

Lucas County Juvenile Court Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) Department Awards and Accomplishments

- 1986** CASA Regula Josi selected as first ever **National CASA Volunteer of the Year - the G.F. Bettineski Award** was presented to her at the National CASA Conference in Indianapolis.
- 1989** **The Junior League of Toledo Community Service Award** to Regula Josi.
- 1990** **J.C. Penney Golden Rule Award** awarded to individuals or groups who have performed outstanding volunteer service. Regula Josi was chosen as the recipient from Lucas County CASA.
- 1991** Regula Josi recognized as President George Bush's **550th "Point of Light."** She was given her award by President Bush at a ceremony in October 1991.
- 1992** St. Charles and Mercy Hospital's **"Woman of Mercy" Award** winner, Regula Josi.
- 1994** **Citizens Review Board- Closure Board** created
- 1995** Ohio CASA Association, Inc. **"Child Advocate of the Year"** award to Janet Veres.
- 1996** CASA Janet Veres was selected from over 37,000 CASA volunteers nationwide as **The National CASA Association, Inc. Volunteer of the Year. The G.F. Bettineski Award** was presented to her at the National CASA Conference in Indianapolis, IN.
- 1997** **Give-A-Gift Program** initiated to provide special holiday gifts for CASA foster children. Co-Sponsored with the **Girl Friend Connection of the United Jewish Federation.**
- 2000** **City of Toledo Volunteer Family of the Year Award** presented to Mother/Daughter CASA team Sharon Sullivan and Evelyn Fralick.
- 2001**
- **"Acts of Caring Award"** presented in Washington D.C. by the **National Association of Counties (NACO)**. The Lucas County CASA department was one of only 20 programs selected nationwide and the only program in Ohio. The Acts of Caring award is awarded for outstanding achievement in improving a county's quality of life.
 - Selected as a **charity recipient by the Cousino Restaurant's Charitable Foundation, Inc.**
- 2002**
- A **Certificate of Recognition for Ohio CASA Certification** was presented to CASA by Attorney General Betty Montgomery for exceeding both Ohio and National CASA Standards of Compliance.

- **The Association for Women In Communication Crystal Award of Excellence** for the CASA Billboard campaign.
- Selected as a **charity recipient by the Cousino Restaurant's Charitable Foundation, Inc.**

2003

- **The Ohio CASA/GAL Association, Inc. "Rising Star" Award** to Pat Walter at its 9th Annual Conference in Columbus, Ohio.
- Toledo Mayor Jack Ford honors CASA volunteer, Pat Walter, at a ceremony in his office citing her contributions to the community's abused and neglected children.

2004 Lucas County Juvenile Court CASA/GAL, Jean Cook, was selected as the **Ohio CASA Pro Star Child Advocate of the Year**. This is the highest honor awarded by The Ohio CASA/GAL Association, Inc. to one CASA volunteer in the state of Ohio for outstanding service and excellence in advocacy.

2005

- Advocates for Basic Legal Equality, Inc. (ABLE), Legal Aid of Western Ohio, Inc. and the Toledo Bar Association awarded the Lucas County CASA department the **2005 Access to Justice Awards - Community Advocacy Award** for outstanding service and advocacy of behalf of disadvantaged persons. The award was presented at the 2005 Access to Justice Awards Dinner in April.
- The Ohio Attorney General, Jim Petro, awarded the Lucas County CASA/GAL department its **2005 Promising Practice Award for Lucas County CASA's Education Initiative**. The honor was presented to CASA/CRB director Carol Martin and CASA/CRB educational specialist Judy Leb at The Attorney General's 2005 Conference on Victim Assistance in Columbus (May).
- Commissioner Tina Skeldon Wozniak awarded the **Child Abuse Leadership Award**, presented by the Family and Child Abuse Prevention Center and the Lucas County Child Abuse Task Force for "outstanding contributions and impact on child abuse awareness, response, and prevention," to the Lucas County CASA department.
- In September, Lucas County CASA/GAL Volunteer Kevin Brock was awarded the **Ohio CASA Association's Rising Star Volunteer Award** at its 11th Annual "Celebrate Kids" statewide conference in Columbus, Ohio.
- Auto Dealers United For Kids selected the Lucas County CASA/GAL department as a **2005 The Cars are the Stars II charity recipient** for excellence in serving our community's children.
- The CASA/GAL department celebrated its **25th year of service** to the abused and neglected children of Lucas County. Proclamations honoring the event were made by the Lucas County Commissioners, the Ohio Senate, the Ohio House of Representatives and the Office of the Mayor Jack Ford.

2006

- **Picture This Project** initiated to include foster child's photo on CASA reports to the Court to remind the judiciary and all parties that the best interests of the children should be the focus of the court proceedings. Partially funded by a Target Community Grant.
- Judy Leb appointed as **Education Specialist**, to address school advocacy needs and educational needs of youth in foster care.
- **First CASA Art Show** at Space 237 Gallery to highlight youth art
- **Birthday Buddies Program** initiated to provide special birthday gifts for CASA foster youth on their birthdays. Co-Sponsored with the **Girl Friend Connection of the United Jewish Federation**.

2007

- **Ohio League of Women Voters Juvenile Justice Award** to Jean Cook and Ruth Trznadel for outstanding advocacy to CASA foster youth.
- Selected as charity recipient for **Jamie Farr Owens Corning Golf Classic**.

2008 Video Taped Pre-Service CASA/GAL Training. Funded by grant from **Zion Lutheran Church**, Waterville , OH.

2009

- **CASA Art Club** begins to facilitate communication and self-expression between CASA foster youth and CASA/GAL. Funded by **The George H. Lincks Foundation**.
- **CRB Celebrates 30th Anniversary at Outback Steak House**
- **Toledo Community Foundation Grant for post Emancipation Project**

2010

- **Toledo Community Foundation Grant for Post Emancipation Project (James Halapleus Fund) \$20,000**
- **Toledo Community Foundation (Dick and Fran Anderson Community Support Fund) Grant for Minority Recruitment Specialist - \$5000**
- Anita Levin, CASA Staff Attorney and Associate Director, receives **Outstanding Public Service Supervisor Award from University of Toledo, College of Law, April 1, 2010**
- **CASA Celebrates 30th Anniversary at Toledo Club 4/22/10**
- Carol Martin receives recognition in **Toledo Blade Article for Outstanding Director**, Blade article dated July 4, 2010

2011

- **Maria Gonzalez**, LCJC CASA Volunteer selected as **Ohio CASA/GAL Association Pro Star Volunteer of the Year** (Ohio CASA's top honor) September 24, 2011
- **William Lucas II**, LC CASA/CRB Volunteer Association Board Member, selected for the **African American Legacy Project's "Emerging Leader" Award – October 14, 2011**

2012

- **'Finalist' for Toledo Community Foundation's Nonprofit Innovation & Excellence Award 2012** awarded to the CASA/CRB Volunteer Association, Inc. September 27, 2012.
- **The Ohio CASA/GAL Association, Inc. 2012 "Rising Star" Award** to CASA Kevin McDermott at its 18th Annual Conference in Columbus, Ohio (September 27-28)

2013

- Selected as charity recipient for **Marathon Oil Golf Classic**
- CASA Donald Darnell honored as the **Ohio CASA Pro Star CASA Volunteer of the Year**
- CASA Training Coordinator Judith Leb appointed by Ohio Governor Kasich to serve on the **Ohio Children's Trust Fund Board**
- **Toledo Blade** columnist, Keith Burris, wrote an article citing the exemplary work performed by CASA volunteers.
- CASA Director Carol Martin selected to serve on the **National CASA New Curriculum Committee**

2014

- CASA Phyllis Morton selected as a **Jefferson Award winner** and finalist. Her nomination was sent to Washington, D.C. for consideration as the national Jefferson Award winner.
- CASA Terri Town was honored as the **Ohio CASA Pro Star Volunteer of the Year** at the Ohio CASA Conference

2015

- CASA Marlene Cervenec was honored as the **Ohio CASA Pro Star Volunteer of the Year** at the Ohio CASA Conference
- Lucas County CASA chosen as a recipient of the **Ohio Attorney General's Expansion Grant**