

Quarterly Newsletter

July-Sept, 2026

CASA of Bastrop, Fayette & Lee Counties

CASA & CONSISTENCY



One of our CASA Program's Coach Supervisors received this statement of gratitude for the CASA Volunteer on the case at a recent adoption. A caring and consistent adult can change the course of a child's life. When everything else feels uncertain, a Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) provides the stability, encouragement, and unwavering support every child deserves. Their presence reminds a child they are seen, heard, and never forgotten - and that can make all the difference in their future. becomeacasa.org

Events for July-September '26



Springfest 2026!

Date: Saturday, July 11th, 2026

Time: 10:00 AM – 2:30 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.



CASA Casino Sock Hop!

Date: Saturday, July 18th, 2026

Time: 5:30 PM – 10:30 PM

Location: Smithville Rec Center Gymnasium

Tickets are \$85/person or \$150 for two.



Consuela Connects Summer Give Back Party!

Date: Saturday, August 22nd, 2026

Time: 11:00 AM – 2:00 PM

Location: Consuela, Downtown Smithville. [RSVP Here](#)

Get Involved - Volunteer Fair

Date: Thursday, July 23rd, 2026

Time: 6-8 PM

Location: Bastrop Convention Center

Get Your Tickets for This Year's CASA Casino Night!



Step back in time with us as we rock around the clock at this year's CASA Casino – Sock Hop Style

On **Saturday, July 18th, 2026**, **CASA of Bastrop, Fayette & Lee Counties** invites you to an unforgettable evening at the **Smithville Recreation Center**. 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, community, and philanthropy.

This year, every ticket, every chip, and every laugh shared at the tables helps CASA of Bastrop, Fayette & Lee Counties provide a voice to the most vulnerable. Whether this will be your first time attending an event for CASA of Bastrop, Fayette & Lee Counties, or you are an avid contributor to our cause, we hope you'll join us for a night of great entertainment and purposeful giving – because together we bet on brighter futures!

-Scan the QR Code for tickets! They're also available at casabfl.org, on our Facebook Events, or payment can be brought to the CASA office. Tickets for the CASA Casino Sock Hop are \$85/person or \$150 for two. Tickets at the door that evening will be available only after 7 PM and will not include the dinner portion. This year's casino night is a 50's Sock Hop Theme with catering by John Chabot, dessert by Blue Bell, popcorn from Film Alley, and complimentary beer and wine. We cannot wait to see all you cool cats and lovely dames decked out in your poodle skirts and greaser fits!

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

You can reach out to our 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!



CASA of Bastrop, Fayette & Lee Counties
507 Water Street, Bastrop, Louisiana 70026
CASA of Bastrop, Fayette & Lee Counties
507 Water Street, Bastrop, Louisiana 70026
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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.

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

Sign up for our September '26 training session!

becomeacasa.org

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

Taking Volunteers for our September Session

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 Advocates for Normalcy for Children in Foster Care this Summer.

Summer in Texas is full of sun, swimming pools, barbecues and tons of fun activities for children. Many children have the opportunity to enjoy their summer vacation by attending camps, participating in sports, or having a summer job, but there are many children in foster care who do not get the chance to experience these sorts of summertime activities.

Removed from home and placed in the child welfare system because their family is in crisis, these children are already facing trauma that no child should experience – yet on top of all of that, their participation in normal childhood activities with their peers often becomes an afterthought.

“Kids in foster care can feel disconnected from other kids their age because of what they’re going through, so it’s important to help them feel as normal as possible,” said Kristi Bauer, executive director of CASA of Bastrop, Fayette & Lee Counties. “Getting the chance to participate in normal childhood activities – and just be a kid – can be essential to a child’s well-being.”

“Normalcy” is a term commonly used in child welfare for any experiences that contribute to a child’s autonomy and social functioning. Activities associated with a “normal” childhood, such as sleepovers, pool parties, having an ice cream cone, or going to a homecoming dance, can be imperative to a child’s sense of security, regularity, and well-being. Another aspect of normalcy is working to ensure that the realities and difficulties of a child’s situation interrupt their everyday lives as little as possible.

“Friendship and socialization are imperative for children to maintain good health and psychological well-being. While things like visitation, appointments and therapy are essential for the children we serve, we don’t want them to come in the way of everyday activities that are also important to their development, like school or an extracurricular activity,” said Bauer.

Foster parents, CASA volunteers, caseworkers, and others who serve children in foster care must work together to make normalcy a priority, explained Bauer.

“These children have been through enough. The last thing they need is to be excluded from fun social activities with their peers,” said Bauer. “This summer, CASA of Bastrop, Fayette & Lee Counties aims to help local children in foster care have the opportunity to partake in normal, age-appropriate experiences.”

CASA volunteers are specially trained and appointed by judges to speak up for a child and advocate for their unique needs in court, at school, and in other settings. They also get to know the other adults in the child’s life, including their parents, family, foster parents, case workers, counselors, and more, and work with them to ensure the best interests of the child come first.

Ultimately, true normalcy is achieved when children are no longer in the system and have the resources and support they need to thrive—preferably back home with their family whenever safe and possible. Until then, they need a voice to speak up for them, to ensure they can participate in hobbies and activities that will help them grow and heal.

Become a CASA volunteer and advocate for a child who needs you. Take advantage of our CASA Program’s next training session in September this year. You can also find more information at casabfl.org or www.BecomeACASA.org.