

MARCH 2025 NEWSLETTER

CASA for Children of Klamath County



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A NOTE FROM OUR DIRECTOR

“Despite the forecast, live like it’s spring!”

- Lilly Pulitzer

Wow, it has been a crazy winter! I try to remember that all that snow brings much needed water for our summer. We hope you’ve been keeping yourselves healthy and warm over this past month.

As we prepare for spring and summer, we will be collecting information on camps and activities that you can share with your kids and foster families. As soon as that list is available we will let you all know. Thanks to the Wendt Family Foundation and Walmart we have funds to pay for these activities. All you need to do is complete and submit a CASA Kid Fund request form, which you can find [here](#). And if you know of any opportunities that will keep our kids engaged and active in our community, please pass them along and we will include them in future newsletters.

As many of you may know, CASA lost one of our most treasured advocates last month, Jim Brown. Many of you had the opportunity to work with him and saw the great impact he had on our organization. He will be greatly missed. We have included an In Memoriam with more information and photos on the following page.

On a more positive note, we hope you’ll join us in welcoming Tony Swan to our CASA family! He will be sworn in on March 4th, 2025. Tony recently retired from Klamath Union High School where he was the Principal. He is going to be a valuable resource and addition to our team and the children we serve. Welcome, Tony!

We hope as the weather warms up and the roads are better that we get to see you in the office. As the year goes on, we are planning to institute quarterly in-person learning opportunities. You will hear more about these in the coming months.

As always, thank you for all that you do to make our program successful and advocating for the children of Klamath County!

Warmly,



CASA

Court Appointed Special Advocates
FOR CHILDREN

CASA FOR CHILDREN OF KLAMATH COUNTY

IN MEMORIAM: JIM BROWN

On February 1, 2025, CASA lost a longtime friend and advocate, Jim Brown. Jim was one of a kind and loved nothing more than giving back to others. Jim was an avid woodworker and created our infamous camel boards and grid art palates for CASAblanca. He always looked at ways to improve our program and motivate our advocates. He created and built our glass ping-pong tracker, showing how many hours our advocates had donated. Jim loved discussing CASA and was involved in our outreach events, Coffee with CASA, Trunk or Treat, and Gifts for the Child. He had been an Advocate for nine years at the time of his retirement from CASA in July of 2024. Jim took on 17 cases as a Peer Coordinator and nine cases as an Advocate. Together, he served 20 local children during his time with CASA.

Jim loved advocating for his children and always found ways to support and connect with them. One of his most memorable experiences as a CASA volunteer was helping a young boy with his science project. Jim taught him how levers and pulleys work, and together, they built a display to demonstrate lifting heavy objects. The boy proudly assembled the project and presented his experiment at a school assembly where he was met with enthusiastic applause. With Jim's mentorship and encouragement, the boy gained great self-assurance.

During his time with CASA he received many awards, including the United Way Volunteer Award and CASA's Myron Gitnes Volunteer of the Year Award in 2023. He was also president of the Blues Society and the Kinetic Challenge.

He enjoyed stopping by the CASA Office after stopping at his favorite drive-thru, Dutch Bros, for a cup of coffee and shooting the breeze and filling us in on his various life stories. Jim and his wife, Louise, enjoyed trivia nights at Mia & Pia's. Especially when they won!

The most important advice he shared with incoming Advocates was to speak up in court—even if you feel shy or think everything has already been said. As a CASA, you are the voice of your child(ren) in the courtroom. Make sure their story is heard.

We were fortunate to know and work with Jim; he will be greatly missed at CASA and beyond. CASA sends our sincerest condolences to his wife, Louise.



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

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klamathfallscasa.org



Klamath Falls CASA

EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES

Books

- ***A Stolen Life***
By Jaycee Dugard
- ***My Story***
By Elizabeth Smart & Chris Stewart
- ***Between Two Trailers***
By J. Dana Trent

Books for Kids

- ***Grumpy Monkey Spring Fever***
By Suzanne Lang
- ***The Calendar Kids: Meet March***
By April Martin
- ***How to Catch a Leprechaun***
By Adam Wallace

Resources

- [Klamath County Library Events*](#)

*Clickable Link

Please remember to track your educational hours on Optima.

IMPORTANT DATES

February

- Women's History Month
- Social Worker Appreciation Month
- Nutrition Awareness Month
- 3/3 Family Empowerment Day
- 3/5 Ash Wednesday
- 3/8 International Women's Day
- 3/9 Daylight Saving Time
- 3/17 St. Patrick's Day

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

- 3/2 Justin Rodriguez
- 3/25 Karri Mirande
- 3/29 Debi Clark



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