



Child Advocacy Services presents... Cottages for CASA

CHILDREN! Many children are currently living in foster care in the Child Advocacy Services CASA program service area because they have been abused or neglected by their caregivers. Additionally, there were 24,016 cases of abuse and neglect reported in Louisiana in 2010 alone. These children enter into complex social services and juvenile court proceedings through no fault of their own. They are innocent victims of abuse, neglect, and abandonment. They belong to no one as they sit silently waiting for the courts to decide their future. Many of these children become victims a second time, lost in an overburdened system that cannot pay close attention to each child whose life is in its hands. Sometimes a child can remain adrift for months, even years.

CASA VOLUNTEERS

CASAs-Court Appointed Special Advocates-are community volunteers trained to give special representation to abused children as they navigate through the court system. In 2010, CASA served 475 children with 241 volunteers providing 9,168 volunteer hours. As a result to having a CASA, 186 of those children were placed in permanent homes.

CAC, or our Children's Advocacy Center, conducts forensic interviews for children in a safe environment who have disclosed sexual or severe physical abuse. 461 children were protected in 2010 alone.

COTTAGES for CASA is a playhouse fundraiser to generate public awareness and funding to support the work of CASA and our CAC services in our ten parish area. Local builders, painters, and designers will create two unique playhouses to be raffled.

COME join in the fun as we raffle two cottages. The cottages will be displayed in Hammond and the River Parishes from September 17th through November 2011. You can support us by becoming a sponsor. "Raising the Roof," \$1,000; "These Four Walls," \$500; and "From the Floor Up," \$250. We will collect sponsorships throughout the entire project; however, to be listed on any printed materials, please submit before September 1st.

CONTACT us to learn more about where you can purchase raffle tickets. Call 1-800-798-1575 or visit www.childadv.net. Raffle tickets will go on sale September 17th. We will be establishing retail outlet partners to sell raffle tickets and display more information on the project in each parish we serve which includes Ascension, Assumption, East and West Feliciana, Livingston, St. Charles, St. Helena, St. James, St. John and Tangipahoa.

CARING! All children deserve a safe and permanent home. Proceeds from all ticket sales and sponsorships will be used to continue providing services for children through Child Advocacy Services to strengthen our mission to give voice, healing, and security to children.