



Spring 2005

Future of Arizona CASA Program

Budget Still in Limbo

Bill Stanton, Director

Dependent Children's Services Division

As I write this article, the legislature is still in session. The budget is being debated and the outcome is still uncertain. However, we appear to be making progress. As many of you are aware, the first budget was vetoed by Governor Janet Napolitano.

That budget would have taken \$1.25 million from the CASA fund to pay for FCRB and Court Improvement as well as an additional \$475,000 from the fund to pay for the lease on the court building. In a recent discussion with the Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC) management, it was mentioned that the CASA and FCRB budget issues seem to be one of the few issues the court is making progress on. This would not be the case if not for the hundreds of calls and e-mails from CASA and FCRB volunteers to the legislature. I have been told that the legislature seems to be revisiting the funding issue. Although no final decision has been made, I believe that there will be changes in the final budget.

Now it is time to look to the future. Although the unclaimed lottery funds has been our lifeline for the CASA program over the years, the time has come for us to research other ways that we can supplement this funding and expand the program. We all know that the number of children who are coming into out-of-home care continues to increase. As a result, the percentage of children who have a Court Appointed Special Advocate has declined. I envision over the next couple of years, a CASA program that will reverse this trend. Instead of fewer children having a CASA, more children will have a CASA.



This change will not be easy. Without additional funding it will be difficult to serve more children. My office will take on this project over the next year to research what other states and CASA programs throughout the nation have done to fund their programs. We will then develop a proposal to expand the CASA program. I am asking for your help. If you have an idea or suggestion on expanding or improving the CASA program, please write or e-mail them to me. I find that some of the best ideas come from the volunteers doing the job. Sometimes the simplest suggestion can be the answer we are searching for.

In closing, I want to thank all of the volunteers both CASA and FCRB for your time commitment, dedication and energy. You are what keeps us energized here at the AOC.

Bill Stanton can be contacted at 602-542-9409 or email to WStanton@supreme.sp.state.az.us

In This Issue....

Dual Jurisdiction Youth Study • FCRB Thanks CPS for Reports • AZAFAP: Wear Your Support • In Memory of Beverly Ogden • Secure Upload-Huh? • Arizona Lottery Ads Feature CASA Program • Judge Brutinel Honored with Hope Award • 2005 National Volunteer Week - April 17-23 • Training Corner • In My Shoes, Inc Has New Web Site • Getting Back to Basics: CASA 20th Anniversary • Tidbits & Reminders • New On-line Training Module on Substance Abuse • Staff Changes • CASA Activity Report • FCRB Case/Child Activity Report

Dual Jurisdiction Youth Study

Thelma Faulkner, Operational Review Specialist

*“What’s done to children, they will do to society.”
— O. A. Battista*

Similar to the question of the chicken and the egg is the question within the realm of juvenile justice – “Is the child dependent because he is delinquent? Or, is the child delinquent because she is dependent?” Continuing research indicates there is a correlation between child maltreatment and delinquency behavior. In fact, in a report completed by the National Center for Juvenile Justice in January 2002, *The Arizona Court Improvement Project: Five Years Later*, it was found that nearly half of the dependent children over the age of eight displayed prior or concurrent delinquency court involvement, and the number was a staggering 71% between the ages of 15 to 18 years old.

The needs of the children involved in both the dependent and delinquent processes of the juvenile court system create unique challenges for all involved. First and foremost is the coordination of the multitudes of resources drawn into these processes, both people and services, to adequately address, but not duplicate, all of the issues that must be covered. To assist the Arizona courts in effectively dealing with this portion of the population, the National Center for Juvenile Justice (NCJJ) was asked to complete a dual jurisdiction study, and make recommendations on how these cases could best be handled. The study began in early 2003, and a report was submitted at the end of 2004.

In conducting their study, the NCJJ examined cases in Cochise, Coconino, Maricopa, and Pima Counties. Some of their findings included:

- Dependent children are very likely to be (or become) involved with the court on delinquency matters.
- Dual jurisdiction youth tend to start their delinquency careers at a younger age. They spend more time in detention and in residential placement than non-dependent youth. Their delinquency histories tend to be more extensive, and these youth are more likely to be committed to the Arizona Department of Juvenile Corrections.
- Children with a dependency court history are twice as likely to recidivate, if referred on a delinquency offense, than juveniles with no dependency court history.

- Females with a dependency court history are even more likely to recidivate than their male counterparts, while in the general population the recidivism rate is much higher among males than females.
- Over ¼ of the cases studied suggested that juveniles dually involved were seriously considering or had attempted suicide.
- Educational concerns were consistently identified – chronic truancy (76%), severe academic deficiencies (59%), special education needs (44%), and a diagnosed/suspected learning disability (23%).

In addition, the dual jurisdiction study found other areas, specifically case management items, that need to be addressed:

- While the courts have made a concerted effort to ensure consistency in the judicial oversight across delinquency and dependency matters, there was little indication that hearings were being combined to deal with both issues at the same time.
- Specifically in Maricopa and Pima Counties, the attorneys assigned to represent the juvenile are not the same for the delinquent and dependent matters.

The study indicates, along with the findings, there is a consensus among stakeholders, that the dual jurisdiction matters need to be treated differently than others. In order to accomplish this task, the NCJJ has made numerous recommendations including:

- Revise intake assessment/screening procedures for dual jurisdiction cases.
- Establish written interagency agreements and protocols for dual jurisdiction cases.
- Improve information sharing across agencies at all stages of dual jurisdiction cases.
- Develop and implement specific cross-training opportunities relevant to dual jurisdiction.
- Conduct regular interagency case reviews of dual jurisdiction cases.
- Continue efforts to increase access to federal funding (e.g., Title IV-E) and find innovative ways to pool funds for placements and services.

continued on page 3

- Examine the feasibility of combining delinquency and dependency hearings – especially for disposition and post-dispositional matters when appropriate.
- Explore ways to keep the same attorneys assigned in dependency and delinquency matters, and provide special training for attorneys handling these cases.

This, by far, does not address all of the findings or recommendations of the study. It does demonstrate, however, that within our Arizona courts we have a small, but mighty, subset of the overall population that cries for us to look outside of the box, to work beyond the normal limits of our agency standards, to tackle those obstacles that are specific to the children who are victims of the chicken or the egg, whichever one came first.

If you are interested in reading the study in its entirety, it is available on the Court Improvement web site at www.supreme.state.az.us/dcsd/newsltr.htm or by contacting DeAnna Johnson at 602-542-9582 or via e-mail at djohnson@supreme.sp.state.az.us

FCRB Thanks CPS for Reports

While the FCRB would like to thank all Child Protective Services caseworkers for their continued participation in

FCRB reviews, the program would like to recognize the caseworkers in Graham (96%), Greenlee (87%) and Yuma (93%) counties for submitting the highest percentage of reports (i.e. case plans, progress reports, initial reports) to the FCRB during 2004.



WEAR YOUR SUPPORT

Kris Jacober, President

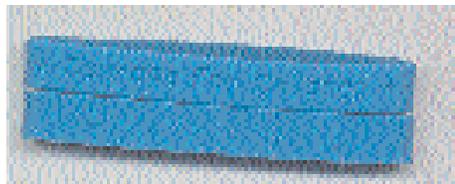
May is Foster Care Awareness Month. To encourage statewide support for children in the foster care system and the families who care for them, the Arizona Association for Foster and Adoptive Parents will be selling blue wristbands with the message "Courage for Children." (the wristbands are a blue version of the Lance Armstrong 'live strong' wristbands).

During the months of March, April and May, these wristbands will be sold for \$2 each (minimum order of 10 wristbands) in hopes of reaching everyone who works with children in the foster care system - from service providers to others who have a concern for them - to wear during the month of May.

We encourage all members of Foster Care Review Boards, Department of Economic Security Advisory Council Community Network Teams, CASA volunteers, licensing workers and other to participate in purchasing and distributing wristbands to their co-workers, friends and families. Together, all the constituencies can raise awareness of the campaign, to encourage Arizonan's to wear their wristbands during the month of May and talk about the children in care that these wristbands represent.

The Association hopes to sell 10,000 wristbands and make a \$10,000 contribution to a scholarship fund for foster children that will be administered by Arizona Friends of Foster Care Foundation.

Call Kris Jacober at 602.488.2374 or e-mail kris.jacober@cox.net, to order your wristbands.



IN MEMORY OF BEVERLY OGDEN

Bev Ogden spent most of her adult life working for the people of Arizona. If you were a child, poor, abused, ignored or a member of a family at-risk, there's a good chance Bev's work touched your life.

Beverly Ogden passed away suddenly on January 27, 2005 just before she was scheduled to receive the Hope for Arizona's Children Protection Award at Arizona's Child Abuse Prevention Conference. The award was to honor her more than three decades of hard work and dedication to the protection of vulnerable children through her work in child welfare, child fatality reviews, children's justice and legislative advocacy. Bev was always the behind the scenes person – the super glue that held things together.

Born in Lincoln, Nebraska, Bev came to Arizona with her young, growing family in the 50's, and settled into the ranching life in Wilcox. She moved to Tucson in the 60's and became directly involved in Arizona politics. By 1970 she was helping to manage the campaigns of U.S. Senator Paul Fannin and longtime Tucson Mayor Lew Murphy. In 1977, Bev moved to Phoenix and went to work for Congressman Jim Kolbe when he was first elected to the Arizona State Senate.

Jim Kolbe was the prime sponsor of the legislation in 1978 which created the Foster Care Review Board. Bev was Senator Kolbe's effective and knowledgeable administrative assistant and helped to connect, track and assist community advocates to push the legislation forward. Her connections with child advocates grew through the years as she tackled more challenges on behalf of children.

By 1990, Bev was working for the Arizona Department of Economic Security, coordinating the activities of the Division of Social Services and further increasing her direct involvement with Arizona families and children.

She eventually became the Children's Justice Act Grant Administrator for the Governor's Office for Children. In this role, she worked tirelessly to pass legislation to establish the State Child Fatality Review Task Force, one of the first in the country. Today, local county task forces review every child death in the state and make recommendations regarding steps that could be taken to prevent avoidable child deaths, including those from abuse and neglect.

In her coordinating role with Children's Justice Act, Bev also was the glue that helped to establish and promote Child and Family Advocacy Centers around the state. Today twelve advocacy centers are kid-friendly places where professionals can coordinate the investigation and prosecution of child physical and sexual abuse.

Upon retiring from state service several years ago, Bev continued her dedication and political involvement on behalf of children. When State Representative Pete Hershberger called in 2003, she readily took up the mantle as a volunteer to help coordinate the activities and meetings of the newly formed Children's Caucus whose members are pledged to promote investment in children as the future of Arizona. The Caucus was instrumental in the past two years as members advocated for the needs of abused and neglected children during the Special Legislative Session on CPS and through the budget processes.

Of course, that wasn't quite enough for Bev. At the time of her passing, Beverly Ogden was a Board Member on the Arizona Nursing Board and Prevent Child Abuse, Inc. She was a member of the Healthy Families Arizona Steering Committee, the Arizona Child and Family Advocacy Network, and Children's Action Alliance's Child Welfare Committee.

Bev's tireless work did not go unnoticed or unappreciated. Among the many awards she received for her civic activities include the Child Advocacy Award from the American Academy of Pediatrics, the Arizona Attorney General's Award for Excellence, an Improving the Quality of Community Life citation from Maricopa County Prosecutor Richard Romley and the Public Policy Award from the Arizona Family Planning Council.

Bev is survived by two sons, three grandchildren and many wonderful friends. Contributions to honor Bev Ogden may be sent to: Prevent Child Abuse Arizona, P.O. Box 432, Prescott, AZ 86302; Crisis Nursery, Inc., 2334 E. Polk St., Phoenix, AZ 85006; or Children's Action Alliance, 4001 N. 3rd Street, Suite 160, Phoenix, AZ 85012.



Secure Upload—Huh?

Charli Mattson, Administrative Assistant
Arizona CASA Program

“Secure Upload” is a term becoming more familiar among CASA volunteers. To some, it’s a welcome term, signaling an ease in their volunteer duties. To others, it’s a dreaded term, much like the term “dental visit.” To even others, it’s a foreign term they don’t understand, much like Latin. Secure Upload is the technical term used to describe the process by which volunteers may electronically submit court reports or contact logs to their respective county coordinators. It allows the volunteer to send a file via the Internet through the CASA website. All transmissions are secure and remain secure while on the web server.



The CASA volunteer signs on to the Internet via their web browser and goes to the CASA web site at www.supreme.state.az.us/casa. Clicking on “CASA Secure Uploads” in the menu on the left-hand side of the screen opens the sign-in page. By entering the volunteer’s email address and password, the volunteer is able to attach the file to be sent, choose to whom the file is to be sent, and click on Upload. Tada! The transmission is complete! The county coordinator receives an email that a file has been sent, clicks on the link contained in the email, enters his/her email and password, and there is the file.

Some volunteers are probably saying, “Hey, I tried that. It told me I wasn’t authorized.” And that would be true. Before sending a file, volunteers must be registered as a “New User.” Click on “New User” in the lower right-hand corner of the sign-in box. The user will be asked for an email address, then to create a password and enter it twice. By clicking on **Submit**, the user will get a message on the screen that says an email has been sent. The user must then go to their email, open the email message from the court, and click on the link contained in the email. On the next screen that appears, enter the email address and password, and click on **Sign-in**. The user is now able to use the Secure Upload process.

We do have a few tips for CASA volunteers:

1. Before registering as a *New User*, the volunteer’s name and email address must first be entered into the system by state program office staff. This allows the system to recognize the users when he/she first signs on as a *New User*. Volunteers may contact the state program office staff to verify their correct email address has been entered into the system.
2. Passwords must be at least 8 but no more than 12 characters long, and contain at least one numerical character (at least one number).
3. Passwords expire every 90 days. When it expires, the user must reregister, using the *New User* process outlined above. The same password or a new password can be created.
4. No more than three files can be sent in one day. If a fourth file is tried to be sent, the volunteer will receive a message stating no more than three files can be sent per day.

Having problems? Volunteers should contact their county coordinator first. If he/she is unable to help, volunteers may call the state program office at (602) 542-9407 for assistance.

Arizona Lottery Ads Feature CASA Program

New Arizona Lottery advertisements feature the Arizona CASA Program. One of the ads appears on a billboard located on Indian School and Central in Phoenix. The Lottery promotion will include print ads and radio spots throughout the state.

The ads also highlight an alternative web address for the Arizona CASA Program. This address goes directly to the current CASA web site and will be used on all recruitment and promotional items for the next five years.

www.azcasa.org



Judge Brutinel Honored with Hope Award

On January 27th, during the Prevent Child Abuse Conference, Judge Robert Brutinel was honored with the Hope Award in the category of Permanency.

Becky Ruffner, Executive Director of Prevent Child Abuse, presided over the statewide event and had the following remarks to say when presenting Judge Brutinel with his award.

“For his integrity, fairness, and sincere concern for all children who enter his court, Judge Robert Brutinel is the recipient of the Hope Award. Judge Brutinel has implemented many innovative strategies to ensure prompt and meaningful court hearings for everyone involved. He assembles all the stakeholders, considers all suggestions and then implements improvements quickly.

In newly filed cases, the Permanency Planning Mediation takes place within six months after filing. Judge Brutinel encourages



all interested parties, including relatives and service providers to openly discuss barriers to reunification, needs of the children and parents, permanency options and long term plans for the child. Then he reviews these cases within a month after mediation occurs.

Perhaps Judge Brutinel is most appreciated for his face to face conversations with parents working toward reunification. He is very forthright with parents in what he expects of them in the process of regaining his confidence. One young mother recently told him that it was his words which changed her priorities in life. She recalled he gave her a choice saying: ‘you can be a druggie, or you can be a mother’. She chose to be a mother.

Judge Brutinel is also the proud father of four and an adoptive parent as well.”

We are very fortunate to have such an admired Judge presiding over our children.

*Reprinted with permission of the
Yavapai CASA Newsletter*

2005 National Volunteer Week

“Recognizing the people who make your organization a success is important to the group’s vitality. Making the recognition entertaining can also make it memorable.”

Sponsored by the Points of Light Foundation, National Volunteer Week is about thanking one of America’s most valuable assets – our volunteers – and calling the public’s attention to all that they do to improve our communities.

National Volunteer Week began in 1974 when President Richard Nixon signed an executive order establishing the week as an annual celebration of volunteering. Since then, every U.S. President has signed a proclamation promoting National Volunteer Week. Additionally, governors, mayors and other elected officials make public statements and sign proclamations in support of National Volunteer Week.

This year the Points of Light Foundation Volunteer Week theme this year is **“Inspire By Example”** because it truly reflects the power volunteers have to inspire the people they help, as well as, to inspire others to serve!

The dedication of Arizona’s CASA and FCRB volunteers truly fit this theme as reflected by this letter from a CASA child to her volunteer.

My CASA

By Sarah to Her CASA Volunteer

My CASA has helped me by wanting to help. She has never given up as she has promised. She has proven and shown me that I can do anything that I put my mind to. She has an awesome sense of humor and understanding. She listens very well. When I thought I couldn’t trust anyone, she was there. I’m not one to trust many adults. She’s been a friend through tough times and saw me through the dark. In my eyes she is the perfect CASA.

On behalf of staff of the Dependent Children’s Services Division, Arizona Supreme Court, our thanks to all CASA and FCRB volunteers for their dedication and commitment to the children of Arizona.



Training Corner

*Continuing Education Committee,
FCRB State Board*

The Children and Family Services Division of the Pima County Juvenile Court Center has put together an excellent orientation program for parents and family members involved in dependencies. This class is offered to teach those involved with the children about the court process as well as other services that may be involved in a dependency case, including the Foster Care Review Board (FCRB) and the Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) Programs.

Parents, relatives, placements and any other individuals who will be part of the child's case plan are encouraged to attend this presentation. The goal of this is to demystify the process and allow the participants to have a clear understanding of the roles of the various professionals.

Dependency Process

A brief overview of the dependency process is included here for your review.

Once a dependency petition is filed with the juvenile court, the judge reviews the petition to determine if it meets legal standards. If the petition meets the legal standards, temporary orders are filed that allow the petitioner (either the state [CPS] or a private party, usually a relative or guardian ad litem) to keep the child/children out of the home until the first court hearing is held.

The next step is the pre-hearing conference and/or mediation hearing, where everyone involved in the case meets to determine if there are agreements on the placement, visitation schedule, services and tasks in the case plan. The preliminary protective hearing follows immediately after this conference and the court enters temporary orders concerning placement, visitation and the case plan. Legal representation is appointed and parents admit to or deny the petition allegations. If the parents do not believe that sufficient grounds exist to keep the children out of the home, a temporary custody hearing is held at which time the judge decides if sufficient reason(s) exist to affirm the temporary custody of the children.

The next step is the settlement conference, where the parties attempt to resolve the dependency. If agreement

is not reached, the case goes to trial. The disposition hearing is then scheduled where the court formalizes the case plan.

Report and Review hearings, Status hearings, and other special hearings are held approximately every six months. If the child/children remain out of the home after nine to twelve months, a Permanency Planning hearing is held. Parents have the right to ask for open hearings, but the judge makes the final decision concerning this. If the judge believes an open hearing would be harmful to the child/children or the parents, the hearing will be closed. If the hearing is closed, only those people legally involved with the case may attend. Friends and family may attend if no one objects. If the hearing is open, anyone can attend, including the media. However, people who are not parties to the case must agree to keep certain information, such as names and dates of birth, confidential.

For more information on the dependency process, visit the Court Improvement web site at www.supreme.state.az.us/dcsd/improve/

In My Shoes, Inc Has New Web Site

In My Shoes, Inc. is a non-profit organization that was created to help Teens aged 16 1/2 to 17 successfully transition from the foster care system into adulthood by being matched with mentors who are alumni of the foster care system.

Alumni mentors, having navigated this transition, will help foster teens gain the skills and knowledge needed to prepare for adulthood.

Visit their web site or contact Christa Drake, executive director of In My Shoes, Inc. at (520)323-0886 ext. 234 or email to arizonachrista@yahoo.com.



www.inmyshoesinc.org



*Ginger Bredemeier, Training Specialist
Arizona CASA Program*

Since 1985, CASA volunteers have been dedicated to helping the juvenile court make the tough decisions for Arizona's foster children. Conceived by a Seattle juvenile court judge in 1976 who was concerned about making decisions for abused and neglected children without having enough information, the Court Appointed Special Advocate Program currently hosts 900 programs across the country, which facilitates over 70,000 volunteers. In the past two decades, the Arizona CASA Program has helped to appoint over 3,500 volunteers to cases serving over 10,000 children.

In twenty years of service, CASA volunteers have helped change case plans, monitor services, advocate for new homes, and assist in returning children to parents. CASA volunteers have been the one consistent person on a case in the revolving door arena of child welfare. They have encouraged long-lost relatives to become placements, family members that sometimes the parents didn't even know existed. CASA volunteers have also been the familiar face to pick up their youth from detention when no one else was able. CASA volunteers have helped a child fill out college forms and scholarship applications, when a youth may have felt that advanced schooling was only a faraway dream.

So as the Arizona CASA Program approaches its 20th Anniversary in the state, volunteers should they have made a difference in the life of a child. As a volunteer, You have listened hard, you have caught tears, you have produced smiles, and you have advocated well. You have made a difference in the life of a child. The difference is you.

Arizona CASA Program Marks 20th Anniversary with Conference and Recognition Dinner

The Arizona CASA Program officially celebrates its 20th Anniversary in October of 2005. To celebrate and honor the dedication and hard work of its volunteers, the program plans to host a full day training conference and recognition dinner banquet on Saturday, July 23, 2005 at the Sheraton Crescent Hotel and Conference Center in Phoenix, Arizona.

The 20th Anniversary Conference themed, "Getting Back to Basics: Advocacy for the Next 20 Years," hopes to encapsulate a plethora of training topics that will be applicable to volunteers in their advocacy role. Tentatively scheduled topics include empathy fatigue, family group decision making, a judges' panel, RBHA coordination, transracial family issues, and advocacy advice from foster care alumni.

Two conference pre-session trainings will be held on Friday, July 22, 2005. The morning training is exclusively designed for current older foster youth (ages 15-20) and will focus on career development. The afternoon session will be offered on a limited basis to statewide CASA volunteers and is planned as part of the CASA State Office's Helping Older Youth Training Project. This training will focus on youth centered case planning for youth "aging out" of the foster care system. A special guest foster care alumna will also present her story during this pre-session segment.

Following the day-long general conference on July 23, 2005, the State Office will host a dinner banquet and volunteer recognition ceremony. Awards will be given to long-standing CASA volunteers, as well as to designees from each county program for exceptional service in the past year.

The State Office genuinely hopes that as many volunteers as possible as well as community partners will be able to attend this commemorative event!

Look for more details in the coming months. Questions regarding this event can be directed to Ginger Bredemeier, Training Specialist, at 602-364-0373 or gbredeme@supreme.sp.state.az.us

Tidbits & Reminders



Have a story to submit for the newsletter?

Here are the deadlines for submitting articles for the upcoming issues of *Advocates for Children*:

June 24 - Summer
August 12 - Fall
October 28 - Winter

Send articles to
Connie Lopez
CLopez@supreme.sp.state.az.us.
or
Jenny Loya
JLoya@supreme.sp.state.az.us



Training! Meetings! Deadlines! Important Dates to Remember - 2005

(dates are subject to change)

April

15-16 FCRB New Board Member Orientation, Tucson

May

13 CASA Administrative Meeting, Phoenix

13-14 CASA Orientation & Training, Phoenix

June

4 FCRB State Board Meeting, Phoenix

July

15-16 FCFB New Board Member Orientation,
Phoenix

23 CASA 20th Anniversary Conference,
Sheraton Crescent, Phoenix

29-30 CASA Orientation & Training, Phoenix

Have a change in your email?

Don't forget
please contact your FCRB
program specialist or
CASA coordinator
regarding corrections or
changes to
your email address!



We want to keep you informed!

New On-Line Training Modules on Substance Abuse

Alison Wilson, Web Designer
Arizona CASA Program



The Arizona CASA online training section of the website has expanded to add two new training modules under a brand new topic *Youth and Experimentation*.

The first module is “An Overview of Current Trends in Drug Use.” After successful completion of this module, volunteers will earn an hour of training credit. This module covers the various signs and symptoms of illegal drug use. An in-depth explanation of the current trends in drug use among youth and diversion programs is provided.

The second module is “The Power of Addiction and the Effects of Substance Abuse.” This module can be completed for one hour of training credit. This module covers the various behavioral, physiological and neurological effects of substance abuse. Both of these training modules can be accessed at the following web site address <http://www.supreme.state.az.us/casa/training.htm>.

For additional information, contact Alison Wilson, Web Designer, (602) 542-9595 or email to AWilson@supreme.sp.state.az.us.

Staff Changes

The Foster Care Review Board said good-bye to two Phoenix staff members, trainer **Maria Lewis** and **Suzanne Talts**, program specialist. Both accepted positions with Child Protective Services.

Congratulations to **Tiffany Dempsey** on her promotion to the program specialist I position. She will officially occupy her new position in May.

Meghan Naddy joins the Phoenix staff as a program specialist III. Naddy earned a Bachelor Degree in Social Work from Arizona State University and completed a Master’s level internship with Child Protective Services. She worked with teenage girls at A&A Cottages and was a mentor with Florence Crittenton Inc. She spent two years with Healthy Families in child abuse prevention.

Stacey Purtle, another new program specialist, moved to Phoenix from Cordova, Tennessee, where she

was a clinical supervisor for the Youth Villages Intercept Program. Prior to her supervisory position, Purtle held the position of Senior Family Counselor. She holds a Bachelor Degree in Psychology from the University of Alabama.

In the Tucson FCRB office, **Nicole O’Connor** has left and is working as a CPS parent aide. **Kim Christner** has joined the staff as new administrative staff. Christner, joined FCRB in January with more than 20 years administrative/secretarial experience working in administrative positions in areas of insurance, claims and debt redemption/surrender. **Karen Wyss** also joins the staff as an administrative staff member. She joined FCRB in January and has over 11 years experience in various court settings, including positions of jury technician, courtroom clerk, administrative/training specialist, and as a court services supervisor.

Karen Barge joined the staff in February and has 13 years experience working with Pima County Juvenile Probation, along with experience working as a federal investigator, and most recently worked within a public school/alternative program.

There have also been changes in CASA county program staff. **Leigh Ann Kenton** is the new support staff in the Gila County CASA Program in Globe. Kenton fills the position formerly held by **Jo Ellen Berry** who left the program in January. Kenton was with probation for more than three years and transferred to CASA late February.

The Pinal County CASA Program welcomes **Lorraine Heiselman** as the new support staff in their Florence office.

Myla Smith joins the CASA office in Prescott as support staff. Smith moved from Mesa to the Prescott area last October. She is excited to be working with the wonderful people involved in the CASA program and participating in such an important service.

In Yuma, **Stacy Kroll** has joined the CASA office as support staff. Kroll fills the position recently vacated by **Marcia VanLuvanee**. Kroll is originally from Yuma and moved back to Yuma about two years ago from Idaho.

Christie Bauerle, coordinator for the CASA program in Yuma, will be leaving the program. She and her husband, who recently retired from the military, will be relocating. Bauerle has been a coordinator in Yuma for over two and half years, and will be sorely missed.

CASA Activity Report

(as of April 29, 2005)

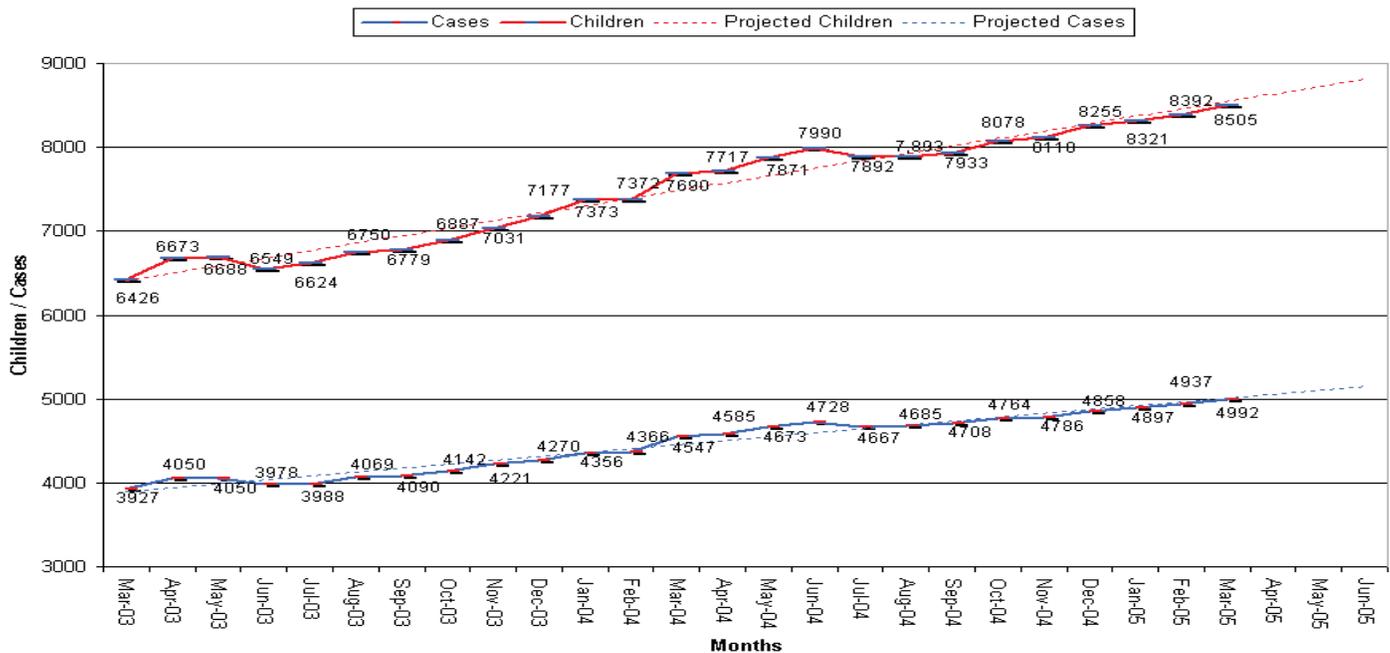
Volunteers currently in program	816	Cases currently assigned	870
All volunteers accepted to date	3,602	Children in assigned cases	1,547
Volunteers trained this month	0		
Volunteers trained to date in FY	235	Cases assigned this month	20
Volunteers trained to date in calendar year	93	Children assigned this month	30
		Cases assigned to date in FY	245
Volunteer hours	633,985	Children in cases assigned to date in FY	361
Volunteer miles	5,542,987		
		All cases assigned to date	6,555
		All children served to date	11,578
		Cases temporarily unassigned	43
		Children in temporarily unassigned cases	107
		Cases closed this month	17
		Children closed this month	27
		Cases closed to date in FY	223
		Children in closed cases to date in FY	348
		All closed cases to date	3,626
		All children in closed cases to date	6,470

* Activity figures based on counties submitting data

FCRB Case/Child Activity Report (as April, 2005)

The activity report figures are statewide.

Case / Child Activity - 2 Year Range



*This newsletter is published by the Administrative Office of the Courts
Dependent Children's Services Division*

Bill Stanton, Division Director
Dependent Children's Services Division
602/542-9409
Wstanton@supreme.sp.state.az.us

Caroline Lutt-Owens, Program Manager
Foster Care Review Board
602/542-9408
Clowens@supreme.sp.state.az.us

Linda Wright, Program Manager
Arizona CASA Program
602/542-9583
Lwright@supreme.sp.state.az.us

Connie Lopez, Community Outreach Specialist
Dependent Children's Services Division
602/542-9683
Clopez@supreme.sp.state.az.us

Dependent Children's Services Division

Administrative Office of the Courts
Arizona Supreme Court
1501 West Washington, Suite 128
Phoenix, Arizona 85007-3327

