



CASA

Court Appointed Special Advocates
FOR CHILDREN

FORSYTH COUNTY

AUGUST 2026

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF FORSYTH COUNTY CASA
THE FORSYTH VOICE

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“The CASA
Collective!”*
- *Back to School
Bash Recap*
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Advocacy
Series*



UPCOMING EVENTS:

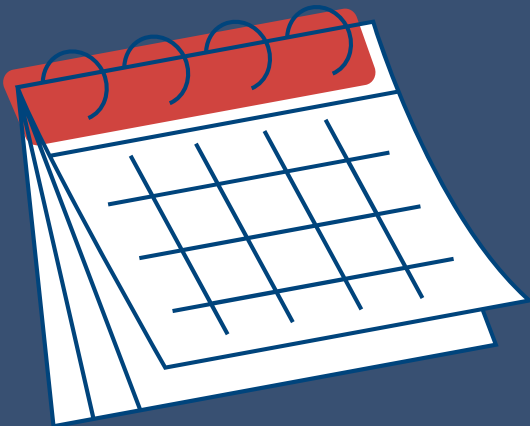
SEPTEMBER

Monday, September 21st
Book Club
Rosati's | 5PM-7PM

NOVEMBER

Friday, November 6th
Lunch with the Judges
Juvenile Courthouse | 12PM

Monday, November 16th
Book Club
SliceAbility | 5PM-7PM





*344 advocacy
hours*



37 hearings attended



3,827 miles driven

JULY BY THE NUMBERS

July Monthly Recap

This July, **2 children** achieved permanency through **adoption**, and **1 child** was **reunified** with their parent!



Introducing...The CASA Collective!

A new resource initiative created to give our advocates easy access to the knowledge, tools, and resources they need to feel confident in their advocacy.



Visit The CASA Collective

Stop by our office to browse our new library and resource center.



Explore The CASA Collective Online

Visit our online resource center for even more guides, tools, books, documentaries, community resources, and educational materials.

[Click here and bookmark the website!](#)

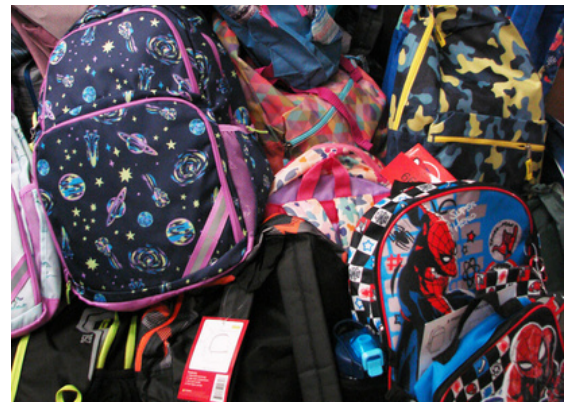


Back to School Bash 2026: More Than School Supplies

On July 24th, CASA kicked off the school year with a Back to School Bash! In addition to backpacks, school supplies, pajamas, books, and other goodies, children and families enjoyed visits with therapy dogs and plenty of opportunities to connect and prepare for the year ahead.

This year, we were also excited to partner with **Wellroot** to offer two separate trainings for foster parents, CASA volunteers, and community members interested in strengthening their advocacy skills. Participants had the opportunity to attend **Reaching Teens**, focused on understanding and connecting with adolescents, and the **Community Resilience Model**, which explored practical tools for managing stress and building resilience.

A special thank you to all of our incredible community partners who helped make this year's Back to School Bash possible! Your generosity, time, and commitment help us ensure that children and families in our community have the support and resources they need to start the school year strong.



CASA-versaries

*Lina Vergara Martinez and Emily Stowers
are each celebrating 3 years with CASA!*

Sylvia Anderson is celebrating 13 years with CASA!

*Thank you!
FOR YOUR
Hardwork*

Birthdays

August 2 - Susan Simmons-Stevenson

August 7 - Denise Johnson & Rebecca
Hammond

August 8 - Dawn Cromwell

August 13 - Hanne Garcia Albaine

August 14 - Paula Hand

August 17 - Robbin Plesher

August 18 - Jennifer Giacobbe

August 19 - Leigh Ann Cannady

August 20 - Kathy Zwicker & Liz Draper

August 28 - Ryan Mack

August 29 - John Cannady

August 31 - Joanne MacAdam

CASA volunteers! Did you know that one of your fellow advocates serves as a liaison to the Board, helping bring your feedback and experiences straight to leadership?! If you have feedback, suggestions, or concerns you'd like elevated, ***Diana Arnold*** is a great resource and connection point!

dianaarmold1.casa@gmail.com

Susan Lancaster, a recent graduate of the University of North Georgia counseling program and former CASA volunteer with Enotah CASA, is offering free counseling support to volunteers through CASA of Forsyth County. She understands firsthand the emotional impact of advocacy work, including secondary trauma, and provides a supportive space to process experiences and build resilience.

CASAs are encouraged to reach out if they would benefit from confidential counseling support at any point in their advocacy journey.

Susanlancaster.pc@gmail.com

GA CASA Trainings: Advancing Advocacy

Georgia CASA is collaborating with outside partners such as MAAC and DFCS to bring relevant, updated trainings regarding areas for improving advocacy.

Lanugage as a Missing Link Toolkit with Arianne Weldon & Dr. Gary McGiboney

Participants will learn about language is a missing link to social, emotional, cognitive, and academic development. This toolkit is designed for individuals, practitioners, and policymakers to employ practices that apply language as a well-being indicator to improve educational, mental health, and well-being outcomes—and impact quality of life for children—from birth through high school.

When: September 10th 11:30AM – 1:00PM

Where: Zoom Webinar

[Click here to register!](#)

Advancing Advocacy: ICPC

Participants will learn about the Interstate Compact on the Placement of Children from Judge Josh Earwood, Bartow County Juvenile Court.

When: October 22nd 11:30AM – 1:00PM

Where: Zoom Webinar

[Click here to register!](#)



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Richard Warner - Georgia CASA Eggs Up Grill - Horizon Christian Academy Silvia Anderson - LEJ Capital -

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CHANGE A CHILD'S
STORY



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