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3rd Annual 5D Barrel Run Sponsors

Special thanks to

all of our sponsors, the riders who participated, and all who came out in support of this year's event. Year 3 was an amazing success! We would like to take this opportunity to express our sincere gratitude to each of the following for their contributions to the event. We could not have done this without you!

Presenting Sponsor

Enviva

Platinum Sponsors

Community Bank of Lucedale • Walt Massey Automotive
• Cannon Motors of Mississippi

Gold Sponsor

Magnolia Family Dentistry

Silver Sponsor

Greene County Chancery Court Judge Ashlee Cole

Bronze Sponsors

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Cast Iron Sponsors

T and N Home and Garden • Sea Tow • JW Transportation
Fowlers Property Services • Hoop Cares, LLC - Liz Hoop
Glenn Crane and Rigging

Century Bank of Lucedale for sponsoring
the Bounce Houses activities available at the event

In-Kind Sponsors and Donors

Wigley Culp • Singing River Electric
White Horse - Trading Post - Debi Gill

Thank you to all merchants, businesses, and individuals who donated all of the items to make the Silent Auction such a fun activity!



Special thanks also go out to

George County Board of Supervisors

Victor and Beverly Goff

Billy Havard

Doug Adams

Shonna Kay Pierce, Graphic Designer

Christian Mathers

KLIQ Photography



2023 Event Winners

Randi Kervin

Jaylynn West

Cherish Griffin

Aly Mayhall

Presley Havens

Trinity Frazier

Katie Shows

Dani Smith

Gentry Wilson

Bryce Morris

Shelby Grimstead

Lori Chestnut

Shaylyn Benifield

Aubrey Mills

Cristi Turner

Kennedie Scarbrough

Sarah Hallman

Thank you to everyone who came out and participated in the events.

A special shout out goes to all of those youngsters who took part in the **Kiddie Division**: Hadley Dancsisin, Emberlee Mills, Corbin and Cooper Albrecht, Chanley Rivers, Maggie Wilson, Hannah Smith, Styles Rae, Karlee and Aubrie Smith.

FYI



A huge thank you to **Jimmy Allsup, CASA** volunteer, who came by the office and put together some of the new office furniture. This was a major undertaking and made it much easier to navigate up and down our narrow halls with those boxes out of the way. These beautiful, comfortable chairs are a welcome addition for the staff and volunteers who visit the **CASA** office.

Picture below—**Dr. Patricia Kelley Hughes** and members of the **Ocean Spring Carnival Association** are shown following the **Poker Run Event** that the group hosted with funds raised being donated to their Christmas gift campaign. Thank you to everyone who came out and participated. Last year thanks to the very successful carnival event, the group was able to purchase gifts for 15 children at Christmas. The giant wrapping party they hosted turned out to be a fun event for **CASA** staff and governing board members who attended. This year they have committed to sponsor 25 of the children that **CASA** serves! Members are already eager to get these names so they can get an early start making their wishes come true! **OSCA** thank you for again selecting **CASA of Southeast Mississippi** as the charity of choice.



CASA was well represented at the 3rd annual **Kiwanis Club Character Pancake Breakfast** held at the Lucedale Church of God. Also on hand for photos during the morning's fun events were Mickey and Minnie Mouse, a host of Disney movie characters, and several superheroes dressed in full costume. Pictured above are **Victor and Beverly Goff, Jonathan Mills, Amber Ehlers, Doug Adams, and Frances and Jimmy Allsup.**



A huge shout out and thank you to **Nicole Eubanks** and her amazing staff at **Fireflies** in the Rocky Creek community for the generous donation of several game day t-shirts which will be given to students at some of the local schools. This will mean so much to the young people who receive them as they eagerly take part in their school's spirit activities.

While visiting **Fireflies**, make sure to drop in next door at **Rocky Creek Nutrition** - another wonderful supporter of **CASA of Southeast Mississippi**.

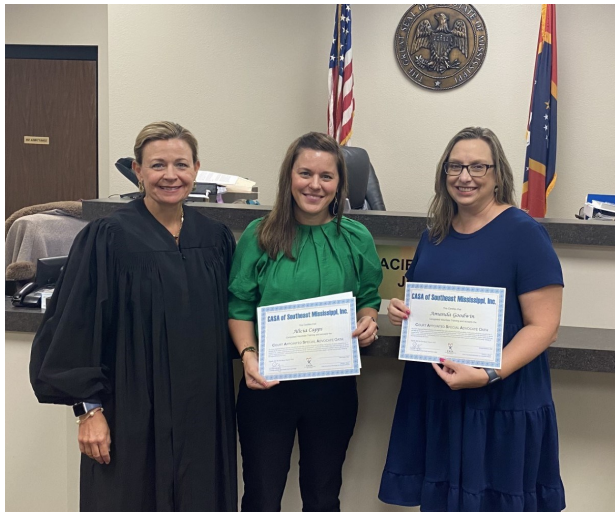


October Outstanding CASA Volunteer

Charlotte McClendon is the October **Outstanding CASA Volunteer**. **Charlotte** has been an active **CASA** volunteer since 2013. She describes her journey as a sometimes very rewarding and sometimes a very heart-breaking experience. She has served children from infants to high school seniors and has worked on several cases where the children have been adopted. She has also handled cases where the children have successfully been reunified with their parents while several of her older children have aged out of the system. **Charlotte** said her most memorable case involved working with a senior who has since graduated and finished college. The young woman was recently married and is doing very well in her career. She is a true success story and has come back to serve as a **CASA** volunteer so she can give back to other children in need.



As a **CASA** volunteer, **Charlotte** has learned to view things from the child's point of view and has remained the one constant who was there for the child until the case finally closed. She became that one familiar face that brought comfort no matter how many times the child was moved to a different home or school placement nor how many separate case workers the child might have had assigned. **Charlotte** has one grown son and is currently employed in Pascagoula with NOAA National Marine Fisheries Service. She moved back to the Gulf Coast in 2011 after being away from the area for 17 years as a military spouse.



New CASA Volunteers

Pictured at right: Congratulations to the newest volunteers, **Alicia Capps** and **Amanda Goodwin**, who were inducted by honorable **Judge Stacy Zorn** on August 31. **Grace Kelly** was also part of this summer training class and is awaiting induction.

The fall training sessions are underway in both Pascagoula and Lucedale. We look forward to these dedicated folks completing the pre-service training and joining the **CASA** team in October. The Pascagoula group includes **Miranda Lutz**, **Kayla Manning**, **Rene' Shaw**, and **Theresa Waker**. Those training in Lucedale are **Janice Griffith**, **Carrie Graham**, **Mark Maples**, and **Beverly Lemoine**.

New CASA Advocate Supervisor

We are excited to welcome on board our newest **CASA** Advocate Supervisor **Abigail (Abby) Clark**. **Abby** officially started the new position on September 11. She is a Gulf Coast native and a graduate of Moss Point High School and MGCCC. Her professional background includes work in the human services and healthcare fields.

Abby is married and is the mother of three. In her spare time she enjoys the outdoors, being on the water, and learning about the flora and fauna native to the Mississippi Gulf region.

Abby shared a favorite quote from Maya Angelou, "I've learned that people will forget what you said, people will forget what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel."

Abby looks forward to meeting with her volunteers and moving together to make a difference in the life of each child they serve.



Continuing Education Opportunities

Reminder— to maintain your active CASA standing, you are required to complete 12 hours of Continuing Education training each year. Be sure to include any completed Continuing Education hours on your monthly activity reports that are submitted in OPTIMA.

BRIDGING THE GAP—Thursday, October 26, from 9 am—3 pm at Michael Memorial Baptist Church located at 15053 John Clark Road in **Gulfport**. There is a **\$ 30 admission fee** which will include breakfast and lunch and all of the printed materials. It is being presented and hosted by the staff members of **CASA of Harrison County** and will feature Trust-Based Relational Intervention (TBRI) techniques, treatment resource training, panel discussion on parent reunification, training on giving court testimony for staff and volunteers, and other related topics aimed at better equipping competent advocates. This is a great way to earn some continuing education hours while enjoying fellowship with other CASA staff and volunteers. There is a required registration form for all planning to attend and the admission fee must be pre-paid. Please call your advocate supervisor for more information or to register. Registration will close on **Friday, October 13**.

NURSING THE WOUNDS OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING - Monday, November 13, 9—11 am, presented by Advocates for Freedom and **Dawn Compton**—nurse, victim, and author. FIMR Quarterly Community Action Team Meeting at the Auditorium - MSDH Southern Region, 1141 Bayview, Biloxi. Please RSVP to cherylcole-mandoyle@gmail.com or cheryl.doyle@msdh.ms.gov or 228-364-2457.

Many **independent opportunities** for continuing education can be found on our webpage, **casasoutheast-mississippi.org**. Go to **VOLUNTEERS** and then the drop-down menu to **CONTINUING EDUCATION**. These links provide an easy way to gain your **required** in-service hours. The in-service completion form is available to complete and email or hand deliver to your CASA supervisor. Check out the variety of materials and topics. The National CASA Podcasts offer a wide-range of items such as: permanency, outcomes for older youth, meeting emotional needs, poverty, bullying, autism, and parental incarceration, just to name a few.

October Birthdays

October 3

Nora Turner

October 6

Troy Ross

October 7

Laura Hasty

October 12

Paige Watson

October 14

Samantha Bignell

October 19

Doug Adams
Terri Thompson
Jeff Pierce
Rene' Shaw

October 21

Conal Lancaster

October 22

Tracie George
Eric Collum

October 23

Rachel Armstrong
Pennie Baum
Derek McCoy

October 24

Debbie Gill

October 25

Teresa Landrum



Latest Program Statistics

As of August 31, 2023, 107 CASA volunteers served 146 children with 1,961 donated hours of service for the calendar year. Thank you to each dedicated volunteer who has worked to provide a voice for a child who is journeying through the Youth Court process. As the number of children in custody continues to grow, we are in need of additional advocate volunteers to serve in 2023!