



Monthly Newsletter

April, 2026

CASA of Bastrop, Fayette & Lee Counties

Hope Shines Blue in April for Child Abuse Prevention and Awareness



Go Blue This April

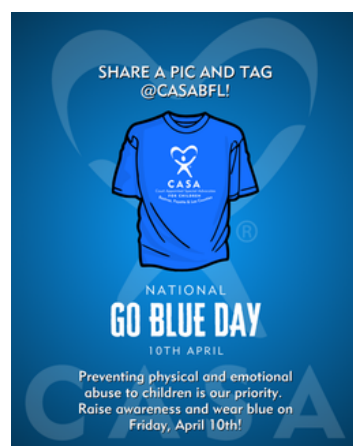
This initiative is to raise awareness for Child Abuse Prevention Efforts in our local area. April is the National Month for The Texas Department of Family Protective Services, Court Appointed Special Advocate Programs, and Children's Advocacy Centers to educate the public about Child Abuse Prevention. Participating downtown businesses will display a window cling and blue light(s) from **CASA of Bastrop, Fayette & Lee Counties** at the entrance to their businesses and **GO BLUE** throughout the month of April!

Upcoming Events for April '26



Blue Cupcakes at Simply Sweet!

To Raise Awareness for Child Abuse Prevention! Order ahead (512) 321-0112, or pick up from a limited quantity on **Friday, April 10th** at **Simply Sweet Cupcakes**. **\$1 of every blue cupcake sold will go to our CASA Program!**



Go Blue Day!

Wear Blue to Raise Awareness for Child Abuse Prevention! Preventing physical and emotional abuse to children is our priority. Raise awareness and wear blue on Friday, **April 10th**. **Share a pic and tag @casabfl on Instagram or @CASA of Bastrop, Fayette & Lee Counties on Facebook.**



Coffee with CASA!

Come get your morning cup and sit and chat with us! There will be a mix of a few people from our staff, volunteers, or board at each Coffee With CASA, ready to wish you a good morning and talk about our mission, or whatever is on your mind. **Our next session will be on Thursday, April 16th** at **Texas Coffee Works**.



Springfest 2026!

Date: Saturday, April 18, 2026
Time: 11:00 AM – 3:30 PM
Location: Fisherman's Park, Downtown Bastrop.
This family-friendly festival in Fisherman's Park is free and open to all ages! Springfest 2026 is generously sponsored by Bastrop County Cares! **For more details, or to sign up as a volunteer, visit Springfest.org.**

Save The Date for This Year's CASA Casino Night!



This annual fundraiser for CASA of Bastrop, Fayette & Lee Counties is returning on Saturday, July 18th, 2026 at the Smithville Recreation Center from 5:30-10:30PM. This highly anticipated event brings together community members, local businesses, and resolute supporters of our organization from across the three counties we serve for a night of fun games, fine dining and drinks, compassionate community, and philanthropy.

Tickets will be available starting Friday, April 17th at casabfl.org for \$85/person or \$150 for two! Tickets at the door that evening will only be available after 7PM for \$65 and will NOT include the dinner portion.

This year's CASA Casino Night is a 50's Sock Hop Theme. We can't wait to see all you cool cats and lucky dames ready to rock around the clock for a great cause!

Questions about the event, auction items, or sponsorship opportunities?

You can reach out Director of Development, Valerie Lancaster, at: valerie.lancaster@casabfl.org or contact our Executive Director, Kristi Bauer, at: kristi.bauer@casabfl.org



A New Home for CASA to Serve the Children

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 now complete, 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.

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

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

Sign up for our spring '26 training session!

becomeacasa.org

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

We Need Volunteers for our Spring Session '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



CASA of Bastrop, Fayette & Lee Counties Focuses on Supporting Families during National Child Abuse Prevention Month

April is National Child Abuse Prevention Month, and CASA of Bastrop, Fayette & Lee Counties is raising awareness of the need for more dedicated members of the community to step up and become CASA Volunteers, and help end child abuse and neglect, through supporting children and their families.

CASA Volunteers, or Court Appointed Special Advocates, are everyday people from all walks of life who are recruited and specially trained to advocate for children in foster care and provide a consistent, reliable adult presence for them during a difficult time in their lives.

“Our volunteers’ first priority is to keep families together whenever safe and possible,” said Kristi Bauer, executive director of CASA of Bastrop, Fayette & Lee Counties. “Foster care is only a temporary solution to the problems at hand. We need to create long-term support networks that work to care for families, make reunification a possibility, and help break the cycle for the next generation.”

CASA Volunteers are assigned to one child or sibling group to advocate for their best interest in court, in school and in other settings. They get to know the child and everyone involved in their life, such as their parents and other family members, foster parents, therapists, caseworkers and teachers, in order to develop a realistic picture of the child’s unique situation. They engage those important to the child and family in order to build a network of support around them, so that the family has access to support and resources after the case ends. They make recommendations to the judge overseeing the child’s case, with the goal of ensuring that the child is safe and the family has the resources, support and healthy relationships needed to heal.

Locally, CASA of Bastrop, Fayette & Lee Counties served 127 children in the foster care system from the three counties in 2025. This April, consider stepping up to make a difference by becoming a CASA Volunteer.

“There is always a need for more CASA Volunteers,” said Bauer. “By becoming a volunteer, you can take your efforts beyond just awareness, and do your part to help support children and families in crisis right here in our community.”

When reunification is not a possibility for the children they serve, CASA Volunteers work to find others that can provide a positive, healthy, and loving environment. These can include relatives, friends, or other adults that are important in the child’s life—keeping a child connected to their home community. “We at CASA of Bastrop, Fayette & Lee Counties always hope for the day when CASA, foster care, and a national month dedicated to child abuse prevention are no longer needed because all children are growing up safe, secure, and supported with their families,” said Bauer. “Until then, we will continue to seek more members of the community to join our growing movement so that we can provide a CASA volunteer for every child who needs one.”

April is National Child Abuse Prevention Month. If you see abuse, report it to 1 (800) 252-5400 or go to www.txabusehotline.org. If a child’s life is in danger, call 911. For more information on CASA, visit www.BecomeaCASA.org and/or CASABFLORG (512) 303-2272. The next training session for our CASA program will be in the spring of 2026.