



CASA CONNECTION AUGUST 2024

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AUGUST 2024

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Haley Aziz with **CASA of Southeast Mississippi** traveled to **Ingalls Shipbuilding, a division of HII**, to meet with members of the summer internship program who have been busy collecting "**Coins for CASA**" for the past several weeks. Pictured above are some of the young people who are part of the summer program. Pictured at right below are **Haley Aziz** with **Binecio Hoffman, D'Asia Williams** and **Kylie Foster**. This talented trio put together a **Coins for CASA** presentation which they shared during the event. **Haley** extended the program's sincere thanks to this group for the generous donations. Some late coins which were added brought the final grand total received to **\$ 561.08**.



Pictured at left: **Jennifer Williams** with **JABOS** delivers one of the birthday gifts for a very special girl celebrating a July birthday. These presents mean a lot to the children that receive them. Thank you for remembering each on his/her day.



Pictured at right: A huge **CASA** thank you goes out to **Brandi Fayard** and the **JABOS (Junior Auxiliary of Biloxi-Ocean Springs)** group who provided 48 new backpacks filled with some basic school supplies and handwritten notes to get the children off to a great start to the new school year. This group continues to deliver personal birthday gifts each month and has reached out for how to help with any fall activities that might be planned.



FYI



Pictured above are some of the **CASA** volunteers, staff, and CPS personnel who attended the July in-service presentation **Understanding Addiction: Doretha Goodman, Haley Aziz, Michelle Wilson** (presenter), **Vera Johnson, Karen Horn, Amber Ehlers, Patty Waters, Kim Cunningham, Terri Acosta, Lynn Lemoine, and Quwanda Pugh**. This group also included Youth Court personnel and several other CPS employees. Special thanks to **Michelle Wilson** with **Woodland Recovery Center** for giving this informative presentation which focused on addiction, the dimensions of recovery and the individual levels of care that are available to persons and families facing this issue.

Remember **Jessica Bates** will present the August program and will discuss her role in the court process and some of the new laws that deal with families and children in the youth court system.



Michelle Wilson
NCIP
NCFRC
Woodland Recovery Center

Jackson County Coalition for Children and Families
 Solutions Today - Better Tomorrow
COMMUNITY FAIR

RESOURCES | MUSIC | GAMES

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BRONZE/SILVER/GOLD SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

COMMUNITY ACTION OF SOUTH MISSISSIPPI, 5343 JEFFERSON STREET, MOSS POINT, MS

AUGUST 3, 2024 - 10AM - 1PM

For more information, contact Jamie Peoples at Jamie.Peoples@cajackson.ms.us

Jackson County Coalition for Children & Families in partnership with Hope Rising invites you to the upcoming Community Fair to be held on **Saturday, August 3rd**, from **10 am - 1 pm** at Community Action of South Mississippi located at **5343 Jefferson Street in Moss Point**.

Pictured below: **Lisa Greig**, coordinator of the St. Elizabeth Seton VBS, dropped by the **CASA** office to present the donation from the coins the children collected during this year's session. She is shown presenting the check to **CASA** staff member **Haley Aziz**. The children take such joy in doing their own "**coins for CASA**" drive. Thank you **Lisa** for keeping the daily count and getting the coins then turned into cash! Total donated - \$ **820.63** ! Thank you children for this very generous donation - children helping children!



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.**

Jessica Bates, parent attorney with the Jackson County Youth Court, will present an opportunity for volunteers to learn more about the new court processes and the legal representation that is required and provided to parents dealing with the youth court system. This one-hour session will be hosted at Citizens Bank located at 1519 Jackson Avenue in Pascagoula on **Friday, August 30**, from **10–11 am**. To reserve your spot for this training or if you have questions, you may contact **CASA** advocate supervisor **Lynn Lemoine** at beverly_lemoine@co.jackson.ms.us



Additional volunteers are needed to serve children in the youth court system in Jackson, George and Greene Counties!

Contact the CASA of Southeast Mississippi office today to learn more about beginning the 30 hour required pre-service training to become a Court Appointed Special Advocate!

228-762-7370

August Birthdays

August 1

Tess Mason

August 2

Vera Johnson

August 3

Virginia Brink

August 4

Amy Delcambre

August 5

Joana Swadick

August 9

Amber Ehlers

August 15

David Lancaster

August 18

Erin Kramer

August 23

Florence Motes

August 26

Karen Bradley

Twaya Caples

August 28

Patty Waters

August 30

Frances Allsup

Carolyn Gautier



Latest Program Statistics

As of May 31, 2024, 114 CASA volunteers served 129 children with 1,113 donated hours of service for the calendar year. Thank you to each dedicated volunteer who 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 2024!