

# MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

*Dutchess County Court Appointed Special Advocates*



## Please Welcome the Newest Group of Volunteers!

C.A.S.A. of Dutchess County was able to hold the first in-person swearing-in ceremony in the state since the start of the pandemic on April 28th as we welcomed our largest group of new volunteers in history by swearing-in 11 advocates. This group was sworn in Wednesday morning at the Dutchess County Family Court House by the Honorable Judge Martin and Judge Watson with support from Judge Mackenzie, Judge Egitto, and Judge Guzman. This group of advocates comes from a variety of different backgrounds from social workers, mental health counselors, to lawyers. We are so excited to welcome you all to our C.A.S.A. family and hope that as soon as we are safely able to do so we can all get together and show how grateful we are!

Please welcome to the C.A.S.A. Family...

Courtney Fallon

Daisy Aguirre

Shannon O'Neil

Christine Barra

Barbara Bott

John Watkins

Andrew Larivee

Jim McGill

Emily Lock

Anne Jacobsen

Miriam Tully



## REMEMBER...

**AVAILABLE TRAINING DATES [HERE!](#)**

**DOCUMENT YOUR TRAINING HOURS [HERE!](#)**

**VOLUNTEER MONTHLY MEETING:  
MAY 11TH AT 6:30 PM**

**INTERESTING ARTICLES...  
[MANY SAY NOW IS THE TIME TO FIGHT RACIAL BIAS IN FOSTER CARE](#)**

**[HOW TO TALK — AND LISTEN — TO A TEEN WITH MENTAL HEALTH STRUGGLES](#)**

**THIS MONTHS PODCAST!**

**APPLE USERS: [THE POSITIVE PSYCHOLOGY](#)**

**GOOGLE USERS: [THE POSITIVE PSYCHOLOGY](#)**

**PLEASE DON'T FORGET THAT IF YOU COMPLETE A TRAINING TO FILL OUT THE FORM ABOVE TO RECEIVE CREDIT TOWARDS YOUR NEEDED HOURS!**

## #GOGREEN for Mental Health Awareness Month

With this month being Mental Health Awareness Month Court Appointed Special Advocates have teamed up with a few other agencies within Mental Health America as well as with local agencies such as CAPE, The Council on Addiction Prevention & Education, and Astor Services to help bring awareness to the community. All the agencies arranged to have goodie bags put together and there are a few left in the office if you would like to drop them off to your kids. There is a limited number so if you would like one please reach out as they will go on a first-come, first-serve basis.

C.A.S.A. also arranged a Kahoot for Children's Mental Health Week which is currently running from Monday, May 2nd, through the end of the week on Saturday, May 8th. This time Kahoots are broken down based on grade level so if you would like to do a Kahoot on one of your visits feel free to share the links below! We just ask that you register with the Google Form so we are able to deliver prizes for the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd winners at the end of the week!

### GRADES 1-4

<https://kahoot.it> Game Pin: 08360652

### GRADES 5-8

<https://kahoot.it> Game Pin: 08710004

### GRADES 9-12

<https://kahoot.it> Game Pin: 04082096

### GRADES 12+

<https://kahoot.it> Game Pin: 07096385

### GOOGLE FORM

<https://forms.gle/tRE53EyJ6htLSWHQ8>

## Looking Forward...

We are almost halfway through with 2021, where has the time gone! As we look forward to the month of May we will be holding a volunteer meeting on May 11th at 6:30 pm. This will remain a virtual meeting and the link will be sent out in the next few days. We encourage those who have active cases to attend as this is a place to find support as well as hear from others. We also encourage anyone who does not have an active case to attend as we would love to see you and discuss if you would be willing to take on a case.

At this month's meeting, we will be discussing how to recognize and support children with Adverse Childhood Experiences.

Remember that these meetings count towards your needed training hours!

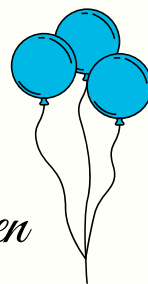
*Happy Birthday*

*Christine Barra*

*May 17th*

*Anne Jacobsen*

*May 18th*



# THANK YOU!

If you have any comments, questions, or concerns please feel free to reach out to Courtney Fallon via phone (413)537-1925 or email at [cfallon@mhadutchess.org](mailto:cfallon@mhadutchess.org).

# Congratulations

***Desiree King***

*recipient of the Kathy Decker Claiming the Children's Award*

***&***

***Renee Boyd***

*recipient of the April Mastropolo Youth Worker Award*



Congratulations to you both and thank you for making such a difference in our community. We are so lucky to have such remarkable coworkers.