

MAY 2025 NEWSLETTER

CASA for Children of Klamath County

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A NOTE FROM OUR DIRECTOR

Happy May!

We hope you are enjoying the sunshine and all the spring blooms.

As many of you may have heard, the Department of Justice recently made the decision to terminate all federal funding to National CASA effective immediately. You will find the complete press release from Oregon CASA Network (OCN) State Director, Kat Hendrix, on pages 3 and 4.

While the complete ramifications of this action are yet to be seen, this is a detrimental blow to every single CASA program in the country and the children we serve. National CASA has moved quickly and is appealing the decision. Luckily, OCN is mighty and our local programs are working together to continue to provide quality advocacy to the children of Oregon. As things continue to develop we will keep everyone up to date. You may feel powerless in this situation, but we strongly urge you to contact our representatives and encourage them to support funding for CASA. Your stories are important. Share them!

On a lighter note, Hannah has compiled a comprehensive list of summer camp opportunities for your kiddos on page 5! We invite you to talk to your kids and foster families to assess interest. Spaces fill up quickly, so get interested kids signed up as soon as possible. You will need to fill out a [CASA Kid Fund request form](#) to get expenses fully covered.

Our next advocate training starts next Tuesday, May 6th so please refer any potential candidates to the office.

Please continue to spread the word about our mission and impact. We so appreciate all that you do for the children CASA serves. We would not be the same program without your time, effort, and commitment!

Warmly,

CASA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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CASA

Court Appointed Special Advocates
FOR CHILDREN

CASA FOR CHILDREN OF KLAMATH COUNTY



**PRESS RELEASE
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
April 28, 2025**

Oregon CASA Network Demonstrates Resilience Amid Additional Federal Funding Loss

The Oregon CASA Network (OCN), representing 19 robust and committed programs across the state, has received notice that the National CASA/GAL Association’s federal funding through the U.S. Department of Justice has been immediately terminated. This decision includes the loss of funds that have supported training, assistance, and subawards to local CASA programs in Oregon and across the country.

CASA programs train and support volunteers to serve as Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASAs), who advocate for children who have experienced abuse and neglect and are currently in the foster care system. CASA advocacy has been found to have significant and long-term positive impacts for children.

Effective April 22, 2025, the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP), a component of the U.S. Department of Justice, has ordered that no further expenditures be made from the affected federal grant awards beyond closeout responsibilities. As a result, federally funded services previously coordinated at the national level were suspended. The National CASA/GAL Association is appealing the decision.

Despite this significant change, OCN remains strong, united, and unwavering in its mission to advocate for children in foster care. “With National CASA/GAL Association’s dramatic decrease in funding, it falls to local CASA programs to pick up the pieces and work that much harder on behalf of children in foster care who have experienced abuse and neglect,” said Kat Hendrix, Executive Director of OCN.

“Our local CASA programs serve children in every county in Oregon and are deeply rooted in their communities,” says Hendrix. “Our network has a long and proven track record of adapting in the face of challenges—and this moment is no different.”

CASA programs are actively working to continue uninterrupted advocacy for Oregon’s most vulnerable children. They are finding alternative funding sources, expanding partnerships at the local and state levels, and investing in the capacity and resilience of the statewide network.

This loss of federal funding for the National CASA/GAL Association follows the removal of \$1.7 million in community project grants for Oregon CASA programs from the FY 2025 federal budget.

“While this loss of federal support presents challenges, OCN remains committed to ensuring that every child has a dedicated, compassionate advocate by their side in court and in life,” says Hendrix. “We invite community members, partners, and supporters to stand with us as we move forward together—stronger, more connected, and more determined than ever.”

One way for community members to get involved is to call on state legislators to support HB 5002 and HB 3196, both state funding requests that have become even more critical because of these sudden federal funding losses.

For media inquiries, please contact:

Kat Hendrix
State Director
Oregon CASA Network
KHendrix@oregoncasanetwork.org
971-469-9562



Hannah's



GUIDE TO SUMMER PROGRAMS

Day Camps

Overnight Camps

Community Kid Friendly Programs

*Clickable Link

2025 CASA Pre-Service Training

All training takes place online from
5:30PM - 8:00PM PST.



May Schedule

5/6	Chapter 1	Volunteer Role, Competencies, Parameters, Child Welfare Law/System
5/8	Chapter 2	Children's Needs, Attachment, MSL, Best Interest, Abuse and Neglect
5/13	Chapter 2.5	ACES, Communication, Interview, Effective Recommendations
5/15	Chapter 4	Mental Illness, Poverty, Confidentiality, Case Notes
5/20	Chapter 5	Substance Abuse, Culture, Diversity
5/22	Chapter 6	Domestic Violence, Culture and Perceptions, Advocacy
5/27	Chapter 7	Resilience, Concurrent Planning, Educational Challenges, Advocacy Across Ages, LGBTQ Youth
5/29	Chapter 8	Review, Local Documents, Panel of Volunteers, Support

Note: Training dates that land on holidays will be offered as independent study or makeup.

In addition to the virtual classroom sessions and some work on your own, prior to case assignment, you will need to have at least 3 court hearing observations and tour the DHS Office.

Virtual Hours: 20
Pre-Work Hours: 10

Dana Thompson

Outreach & Operations Coordinator
danat@klamathfallscasa.org



CASA

Court Appointed Special Advocates
FOR CHILDREN

CASA FOR CHILDREN OF KLAMATH COUNTY



541.885.6017



klamathfallscasa.org



Klamath Falls CASA

EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES

Articles

- ***8 Ways to Keep Your Child Safe at Summer Camp****
By Dawson Place
- ***Lessons from Camp****
By Leah Shafer, Harvard Graduate School of Education
- ***How Summer Camp Benefits Child Development****
By The Learning World Academy

**Clickable Link*

Please remember to track your educational hours on Optima.



541.885.6017

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IMPORTANT DATES

May

- Mental Health Awareness Month
- Foster Care Month
- 5/4-10 Children's Mental Health Awareness Week
- 5/5-9 Teacher Appreciation Week
- 5/5 Cinco de Mayo
- 5/6 Pre-Service Training Begins
- 5/11 Mother's Day
- 5/26 Memorial Day

MAY BIRTHDAYS

- 5/30 Laurie Cooper

