drove Al Gore to a conference in Tennessee in 1978.

Why did you become a CASA?

I became a CASA because I felt I had experience that could benefit children in foster care. We gained custody of a grandchild and went on to adopt him.

What would you tell someone who was considering becoming a Volunteer?

I would encourage anyone interested to give it a try. The work is rewarding. Learning more about how the system works is eye opening. As CASA volunteer, we make certain their voices are heard.

Volunteer Spotlight



LORI

5 Fun facts:

- 1) I love traveling and have been to many beautiful places around the world. My favorite US destination is Sedona, Arizona. My most recent trip abroad took me to Peru and Ecuador to experience Machu Picchu and the Galapagos Islands.
- 2) I like being creative, I'm an avid stained glass artist and currently study sacred geometry.
- 3) I adore pigs and have 2 potbellied pig pets, Tillie and Jake age 16.
- 4) I do not like bats. They are worse than spiders in my book.
- 5) My favorite colors are teal, blue and purple, a reflection of my inner mermaid.

Why did you become a CASA?

I wanted to invest my time into a cause where I could ensure my efforts were valued and impactful in making a real difference. As a CASA, I have hands on opportunities to work with children and make sure their voice is heard. Not only do I advocate for what's in the best interest of the child but I also mentor families who are trying to reunify with their children as well as those adopting children who are unable to be returned home.

I find being a CASA very rewarding. Recently, one of my families invited me to a birthday party. I was hesitant in accepting the invitation because I did not want to be seen as a "reminder" of the child being placed into foster care and of the long journey we had been on to ensure she would soon be adopted into a forever home. When I voiced my concern to the family, they were surprised that I would feel that way. They told me they didn't see it that way at all. They said when they describe my role in their lives to others, they tell them I'm the child's "Guardian Angel" and that the child refers to me as her "Fairy Godmother". Wow, I don't think it gets better than that! It warms my heart to know that I'm making a difference in the lives of the children and their families. The unexpected bonus is the difference they're making in mine!

What would you tell someone who is considering becoming a CASA?

Pierce County provides all the necessary training and support - at no charge. All you need to provide is your time, your love of children and have the courage to stand up for what is right. You are never forced to take a case and have full discretion on the choosing the cases you wish to engage in by criteria such as age/gender of the child and/or their placement location. In addition, you will work with outstanding professionals in the child welfare system. Judges like to call us their "eyes and ears" of the case. They respect and value your time and input.

Volunteer Spotlight



CINDY

5 Fun facts:

- 1) I was the first female bricklayer apprentice in the Pacific Northwest (40+ years ago), my first union job was the brick columns and flower beds in front of Michaels and Ross on South 38th street
- 2) I am the youngest of 13 children
- 3) I used to barrel and pole race horses.
- 4) I am a mom of 3, grandma of 4, great-grandma of 3 and have many other kids I consider my kids and grandkids.
- 5) I love to be at or on the water and ride our waverunners.

Why did you become a CASA?

While working for Pierce County, a friend who worked for Juvenile Court told me about the CASA program and I was excited to learn more and be a part of the program. She definitely sold me on it. My heart was "caught" and every case I have had, it has left an imprint on my heart, soul and memory. And hopefully, I was and am able to make a difference for the children. It has taught me to "listen" with my ears, eyes and heart. I have been humbled so many times

What would you tell someone who is considering becoming a CASA?

This is such an important role. We can make a difference in children and families lives. We are the Voice of/for the children. The parents have an attorney representing them, the State has an attorney representing the State, but the children need someone to listen to them, speak for them to make sure they are getting everything that they need during this time of fear and uncertainty. The children's safety and wellbeing is a number one priority. A CASA finds a way to connect with the child (ren) and the parent (s) to build a bond/trust that helps us relate to them and them to us. We get to know the children and find out what they want and need. Each family is unique as far as circumstances and needs. Being open minded and non-judgmental is critical to being affective. The CASA can usually spend more time with the child (ren), their school, doctor, daycare, parents, foster parents, other family members which helps get a clearer idea of what they need. CASAs can make a huge difference in the lives of these children and the outcome of cases. The court reads and listens to CASAs and their input. Any training you need is provided, there is always people to ask questions of.

Volunteer Spotlight



JENNY

5 Fun facts:

- 1) I have an Irish Wolfhound, the tallest dog breed. And another dog that fits underneath her. Like Russian nesting-dolls but with dogs.
- 2) I tried roller derby but quit when I realized that I don't like hitting people or being hit.
- 3) I have a very unusual degree: a Masters of Jurisprudence in Children's Law & Policy.
- 4) During the summer, my "work from home Wednesday" is actually "work from the boat Wednesday."
- 5) My husband and I were married by an Elvis impersonator in Las Vegas. The reception was on a party bus.

Why did you become a CASA?

My now 42-year old stepdaughter has been using drugs since she was 18 or 19. She's lost custody of her 4 children. The youngest had a CASA who was a strong advocate for her. When the adoption was finalized, I had the opportunity to become a CASA and give back to the system that supported my granddaughter's permanency.

What would you tell someone who is considering becoming a CASA?

- This is scary but very rewarding work. It is a chance for you to help strengthen and heal parents and children are in crisis. Most cases involve neglect – not abuse – and neglect can be fixed.
- I have never had a case that went to termination of parental rights. They have all ended with reunification with parents or permanency with relatives.
- CASAs can select cases from the weekly email that gives a brief overview of the case (issue, number of siblings, where placed) and option to select based on court hearing schedule. For example, my Wednesday afternoons tend to be open, so I select cases on the Wednesday afternoon docket. You only have to take 1 case at a time.

Services, Resources and Community Events

Ali's Prom Project

Ali's Prom Project that provides FREE dresses, shoes and accessories formal dances to students on free or reduced lunch.



Student Information

Name: _____ Grade: _____

School: _____

Event Name: _____ Event Date: _____

Person Making Referral

Name: _____ Ph/email: _____

Referral Date: _____ Relationship to Student: _____

Comments: _____

For questions contact:

alispromproject@gmail.com

Appointments may be scheduled online at:

AlisPromProject.org

- Must be currently enrolled in high school and present a valid school ID card or other proof of current enrollment.
- Each teen may select one dress, as well as related accessories if available.
- Must make an appointment and arrive on time. Arriving more than 15 minutes after scheduled time, may result in forfeiture of appointment.

New Apprenticeship Resource

NEW APPRENTICESHIP RESOURCE FOR PEOPLE WHO HAVE EXPERIENCED FOSTER CARE, HOMELESSNESS

Passport to Apprenticeship is a new program for adults ages 18-26 who have experienced homelessness or foster care. This scholarship can help with tuition for classes, books, fees, work clothes, and other supplies needed to complete an apprenticeship or pre-apprenticeship. For more eligibility information, and information on how to apply, see:

<https://wsac.wa.gov/passport/guide>.

Energy Assistance

GM Fellow employees,

I am emailing to inform that we offer Energy Assistance funding to those deemed eligible and we would appreciate your info-share and referrals sent. Of course, Energy Assistance may apply to you too! If interested, please contact us to schedule an appointment and we'll be glad to assist you in determining your eligibility. In respect to others, please do not reply all but instead contact us directly with your inquiries.

Basic Energy Assistance eligibility:

- Completed application
- ID's for everyone in the house 18+ of age
- SS for everyone in home
- Previously 3 month income (previous 3 months from date of application)
- Pay stubs (showing gross mthly) or bank statements (previous 3 months from date of application)
- Recent copy of your utility bill

For appointment scheduling, call (253) 572-5557

Resource for Children with Autism to Pay for Related Incidentals

Ben's Fund

<https://www.featwa.org/bens-fund.html>

It is a grant founded by the Seahawks GM for kiddos 2-18 (actually they just added eligibility for young adults 19-23 as well) diagnosed with Autism to pay for related incidentals. A CM with our Medicaid team just used it to get a kiddo a weighted blanket, crash mat and stimulating toys. They can get up to \$1000 per year, per person and having insurance does not impact their eligibility. It sounds like if approved, they use Amazon to ship the requested items directly to the family.

Parent-Child Assistance Program (PCAP)

PCAP is an intensive case management model serving some of the highest-risk women in Washington State: pregnant or parenting mothers who have alcohol and/or drug use disorders that impede their ability to care for their children and live healthy, functional lives.

This is a great service that we can attempt to get more pregnant and new months to enroll in for additional support.

Upcoming Trainings

January Lunch Box Learning

January 17th from 11:30-1:30

Debra Flanagan, Educational Advocate Senior from Treehouse, will be talking about General Educational Advocacy



Training for New CASAs | January 4th/5th/11th/12th |

The rest of our 2020 training schedule will be released soon!



<https://www.facebook.com/CASAKidsPierce/>

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Please Consider Helping Our Cause by Donating or Sharing this Link:

www.crowdrise.com/casakidstacom

Board of Directors & Committees

Mary Bartley: President | Kathy Bertram: Vice President; Recruitment & Retention | Jenny Kenyon Gentry: Secretary; Recruitment & Retention; Community Relations & Social Media | Dan Casey: Treasurer, Children's Program | Buffy Via: CASA Liaison | Lauren Stasiak: Newsletter | Mike McCowan: Fundraising

CASA Kids meets on the 2nd Wednesday, every other month, from 5:30 - 7:30 in the CASA room at Remann Hall. Meetings are open to all.

January | March | May | July | September | November