

# **Johnson County CASA**



#### **UPDATED STATS:**

During the month of March, an additional 6 CHINS Petitions were filed, creating 2 new cases.

We ended the month of March with 41 children on our waitlist.... MUCH better than the last couple of months, but we could stand to bring that number down further, for sure!

A HUGE thank you to everyone that has been able to step up to take on an additional case as we work to build our volunteer base back up!

#### T APRIL BIRTHDAYS T

Lee Heap: 4/1

Michael Riley: 4/3

Kim Rhoades: 4/5

Jennah Mosley: 4/15

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!

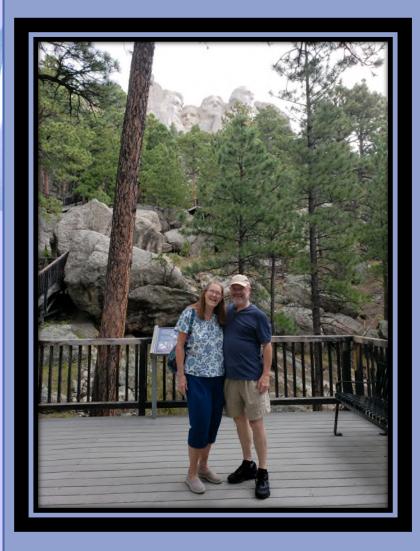
#### **APRIL ANNIVERSARIES**

- Susan Glover: 4/24 (2 years)
- Amanda Harris:4/24 (2 years)
- Kari Ryback: 4/25 (3 years)
- Linda Simons: 4/24
  (2 years)

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY & Thanks for all you do!

## **Getting to Know Your Fellow Volunteers**

## **MEET MIKE RILEY:**



"Mike feels that his experience serving as a CASA volunteer has enabled him to realize the importance of early intervention for children." -Early intervention IS SO important; what a great point!! And-How cool is Mt. Rushmore in the background?!

Please meet Mike Riley as the April Volunteer of the Month. Mike and his wife, Mary, live in White River Township and have two sons. One son lives in Pittsburgh while the other lives in Indianapolis, and Mike and Mary have five grandchildren.

Mike retired in 2019 after working for 40 years as a research engineer. However, his love for engineering was apparent long before he began taking college courses. When Mike was 16, he had the job of assembling the toys at Christmas for his older brother's children and then testing them to make certain they worked before the big day arrived!

Mike and Mary volunteer together at The Refuge in Greenwood, and as soon as he retired, Mike took the training to become a CASA because he has always been fascinated with children. When he isn't volunteering, Mike enjoys reading, cooking year-round and gardening.

Mike feels that his experience serving as a CASA volunteer has enabled him to realize the importance of early intervention for children. The experience has also opened his eyes to how irresponsible many parents are in caring for their children.

#### Does your child have a need?

Don't forget- We are still fully stocked on clothing, blankets, toys and more! We still have plenty of items on hand, so if you discover your child has a need, or maybe even a birthday coming up, feel free to reach out to Tammi or Mandy to **schedule a time to**drop by!

**NEW VOLUNTEERS IN** 2025:

Sworn in on March 10th:

Jennah Mosley

**Hilliary Frazier** 

Joe Gombach





#### A HUGE SHOUT OUT AND THANK YOU....

Many, many THANK YOUS to all who volunteered, or tried to volunteer before we had more volunteers than we had work, to assist Mandy's LJC group with their Ramp-a-thon on Friday April 11<sup>th</sup>!!!!! We had an overwhelming amount of support for this project and ended up with 73 volunteers in total. These volunteers assisted with 7 ramp builds across Johnson County in Greenwood, Franklin, and Edinburgh.

Read more in the Daily Journal here: <a href="https://dailyjournal.net/2025/04/14/ramping-up-leadership-group-spearheads-ramp-building-campaign-across-county/">https://dailyjournal.net/2025/04/14/ramping-up-leadership-group-spearheads-ramp-building-campaign-across-county/</a>

To learn more about SAWs and FAQs you can visit www.sawsramps.org

To learn more about Leadership Johnson County you can visit: www.leadershipjohnsoncounty.org











#### Do You Know Your Volunteer Coordinator....? You should!



In case you did not know, Michele Hagan is our Volunteer Coordinator. This is what her sweet face looks like. She is not scary and does not bite!





Think of her as a liaison between you guys and Tammi and Mandy. Michele will reach out and ask you questions about your case(s), your training hours, your shirt size, what support needs you might have, or a variety of other reasons. Please know, if Michele is reaching out to you, it is at our request, as that is part of her job, and part of what helps keep this program running as smoothly as it does.

So, if Michele reaches out to you, we ask that you please extend her the courtesy of the same quick reply you would extend to Tammi and Mandy.

If you don't already know her, get to know her! She can be quite helpful! 😊



#### IF IT'S REPEATED.... IT'S IMPORTANT!

### Did you know, we are down to just 38 CASA Volunteers?! We NEED your help to grow our volunteer base!

A few easy ways you can help us grow our program:

- Talk to your friends, family, neighbors, church members, coworkers and others about the important work you do as a CASA
- Like, Follow, and Share our Social Media Pages so we can reach a larger audience.
  - o Instagram: https://www.instagram.com/casajohnsoncountyin?igsh=MWxkbWliMHlyYT RoMO==
  - Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/JoCoCASA.indiana
  - o LiknedIn: https://www.linkedin.com/company/casa-johnson-countyindiana/
- Share our Social Media Posts to your own pages to further the reach.
- Share our contact information with people who are interested.



**WHAT: State CASA Conference** 

WHEN: Saturday, September 13, 2025

WHERE: French Lick Resort & Casino

#### WHY:

Because this a GREAT opportunity for you to get in nearly ½ of your REQUIRED training hours for the year!

Because it's a great way to engage and connect with not only CASA Volunteers from our program, but volunteers from all over the state!

Because it is always a great time full of great conversation, interesting topics, and wonderful keynote speakers!

\*Please be watching your emails for more information to come, as registration is required to attend.

We are willing to cover the cost of your hotel room Friday night, only. Feel free to book that reservation now, on the French Lick Resort side, but please note, you will need to call back and adjust your reservation once the group rates have been released to have that added to your reservation.

Issue no. 6 5

#### Join Us for the Walk for Child Safety

Date: Thursday, May 8

**P** Location: DCS Office: Back Patio

L Time: Noon

Our local DCS office is putting safety in the fast lane! We'd love for you to join us on May 8<sup>th</sup> at the local DCS office for an Indy 500-themed fun walk.

This special event is more than a walk—it's a chance for collaboration, community, and camaraderie among those who dedicate their time to protecting children. Let's come together to "race" toward a safer future and celebrate the impactful work we do every day. They encourage race-themed outfits or accessories to keep the spirit of the Indy 500 alive!

PLEASE RSVP to Tammi or Mandy and let us know if we can expect to see you there! © We hope to see LOTS of you there!!

#### **YOUR WORK MATTERS!!!**

# THANK YOU FOR TAKING THE TIME TO ENTER YOUR CONTACT LOGS!!!

From January 1, 2025 to March 31, 2025, you guys put in 479 hours' worth of contact logs!

Our program total was 683.25 hours for the quarter.

-This number includes contact logs entered by Tammi and Mandy when they attend court or meetings on our cases.

Great work this quarter! Please remember that contact logs and Optima are meant to keep us fully informed on your efforts in your cases to keep them moving forward quickly and effectively. The more diligent you are about putting them in, the less catch up for you to do each quarter and the better informed we are on your cases! Thank you for your efforts!