



CASA
Court Appointed Special Advocates
FOR CHILDREN
CASA OF WILL COUNTY, INC

S U M M E R 2 0 1 6

CASA of Will County



About Us

Since 1994, CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates) of Will County, a 501(c)(3) whose offices are located at the River Valley Justice Center in Joliet, has been serving abused and neglected children. In the year 2000, the court began assigning CASA's as the child's GAL (or Guardian Ad Litem) in court cases, resulting in improved legal representation for these children.

CASA volunteers, or advocates, are appointed by judges to act in the best interests of abused children and to ensure they do not get lost in the overburdened legal system or languish in foster care. Advocates stay with each child's case until it is closed and the child is placed into a safe permanent home with hope for a positive future.

CASA of Will County is a United Way agency, a member of National CASA Association and a proud recipient of the Will County Development Block Grant.



Dear Friends of CASA.

Are you having fun with family and friends this summer? We have some great ways you can continue supporting CASA and hope you will consider joining in on the summer fun. Please keep the children of Will County in mind as you think about the rest of 2016.

Save the Date!

"Running for the Kids"

5K 10K

October 2

Christmas Express

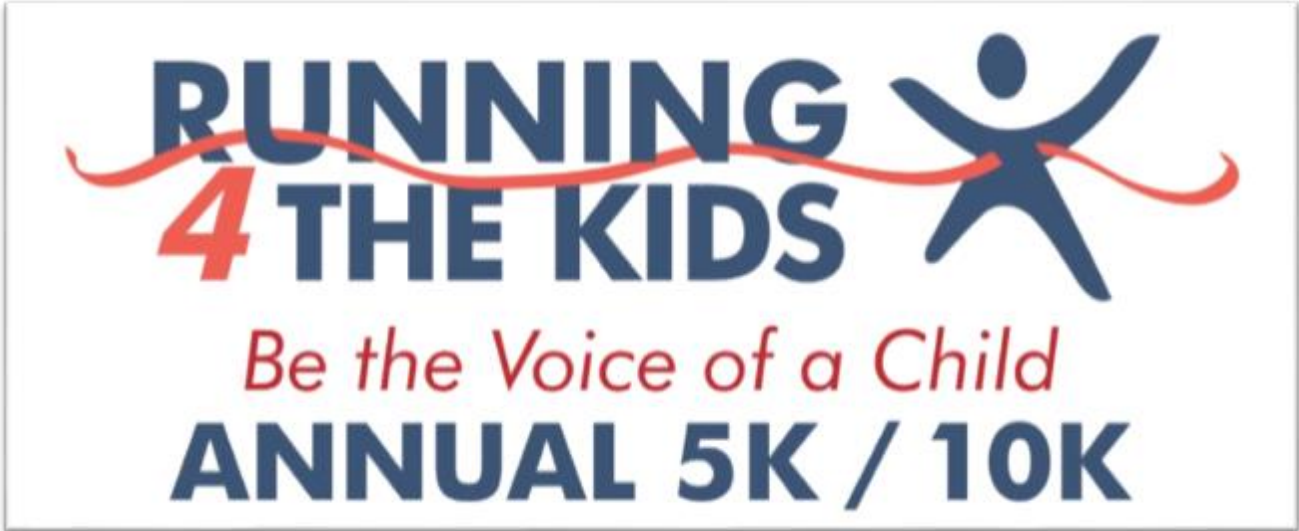
Tickets on Sale
Oct. 1

Saturday, Dec. 3
and Sunday, Dec. 4

"Have a Heart for the Child"

Benefit Gala

Friday, Feb. 18,
2017



You can run for the kids on October 2

We hope you will join us for our second annual 5K/10K!

October 2, 2016
Race begins at 9:00 AM

Start:
Alex M. Martino Junior High School in New Lenox

Runners will enjoy breathtaking scenery through Old Plank Trail. All surfaces will be paved, and people of all ages are welcome for this family friendly event!

Walkers are welcome to enjoy the 5K route. Strollers are welcome on both routes.

Entry for 5K - \$35
Entry for 10K - \$50

Entry includes T-shirt, goodie bag, refreshments, prizes and much more!

Register online at:
casaofwillcounty.org/running4thekids

Our second annual "Running 4 the Kids" 5K/10K will be here before you know it. If you are a business looking to get involved, we have plenty of sponsorship opportunities still available. Email Rita at rfacchina@casaofwillcounty.org for sponsorship info.

\$1,000 – Champion Sponsor (10 available) Company logo on the top of the shirt given to all runners, booth on-site and recognition on our publicity for the event.

\$500 – (20 available) Company logo on the shirt given to all runners and a '10 X '10 space for a tent.

\$250 – A 10' x 10' space for a tent – OR – logo on the race shirt (sponsors choice).

New this year: Free "Kiddie Run" following the 5K / 10K! There will be two groups -- ages 2-5 and 6-9. Registration is not required for Kiddie run.



Thank You For Supporting the Golf Outing!

We had another great year at Prairie Bluff Golf Course. Our "Golf for The Child" golf outing presented by Exelon took place June 24th and we couldn't have asked for a better turn out. We raised more than \$35,000 and offered a wide variety of on-course games and silent auction and raffle prizes. It was truly an event you didn't want to miss!

We want to thank our very generous sponsors, golfers, and volunteers who took the time to support our outing. Our event sponsors included: Presenting sponsor Exelon, Luncheon sponsor D'Arcy Motors, Golf Cart sponsor Edward Jones/Skye Bergeson, Beverage Cart sponsor ComEd, Bloody Mary Bar sponsor Minnesota Lawyers Mutual Insurance and Golf for the Child sponsors Midland States Bank and The Mather Group. The outing also benefited from 18 different hole sponsors throughout the course representing a variety of local businesses. We truly could not have made this happen without your help and support!



Be sure to mark your calendars for next year's event on June 30, 2017. Please plan to join us as we return to Prairie Bluff Golf Club for our 5th Annual Golf for the Child Classic

CASA is in Need of Volunteers

Thank you to the Chicago Tribune and Daily Southtown for the recent article and interview with our Executive Director Rita Facchina about seeking volunteers. We are only able to do what we do because people like you generously give their time to become a much-needed advocate for a child in need.

Studies show that children who have a CASA advocate are more successful in school and in social interactions than those without an advocate. We hope as you think about summer coming to a close that you'll consider volunteering for our worthwhile cause and making a difference in the life of a child.



Next Volunteer Training Date: October 15-26
Place: River Valley Justice Center, 3200 W. McDonough Street, Joliet
Contact the CASA office at 815-730-7072 for more info or visit our website.

Groundbreaking Children's Garden News

On Friday, June 3 we planted our Children's Garden and brought this beautiful sanctuary one step closer to fruition! We had various members of our advisory and steering committee present for the planting, along with local media.

The official ribbon cutting will be announced at a later date pending completion of the garden once all donated items have been received and installed. Stay tuned for more details.

In the meantime, we want to give a special thank you to Nancy Kuhajda and her team of Master Gardeners, who have been tirelessly planting, tending, watering and maintaining the garden to make sure it is thriving. We could not have done it without you.

Thank you to our sponsors: Allied Landscaping, Jay and Lori Bergman, ComEd, Davidson Farms, D'Arcy Motors, Deerfield Construction, Dresden Station, Exelon, Joliet Technologies, ExxonMobil Joliet Refinery, First Community Financial Bank, Minnesota Lawyers Mutual Insurance Company, Colleen and Ted Mora and University of Illinois Extension.



How Can I Help?

It costs us \$1,000 per year to serve the needs of one child. CASA makes an immeasurable difference in the lives of child victims, however we are currently serving 69% of children in need. Please help bring us closer to serving 100% by making a much-needed donation.

Please consider your pledge based on your ability to give, taking into consideration the following:

- \$1,000 = One child for one year
- \$500 = One child for six months
- \$250 = One child for three months (or one quarter-year)

Or, perhaps you can sponsor more than one child. Any amount you can give will help.

You may send in your check to:

CASA of Will County
3200 W. McDonough Street,
Joliet, IL 60431

Or log on to our website: www.casaofwillcounty.org

Please also consider including CASA in your estate planning. Contact Rita Facchina at 815.730.7072 for more info.

Mark Your Calendars

Our very popular CASA Christmas Express will be held on Saturday December 3 and Sunday December 4, 2016.

Tickets will go on sale October 1. Check our Facebook and website for important announcements!

Visit our website at casaofwillcounty.org, to learn more about how you can get involved with our various events throughout the year!



CASA Partners with Amazon

Did you know you can support CASA of Will County every time you shop on Amazon.com? Simply go online to smile.amazon.com and select CASA of Will County as your chosen charity then shop as you normally would. Amazon makes the donation on your behalf!



Thank you for all that you do! We would like to thank everyone for all the hard work and support we've received this year. Please continue having a happy and safe summer and as the warm weather winds down, we hope you'll consider making a tax-deductible donation to CASA of Will County and help us to make a difference in the life of a child.

Sincerely,

Rita Facchina
CASA of Will County



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Thank You for Your Support!



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