



**CASA**  
Court Appointed Special Advocates  
FOR CHILDREN

# WHAT'S NEW-S?

Court Appointed Special Advocate Quarterly Newsletter

January—March 2019

## Welcome New CASA Volunteers!



(Pictured L to R): Lesina Ateli-Ugavule, Janissa Hart-Scott, Judge W. Mitchell Redd, Brandy Kellogg, Carol Ann Lukes

*“Children are not a distraction from more important work. They are the most important work.”*

- C.S. Lewis



### In This Issue

- Featured book of the quarter, “Untangled.”
- Article: Extended Foster Care, Youth Behind the Bill
- Article: Fostering Change
- Article: Effects of Child Abuse and Neglect
- Article: Keeping Immigrant Families Together



## Check Out this new Book!

In an effort to give you access to continued education on topics relevant to the work you do day in and day out as a CASA volunteer, our staff will be adding a new book every quarter to our CASA library for all volunteers to check out as they wish.

This Quarter our book of choice is.....  
"Untangled: Guiding Teenage Girls Through The Seven transitions into Adulthood" by Dr. Lisa Damour

\*There is one copy available to be checked out.

## Extended Foster Care: Meet the Youth Behind the Bill

Article by: Kathy Reckdahl from The Advocate.com

-This article discusses how ex-Louisiana foster children are key players in the debate surrounding extended foster care. Only 3 % of foster care youth will graduate from college and many of them may not even finish high school. These foster youth stepped up to speak on behalf of Senate Bill 129 to extend foster care to youth over the age of 18 until they graduate from high school.

Link: [https://www.theadvocate.com/baton\\_rouge/news/article\\_cd6e7cb4-3185-11e9-84d3-073002927bd6.html](https://www.theadvocate.com/baton_rouge/news/article_cd6e7cb4-3185-11e9-84d3-073002927bd6.html)

### How is this relevant to CASA?

As CASA volunteers we are currently serving a number of children in foster care. With the new bill passing, foster care youth can now remain in foster care until the age of 21 while they are enrolled in high school or in the process of getting their HISET.

***\*Please don't forget to turn in your paragraph review for In-Service Training credit after you have read the article.***



untangled

GUIDING TEENAGE GIRLS  
THROUGH THE  
SEVEN TRANSITIONS  
INTO ADULTHOOD

Lisa Damour, Ph.D.

"For years people have been asking me for the 'girl equivalent of Raising Cain,' and I haven't known exactly what to recommend. Now I do."  
—MICHAEL THOMPSON, PH.D., author of RAISING CAIN



## **Fostering Change: Inside the federal government's big, bold— and potentially messy— plan for overhauling how states manage child welfare.**

**Article by: Mattie Quinn of Governing.com**

This article discusses the Family First Prevention Act passed by Congress in February 2018 and how it will effect child welfare on the state level. Family First Prevention Act redirects the way states will receive reimbursement for their services focusing on evidence based programs aimed to keep children in their homes rather than having them enter into foster care.

Link: <http://www.governing.com/topics/health-human-services/gov-foster-care-federal-government-states.html>

### **How is this relevant to CASA?**

As CASA Volunteers, we need to stay up to date on the child welfare system that the children we serve are part of. This article give great information regarding the direction the state level program are heading as well as the drawbacks we may see for our children in foster care. ***\*Please don't forget to turn in your paragraph review for In-Service Training credit after you have read the article.***



# Effects of child abuse and neglect, if untreated, can last a lifetime

Article by Bridget Schulte from Washington Post.com

This article discusses that studies have found that untreated, the effects of child abuse and neglect, can profoundly influence victims' physical and mental health, their ability to control emotions and impulses, their achievement in school, and the relationships they form as children and as adults.

Link: [https://www.washingtonpost.com/local/new-report-finds-that-untreated-the-effects-of-child-abuse-and-neglect-can-last-a-lifetime/2013/09/12/1edc0bdc-1bc7-11e3-82ef-a059e54c49d0\\_story.html?utm\\_term=.b8951e23d9e5](https://www.washingtonpost.com/local/new-report-finds-that-untreated-the-effects-of-child-abuse-and-neglect-can-last-a-lifetime/2013/09/12/1edc0bdc-1bc7-11e3-82ef-a059e54c49d0_story.html?utm_term=.b8951e23d9e5)

## How is this relevant to CASA?

Many of the children we serve are victims of abuse and neglect. It is important for us as advocates to be informed of the long term effects this exposure may have to the children we serve. By expanding our knowledge on this subject, CASA volunteers can make more specific/fact based recommendations for the best interest of the children we serve.

*\*Please don't forget to turn in your paragraph review for In-Service Training credit after you have read the article.*

# Keeping Immigrant Families in the Child Protection System Together

Article by Ann Park of AmericanBar.org

This article discusses the issues that arise with the Family and Juvenile court system when dealing with cases from Immigrant Families in the Child Welfare system from the point of view of the attorney. This article discusses legislation enacted in California that addresses some of these questions, as well as recent federal policy that helps safeguard the parental rights of undocumented immigrants involved in federal immigration enforcement proceedings. Additionally, this article reviews federal child welfare law and policy that support best practices for working with immigrant families.

Link: [https://www.americanbar.org/groups/child\\_law/resources/child\\_law\\_practiceonline/child\\_law\\_practice/vol-33/april-2014/keeping-immigrant-families-in-the-child-protection-system-together/](https://www.americanbar.org/groups/child_law/resources/child_law_practiceonline/child_law_practice/vol-33/april-2014/keeping-immigrant-families-in-the-child-protection-system-together/)

## How is this relevant to CASA?

As CASA Volunteers we may receive a case where the family involved in the child welfare system is an immigrant family. This article can give us some direction in the issues that may arise when dealing with these types of cases in the Family and Juvenile court system.

*\*Please don't forget to turn in your paragraph review for In-Service Training credit after you have read the article.*