

Let's CONNECT

NEWSLETTER



CASA

Court Appointed Special Advocates
FOR CHILDREN

CASA - HOPE FOR CHILDREN

MARCH 2026

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Evening benefiting CASA Hope for Children.

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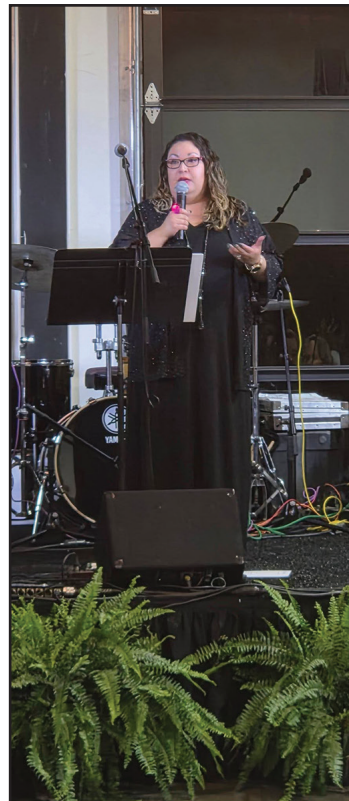
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Antenna Products
Thank you

Light the Path Gala

On March 6th, we shared a wonderful evening benefiting CASA Hope for Children at our second annual Light the Path Gala at River's Edge at Tin Top Wedding and Events Venue. We enjoyed a live performance by talented musician Courtney Patton, as well as an incredible dinner catered by Brenda's Catering. We are forever thankful for the generous donations to both our live and silent auctions, and for our community's support of our program. You all truly make a difference in the lives of children and families involved with the child welfare system.

Thank you to our incredible sponsors, and all who attended this beautiful event – we can't do it without you.



Becky Hanley, Christi James, Judy Jordan Giles, Tiffany Dromgoole

Thigbe Donation & Gala Presenting Sponsor



Pictured from Left to Right: Thigbe Founder Mike Brasovan, Thigbe Director of Operations Austin Witt, CASA Board Member Christi James, Executive Director Monica Riedlinger, and Board President Becky Hanley

Once again, CASA Hope for Children extends our sincere gratitude to Thigbe, the Presenting Sponsor for our Light the Path Gala and generous donor to our program. Thigbe "helps people and businesses save on electricity while supporting local charities".

To everyone at Thigbe – thank you for supporting children in our community involved with the child welfare system. You are heroes!

New Advocate Swear In February 5th

We were thrilled on February 5th to witness Palo Pinto County Judge David Barkley swear in **three** new Volunteer Advocates! Thank you for stepping up to advocate for the most vulnerable members of our community. We appreciate you beyond words and look forward to walking alongside you as Court Appointed Special Advocates!



Pictured from Left to Right: Sheal Vandygriff, Christi-Lynn Sisco, Judge David Barkley, Robyn Rinearson, and Training Director Christina Phenix

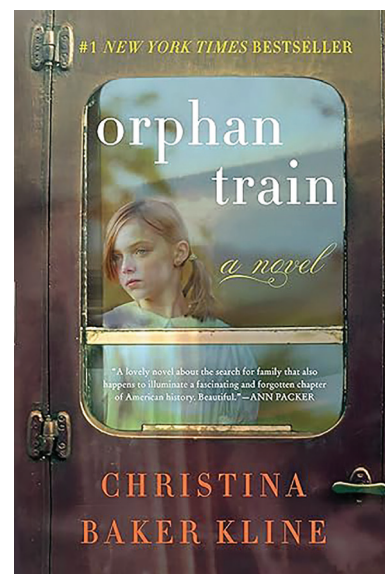
CASA to CASA Book Club

BOOK CLUB



Next Book Club Meeting on April 15th!

In April, the CASA to CASA Book Club will be meeting to discuss the novel: Orphan Train: A Heartfelt Historical Novel Spanning Generations and Friendship by Christina Baker Kline.



ANNIVERSARIES

Emily Pope, Volunteer Coordinator

On January 2nd, Emily celebrated her 7th year at CASA Hope for Children! Emily is our daily dose of human sunshine, and her volunteers know that they have the support and guidance they need to advocate for the best interests of the children we serve. Emily is always there with sound advice or a shoulder to lean on, and we are so glad she chooses to use her gifts here.



Pictured from Left to Right: Nicole Botvidson, Suzanne McCarley, and Emily Pope

Suzanne McCarley, Family and Community Engagement Coordinator

Suzanne McCarley is celebrating her 2nd anniversary with CASA! She started as a volunteer and joined the CASA Hope for Children staff as the Office Manager in January of 2024, and she has been serving as our Family and Community Engagement Coordinator since April of 2025. She is a crucial member of our team who brings to the table years of experience supporting children and families impacted by abuse and neglect. Suzanne leads with compassion and her commitment to positive outcomes for children in foster care is unmatched. Thank you, Suzanne! We wouldn't be the same without your expertise.

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Nicole Botvidson, Office Manager

Nicole celebrated her first anniversary as our Office Manager on February 12, 2026. We all appreciate her hard work, her willingness to step in and help wherever it's needed, and her passion for our mission. Nicole thank you for being such a bright spot in our lives, you are so appreciated.

TBRI® Nurture Group

Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASAs) carry a heavy weight as they advocate for children who have suffered unimaginable neglect and abuse. We read affidavits detailing horrors that the average person has never been exposed to. We listen to vulnerable children tell their stories, talk about their broken dreams, and list their heartaches. All of this occurs under a mandate of confidentiality – and that can create feelings of intense isolation.

CASA Hope for Children recognizes that our Advocates need a space to talk about their hurt, their frustration, or ask for guidance as they navigate difficult child welfare cases. Therefore, we have begun offering a monthly TBRI Nurture Group as a support mechanism for our Advocates.

It is a much needed opportunity to connect with and encourage one another as we walk alongside these precious children we serve.

In March, Nurture Group will be on Tuesday, the 31st from 5:30-7:30 p.m.



TBRI® Caregiver Training

Our TBRI® Caregiver Training has been underway for nearly a year, and throughout 2026 we are offering monthly in person and virtual training for our Advocates, stakeholders, and community members.

Trust Based Relational Intervention (TBRI®) helps us understand the impact of trauma on a child's developing brain and the changes that take place in the brain because of toxic stress. In our field, we know that those changes can lead to perplexing and alarming behaviors, mental health diagnoses, hospitalizations and even incarceration. TBRI® is a path to healing for these children and therefore is essential training for individuals who care for, work with, or make decisions around the best interests of children involved with the child welfare system.

CASA Hope for Children has been offering this training to foster placements, kinship placements, and parents on the cusp of monitored returns on our cases. Following this training, they are eligible for regular TBRI® coaching sessions to help them continue best practices when helping the children in their care heal. Parents also learn through this training how their own histories affect their parenting strategies, and how to work through that towards a healthier, happier family structure.

We've received excellent feedback from attendees and look forward to continuing to share this vital training. If you've not yet attended, please join us on **Monday, April 6th** and **Wednesday, April 8th** in the Parker County Hospital District Administration Building at 1130 Pecan Dr, Weatherford, TX, 76086 from **9 a.m. to 1 p.m.**

This is a two-part training, so please plan on attending both days. Breakfast, Coffee, and snacks are provided.



It's All About Connection

A vertical poster with a white background and a blue border. At the top, the text "save the date" is written in a cursive font. Below it, "ADVOCATE AWARDS BANQUET" is written in a smaller, sans-serif font. In the center, there is a photograph of a table set for a banquet with a white tablecloth, blue and white decorations, and a top hat. Below the photo, the text "23 April 2026" and "6:00 PM CRAZY WATER HOTEL" is displayed. At the bottom, there is the CASA logo and the text "CASA - HOPE FOR CHILDREN".

April Is Child Abuse Prevention Month On April 10th, We Wear Blue

Since 1983, the month of April has been nationally designated as Child Abuse Prevention Month.

At CASA Hope for Children, we advocate daily for children who have been victims of abuse and neglect. Children who, instead of being cherished and nurtured by their caregivers, have been terrorized and hurt by them. Their brains have organized around survival rather than trust, learning, friendships, and play.

While we know there is hope and healing for these precious children, preventing the harm in the first place is something that every community must prioritize. Children cannot speak up for or defend themselves, and rely on caring adults who **see something, to say something.**

We can't look the other way or choose not to get involved where helpless young lives are at stake.

If you suspect child abuse or neglect, please report it to the Texas Abuse Hotline at:

1-800-252-5400 or online at: www.txabusehotline.org

If a child is in immediate danger, please call 9-1-1

Wear Blue
on Friday
April 10

#GoBlueDay



ADVOCATE SPOTLIGHT

January



Callie Hall

February



David & Jennifer Compston

March



Pam Williams

Please join us in celebrating this quarter's Advocate Spotlights! These incredible volunteers pour out their time, hearts, and efforts to ensure that every child on their caseload has a constant in their lives advocating for their Education, Health, Safety, and Emotional well-being.

Thank you Callie, David, Jennifer and Pam – we are so blessed by you!!

Thank you to Antenna Products

CASA Hope for Children received a wonderful donation of suitcases, blankets, and bears from Antenna Products in Mineral Wells. Each set was so thoughtfully put together by their team, and sweet 7-year-old Landrie even included a handwritten love note in each one for the child who will receive it.

Thank you, Antenna Products, you are making a difference!



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FOR CHILDREN

CASA - HOPE FOR CHILDREN

WHERE TO FIND US:

CASA Hope for Children

305 S Rusk Street

Weatherford, TX 76086

www.casahopeforchildren.org

OUR MISSION STATEMENT:

CASA Hope for Children recruits, trains, and supports volunteer Court Appointed Special

Advocates (CASA) to advocate for the best interest of children and empower families in the child welfare system.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

Becky Hanley, President

Christie James, Vice President

Brian Shelton, Treasurer

Tosha McClune, Secretary

Christina Robinson

Judy Jordan Giles

Kim Ortiz

Michael Parker

Tiffany Dromgoole