

June 2022

Voices Newsletter

www.casarockcounty.org



CASA

Court Appointed Special Advocates
FOR CHILDREN

CASA OF ROCK COUNTY



CASA selects new Board Member

CASA of Rock County welcomes Jordanne Pregont as their newest board member. Jordanne is a Hawkeye Graduate and former athlete from the University of Iowa. During her time at Iowa, she was an active volunteer at the hospital in the orthopedic unit, involved in Ponsetti Races raising money for club foot, and founded her own organization, Baby Steps, gathering 500 students for Compassion International. Jordanne also was a wish Granter for the Make a Wish Foundation in 2017-2018, granting wishes including a kiddo in the foster care system in Rock County. Originally from McHenry IL, Jordanne has lived in Janesville since 2015 and is happily married to her husband, Joseph Pregont.

Currently, Jordanne is a proud stay at home mom raising their three children, Charlotte (3), Sophia (2), and Tripp (1) along with their black lab named Chip. She spends most of her time at a variety of parks, museums, and zoos with her family.



Break the Cycle Luncheon

The annual CASA Break the Cycle Luncheon fundraiser was a tremendous success! We heard from author and former foster youth Ashley Rhodes -Courter. Because of the overwhelming support and generosity of donors we hit our goal!

With the help of our community we raised \$17,560 at the luncheon for a grand total of over \$46,000 for the event! These donations will be used to help recruit, train and support CASA volunteers who advocate for the most vulnerable children in Rock County.

Thank you!



Volunteer Spotlight



I was fortunate to be a CASA for two resilient, spunky and wonderful kiddos from 2017 – 2019. When we met she was nine and he was eleven.

Spending time together each week during those two years built and strengthened our relationship into something that carried over past the final court date. I gave them their wings and allowed them to continue on with their lives without becoming dependent on me, but still kept in touch and occasionally got together to stay connected.

Fast forward to May 2022 and circumstances changed and the now nearly 17 year-old boy was back in the system. I received the call to see if I was willing to step in as his CASA again and without hesitation I said, yes!

There have been way too many people who have let him down in his lifetime and there was no way I was going to be another. It has been challenging putting up the CASA boundaries again; unfriending on Facebook, not coming to my house, etc., because all of that happened once the case ended in 2019.

Being a CASA for a young adult compared to a pre-teen is also a different experience. He is now working, driving, and overall busier which makes it much harder to coordinate our schedules. Despite all this, one thing that didn't change is our connection. When I talked to his school social worker she pointed out how he talked about me and how he was so excited that I was assigned to his case and how much he appreciates me.

A teenager... expressing gratitude, voicing how he feels and in reality, acknowledging the importance of having a CASA!



Elise Bergman

CASA Hires New Education and Outreach Coordinator

Kelly Berg joined the CASA staff in May as the Education and Outreach Coordinator. She is excited for the opportunity to ensure that the voices of foster children in Rock County are amplified!

"As a former foster parent I saw first hand the importance of CASA and I am honored to serve the children of Rock County in a new capacity."

