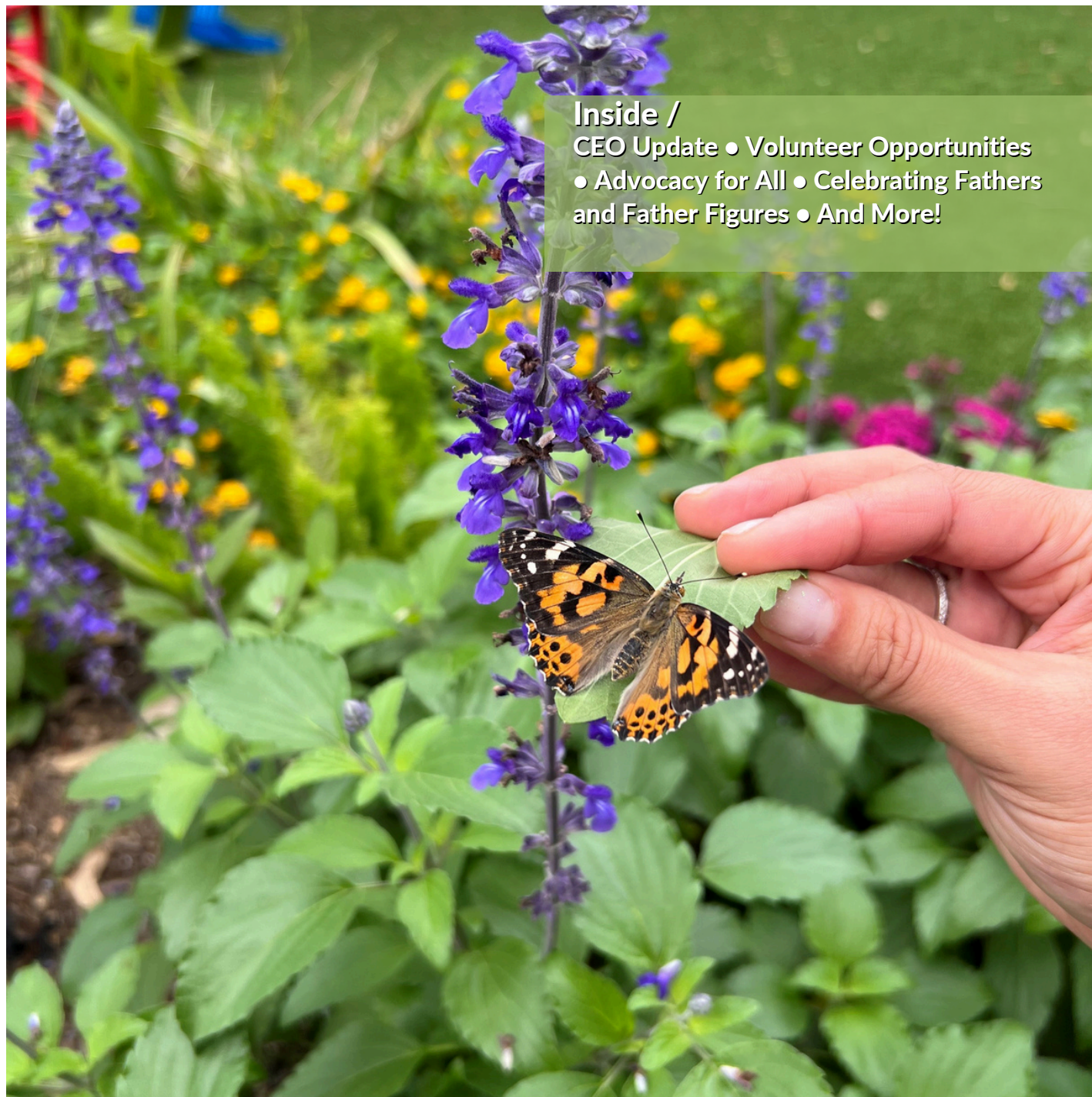


# The VOICES of

CHILD **ADVOCATES** OF FORT BEND™



Inside /  
CEO Update • Volunteer Opportunities  
• Advocacy for All • Celebrating Fathers  
and Father Figures • And More!

June 2025

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ROSENBERG, TX 77471  
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[WWW.CAFB.ORG](http://WWW.CAFB.ORG)



# 7

### Keeping you informed on our mission:

*[Strengthen the Child's Voice, Heal the Hurt, and Break the Cycle of Abuse and Neglect for Children and Families in Fort Bend and surrounding counties.](#)*



# 9

## CELEBRATING THE HEART OF OUR HOMES



# 22

## NEEDS + OPPORTUNITIES





# from the ceo

*Welcome to our June issue of VOICES. . . .*

This month celebrates Father's Day and the important influence that fathers have on their children. Often the children served by Child Advocates of Fort Bend have experienced different situations that may complicate this relationship. Father's Day for children in foster care in our CASA Program may be difficult. The personal history of each foster child will have an impact on how they see Father's Day. It could be a time of grief if they lost their father, or a time when they have complicated feelings if their father abandoned them or they never knew him. They may feel left out of activities at school related to the occasion or they may want to be involved in things the birth children in the foster home are doing. For children in our CAC, they may also have complicated relationships with their father, particularly if they experienced familial abuse by their father or another family member and their father was unprotective.

At Child Advocates of Fort Bend, we take special care during this month to recognize that every family is different and celebrates holidays differently. There is nothing to be ashamed of for kids who don't want to celebrate holidays at all or who get upset or angry on these occasions. For our children who have experienced trauma and perhaps traumatic family situations, we employ a variety of trauma therapies and trauma-informed care including Trust Based Relational Intervention (TBRI), Trauma-Focused Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (TF-CBT) and others. We meet children where they are and help them navigate their feelings and emotions. The most important thing is to be sensitive to each child and allow and encourage them to do what is comfortable for them. We also recognize that things do change as kids grow up and more time passes, their feelings about their father or other father-figure may change and we

**-continued next page**



## RATES OF ABUSE FOR LGBTQ+ YOUTH

Bullying + Harassment  
**63%**

Physical Violence  
**34%**

Forced Sexual Contact  
**39%**

Sexual Violence  
**28%**

Dating Violence  
**30%**

Suicide Risk  
**45%**

will walk alongside them on this journey. June is also LGBTQ+ month. There can be a disproportionately higher rate of abuse for these children (see stats at left) and as a result they may have experienced bullying, depression, anxiety and other symptoms of trauma. All our direct services staff are trained in understanding the underlying root causes for behaviors and practice appropriate trauma responses to connect, engage and support these children. We also help these children build resilience and strengthen their voice so that they can speak up and have their needs met. We employ the three principles of TBRI: Connecting, Empowering and Correcting to help these children learn to give care, receive care, negotiate their needs and ultimately to be autonomous. I hope you enjoy this month's issue of VOICES. Thank you for all you do to support the 3500 children and families we serve every year to move beyond their abuse, thrive and build happy, healthy lives.

For the Children's Sake,

*Ruthanne*

Ruthanne Mefford, CEO







# Volunteer Opportunities at CAFB

If you're looking for a meaningful way to give back and create lasting positive change, Child Advocates of Fort Bend offers a variety of impactful volunteer opportunities.

At its core, CAFB believes that every child deserves a safe and nurturing environment. Through our two core programs, the Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) program and the Children's Advocacy Center (CAC), volunteers play crucial roles in ensuring children's needs are met and their voices are heard.

## **The Heart of Advocacy: Becoming a CASA Volunteer**

Perhaps the most well-known volunteer role at CAFB is that of a CASA volunteer. These dedicated individuals are appointed by a judge to advocate for the best interests of a child or sibling group involved in the child welfare system due to allegations of abuse or neglect.

As a CASA volunteer, you will:

- **Build a relationship with the child(ren):** This involves regular visits to their current living situation, whether it be foster care or with a relative. You'll get to know them, understand their needs, and build their trust.
- **Gather information:** You will build rapport with the child, parents, foster parents, teachers, therapists, and anyone else involved in the child's life, helping to gain a comprehensive understanding of their situation.
- **Collaborate with professionals:** You will work closely with attorneys, social workers, and other professionals to ensure the child's needs are being addressed.
- **Write court reports:** Based on your findings, with the help of CAFB staff, you will prepare objective and well-researched reports for the court, providing recommendations for the child's best interests.

- **Attend court hearings:** You will be present in court to advocate directly for the child's needs and ensure their voice is heard.

Becoming a CASA volunteer requires dedication and a significant commitment of time. The initial training program equips volunteers with the knowledge and skills necessary to be effective advocates. Ongoing support and supervision are provided by CAFB staff. While the role can be emotionally demanding, the impact you can have on a child's life is immeasurable.

### **Supporting Healing: Volunteering at the Children's Advocacy Center**

The Children's Advocacy Center provides a safe and child-friendly environment for children who have experienced abuse to receive forensic interviews, medical exams, family advocacy, and therapy. Volunteers at the CAC play vital support roles that contribute to the smooth operation of the center and create a welcoming atmosphere for children and their non-offending caregivers. These opportunities may include:

- **Client Support:** Providing comfort and support to children and families during their time at the center. This might involve greeting families, providing snacks and drinks, or engaging children in fun activities while they wait.
- **Administrative Support:** Assisting staff with essential administrative tasks such as answering phones, data entry, organizing files, and preparing mailings. These tasks are crucial for the efficient functioning of the center.

### **Prevention and Outreach: Talking to the community**

Representing CAFB at community events, health fairs, and other outreach activities to raise awareness about child abuse and the

services provided by the organization is a fun and engaging way to volunteer.

**Prevention Speaking Team:** Our Community Engagement team puts together a team of trained volunteers and staff to go into schools and talk to kids about safety. It's instrumental in promoting awareness and keeping our children safe.

### **Beyond Direct Service: Other Ways to Get Involved**

Child Advocates of Fort Bend also offers other avenues for individuals and groups to contribute their time and talents:

- **Event Support:** Assisting with fundraising events. Volunteers can help with planning, setup, registration, and various other tasks crucial to the success of these events.
- **Donation Drives:** Organizing and running donation drives for essential items needed by the children CAFB serves, such as clothing, school supplies, and hygiene products.

### **Taking the First Step**

If you are passionate about protecting children and are looking for a meaningful volunteer experience, your time and dedication can make a profound difference. Take the first step today and become a voice for a child who needs you. For more about specific volunteer opportunities, requirements, and upcoming training sessions, go to [www.cafb.org](http://www.cafb.org) or contact Jen Brown.

Our next New Volunteer Training starts in September. Screening for that class begins in July and includes an application, background checks and an in-person interview to ensure this is the best fit for you!

**For more information, please email Jen Brown at [jbrown@cafb.org](mailto:jbrown@cafb.org)**





## FEATURE STORY

# Advocacy for All: A Commitment to Every Child's Voice

By Aly Ferrante

At Child Advocates of Fort Bend (CAFB), our unwavering commitment is to truly understand and support the children and families we serve, ensuring that every voice is not only heard, but valued. Guided by our mission to “Strengthen the Child’s Voice, Heal the Hurt, and Break the Cycle of Abuse and Neglect for children in Fort Bend and surrounding counties,” we believe that advocacy is a right – not a privilege – and that embracing Advocacy for All enriches both our organization and the broader community.

By recognizing, honoring, and celebrating the unique backgrounds, identities, and life experiences of every child, family, volunteer, and team member connected to our work, we strive to create safe, affirming spaces where all individuals feel welcomed and empowered to thrive.

“

At CAFB, “Advocacy for All” is more than just a guiding principle - it’s a promise. A promise to listen without judgement. To lead with empathy. And to celebrate the resilience and dignity of every child we serve.



## **Our Vision:** **A Future Free from Abuse and Neglect**

The vision that drives CAFB is both bold and hopeful: a future in which the cycle of child abuse and neglect is finally broken. At the heart of this vision is our deep-rooted commitment to advocacy that uplifts every child's voice to help them heal from the trauma they have experienced.

We know that when we center the voices of the most vulnerable – and listen with intention and compassion – we are laying the foundation for healing, justice, and long-term change. Our work is not just about responding to crises, but about building a more compassionate future, where all children have the opportunity to recover, grow, and reach their full potential.

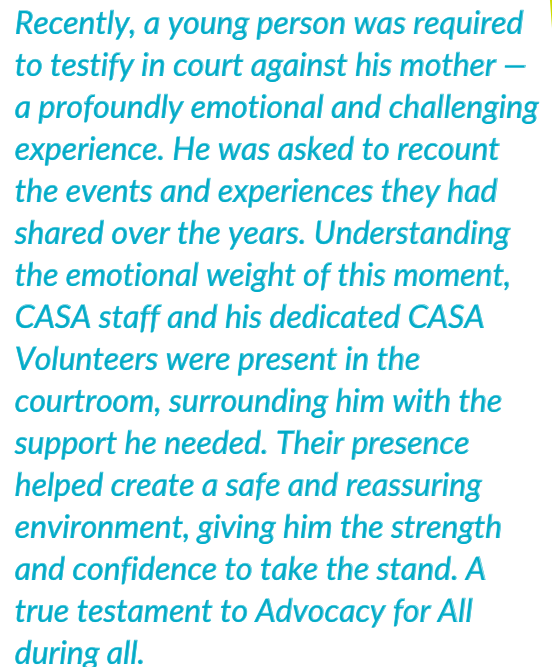
## **Moving Forward:** **Building a Community Where Advocacy for All Thrives**

At CAFB, "Advocacy for All" is more than just a guiding principle – it's a promise. A promise to listen without judgment. To lead with empathy. And to celebrate the resilience and dignity of every child we serve.

We envision a community where advocacy is transformative, and celebrated – where every individual, regardless of their role, contributes meaningfully to the healing and protection of children. Together, through our

collective action and shared commitment, we are working toward a day when every child is safe, every family is supported, and every voice is heard.

Whether it's collaborating with DFPS, teachers, therapists, doctors, caregivers, parents, medical professionals, and so many more, the voices of the youth we serve are heard with the support of their CASA volunteers' unrelenting advocacy. Sometimes even, there is strength and support in presence alone.



*Recently, a young person was required to testify in court against his mother – a profoundly emotional and challenging experience. He was asked to recount the events and experiences they had shared over the years. Understanding the emotional weight of this moment, CASA staff and his dedicated CASA Volunteers were present in the courtroom, surrounding him with the support he needed. Their presence helped create a safe and reassuring environment, giving him the strength and confidence to take the stand. A true testament to Advocacy for All during all.*





# Celebrating the Heart of Our Homes:

## Celebrating Fathers and Father Figures in Fort Bend

By Sandra Glenn

This June, Child Advocates of Fort Bend proudly celebrates the fathers, stepfathers, grandfathers, mentors, volunteers, foster dads, and all the men who step into fatherhood with strength, compassion, and quiet courage.

Fathers and father figures play a powerful role in a child's life. They protect, guide, encourage, and lead by example—teaching children what it means to be safe, respected, and loved. Whether they're coaching little league, attending court hearings, helping with homework, or offering a steady shoulder during tough times, these men help shape futures.

As one CASA Volunteer shared:

*"You don't have to be related to be a father. You just have to show up, consistently, with heart. That's how trust is built. That's how healing begins"*

– James T., CASA Volunteer

In Fort Bend County, we are surrounded by men who step up and stand tall for children—especially those who have experienced trauma or uncertainty. Many of our youth find their strongest champions in the foster dads and advocates who walk alongside them on their journey toward safety and stability.

A former foster youth reflected:

*"My foster dad showed me what it means to feel safe. He didn't try to fix everything—he just listened. And he stayed."*

– Anonymous, Age 17

### Honoring Every Kind of Fatherhood

At CAFB, we know that fatherhood comes in many forms. Some men become fathers by birth, others by choice, circumstance, or calling. And some children may not have a traditional father in their lives, but they find strength and

-cont'd



support in foster dads, male CASA volunteers, uncles, teachers, and mentors.

One foster dad said it best:

*"I didn't become a foster parent to be called 'Dad.' I did it to be a safe place. The title came later—and it meant everything."*

– Mr. R., Foster Parent

These men are proof that love, protection, and presence – not biology – are what define fatherhood.

### Join Us in the Celebration

This Father's Day, help us spotlight the incredible men who guide, protect, and uplift our children.

- Share a message of gratitude on social media and tag **@CAFB\_TX**
- Post a photo with your dad or father figure and tell us how he's impacted your life
- Use the hashtag **#DadsOfFortBend** so we can celebrate together!

Let's fill our feeds—and our hearts—with appreciation for the fathers and father figures who show up with strength and love every day.

**Happy Father's Day from all of us at Child Advocates of Fort Bend!**

### Creative Ways to Celebrate the Dads & Dad Figures in Your Life

This Father's Day, try something new to show appreciation for the men who've made an impact:

- **Dad & Me Outdoor Day**

Go fishing, take a hike, or just spend time outside together. The memories last far longer than the activity.

- **DIY Project Together**

FBuild something simple with a child—like a birdhouse, toolbox, or Lego masterpiece. The teamwork matters most.

- **"Dad Joke" Open Mic**

Host a fun event where kids and adults share their best (or worst!) dad jokes. Laughter is one of the best ways to bond.

- **Story Swap**

Have children interview their dad or father figure and write a short story or draw a comic about them. These stories make sweet keepsakes.

- **"Thank You Toolbox"**

Fill a small box with handwritten notes, snack packs, and thoughtful items to show gratitude to a father figure.

- **Game Night Challenge**

Set up a favorite board game or video game night. It's not about winning—it's about connection.



# FATHER/FATHER FIGURE

## Connection Calendar

DAY 1	DAY 2	DAY 3	DAY 4	DAY 5
Tell your loved one what you enjoy most about them	Share a meal or snack and just listen	Spend the day social media free	Call your loved one	Take a 15 minute walk outdoors
DAY 6	DAY 7	DAY 8	DAY 9	DAY 10
Listen to music your loved one chooses	Learn to cook a new recipe	Complete a work out or activity with your loved one	Share your favorite book or thing with your loved one	Send gratitude texts to people who have impacted you
DAY 11	DAY 12	DAY 13	DAY 14	DAY 15
Experience nature with your loved one	Read a book or article for 15 minutes and discuss	Write a list of short-term goals	De-clutter a room or desk	Try a new restaurant
DAY 16	DAY 17	DAY 18	DAY 19	DAY 20
Have a game night	Try a new outing (Top Golf, Main Event)	Make your favorite dessert	Window shop at the mall and go to the food court	Create a bucket list
DAY 21	DAY 22	DAY 23	DAY 24	DAY 25
Watch a movie or series	Volunteer somewhere together	Take time to discuss what brings you joy	Have a day that is spontaneous	Read inspirational quotes
DAY 26	DAY 27	DAY 28	DAY 29	DAY 30
Create a vision board	Spend some time outside	Live a little and buy the sneakers	Write it all down in a journal	Journal how connections impacted you



## Bringing Trauma-Informed Tools to the Fort Bend Community

Building resilient and trauma-informed communities is crucial for fostering environments where individuals can thrive despite adversities. This not only enhances the overall well-being of the community but also promotes a sense of security and stability, which is essential for long-term growth and development. Trauma-informed communities, on the other hand, recognize the widespread impact of trauma and understand the paths to recovery. These communities are built on principles of safety, trustworthiness, peer support, collaboration, empowerment, and cultural sensitivity. By being trauma-informed, communities can create supportive environments that acknowledge and address the effects of trauma on individuals. This approach helps in reducing re-traumatization, promoting

healing, and fostering resilience. Ultimately, trauma-informed communities are better equipped to support their members' mental and emotional health, leading to stronger, more cohesive, and compassionate societies.

Child Advocates of Fort Bend and the Fort Bend TBRI Collaborative hosted the Building Resilient and Trauma Informed Communities Conference on May 8 and 9. The conference brought together experts in the field of trauma informed care as well as experts with lived experiences who shared the importance of individuals and communities being trauma informed. Over 150 attendees participated in this interactive learning taking best practices and tools back to the communities and organizations they serve.

[-more](#)





**Special thanks to the following who helped make this conference a success:**

University of Houston, Sugar Land  
The George Foundation  
The Texas Bar Foundation  
The Fort Bend Young Lawyers Association  
Gregory Williams, PhD  
The Karyn Purvis Institute of Child Development at TCU-Troy McPeak and Audris Jordan  
Chris Meyer, JD, Chris Meyer Law Firm  
Jennifer Chiang, JD  
Roderick Rogers, JD  
Taniya Al-Amin, JD  
Erin Merryn, MSW, Erin's Law

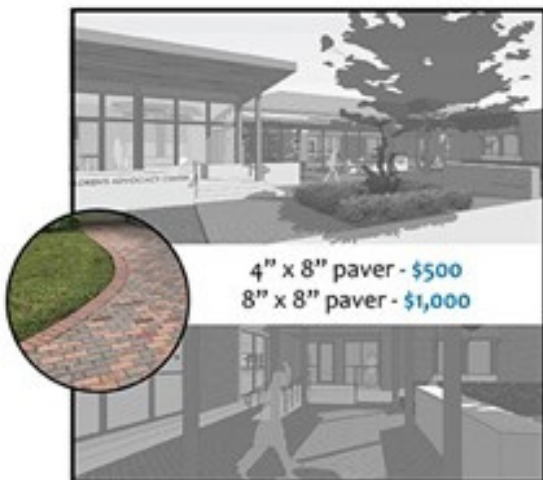


# monthly spotlights

*updates on training, NEW staff and MORE!*

## Looking for a way to honor or memorialize someone you love?

Would you like to pay tribute to someone by honoring or memorializing them for a life well lived or a special occasion? Send a donation in any amount with their name, address, and a note about why you are honoring them. We'll send an acknowledgement letter letting them know that you donated on their behalf. Honor someone today by [donating online](#) or by mailing a check to Child Advocates of Fort Bend, 5403 Avenue N, Rosenberg, TX 77471.



What are some permanent honorarium choices?

**Pavers.** Your \$500 or \$1,000 gift can purchase a medium or large paver in our front walkway engraved with your name or message. Purchase your paver today and someone will contact you to discuss your inscription. If you have already purchased a paver, we thank you!

If you wish to honor or memorialize someone special in a more significant way, why not name a room in our building after them? We have a variety of room naming opportunities available including private offices, therapy rooms, family meeting rooms, conference rooms and more.

For more information, please contact Lisa Moore at [Lmoore@cafb.org](mailto:Lmoore@cafb.org)



## DONOR SPOTLIGHT



## CEO Foundation

The CEO Foundation, founded by Jackie Pham, supports initiatives that closely align with core values of education and arts, health and wellness, and environmental and social impact for the children of Sugar Land and their families for generations to come.

When Jackie's three children and her mother perished in a fire at their Sugar Land home during the catastrophic Texas winter storm of 2021, Jackie was left with a broken heart and a dream.

CAFB was fortunate to be the recipient of the CEO Foundation's 3<sup>rd</sup> annual Gala at the Houston Arboretum. Jackie Pham, Founder & President of CEO Foundation, and Kelly Goff, CEO Foundation

Development Director shared **100 complimentary passes to the Children's Discovery Center**. We look forward to sharing this gift with the families and children we serve. It will be a true treat for them to enjoy!

*"Not a day goes by that I don't feel the immense loss of Olivia, Edison and Colette in my life. My journey as a mom started off no different than others. Emerging from the early trenches of diapers and play dates, I began to realize the weight and responsibility of raising these little humans to become good Samaritans of a greater collective. While my time with them was cut short, my commitment to them remains through this foundation."*

**-Jackie Pham  
President CEO Foundation**





# FRIENDS Backpack Drive

## "Do it for the kids"

Schools start in early August. We need your help to fill backpacks with school supplies.

### Please **"ADOPT A CHILD"**

You will be given the name of a child in need and an individual school supply list for their school and grade early in June. We ask that you shop for your child, if you can. To participate, email **Brigit Engleman**, [bengleman@hotmail.com](mailto:bengleman@hotmail.com) for a specific child's list.

**If you cannot shop, please send \$100 per child and FRIENDS will shop for you.**

Make checks to "Friends of CAFB" and send to:

Alexis Jackson, Friends Treasurer  
7406 Forest Shadow Dr.  
Sugar Land TX 77479

For Zelle or Venmo options email [alexisjackson@outlook.com](mailto:alexisjackson@outlook.com) or 713-582-0341

### FRIENDS Membership Dues

Have you missed your annual dues payment for this year?

We count on our FRIENDS membership to help fund these kiddos.

**Please include your \$50 membership dues (if you haven't already).**

\* Please put Friends Dues and/or School Supplies in the comments section.

# A Path of Painted Rocks

## Honoring Healing at the Children's Advocacy Center

By Jheri Walters LCSW-S

At the Children's Advocacy Center (CAC), healing doesn't follow a straight path—it winds gently, like a garden trail. And along that path, you'll find something quietly powerful: small, hand-painted rocks. Each one holds a word, a phrase, a splash of color. Together, they tell the stories of resilience, growth, and the brave steps children and families take after trauma.

This simple tradition has become a powerful ritual for children and teens who complete their therapeutic journey at the CAC. As they graduate from services, each client decorates a rock with a word, phrase, or image that reflects their experience. These rocks are then placed in the Butterfly Garden, creating a colorful path of hope and healing.

The process is quiet and reflective. Choosing a word—sometimes one of strength, sometimes of release—can be an important step in honoring the progress made. As each child completes their journey through therapy, they choose words that reflect their experience: "Strong." "Free." "Brave." One rock simply reads, "It's not my fault."

The rocks serve a dual purpose: they are both a celebration and a legacy. They mark the end of one journey and serve as encouragement for others who are just beginning theirs. As new clients walk through the CAC's halls or pause in the garden, they see proof that healing is possible. One word at a time, the path becomes more vibrant.

Behind each rock lies months of therapeutic work—developing coping strategies, building



trust, and learning to process trauma in a safe and supportive space. While these milestones may not always be visible from the outside, the rocks make the invisible visible.

This tradition reflects what the CAC stands for: resilience, restoration, and the quiet courage of children and families working toward recovery. It's a celebration not of an ending, but of a beginning—the start of a future built on strength, self-worth, and hope.

As the garden continues to grow, each painted stone becomes part of a larger story—a story of a community committed to healing, one child at a time.





# Mental Health Corner:

## Summer Sensory Play for Kids

By Jheri Walters LCSW-S

Summer is here – and with it comes sunshine, free time, and a great opportunity to support your child’s mental health through sensory play. These hands-on activities help kids regulate emotions, build focus, and stay connected to their environment – all while having fun.

### Why Sensory Play Matters

Sensory play involves experiences that engage touch, sight, sound, smell, and movement. It supports healthy brain development and gives children tools to self-soothe, especially helpful during summer when regular routines may shift.

### A Gentle Reminder

Sensory play doesn’t need to be complicated or costly. Follow your child’s interests, use what you have at home, and enjoy the chance to connect. Small, consistent moments of play can have a big impact on emotional well-being.

For more ideas or resources, reach out to the Children’s Advocacy Center. We’re here to support families all summer long.



### Simple Sensory Ideas to Try at Home:

- **Bubble Blowing**

Promotes deep breathing and helps children calm down while having fun.

- **Sensory Bins**

Fill a tub with dry rice, beans, or sand. Hide small toys inside for kids to dig and discover.

- **Sidewalk Chalk Art**

Drawing on pavement offers creative expression and physical movement, which can help reset a child's mood.

# Child Advocates of Fort Bend Hosts Criminal Caregivers Information Session

By Jasmine Morales

On Thursday, April 17, 2025, Child Advocates of Fort Bend hosted an impactful Criminal Caregivers Information Session, designed to educate and empower caregivers navigating the criminal court system in child abuse cases. This event provided critical insights into the legal process, available support, and practical resources for families and victims.

Families heard from our amazing speakers, including:

- **Suzy Morton**, Chief of the Child Abuse Division, Fort Bend County District Attorney's Office - Offered supportive insights to help families navigate the system.
- **Jessica Ramos**, Assistant District Attorney, Fort Bend County Child Abuse Division - Explained the indictment process and other key aspects of the criminal court system.
- **Ashton Lejano**, Therapist, Child Advocates of Fort Bend - Discussed the importance of Trauma-Focused Therapy for children and families.
- **Metoyer Martin**, Sr. Director of Strategic Programs and Services, Child Advocates of Fort Bend - Introduced the principles of Trust-Based Relational Intervention (TBRI), a trauma-informed approach to supporting children.
- **Melissa Muñoz**, Deputy Chief of the Child Abuse Division, Fort Bend County District Attorney's Office - Delivered a Spanish-language presentation to ensure accessibility for all families.
- **Amy Cummings**, Fort Bend County Assistant District Attorney - Provided insights on Crime Victims' Compensation and the rights of crime victims.



To further support participation, the event offered sessions in both English and Spanish, along with on-site childcare, creating a welcoming, family-friendly environment. Families enjoyed a welcoming atmosphere, with pizza, cookies, while children enjoyed playing in the CAC playroom, thanks to the support of our amazing volunteers!

Special thanks to the Fort Bend County District Attorney's Office for their collaboration in making this valuable session possible.





## Empowering the Front Line: Child Abuse Prevention Collaborative Trains Medical Professionals

In a vital step toward safeguarding children and strengthening community response, the Child Abuse Prevention Collaborative (CAP-C) has launched a comprehensive training initiative aimed at equipping medical professionals with the tools and knowledge to identify and respond to signs of child abuse.

Recognizing that healthcare providers are often the first point of contact for vulnerable children, the Collaborative's community training program focuses on early detection, trauma-informed care, and effective reporting protocols. The sessions include real-world case studies, expert-led discussions, and practical strategies for integrating child protection into everyday clinical practice. The goal of these presentations is to ensure that every child who walks into a clinic or hospital is seen—not just

medically, but holistically. By empowering doctors, nurses, and allied health professionals, we're building a stronger safety net for children at risk.

The initiative kicked off last month through our partnership with AccessHealth. This training is part of the Collaborative's broader mission to foster a community wide trauma-informed culture of prevention, awareness, and support. As the program expands, it aims to create a unified front across sectors to protect the most vulnerable members of society.

Please reach out to **Dana Mersiovsky**, Prevention and Outreach Manager at [dmersiovsky@cafb.org](mailto:dmersiovsky@cafb.org) for more information or to schedule a presentation.

# Child Advocates of Fort Bend Named Child Sex Trafficking Care Coordinator for Fort Bend County

By: Metoyer Martin

Child Advocates of Fort Bend (CAFB) has been officially designated as the Child Sex Trafficking Care Coordinator for Fort Bend County. This important role is part of a statewide initiative to combat child sex trafficking by ensuring that survivors receive trauma-informed, coordinated care and support throughout their recovery.

The Care Coordination initiative will fall under our Strategic Programs and Services team. As the designated Care Coordinator, CAFB will lead the charge in identifying, supporting, and advocating for youth who are victims of sex trafficking in our community. This includes working closely with law enforcement, schools, child welfare professionals, and health care providers to develop and implement

individualized care plans that address each survivor's unique needs.

This designation is a testament to the trust placed in us and our history of advocating for the most vulnerable children in Fort Bend County. We are honored to take on this critical role and to expand our impact in the fight against child sex trafficking.

CAFB has long been a leader in child advocacy and abuse prevention, operating both a Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) program and a nationally accredited Children's Advocacy Center (CAC). With this new responsibility, the organization will leverage its multidisciplinary expertise to help trafficking survivors heal and find hope for the future.

## License to Help!

Did you know that Child Advocates of Fort Bend participates in the TX CASA Specialty License Plate Program? You can order a custom license plate with the phrase "Big Voices for Little Texans". Not only can you spread awareness and show your support for us but a portion of the cost of the plate goes to Texas CASA and the local programs to increase our statewide efforts to advocate for



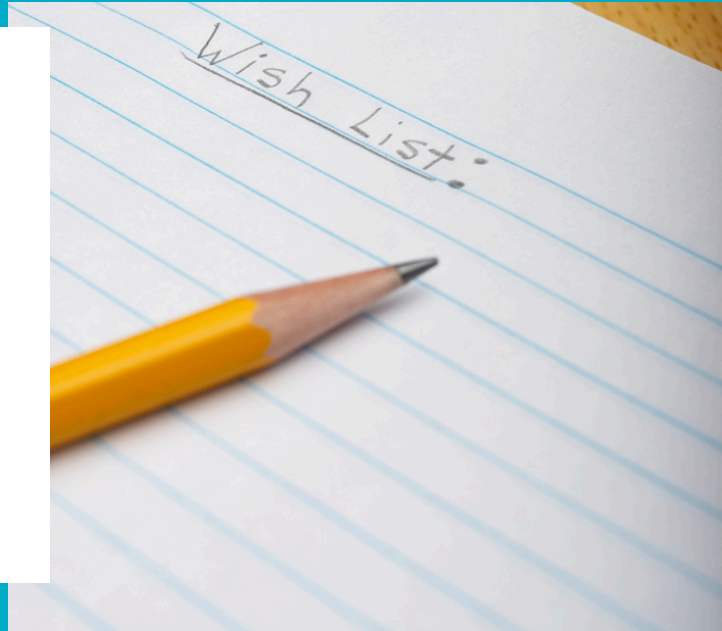
every child in the foster care system. To order your plate go to <https://www.txdmv.gov/motorists/license-plates> and search for CASA under specialty plates OR visit your local tax assessor's office and ask for the Court Appointed Special Advocate license plate.



# our needs

This month, we have immediate need for:

- **Gift cards**  
VISA/ MasterCard, Walmart, HEB, fast food, Ubereats, Uber
- **20 Handheld or neck fans**  
for Summer programming with youth
- **20 Reusable water bottles**  
for Summer programming
- **NEW medium-sized stuffed animals**  
for our Advocacy Center

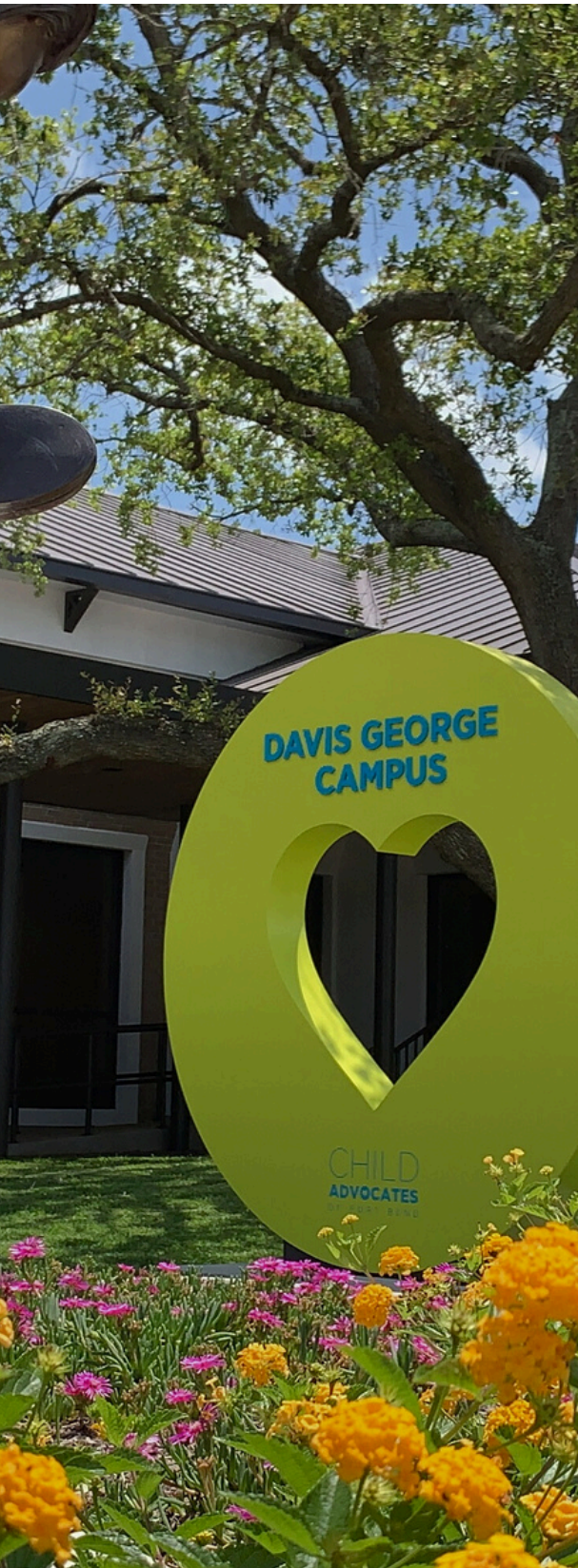


**Did you know that you can donate cars, airplanes, boats, motorcycles or trucks and select Child Advocates of Fort Bend to receive the proceeds?**

Visit [HERE](#) for questions or contact  
Lisa at [lmoore@cafb.org](mailto:lmoore@cafb.org)



# save these dates



## June 10-12, 2025

Trust-Based Relational Intervention (TBRI) Training

10:00am - 4:00pm

CAFB Training Room

Contact **Alli** at [AWaterwall@cafb.org](mailto:AWaterwall@cafb.org) to reserve your spot

## June 24

Sip & Stroll

5:30pm - 7:00pm

Contact **Lisa** at [LMoore@cafb.org](mailto:LMoore@cafb.org) to reserve your spot

## July 15

Summer Education Series: Recognize and Respond with Tour

11:00am - 1:00pm

## July 22

Youth Mental Health First Aid

8:30am - 5:00pm

RSVP to Deidra Lyons-Lewis at [dlyonslewis@cafb.org](mailto:dlyonslewis@cafb.org)

## July 24

Darkness to Light: Stewards of Children

10:00am - 1:00pm

[Register here](#)

## July 29

Sip & Stroll

5:30pm - 7:00pm

Contact **Lisa** at [LMoore@cafb.org](mailto:LMoore@cafb.org) to reserve your spot

## July 30

Summer Education Series: Best Practices in Educational Advocacy

11:00am - 1:00pm





*"Gratitude unlocks the fullness of life. It turns what we have into enough, and more. It turns denial into acceptance, chaos to order, confusion to clarity. It can turn a meal into a feast, a house into a home, a stranger into a friend."*

**- Melody Beattie**