

CASA

NEWSLETTER



ISSUE FOUR | APRIL 2023



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'CASA to CASA Calls' happen every 3rd Thursday of the month at 10:30a & 2:30p. These are worth 1hr of 'Continuing Education Credits!'

READ MORE ABOUT A
UPCOMING ZOOM SESSION!

2

SUPERVISOR SUGGESTIONS are posted on the Advocate Portal too! If you need help logging in, please contact Jillian casatocc@co.westmoreland.pa.us

REMEMINDERS

FROM THE DIRECTORS DESK

Hi Everyone,

Thank you for all you have done in this first quarter of the year. As we welcome April, and hopefully some warmer weather, we are reminded how important our work is. April is child abuse awareness month. If you are in or around the courthouse be sure to check out the sky bridge and the CASA table on the first floor. We are also partnering with some local businesses for a pinwheel contest to help benefit the program. During this month, CASA has several activities to save the date for.

April 15th is a pickle ball tournament to be held at Hempfield parks and rec. We also have our Leadership Breakfast occurring on Friday April, 28th. This will be a great event and it would be great to see you all there and be recognized for what you have done for children and families in our community. Our next training will begin May 2nd and we are still looking for prospective volunteers. If you know anyone, have them contact the CASA office and we can get them set up with next steps.

Thank you again for all you do!

Mitch Samick, Executive Director



A SPECIAL NOTE

Spring is here and warm weather is right around the corner, not to mention the completion of the Courthouse courtyard!

Thank you to those that participated in the first Zoom CASA to CASA connect and the Advocate Get Together. We loved seeing everyone! We hope that more experiences like those will help you get to know fellow CASAs and bring a sense of community to your wonderful advocacy work. As you may know, CASA of Westmoreland is collaborating with Westmoreland County Children's Bureau the whole month of April for Child Abuse Awareness month. Please feel free to stop in to see staff, take a look at the Child Abuse Awareness decorations, and don't forget to share CASA of Westmoreland's posts on your social media. Help bring awareness to your community and how your role as a volunteer is making a difference for a child. CASA of Westmoreland is honored to have each and every one of you to support this great mission.

Melissa Burns, Program Director



As you all know, a requirement we encourage you to meet as part of your volunteer role is accruing 12 Continuing Education Hours each calendar year. We know this can seem like a lot! But our ultimate goal is to keep learning and educating ourselves so we can be the most informed and prepared Advocates (and staff) for the children of our county.

Please see the training options and reminders below for the month.

If you have any questions regarding con-ed please reach out to your Advocate Supervisor.

Happy Learning!

Upcoming Trainings:

- Pennsylvania's LGBTQIA Virtual Health Summit
 - April 12, 2023 from 1:00pm - 2:30pm EST
 - <https://www.bradburysullivancenter.org/healthsummit>

CASA to CASA Connect Calls:

- These calls take place every 3rd Thursday of the month – look for an email from our Program Director, Melissa Burns for information on how to join the call.

Book

- Far from the Tree by Robin Benway
 - This book follows the story of three siblings who are separated when their bio-mom puts them up for adoption/loses them to foster care as babies.

Our first CASA to CASA Zoom was enjoyed by all and we will be using that format going forward every third Thursday of the month. Please join us for some good conversation while earning an hour of Con-Ed. We will send out the Zoom link some time in April. Hope to see you there!

APRIL IS CHILD ABUSE AWARENESS MONTH

It's that time again!

CASA of Westmoreland, Inc and the Westmoreland County Children's Bureau are collaborating for Child Abuse Awareness Month in April.

We invite you to celebrate and help spread awareness with us all month long!

CHECK OUT OUR APRIL ACTIVITIES

DOOR DECORATING CONTEST:

- CASA & WCCB are hosting a county door decorating contest for Child Abuse Awareness month! The theme is "Chosen by Love" which will be based around movies that highlight blended families built by love. If you're in the courthouse, let us know which one is your favorite!

LOBBY & SKYBRIDGE DECORATION:

- Make sure to check out the Courthouse Lobby and Skybridge during the month of April to see the pinwheel decorations and learn some facts about child abuse prevention!

SPONSOR A PINWHEEL:

- Check out some of the local business in Greensburg to sponsor a pinwheel and help protect Westmoreland County's most vulnerable children and youth.

PLANT A VIRTUAL PINWHEEL:

- Visit our 'Pinwheel Garden' on our website and donate a pinwheel in memory or honor of someone!
 - <https://www.casaofwestmoreland.org/events/virtual-pinwheel-garden>

PROCLAMATION:

- April 13, 2023
 - The Westmoreland County Commissioners will recognize April as Child Abuse Awareness Month for 2023.



Check it out!

DID YOU KNOW?

The pinwheel that represents Child Abuse Awareness Month is a symbol of the great childhood that every child deserves, and the role we each play in providing a loving and supportive environment for the children in our lives.





2023 EVENTS



**APRIL
28**

Leadership Breakfast

**MAY
11**

**CASA Hosting
Westmoreland Chamber After Hours**

**MAY
24**

Staff, Board, and Advocate Picnic

**JUNE
22**

Sporting Clay Shoot

**AUGUST
25**

Golf & Tennis Tournament

**NOVEMBER
11**

Annual Gala

**DECEMBER
06**

Advocate Holiday Social

CASA of Westmoreland, Inc Pickleball Tournament



Please join us to benefit CASA at the First Annual CASA Pickleball Tournament!

Event Information

When:

- April 15, 2023
- 3:00 PM - 6:00 PM

Cost:

- \$100 per player

Where:

- Hempfield Township Athletic Complex
220 Forbes Trail Road
Greensburg, PA 15601

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

CASAMARK@CO.WESTMORELAND.PA.US
724-850-6874

Sponsorship Opportunities

Partner Level Sponsor

- 4 Players
- Social Media Recognition
- Placard, Registration Table, & Courtside Recognition
- \$1000

Water Sponsor

- 2 Players
- Social Media Recognition
- Placard & Water Table Recognition
- \$500

Court Sponsor

- 1 Player
- Placard Recognition
- \$250

Register Online:
www.tinyurl.com/cc6x39zd

Register Online:
Scan the QR code



SAVE
THE
DATE

Spring Training Summit 2023

Substance Abuse Town Hall &
Accidental Drug Ingestion



Seton Hill University
Performing Arts Center
1100 Harrison Avenue,
Greensburg, PA 15601



Friday, May 12, 2023
9:00 - 11:30 - Session 1
1:00 - 3:30 - Session 2

Registration Details to Follow

Come and join us!



CASA of Westmoreland, Inc 14th Annual Leadership Breakfast April 28, 2023

The Annual Leadership breakfast brings together local community and business members from our county with all of the friends, volunteers, and donors to CASA for a 60-minute program with one purpose: to ensure CASA's ability to provide advocacy in Family Court for abused and neglected children in Westmoreland County

FRIDAY, APRIL 28, 2023

8:00 AM - 9:00 AM

WORD OF LIFE CHURCH

4497 STATE ROUTE 136
GREENSBURG PA, 15601

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

REGISTRATION & COFFEE: 7:00 AM
BUFFET BREAKFAST: 7:30 AM
PROGRAM BEGINS: 8:00 AM



MORE INFORMATION
SCAN THE QR CODE

CONTACT INFORMATION

WWW.CASAOFWESTMORELAND.ORG
CASAOFWC@GMAIL.COM
724-850-6874



Upcoming Event



April 2023

ADOPTIONS & REUNIFICATIONS



THANK
YOU!!

Paul Milz & Jenn D'Souza

ICYMI!

Our awesome Advocate Supervisor Lauren hosted a Healthcare Advocacy Training Night! Thanks Lauren for your dedication and guidance! Also, thank you to our Advocate Rose Ann for sharing her experience with recommendations on medical management for a casa kiddo. Our CASA team is truly the best!

Let's
Grow
Together

CASA of Westmoreland, Inc.

Healthcare Advocacy Training Night

March 14, 2023





May 2nd is the start to our summer training! Please feel free to share our program with your peers. We appreciate all the likes, comments, and shares from everyone! If you would like to be emailed information to post or share, please reach out to the CASA office! Thank you for all of your continued support and dedication!



Thank you to everyone who has recorded a video for us! We are really excited to share our presentation on CASAs impact with our community. The video debut and lightshow will be April 28th, at our 14th Annual Leadership Breakfast.

