

Monthly news & updates



August, 2020 | Issue #3



Message from Nkia Richardson, Executive Director

I must admit, summer is my favorite season! Each year I look forward to the warm weather, longer days and the change from the school year routine.

[To Read More...](#)

NEW: \$75,000 Matching Fund Opportunity

We are excited to announce a new opportunity to make your donation dollars go even farther! [Visit here](#) for details on how you can make a significant impact to support the rising number of youth entering the child welfare system.



2019 Impact Report is Here

We are excited to share our 2019 Annual Report, highlighting the impact CASA of San Mateo County had on our youth in the foster care and juvenile justice system. [Click here](#) to page through the online report.

Board Member Spotlight

After 5 years as a member of the Board, Brian Suckow recently stepped into the role as Board President. [Read here](#) for why Brian chooses to spend his time with CASA and what goals he has for the organization for this fiscal year.

Care Packages for our CASA Youth!



Thanks to the generosity of Sumo Logic and the Crystal Springs chapter at National Charity League, over 100 care packages were donated to volunteers to give to their CASA youth. From



stuffed animals and board books for the youngest children, games and puzzles for the kiddos, to journals, water bottles and fun treats for the teenagers, these gifts are sure to bring fun and laughter to those who could use it.

Make Mom Proud: Box, Inc Blog Featuring CASA of SMC

We are grateful to our partner, Box, Inc. for their help in amplifying our message via a recent blog story. [Read on](#) for how CASA of San Mateo County has adapted to the digital age and what we are most proud of with regards to our work.

In The News...



In a First, California Foster Youth Outperform Peers in Applying for Federal College Aid

Foster youth aspire to college at the same rate as their peers, but attend and graduate at a much lower rate. Too often, the crippling costs of college, on top of housing and basic necessities, becomes unsustainable with no safety net to fall back on.

This year for the first time, foster youth in CA have outpaced fellow high school seniors in completing the Free Application for School Financial Aid (FAFSA) which determines eligibility for a host of federal grants and loans.

[Read here for the full story.](#)



Advocates Propose "New Deal"-Style Assistance for Transitional Youth

Youth Law Center advocates for a "New Deal" that proposes changes to the foster care program for success even after the current crisis recedes. Focused largely on preventing homelessness after the pandemic, strategies include several long-term policy reforms to ensure a safety net that is strong and flexible enough to see young people through everyday crises as well as global ones. **[Read here for the](#)**

[full story.](#)

[Click here to read our July 2020 Monthly Mashup!](#)

[CASA of San Mateo County](#)

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