

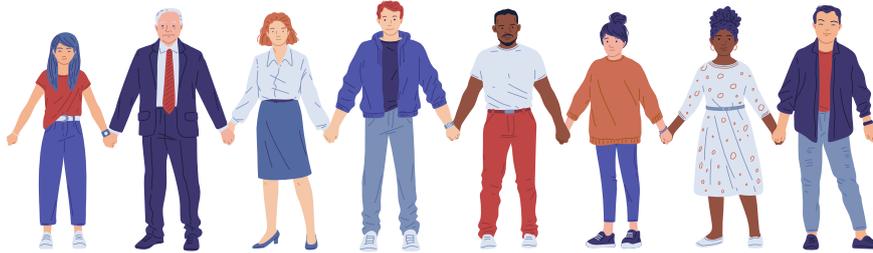


Monthly Newsletter

January, 2026

CASA of Bastrop, Fayette & Lee Counties

Our CASA Staff hope you all had a joyful and relaxing holiday. We're looking forward to a fresh year of advocacy, making an impact for the children we continue to serve and the ones who will come into care.



As we step into a new year, we do so with purpose, momentum, and an unwavering commitment to the children who need us most. This year is about action - training more advocates, strengthening our presence in the courts, and ensuring every child we serve knows they are seen, heard, and valued. Together, we have the power to turn compassion into change and hope into lasting impact. With your continued support, this will be a year of bold advocacy, meaningful growth, and life-changing outcomes for children across Bastrop, Fayette & Lee Counties.

Upcoming Events for January '26

You're invited to the Elgin

Established 2025

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

Thursday at 9:00AM
JANUARY 29TH, 2025

Presented By:

casabfl.org

Frontier Bank of Texas

CASA of Bastrop, Fayette & Lee Counties is hosting our next Be a Bridge of Hope Breakfast for the Elgin community as we continue to get the word out for a strategic monthly donor initiative we started earlier this year.

The **Be a Bridge of Hope Breakfast at Firewild on Jan. 29th at 9:00AM** will be an opportunity for community members to learn more about CASA and becoming a CASA Bridge Builder. Guests will then have the chance to make a commitment from their hearts. We invite you to attend, or, if you have anyone else in mind who would like to attend, to ask you to please deliver this message to them on our behalf. RSVP with our Director of Development, Valerie Lancaster at valerie.lancaster@casabfl.org

CHEERS TO CHANGE

COME AND GO AT YOUR LEISURE FOR A PARTY CELEBRATING OUR CASA VOLUNTEERS AND BRIDGE BUILDERS AS WE LOOK TO A FRESH NEW YEAR OF ADVOCACY!

THURSDAY **15TH** 5:30-7:00PM

CASA CELEBRATES ALL YOU DO AT 602 BREWING CO.

CASA Court Appointed Special Advocates FOR CHILDREN Bastrop, Fayette & Lee Counties

RSVP TO VALERIE.LANCASTER@CASABFL.ORG

Cheers to Change: A CASA Appreciation Gathering

Our CASA Volunteers and Bridge Builders are the heart of our mission - and we want to celebrate you. We invite you to a relaxed, come-and-go celebration in your honor as we look ahead to a fresh new year of advocacy.

While we've traditionally hosted this gathering as an open house in our office, exciting changes are underway as we prepare for our future home. This year, we'll celebrate at 602 Brewing Co., a local favorite.

Stop by at your leisure, enjoy good company, light bites and refreshments, and allow us to thank you in person for the impact you make for children and their families across Bastrop, Fayette and Lee Counties.

📍 602 Brewing Co. | 📅 Thursday, January 15 | 🕒 5:30-7:00PM

A New Home for CASA - and for the Children We Serve.

CASA of Bastrop, Fayette & Lee Counties is getting a new building at 507 Water St.



FROM THIS
TO THIS!

FOLLOW ALONG WITH THE
PROGRESS AND HEAR
ABOUT HOW OUR CAPITAL
CAMPAIGN IS GOING ON
OUR WEBSITE AND SOCIAL
MEDIA PAGES IN 2026!



For years, CASA of Bastrop, Fayette & Lee Counties has stood beside children who have experienced abuse or neglect -providing advocacy, stability, and a consistent voice when they need it most. Thanks to your support, that mission has grown stronger each year.

Now, we are taking an important next step.

We are proud to announce the launch of our **Capital Campaign to finance a new CASA office building**, a space designed to support the growing needs of the children, families, and volunteers we serve across all three counties.

Our current facility has served us well, but it is an old home beyond repair and no longer meets the demands of our expanding program. The new building will provide:

- Professional, functional office space for staff and volunteers.
- A larger, dedicated training room to prepare more CASA Volunteers.
- Improved accessibility and a true parking area.
- A welcoming environment that reflects the dignity and care every child deserves.

Demolition of the existing building is coming soon, making way for a future built on hope, stability, and advocacy. As one of our valued supporters, we invite you to be a part of this transformational effort. Your investment in this capital campaign is an investment in safer futures and brighter outcomes for children in foster care. More details on how to support and spread awareness for the campaign will be shared soon. In the meantime, thank you for believing in CASA - and for helping us build a foundation that will serve children for generations to come.

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

Established 2025

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

CASA of Bastrop, Fayette & Lee Counties
casabfl.org

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 March '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

In the New Year, resolve to help a child who needs you.



The start of a new year often comes with a list of resolutions. New Year's resolutions are different for everyone, but one of the most common is to live a healthier lifestyle. If you're hoping to improve your physical and mental health, there's one option that often gets overlooked and benefits others: volunteering.

Volunteering and helping others have been found to benefit both physical and mental health, and there are a variety of options in our community. If you're looking for a new way to make changes in your life and in the lives of others, consider resolving to help children and families in the child welfare system by volunteering with CASA of Bastrop, Fayette & Lee Counties. 28,008 children are currently in the Texas child welfare system. These children have been removed from their homes and placed in foster care, sometimes far away from their families and communities. They need a CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocate®) volunteer to stand by their side and advocate for them.

"Children in foster care are often separated from their families, siblings, friends, and other loved ones, and placed in an unfamiliar setting far away from everything they know," said Kristi Bauer, executive director of CASA of Bastrop, Fayette & Lee Counties. "CASA volunteers stand with them during this uncertain time, providing a consistent presence and speaking up for their best interests in court, school, and other settings."

CASA volunteers are everyday members of the community who are recruited, screened, and trained to advocate for a child or sibling group in foster care. They get to know the child on an individual level so that they can make sure their physical, emotional, and educational needs are met.

They also get to know the child's parents, family, foster parents, and other important people in their life, with the goal of working towards reunifying the child with their parents whenever safe and possible. They help make sure children have a support system of family and other reliable, committed adults who can help them both during and after their time in foster care.

CASA of Bastrop, Fayette & Lee Counties has served 127 children in foster care this year with 51 CASA volunteers. CASA is always seeking more community members to step up and advocate. "Volunteering with CASA is an opportunity unlike any other," said Bauer. "It's a unique chance to make a true, positive difference for a young person and their family. We need more members of the community to join the CASA movement."

In the New Year, consider becoming a CASA volunteer and make an impact in a child's life, and your own. Every child has a chance – it's you. ®

To learn more, visit www.BecomeACASA.org or casabfl.org. The next training session with open spots for our CASA Program will be in March 2026.
