

# Monthly news & updates



Late August, 2020 | Issue #4



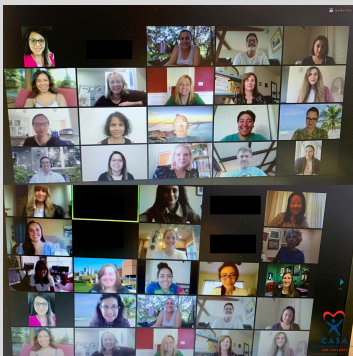
## Message from Nkia Richardson, Executive Director

As children in our community return for a fall of distance learning, we are reminded of the trade-offs for sheltering in place and the challenges that accompany all of the measures in place to safeguard everyone from the risks of COVID.

[To Read More...](#)

## UPDATE: \$75,000 Matching Fund Closing Soon

We are \$28,000 short of our \$75,000 goal. We hope you will join those who have already donated to this matching fund opportunity and have your gift matched, dollar for dollar. [Visit here](#) for details on how you can make a significant impact to support the rising number of youth entering the child welfare system.



## Congratulations Summer Graduates!

We are excited to welcome our newest group of Court Appointed Special Advocates and the very first to complete our training online. These 31 volunteers are ready to be the much needed advocate for our youth who are on a waitlist for a CASA. We are currently conducting orientation meetings for our next virtual training session for kids still on a waitlist. If you, or someone you know, are interested in learning more, please visit us [here](#).

## Auxiliary Member Spotlight

Meet Mary Lee Delehanty, a member of CASA of San Mateo County's Auxiliary. Mary Lee is a passionate supporter for the children in the child welfare system. Continue reading why in her story [HERE](#).

## Back to School Drive



Back to School Drive!  
Essential supplies for  
successful learning



**THANK YOU** to our generous community who



gave our CASA kids the supplies they need to successfully learn in a "distance" model. With items for students from pre-K thru high school, gifts included headphones for all those Zoom sessions, computers, printers, pencils, notebooks, calculators and more. We are grateful to our supporters whose donations will make a huge impact on our kids ability to have confidence and control of their education.

## GoPro Blog: CASA of San Mateo Delivers Smiles...

We are grateful to GoPro for their help in amplifying our message via a recent blog story. **READ ON** for how we continue to support our CASA youth in these challenging times and deliver gift bags to bring smiles to those who need them more than ever.

## In The News...



### **They're Children at Risk of Abuse, and Their Caseworkers Are Stuck Home**

Throughout California, child welfare workers are deemed essential workers with life-or-death duties. But unlike police officers or firefighters, most child welfare workers are now working from home in an effort to limit the spread of the virus. As a result, records and interviews show, scores of investigations into allegations of abuse or neglect have been delayed or sharply curtailed during the pandemic.

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



### **Attorney General Becerra Continues Effort to Defend Rights of Same-Sex Couples Seeking to Adopt or Become Foster Parents**

California Attorney General Xavier Becerra today joined a coalition of 23 attorneys general in support of a City of Philadelphia ordinance prohibiting discrimination based on protected characteristics, including sexual orientation and gender identity.

"We already know that there's no place for discrimination based on who you love. The highest court in our nation just months ago affirmed that right in our workplaces. It's time to do the same when it comes to taking care of our children...We urge the U.S. Supreme Court to, again, stand on the right side of history. Rolling back protections for LGBTQ foster families isn't

just wrong, it erodes the chance for our children to have a loving place to call home.”

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

[Click here to read our previous newsletter, early August 2020!](#)

[CASA of San Mateo County](#)

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