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Get to know HB 2738:

Appropriates money to Court Appointed Special Advocate Fund for CASA Volunteer Program and for distribution to Oregon CASA Network for training programs. The bill invests $5.92 million to improve CASA operations statewide to increase outreach and train new volunteers to support more abused and/or neglected children. This would create a statewide distance learning program for CASA volunteers, which will strengthen training efforts and provide flexibility beyond the COVID-19 pandemic.

CRITICAL NEXT STEPS

1) Continue the conversation with members of the House Committee on Human Services and urge the increase in funding for HB 2738 at the upcoming Work Session.
Find us on Facebook

ORIENTATIONS & TRAININGS NOW VIRTUAL

Please register before attending an orientation so we are sure to have space and an information packet ready for you.

In an effort to reduce exposure to and the spread of COVID-19, all CASA for Children orientation sessions will be online via Zoom until further notice.

If you have questions, or would like more information, please contact recruitment@casahelps kids.org.

Contact our Recruitment Team

Orientation Schedule

Court Appointed Special Advocates, do you have questions about serving during the pandemic?

2) Use the Legislator Lookup Tool and email your State Representative and ask them to support CASA programs statewide by signing on to the legislation as a bill sponsor. If you visit the bill overview pages for HB 2738, you can see if your legislator has already signed on to the CASA bill.

Additional Resources can be found on the OCN Shared Drive:

General CASA Talking Points
CASA FAQ
Overview of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion
Local Legislator Lobbying Guide

30th Annual Auction: A Path to a Better Future

CASA for Children's 30th Annual Auction
Thursday, April 22, 2021
7pm PST
casahelpskids.org/annual-auction

Event Recording

Our A Path to a Better Future event was incredible! While the world right now has a lot of uncertainty, this community never lacks support. In fact, we raised $434,115 from our 2021 Virtual Auction!

Whether you donated, bid on a package, shared what CASA means to your friends and family, it is evident that this community is dedicated to giving foster youth A Path to a Better Future.

Our deepest thanks to everyone who tuned into our virtual program and bid in the auction to support youth in foster care in Multnomah, Washington, and Columbia counties.

THANK YOU, SPONSORS!
One of my favorite sayings is, “We are all in this together and together we will succeed.” I am a true believer in teamwork and taking a very inclusive approach to achieving the results that the team and I are striving to accomplish.

Jon Cook serves as the Vice President of Operations & Logistics for Fred Meyer Jewelers, a position he has held since 2012. He leads the company’s Operations & Logistics team for both Fred Meyer Jewelers and Littman Jewelers. His Operations and Financial Planning/Accounting responsibilities includes 1) improving the customer experience, 2) contributing to increased revenue through process improvement, 3) reducing costs through efficiencies and 4) overseeing the supply chain within the distribution center.

A jewelry industry veteran, Cook began his career in 1991 as a Sales Associate for Fred Meyer Jewelers and quickly progressed. In 2011, he was named Senior Director of Jewelry Store Process and Procedures. Cook is also Diamond Certified by the Diamond Council of America.

Cook is a Balanced Scorecard Professional (BSP) by the Balanced Scorecard Institute which enables him to help in leading the organization with strategy development.
Cook lives in Oregon City, Oregon with his wife of 13 years, Tammy. His children and grandchildren continue to reside in Michigan where he was raised.

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## Kudos for CASAs

Advocates Continue to Thrive Remotely

"I would like to extend a heartfelt thanks to my newest CASA Tracy Petterson who has only been on her case for five months. In that time she has not only won the foster parent over with home baked cookies at each visit but she secured critical pediatric dental care for one of the boys on her caseload. Thank you Tracy! You are a gem!"

**Debi Sakamoto, Program Manager - Multnomah County**

"Thank you Suzanne C. for returning to service ahead of plan and during this busy time, to again support and advocate for your CASA kiddo in her time of need. Your selflessness in prioritizing the needs of the child over what is convenient or easy embodies CASAs ideals."

**Jeff Tapia, Lead CASA Supervisor - Washington County**

"Duane B.: your patience and calm in working with others, be it, parents, foster parents, children, or caseworkers, is inspiring, and I have seen the difference it has made to those people. I am fortunate and grateful to have you on my team!"

**Jeff Tapia, Lead CASA Supervisor - Washington County**

"CASA Rachael Penchon-Lind recently had very sad news on her case and received it with such grace and resilience that I wanted to share a kudo. Rachael never lost sight of what was in the best interest of the child, and though I can only imagine how difficult it must have been, she maintained a great attitude, as well as her two other cases, throughout. Thank you Rachael!"

**Allie Brady, CASA Supervisor - Multnomah County**

"We ask so much of our advocates and boy do they all deliver. Thank you to those CASAs who reviewed our CASA Confidentiality Training refresher and for all those who submitted their tracking form of 12 hours of continued education. You all go that extra mile"!

**Jeni Bennett, Lead CASA Supervisor - Multnomah County**

"I want to give kudos to my three newest CASAs, Susan L., Mackenzie P. and Kaitlyn T. who are all doing so well diving into very complicated and challenging cases. I am so impressed with them and grateful to have them on my team!"

**Haley Mahan, CASA Supervisor - Multnomah County**

Special shout out to Madeline Vanden Branden. Not only are you a perfect partner to that special CASA gal but, at last, the "I do's" will happen for your other perfect partner. Huge congratulations on your upcoming wedding (finally!) and journey.

**Jeni Bennett, Lead CASA Supervisor - Multnomah County**
“Hey Kevin Long, to have a CASA like you in her corner - keeping it real, getting things done and serving it up bagel style - your CASA youth is the luckiest. Keep it up, keep going and keep keeping it real. I appreciate all your advocacy!”

Jeni Bennett, Lead CASA Supervisor - Multnomah County

Kudos to one of my three CASA duo teams, Sarah B. and David P., for their persistence and dedication to their case which continues to fluctuate in challenging ways. They find time in their very busy schedules to advocate for six kids with insight, professionalism, and compassion.

Haley Mahan, CASA Supervisor - Multnomah County

Kristin Payne, thank you for all you do to support the CASA program and congratulations on completing your first case! Your thoughtful and steadfast advocacy and empathy and support for mom contributed to the family’s successful reunification! Without skipping a beat and going above and beyond, you dove right into two other cases where your advocacy and support were needed. Your calm presence and inquisitive nature often shine a gentle guiding light on deeper questions that affect our work. I so appreciate having you on my team!

Julie Fong, CASA Supervisor - Washington County

Thanks to the hard work and dedication of our CASAs, children in our communities continue to receive support and resources.

Spotlight on Recent Grants

Marie Lamfrom dedicated her life to give to the people of her adopted city, Portland, - The Marie Lamfrom Charitable Foundation was founded in 1998, with the goal of continuing her support of Oregon causes. CASA for Children extends their deepest thanks to the team at The Marie Lamfrom Charitable Foundation for its gift of $25,000. This is a new funder to our agency, and we are very excited to develop our partnership with the foundation!

The H.W. and D.C.H. Irwin Foundation

Recognizing that today’s complex society presents many issues and problems that merit foundation support, the Howard Wallis Irwin and Dorise Carlyon Hinton Irwin Foundation, established in 1992, has generously granted $4,000 for CASA for Children general operations.

The Jackson Foundation was created in October 1960 from Maria C. Jackson’s estate.

Mrs. Jackson dedicated her life to becoming a “formative influence in many civic affairs.”
CASA for Children would like to thank The Jackson Foundation for the $3,000 grant that will help the agency's mission of advocating for the best interests of abused and neglected children.

The City of Beaverton-CDBG is a program of the Federal Agency known as Housing and Urban Development (HUD). The City of Beaverton-CDBG has granted CASA for Children $10,000 to support homeless shelters/services, homeless prevention, and youth and family programs.

**Autzen Foundation**

The Autzen Foundation supports smaller non-profit organizations with education, social service, and youth centered missions. CASA for Children would like to thank The Autzen Foundation for $7,500 to continue our important work.

**Spring Wrap-up**

**PNW Candle Collective**

April was National Child abuse prevention month, CASA for Children is so grateful for the work of PNW Candle Collective for showcasing us as their April Nonprofit. With 50% of proceeds going to CASA for Children, PNW Candle Collective donated $500! They are keeping their April candle stocked throughout the year, as they are sold, PNW Candle Collective will be making another donation at the end of the year.

April's candle is a floral mixture of honeysuckle and jasmine with notes of lemon, ginger, and amyris. Each candle is hand-poured in Portland, Oregon using 100% soy wax, cotton wicks, and clean scents that are free of harmful chemicals, carcinogens, and phthalates.

Thank you so much PNW Candle Collective!
Move for CASA - Virtual 10k

Co-lead Sponsor

KPMG

Were you able to dust off those running shoes?

Throughout the month of May, CASA for Children’s Ambassador Board walked, ran, and raised funds for youth in foster care.

Move for CASA raised $2,913

Ways to Support Foster Youth Now

Share this interview with your friends & family to learn more about what it means to be a CASA Volunteer

Listen to this interview with CASA Volunteers Paige & Holly from Columbia County, OR

Listen to the interview here

Spread the Word About Foster Care Month
May is National Foster Care Month

"In order to truly support the families they serve, child welfare professionals must work across systems and collaboratively engage young people as critical partners when making decisions that impact their lives. Involving youth in the planning and decision-making processes can have a positive impact on the developmental needs of young people in foster care and is widely considered best practice for promoting family integrity and long-term stability for those involved."


Benefit CASA for Children while you shop

Using AmazonSmile and the Fred Meyer Community Rewards program are easy ways to contribute to CASA for Children at no additional cost to you!

Doing some online shopping? Before you browse:

1. Go to our website
2. Click AmazonSmile
3. Submit your order

The Fred Meyer Community Rewards program makes fundraising easy! Link your shopper’s card to CASA For Children and just swipe.
4. Amazon donates 1.5% of your purchase to us!

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