

## **Johnson County CASA**





#### **UPDATED STATS:**

During the month of February, an additional 19 CHINS Petitions were filed, creating 7 new cases.

We ended the month of February with 55 children on our waitlist.... And that number continues to grow daily.

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. MARCH BIRTHDAYS #

Abigail Jones: 3/6

Bruce Gale: 3/15

Debra Ford: 3/18

Jenna Sichting: 3/30

Paul Walters: 3/30

Happy Birthday!!

#### **MARCH ANNIVERSARIES**

Jeri-Lyn Line: 3/17- 11 years

Gary Coffman: 3/16- 5 years

Carolina Lucas: 3/18- 5 years

Lacey Keller: 3/29- 4 years

Erin Arashiro 3/4- 1 year

Lindsey Calhoun: 3/4- 1 year

Molli Mings: 3/4-1 year

**Tonya Thompson-Howard:** 

3/4- 1 year

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY & Thanks for all you do!

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

#### **MEET GREG & JULIE MENEFEE**



"In the five years that the agency has been in operation, they have helped with 59 adoptions and plan to expand their coverage to Arizona." ---HOW EXCITING!!!

Johnson County CASA presents GREG and JULIE MENEFEE as the "Husband & Wife Volunteer Duo" for the month of March. Greg and Julie have been married for over 48 years and have lived most of those years in Franklin. Their son, Ben and his fiancé, Jackie also reside in Franklin along with their three daughters.

Greg owns and operates ADA (Automated Doors & Access) which is located in Indianapolis. In 2014, Julie retired from Johnson Memorial Hospital where she managed the Pulmonary Rehab Program.

As a couple, they enjoy traveling to Tucson, Arizona, where they visit family. They also enjoy hiking and playing golf. In 2019, Greg and Julie founded Courageous Hearts Adoptions, a nonprofit adoption agency. Their goal in establishing this organization was to make the process of adoption easier for families. In the five years that the agency has been in operation, they have helped with 59 adoptions and plan to expand their coverage to Arizona.

After Julie retired, she considered volunteering with programs for the elderly. However, once she saw an article describing the CASA Program, she discussed that opportunity with Greg, and in 2017, they decided to take the training together.

Since Greg is still working, Julie provides "boots on the ground." She visits the home, attends court and writes reports. But she discusses every aspect of the case with Greg because his perspective is critical. She finds this team approach to be very beneficial.

Because the Menefee's have busy lives, they only take one or two cases at a time. Even after their first case closed, Greg and Julie developed such a rapport with the two kids that they continue to be in contact with them on a regular basis.

#### Does your child have a need?

Don't forget- We are still fully stocked on clothing, hats, coats, gloves, 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





# Volunteers Still Needed for Upcoming Community Project REGISTRATION DEADLINE IS March 28th

Mandy's LJC group is holding a Ramp-a-thon on Friday April 11<sup>th</sup> with the goal to eliminate the entire waitlist in Johnson County in one day. SAWs provides all the funding and materials, they really just need volunteers to assist with the builds.

I would love for anyone who is interested in this project to join us! There will be a morning and an afternoon shift, and you can sign up for one or both. You can join individually, you can form your own team of friends and family, or perhaps a team of CASA volunteers. My team has already gotten together and built one ramp back in November. It is super easy and requires no special skills. If I can do it, anyone can do it! photos attached on next page. You will just need to bring work gloves, eyewear and wear close-toed shoes! Feel free to reach out to Mandy if you have questions.

**Registration deadline is March 28<sup>th</sup>**, which is quickly approaching! Scan the QR code below to sign up, or reach out to Mandy.

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

#### Ramp-a-thon 2025: Ramp It Up!



- Building Ramps for people in Johnson County with permanent disabilities through a partnership with SAWs Inc.
- Ramps are metal (2 hours to build) or wood (4 hours to build)
- · April 11th 2 chances to build
  - · 8am-12pm
  - 1pm-5pm
- Deadline for Sign-ups March 28th
- · Groups of 7-10 people
- YOU DON'T NEED TO KNOW HOW TO BUILD
- Everything will be precut; we will be using an impact drill and they have Project Managers who will provide instruction!





## Did you know, we are down to just 37 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.
  - Instagram:
     <a href="https://www.instagram.com/casajohnsoncountyin?igsh=MW">https://www.instagram.com/casajohnsoncountyin?igsh=MW</a>
     <a href="xkbWliMHlyYTRoMQ=="xkbWliMHlyXTRoMQ=="xkbWliMHlyXTRoMQ=="xkbWliMHlyXTRoMQ=="xkbWliMHlyXTRoMQ=="xkbWliMHlyXTRoMQ=="xkbWliMHlyXTRoMQ=="xkbWliMHlyXTRoMQ=="xkbWliMHlyXTRoMQ=="xkbWliMHlyXTRoMQ=="xkbWliMHlyXTRoMQ=="xkbWliMHlyXTRoMQ=="xkbWliMHlyXTRoMQ=="xkbWliMHlyXTRoMQ=="xkbWliMHlyXTRoMQ=="xkbWliMHlyXTRoMQ=="xkbWliMHlyXTRoMQ=="xkbWliMHlyXTRoMQ=="xkbW]</a>
    </a></a>
  - o Facebook: <a href="https://www.facebook.com/JoCoCASA.indiana">https://www.facebook.com/JoCoCASA.indiana</a>
  - o LiknedIn: <a href="https://www.linkedin.com/company/casa-johnson-county-indiana/">https://www.linkedin.com/company/casa-johnson-county-indiana/</a>
- 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. 5 5



#### **IT'S THAT TIME AGAIN!!**

Our quarterly reports are going to be due to the State Office Soon.... You know what that means!!

Time to get all your contact logs and training hours caught up in Optima!!

- Make sure all contact logs and training hours between 1/1/2025 and 3/31/2025 have been added to Optima.
- Contact logs should include all visits, CFTMs, Provider Meetings, IEP meetings, or any other meetings attended, time spent writing your CASA Reports, time spent on phone calls, face to face chats with DCS or others, emails, text messages, and time spent reviewing provider reports or other records.
- If you have trouble entering training hours, feel free to send those to us and we will get them entered for you.
- Remember that contact logs need to be entered in quarter hour increments.
  - o 1-15 minutes = .25
  - o 16-30 minutes = .50
  - o 31-45 minutes= .75
  - **46-60 minutes= 1**

PLEASE HAVE ALL CONTACT LOGS AND TRAINING
HOURS FOR THIS QUARTER ENTERED NO LATER THAN
END OF DAY Wednesday 4/9/2025