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**CASA Foundation Las Vegas names Kimberly Coats Executive Director**

**Las Vegas, July 20, 2020 --** The [CASA Foundation Las Vegas](http://www.casafoundationlv.org) is excited to announce the appointment of Kimberly Coats as executive director. Ms. Coats will be the CASA Foundation's first director since the organization launched in 1983.

Thanks to many generous local donors, the CASA Foundation is able to support the Clark County CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocate) Program and identify and fund the individual needs of abused and neglected children in foster care in Las Vegas.

Kimberly Coats has a long history working with children in care within the CASA program. She became a volunteer in 1993 with the Jackson County (Kansas City area) CASA program and served as a volunteer advocating for sixteen children from 1993 until 1997. She was elected President of the Missouri CASA State Board of Directors in 1999 and also served on the National CASA Board of Directors from 2001 – 2003. Upon moving to Las Vegas in 2003, Kimberly became a CASA volunteer in Clark County. During her tenure in Las Vegas, she was privileged to advocate for children in two high profile, complex cases.

In 2009, Ms. Coats moved to the small African country of Rwanda, where she assisted in the development of the national cycling team of Rwanda. With her partner, she launched a nonprofit, Team Rwanda Cycling, and helped guide two Rwandan cyclists to the 2012 and 2016 Olympics and develop a cycling culture in the post-genocide era in Rwanda.

"I am beyond grateful to be back in Las Vegas working with children in care through the CASA Foundation. I utilized the special needs grants when I was a CASA. I understand how important it is to offer a child tutoring, sports or music programs, and fill in the gaps created when a child comes into care. I look forward to helping the CASA program of Clark County grow its volunteer numbers, so more children in care have the opportunity to engage with a CASA volunteer. I also want to increase funding to provide more opportunities for these children."

Lorrie Curriden, CASA Foundation Board President echoed these thoughts, “We feel so fortunate to have someone of Kimberly’s commitment, experience and passion directing the CASA Foundation’s efforts as we continue to support local CASA volunteers and children in foster care.”

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**About the CASA Foundation Las Vegas**

The CASA Foundation is a non-profit 501(c)3 corporation that works hand in hand with the government CASA Program to achieve the common goal of providing every child in foster care in Clark County with a CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocate).

Additionally, the CASA Foundation proudly devotes a phenomenal 92% of donations directly towards the children and to support the CASA Program & Volunteers. These donations serve to fund medical needs, transportation costs for visits with family members, summer camp, sports, music lessons and tutoring. The CASA Foundation is committed to making a difference in the lives of children in foster care in Southern Nevada. For more information, visit [www.casafoundationlv.org](http://www.casafoundationlv.org)