



Monthly Newsletter

December, 2025

CASA of Bastrop, Fayette & Lee Counties

Tis' the Season to Lift Children Up, Because Every Child Deserves Hope During the Holidays



This holiday season, you can help bring hope and comfort to children in the child welfare system by giving in the way that speaks to you. Call our office at (512)303-2272 to adopt a CASA Child's Christmas wish list, Donate to our annual Toy Drive at participating businesses across Bastrop County, or drop off new and unwrapped items - clothing, toys, diapers, and other essentials - at our office at 701 Walnut St. You can also make a direct impact by purchasing a gift card through our Cards For CASA Link (find out more below), becoming a CASA Bridge Builder as a strategic monthly donor, or taking the next step and becoming a CASA Volunteer! However you choose to give, your generosity and compassion brings warmth, stability, and joy to the children who need it most in our communities.



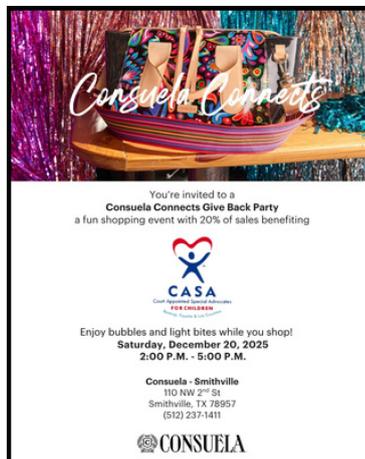
Upcoming Events for December '25



Heart of Texas Chamber Presents: 6th Annual County-Wide Toy Drive and Pajama Party for CASA of Bastrop, Fayette & Lee Counties

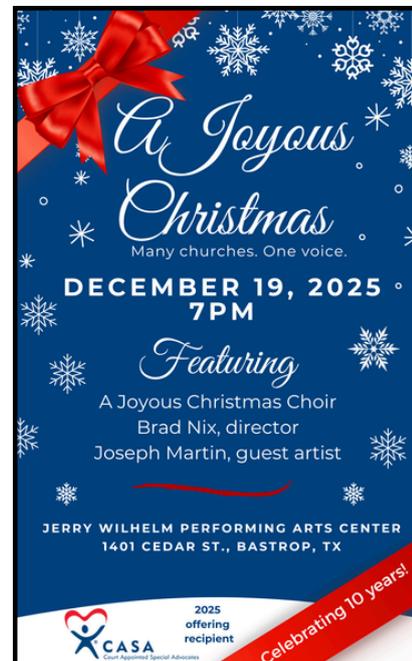
Toy Drive boxes can be found at participating locations throughout Bastrop County. The Toy Drive runs from Friday, Nov. 21st – Wednesday, Dec. 17th and ends with a pajama party and hot cocoa basket raffle in The Hampton Ballroom the evening of the 17th from 6-8PM.

*If you would like to put together a hot cocoa basket for the raffle, please contact Valerie Lancaster at (512)293-7869 to pick it up or drop it off at our CASA office (701 Walnut St. Bastrop, TX 78602) by Tuesday, Dec. 16th.



Consuela Connects Give Back Party for CASA of Bastrop, Fayette & Lee Counties

- Consuela Connects 110 NW 2nd St. Smithville, TX 78602
- Saturday, Dec. 20th 2-5PM
- Come shop for the holidays and support our CASA Program!
- There will be lovely drinks and treats to enjoy while you shop, provided by Consuela. And, 20% of your sale between 2 and 5 PM goes to our CASA Program.



A Joyous Christmas Concert – Benefiting CASA of Bastrop, Fayette & Lee Counties

- A JOYOUS CHRISTMAS is a community Christmas concert involving many Bastrop area churches. Under the direction of Dr. Brad Nix, David McCall, and Artist-in-Residence Joseph Martin, our choir will lift your spirits this holiday season!
- December 19, 2025 at 7PM - FREE EVENT
- Jerry Fay Wilhelm Performing Arts Center



Bring hope to the children who need it most this season with a gift card!

CARDS FOR CASA

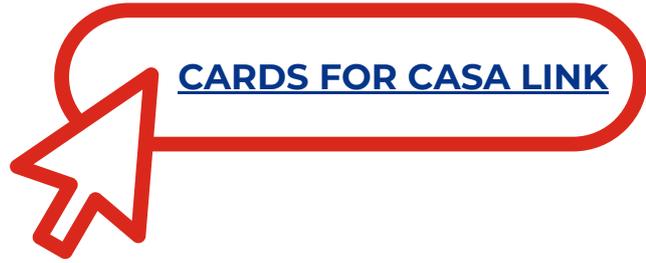
Visit the link in our bio to donate or bring gift cards by our office at 701 Walnut St. Bastrop TX 78602



CARDS FOR CASA

Donate an amount of your choosing, and our CASA Staff will purchase gift cards to distribute to the children our CASA Volunteers serve this holiday season.

Gift Cards give the children CASA serves, and their caretakers, the ability to purchase the gifts they want and need for the holidays.



Our CASA Office Will Be Closed On-

- December 23rd-26th for Christmas Holiday
- December 31st through January 2nd for New Year's

Happy Holidays



PARTNER WITH CASA OF BASTROP, FAYETTE & LEE COUNTIES TO BE A MONTHLY DONOR

Be a Bridge of HOPE BREAKFAST

HELP US PLAN AHEAD!

SIGN UP AS A STRATEGIC DONOR VISIT THE QR CODE ON THIS CARD TO BECOME A CASA BRIDGE BUILDER

casabfl.org



BECOME A CASA BRIDGE BUILDER



SPONSOR LEVELS

- GOLD SPONSOR- DONOR'S CHOICE
- SILVER SPONSOR- \$250 MONTHLY
- BRONZE SPONSOR- \$100 MONTHLY
- COPPER SPONSOR- \$25 MONTHLY



THANK YOU FOR YOUR COMMITMENT TO BRINGING HOPE TO THE CHILDREN OF BASTROP, FAYETTE & LEE COUNTIES WHO ARE FACING A CHALLENGING TIME IN THEIR FAMILIES LIVES. TOGETHER, WE CAN MAKE A BIG IMPACT

Look for these **Be a Bridge of Hope** rack cards at businesses in your area to sign up as a **CASA Bridge Builder Monthly Donor** for our program.

Visit the Monthly Donor Tab at **casabfl.org** to see how becoming a Bridge Builder helps our CASA Program provide the best advocacy possible for children and youth who have been removed from their homes for allegations of neglect and abuse in Bastrop, Fayette & Lee Counties.



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

CASA volunteers advocate for the best interest of the children they serve.

becomeacasa.org



Next Volunteer Session begins in Jan. '26

CASA of Bastrop, Fayette & Lee Counties endeavors to provide trained volunteer advocates in all abuse and neglect foster care cases assigned by the courts. CASA Volunteers are screened and highly trained, and then appointed by judges to represent and advocate for a child's best interest in the child protection system. To learn more about becoming a CASA Volunteer, please call 512.409.0771 or visit becomeacasa.org

You can also contact our recruiter/trainer, Rita Coduto at: casabfl.org/volunteer/ rita.coduto@casabfl.org office: (512) 303-2272



Help Create a Happier Holiday Season for Children in Foster Care & Their Families



Bastrop, Fayette & Lee Counties - The holiday season is in full swing. From Thanksgiving to Hanukkah and Christmas, and Kwanzaa, there's something for almost everyone to celebrate and feel a part of a community. While these holidays help bring people closer together, this can be a difficult time for children and families involved in the child welfare system who are not able to spend this time together.

When a family is in crisis and becomes involved in the child welfare system, the children are often removed from their homes and placed in foster care, many times far from everyone and everything they know. This holiday season, CASA of Bastrop, Fayette & Lee Counties urges you to be mindful of the children who are spending the holidays away from those they love and consider how you can help make a difference.

"December is meant to be a festive time to spend with your friends and family," said Kristi Bauer, executive director of CASA of Bastrop, Fayette & Lee Counties. "Too often, though, children in foster care must spend the holidays away from their family and home community, which can deprive them of many precious memories that can make the holiday season so special."

This is where Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) volunteers can step in and make the most impact. Appointed by a judge, CASA volunteers' first priority on cases is to advocate for keeping families together whenever safe and possible. When that is not possible, CASA volunteers recommend that children live with another relative or close family friend to ensure that they can maintain connections to their family and community.

"Each year, more children enter the foster care system and don't get the opportunity to spend the holiday season at home with their loved ones," Bauer said. "We need more members of the community to step up and get involved. You can make a difference this holiday season." Consider becoming a CASA volunteer to look out for a child and give them and their family a better chance at a brighter future – and the happy holiday season they deserve.