

CASA of Park and Sweet Grass Counties is a registered 501(c)3 nonprofit organization dedicated to protecting child victims of abuse and neglect. 100% of abuse and neglect cases in the Sixth Judicial Court are appointed a volunteer Court Appointed Special Advocate.

**P.O. Box 1827
Livingston, MT 59047
www.casajd6.org**

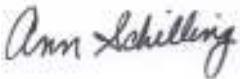
This past year has seen some major changes for our program. In August of 2015, we moved our office into the U.S. Postal Service Building located in historic downtown Livingston, MT. It's a beautiful space. Plus, from our second floor office suites we enjoy a perfect view of the infamous 4th of July parade! We now have our first ever full time employee, Ashley Peterson. Ashley came from the Livingston Healthcare Foundation and she has a Masters Degree in Public Administration, specializing in nonprofits. Ashley is our Development and Volunteer Director and funded her position with a successful grant application through the Montana Board of Crime Control. Ashley, welcome to our CASA family!

Similar to other cities and towns across Montana and the nation, we are experiencing a surge in methamphetamine related cases. This past year our case load has doubled, which in turn, puts pressure on us to be able to serve these children. Recruitment and training of new volunteers has been paramount, as well as retention of our active volunteers. Our volunteers spend hours researching and training, plus individual attention to their CASA kids, and this community is

extremely grateful for it. I can't give these individuals enough praise and credit for their dedication and diligence.

We continue to be very fortunate that we live in generous and giving communities. Each and every one of them has had a significant impact in ensuring that CASA continues to serve every abused and neglected child in our district. As an old poem says "Make new friends but keep the old, one is silver and the others gold."

It continues to be an honor and a privilege to work with my staff, board, and advocates. I look forward to the opportunities and challenges presented to us next year and we will continue to protect and serve our community children.



Ann Schilling
Program Director





Above: Advocate David Stanley with CASA recipient Billy West at his eight grade graduation.

What it means to be a Volunteer: Emily Yost

“Volunteering with CASA has been an eye-opening opportunity for me to learn about my community, larger societal issues, and myself. It has been a privilege to be involved in the lives of the people affected by my case and I am continually impressed by the resources needed to support a child when individuals do not. I am learning what my abstract values mean in practice. I have experienced the program serving its purpose and know my contribution as a CASA has benefited a child.”

Volunteer Advocates

- William Campbell
- Maryanne Vollers Campbell
- Mary Cavalier
- Chelsey Clark
- Mary Ellen Cremer
- Kathi Foote
- Judith Forseth
- Carrie Gebhart
- Jane Jarrett
- George Kelly
- Marcus Lilley
- Marie Michelson
- Susie Osborn
- Linnea Pritchard
- Melanie Roe
- Sarah Sandberg
- David Stanley
- Rebecca Swandal
- Emily Yost

Board of Directors

- Mary Ellen Cremer
- Julia Hill
- Ashley Kayser
- Debra Lamm
- Marcus Lilley
- Lesa Maher
- Peggy O’Neil
- Alex H. Rate
- Hon. Nels Swandal

Mission

Our mission is to advocate for abused and neglected children within the Judicial System.

Vision

To give a voice to every abused and neglected in Park and Sweet Grass County.

Annual Bugle for Kids Sake

Every year West Boulder Ranch and 12 Springs Ranch make it possible for local children to experience a once in a lifetime hunt.

The winners are selected through a raffle ticket drawing, must be under 18, have a valid Montana Hunting License, and must be a resident of Park or Sweet Grass County. The children are allowed to shoot a bull and an accompanying adult is allowed to shoot one cow.

Kailie Bautre, Sweet Grass County winner said, "I was so excited that I was shaking all over. It was all such a great morning. One of the best I've ever had!"



Left: Kailie Bautre of Sweet Grass County



Left: Lucas Ridgeway of Park County

The My Stuff Bags Foundation provides child services agencies across the country with items that every child should have, but many children in distress do not have. Each CASA child receives a "My Stuff Bag" that is filled with age appropriate toys that comfort the child and encourage learning.

A Sample "My Stuff Bag" includes:

Fleece blanket, coloring book, reading materials, crayons, wooden car, 3 dinosaur figurines, stuffed animal.



"Our program and our volunteer advocates really appreciate the My Stuff Bags. It is a perfect ice-breaker for our CASA Advocate when they go for their first visit with their child. The most important staple in the bag is the blanket! It provides a soft, cuddly, soothing safety net for every single child, no matter what the age. Every single child has been thrilled." - Ann Schilling, Program Director

Advocates logged in 1,430 volunteer hours on their cases during this fiscal year. This is the equivalent of \$85,800 in billable legal hours. In addition, our advocates spent a combined 183 hours of continuing education in fiscal year 2016.

Thank you.

With the generous support of patrons like you, we can continue to protect and advocate on behalf of our community children.

12 Springs Ranch
Ace Roofing
Patti and Tom Agnew
American Bank
Ron and Kayl Arthun
Leslie and Chris Arthun
Joanne and Billy Berghold
Big Sky Plaza/True Value
Big Timber Ace Hardware
Sandra Bourque
Brokaw Family Foundation
Citizen's Bank and Trust
Barbara Van Cleve
Mimi Cremer
Tom and Nancy Danaher
David Rust Carpet Center
Dortha Lambert Estate
Paige Dringman
Eagle Ridge
Elk Ridge Outfitters
Elks Club
John and Stoney Esp
Hank and Emily Fabich
Fire Mountain Forge
Don Gimbel
The Grand Hotel
Jack and Patti Grundhofer

Tracy Gubler
In memory of Gertrude Haidle
Ann Hollowell
Joe and Joan Hansen
Brandi and James Harper
Heart K Ranch and Livestock
Mark Hostetler
Sarah Hostetler
Jane Jarrett
Charles and Felicia Kesting
Julie Killorn
Doug and Jo Kissack
Karl Knuchel
Livingston Landlady
Dean Langton
Jim and Toni Lusk
Ernie and Nancy MacCracken
Marie Michielsen
Robert and Kathleen Mitzner
Montana Board of Crime
Control
Mountain Valley Forge
Mark Norem
The Old P.O. Liquor Store
Marcia Olson
Park County Community
Foundation

Pokey Pines
Raich Enterprises
Brady Raney
Dan Rodwell and Yvonne
Brutger
John and Carina Russell
Sage Trail Veterinary Clinic
Ed and Ann Schilling
Stuart and Victoria Schilling
Barbara Sell
Shields Valley Real Estate
Jennifer Simmons
Sarah Skofield - State Farm
David Stanley and Jean Keffler
Jerry and Erica Strickland
Nels Swandal
Swandal, Paoli, Brown,
Knuchel
Huppert, Swindlehurst, and
Woodruff
Tech Electric
The Fort
Sox Ullman
Tom and Toni Vincent
Wilsall General Store