

Updates & Information



May, 2021 | Issue #10



Nkia

Message from Nkia Richardson, Executive Director:

Throughout our community May is recognized as Foster Care Awareness Month and we appreciate this opportunity to raise greater awareness and support for children and youth in foster care. Along with the dedication and commitment of our volunteers, your support enables our CASA program to partner with resource families, relative caregivers, educators, child welfare and legal professionals to build meaningful child-focused connections. As we lift up our CASA youth and bring attention to their needs, we also take this time to share our gratitude for each of you who recognize the needs of youth in foster care and prioritize their well-being.

May is National Foster Care Awareness Month



Foster Care Awareness Month is especially significant this year as we recognize the many children and youth who faced increased isolation and hardships over the past year. This month, we partnered with Box and ProVisor to highlight the importance for communities to work together to establish meaningful connections for children and youth in care. This month on our social media channels, we are sharing daily posts to showcase how these incredible community members supported our CASA kids via postcards with thoughtful messages, videos with words of encouragement and gift cards to purchase needed items. Visit us at our many sites to see more:

[FaceBook](#) [Instagram](#) [Twitter](#)

Gift cards from ProVisor

ORGANIZER, PROVISOR GIVING CAMPAIGN,
STEPHEN ILG OF ILG LEGAL OFFICE, PC,

I grew up in a large family that included three foster sisters... my networking group Provisors decided to focus on CASA because we believe CASA helps ensure children are not lost within an overburdened system. Many of our members have served as CASAs or are applying now.

We hope our monetary donations help CASA continue its important mission to protect the children who need it most. www.ilglegal.com

Postcards from Box



Meet Corrie Conrad, VP of Communities and Impact at Box, and Executive Director

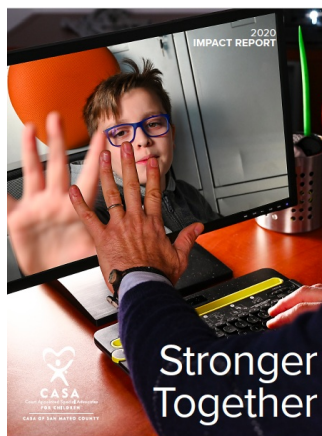
A big thank you to Stephen Ilg, the initiator of our ProVisor gift card campaign (see segment above) which raised almost \$3,000 to purchase gift cards for our youth as well as much needed diapers for our youngest children. We are grateful to this group of professionals who generously contributed so we could gift our youth with something extra this month!

at Box.org

Corrie and her team are the masterminds behind our postcard project (see segment above) and have been great partners in their advocacy of CASA and youth in foster care and juvenile justice. We are thrilled to have this community of caring supporters share the important impact we can all have in the lives of our CASA kiddos.

Our 2020 Impact Report

We are pleased to share our new 2019/2020 Impact Report that can be viewed online by clicking on the cover image!



Save the Date! August 14-28, 2021



FORWARD, TOGETHER *with CASA of San Mateo County*

Mark your calendars for a new fundraising event - **Forward, Together** - hosted by CASA of San Mateo County's Auxiliary to raise awareness and funds for our CASA youth as participants walk, run or track other movement, wherever they are and at their own pace. **Registration for this peer-to-peer fundraising event opens on July 14.** Stay tuned for more details

<https://www.casaofsanmateo.org/forward-together>

In The News...



**Senator Cortese and Chesa Boudin
"Common Sense" Basic Income
Measure for Foster Youth Moves in CA
Senate**

A state senate bill authored by Senator Dave Cortese (D-15) and backed by San Francisco District Attorney Chesa Boudin that would provide "Universal Basic Income for Transitional Age Foster Youth Act" is now being heard by the Senate Appropriations Committee. SB 739 would establish a pilot program to provide \$1,000 every month for the around 2,500 Transitional Age Youth (TAY) aging out of California Foster Youth programs.

Continue reading the full story [here](#).



**Study Finds Pervasive Racial Bias in
California's Child Welfare System**

A [new study](#) in the *American Journal of Public Health* examines the scope of racial inequities within the child welfare system that researchers have pointed out for decades by tracking the rates of child protective service involvement in the lives of the half a million children born in 1999 in California. CPS investigators often need to make quick, high-stakes decisions about whether a home is safe and suitable for children, and the broad nature of neglect leaves such decisions rife with implicit bias.

[Continue reading here for the full story](#)

[Click here to read our previous newsletter, March 2021!](#)

[CASA of San Mateo County](#)

[DONATE HERE](#)

