

# CASA Clippings

October 2015 Issue

*Children are like cement. Whatever falls on them makes an impression.*

~Dr. Haim Ginott



DENTON COUNTY

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**Continuing Education**



*Learning to Change the World...  
For Children*



**In-Service Opportunity! Understanding TBRI®  
Trust-Based Relational Intervention®  
CASA of Denton County Office  
614 N. Bell Avenue, Denton**

**Facilitated by:**

**Lori Powell, CASA Program Director and Amy Lord, J.D.**

Trust-Based Relational Intervention (TBRI)® is a holistic approach that is multi-disciplinary, flexible, attachment-centered, and challenging. It is a trauma-

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**Understanding  
TBRI® - Part 2**

**Mon., Oct. 5th  
11:00 am -  
2:00 pm**

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**Texas CASA  
Conference**

**Thurs., Nov.  
5th - 7th**

**San Marcos, TX**

informed intervention that is specifically designed for children who come from "hard places" of maltreatment, abuse, neglect, multiple home placements, and violence. However, the TBRI® principles can be applied to all children. TBRI® consists of three sets of harmonious principles: connecting, empowering, and correcting principles, which will be explored through the training.

Lori Powell and Amy Lord will provide an introduction to TBRI® that will cover an overview of the principles and how trauma informed training can help advocates and others understand the real-life trauma of children who experience abuse and neglect.

Two sessions will be offered, each covering different topics. Participants are encouraged to attend both Part 1 and Part 2, but have the option of only attending one session. The training dates are listed below:

**PART 2:**

Monday, October 5, 2015

11:00 am - 2:00 pm

**In-Service Hours: 3 CEUs**

**To reserve your spot contact:**

Victoria Calvin, Training and Recruitment Coordinator

Email: [vcalvin@casadenton.org](mailto:vcalvin@casadenton.org)

Phone: 940-243-2272 ext. 104.

**October  
2015 Court  
Calendar**

**Contact Us:**

Phone: (940) 243-  
2272

Fax: (940) 243-1605

614 North Bell  
Avenue  
Denton, TX 76209



**In recognition of Rena Sutphin,  
CASA Advocate!**



For the month of October, we are recognizing CASA Advocate Rena Sutphin. Here's what Sandi Moresco, CASA Casework Supervisor shared about Rena.

*In her short time with CASA, Rena has taken on 3 very active cases. In one of her cases involving two young boys, the oldest child has experienced many problems at school and in his initial placement. Sadly, he was put into a day program at a local hospital for several weeks and prescribed medication that was not recommended for children. This of course greatly concerned Rena. Along with CPS and the Attorney Ad Litem, Rena vigorously worked to rectify this situation.*

*Unfortunately, the initial foster home gave notice and both boys were moved to yet another placement. Rena remained a consistent figure for her CASA kids. Luckily, the second foster home had none of the incidents described in the first foster home. As the case proceeded, the father of the two boys completed his services and the family was reunified as a "return and monitor".*

***Thank you Rena for all of your hard work!***

## **Save the Date!**



**Sunday, October 25, 2015**  
**Red Carpet Arrival begins at 5:45 pm**  
**Bistecca - An Italian Steakhouse, Highland Village**  
**Cost: \$150 per person**

**Look for more information to come!**

## **CASA of Denton County Info Session**



## **Do you know someone who would be a great CASA Advocate?**

CASA Advocates and supporters are the BEST at spreading the word about our dynamic program. Bring a friend and come join us at the CASA of Denton County Volunteer Info Session!

**Tuesday, October 13, 2015**  
**12:00 noon to 1:00 pm (or) 5:30 pm - 6:30 pm\***

During this info session, guests will have the opportunity to learn more about the CASA advocate program, the role of a CASA Advocate, requirements of becoming a CASA, and how to get involved.

*Light refreshments and beverages will be served.*

**RESERVE YOUR SPOT TODAY...AND BRING A FRIEND!**

To reserve your spot, contact Victoria Calvin,

*\*We will hold the evening session dependent on the number of RSVPs received.*

**2015 TEXAS CASA CONFERENCE | 25TH ANNIVERSARY**

Texas CASA invites you to...

**IMAGINE**

*that the possibilities are endless.*

**NOVEMBER 5-7, 2015 | SAN MARCOS**

**SCHOLARSHIPS ARE AVAILABLE!!!**

With the right resources and a spark of imagination, there are no barriers we, as a unified CASA network, cannot overcome to create a brighter future for Texas' children. The possibilities are endless!

We hope you will join us in San Marcos on November 5-7 for innovative speakers, institutes and workshops that will challenge you to think outside of the box so that one day every child has the safe, loving home they deserve.

Early bird registration will open on **August 19** and will last until **September 18**, and standard registration will close on **October 2**.

***CASA Advocates can earn in-service hours for attending this conference!!!***

***For more information or to register, click [HERE](#).***

***Scholarships Information!***

CASA of Denton County, Inc. recently received a small grant from the Texas Bar Foundation that will allow us to offer reimbursement toward registration fees for the 2015 Texas CASA Conference to be held November 5-7th in San Marcos, TX.

The amount available for reimbursement will be prorated based on the number of advocate attendees. Attendees can attend part or all of the conference.

**To take part in this wonderful opportunity, simply:**

1) Research the conference offerings (workshops, seminars). Conference information can be found at [www.texascasaconference.org](http://www.texascasaconference.org).

2) If interested, register for the conference (you can attend part or all of the conference...it's up to you!).

3) Attend the conference!

4) Submit the following to CASA of Denton County, Inc. for reimbursement:

- Registration receipt of payment
- Proof of conference attendance (this can be a certificate of attendance or name tag from the conference)

**Note: Reimbursement is only available for conference registration fees ONLY and, again, will be prorated based on the number of advocate attendees.**

If you do attend, we are planning to take a group photo of all CASA Denton staff and volunteers at **5:00 pm on Friday, November 6**, in the vendor area. Please plan to join us for this photo opportunity!



## A Community Resource!

Starting Saturday, September 12, from 9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m., the Tarrant Area Food Bank (TAFB) is partnering with the Denton Hunger Coalition, a group of agencies and organizations throughout Denton County committed to ending hunger, to send a mobile food pantry to the Serve Denton parking lot with free fresh or frozen food for families in need.

This is an excellent resource to pass on to the families that we serve. Check out this [flyer](#) or go to [Serve Denton](#) for more information.

**Are you on track to earn 12 CEUs in 2015?**



The end of 2015 is coming soon...have you been working on your in-service hours?



CASA Advocates are required to complete 12 in-service hours per calendar year (January - December).

Click [HERE](#) for **Advocate In-Service Guide** which contains information about the various ways in which advocates can earn in-service hours.

Need to know where you stand? Contact Victoria Calvin, Training and Recruitment Coordinator, at [vcalvin@casadenton.org](mailto:vcalvin@casadenton.org).

Do you have in-service hours to submit? Send Victoria an email with all of the details pertaining to your in-service activities.

## **2015 Child Welfare Conference Pathways to Permanency Through Collaboration, Initiatives and Practice**

**Presented by Texas Woman's University**

**Friday, October 23, 2016**

**8:00 am to 4:30 pm**

**TWU MCL Bldg, Auditorium 101**

***(Corner of Bell and College)***

**In-Service Hours: 6 CEUs**

**Registration: \$20.00 (includes food and beverage)**

**Parking is FREE - Permit Required**

Texas Woman's University presents Pathways to Permanency. This conference will focus on how permanency can be achieved through collaboration, child focused initiatives, and practices in the child welfare arena.



### **Workshops include:**

- Strengthening Connections Panel
- Supervised Independent Living Program for Foster Youth
- Life Without a Safety Net, Transitioning from Foster Care
- Texas Legislative Updates
- and much more!

To learn more about this conference or to register, click [HERE](#). An information flyer can be found [HERE](#).

For additional information contact:

Michele Bland at [mbland@twu.edu](mailto:mbland@twu.edu) or 940-898-2075



## October Birthdays

Here's to you and many more!

Tom Kelly - 6th  
Sarah Barker - 17th  
Debra Furst - 23rd  
Traci Thompson - 28th  
Mark St. Pierre - 29th

### Board Members:

Chad Rauscher - 8th  
Steve Kuzmich - 8th



## ANNIVERSARIES

*Thank you for your service to this wonderful organization!*

### 13 YEARS

Carol Delbecq  
Ronald Hurst

### 11 Years

Vicky Ulrich

### 9 Years

Jean Burk



**8 Years**

Karen Murrell

**7 Years**

Ellen Sullivan

**4 Years**

Sarah Francis

Jill Hoenig

Andrea Whelan

Lazetta Wing

**3 Years**

Gary Davis

Judy Fogarty

Kristine O'Neil

Cecilia Pettit

Tracee Robertson

Mark St. Pierre

**2 Years**

Nancy Acee

Cynthia Carmack

Sarah Alyea

Rena Sutphin

Debra Koontz