



Advocate News

HOUSTON'S LEADING VOICE IN THE FIGHT AGAINST CHILD ABUSE

CHILD ADVOCATES, INC.

FALL 2007

2007 Outstanding Volunteer of the Year: Zack Coapland

In 1996, Child Advocates, Inc. lost a special friend. In the eleven years since then, to honor his life and dedication to the abused and neglected children he served, we select one exemplary volunteer to receive an award created in his memory – the James A. Gwinn Award for Outstanding Advocacy.

Every September, our advocacy coordinators nominate those court appointed advocate volunteers who regularly go above-and-beyond the call of duty for this honor – nicknamed the JAG Award. Nominees are ultimately selected based on: willingness to serve on difficult cases, thoroughness, diligence, integrity, professionalism, commitment to Child Advocates, ability to communicate and facilitate communication, consistency and dependability.

Last month at our annual Volunteer Appreciation Event, advocacy coordinator David Young presented the 2007 JAG Award to eight-year veteran volunteer, Zack Coapland (pictured above with a child he formerly served). Through his advocacy on thirteen cases during his tenure, Zack has made a tremendous difference in the lives of 30 abused and neglected children.

“The JAG Award is intended for our *most* outstanding volunteer each year – the one who goes above-and-beyond the responsibilities of a court appointed advocate to ensure that the permanent outcomes on his or her cases are truly in the best interest of the children,” relays Young. “It is my belief that anyone who has worked with Zack in some capacity knows that he is indeed deserving of this honor.”

Never one to shy away from daunting or complicated cases, Zack often serves multiple siblings/placements and children with severe needs. Recently, he had a case with three brothers – two who were wheelchair-bound after a car accident – in three different placements. Due to their mother’s neglect, the boys were in need of rehabilitative services, surgeries and therapy upon coming into care. In the past, Zack has taken on a child death case, severe physical abuse and neglect, and currently, he is working two cases simultaneously with a total of nine children. He is willing to work with any children that need his help, regardless of the time commitment involved.

“Zack is an authentic person and it translates to all of his agency/caseworker/court-related relationships,” says Young. “He is a source of information and support for the families and children he works with, he’s in

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In Harris County alone, 4,800 children languish in foster care because of life threatening abuse or neglect. With our current resources, Child Advocates can provide a volunteer to less than half of them. If you would like to help us provide critical advocacy services for more children, please consider becoming a volunteer or making a donation online at www.childadvocates.org.

Zack Coapland CONTINUED

constant contact with caregivers, teachers and caseworkers, and, several times, I have heard him praised by county attorneys and requested, by name, to serve on cases.”

And it’s no surprise why – when confronted with some of Zack’s most exemplary casework:

There was Kiara – a child left by her unstable mother with distant relatives, who, upon coming into care, was diagnosed as lying in the moderate range of Mental Retardation. Upon being assigned the case, Zack ensured that Kiara receive hearing and vision screenings. The screenings revealed an intense need for glasses, as well as hearing aids, as Kiara had 90% hearing loss in her left ear, and 60% hearing loss in her right. The foster mother was able to purchase a hearing aid for her right ear, but an additional receiving aide for her left ear would cost over \$3,000. After extensive research, Zack connected the family to Houston’s Be An Angel Foundation, who ultimately provided the funds necessary to order the specialized device. Once she was able to see and hear, Kiara excelled in school and is testing far above the range of Mental Retardation.

There was Jaquree – who, at 13 years old, had a series of surgeries on his legs after a car accident and severe neglect, on the part of his mother, left him wheelchair-bound. Nearing the date of Jaquree’s discharge from the rehabilitative hospital, Zack fought for a placement in the region to maintain consistency of care with doctors and therapists in the Houston area. The only potential in-region placement was Jaquree’s father – recently released from prison and expressing an interest in caring for the child – so Zack arranged and supervised visits between father and son.

In order for actual placement to be considered, the judge needed a home study on the father and his wife. Immediately, Zack and the attorney ad litem went to the father’s home, where Zack conducted the study, typing it up in it’s entirety that evening. Although the father’s criminal past was a concern, the study was approved by Child Advocates with the recommendation that the father participate in parenting and other services. CPS would not approve the study based on the father’s criminal history, but when the ad litem called a special hearing, the judge ordered Jaquree placed with his father based on Zack’s home study and his testimony regarding observations during the visits. From the court house, Zack called Jaquree at the hospital to tell him the good news – the child broke down in tears of relief.

And recently there was Mackenzie and Mykala – sisters who came into care due to severe physical neglect. In his background research, Zack learned of a maternal aunt to the girls who was living in Austin after being displaced by Hurricane Katrina. In the Austin area on a business trip, Zack visited with the family – who indicated they would be willing to care for the girls long-term – and performed a home study. At the next hearing, the judge stated, “The volunteer that was present for the study is diligent, thorough and truly cares about the welfare of these children, as made obvious by the manner in which this study was completed.” He ordered Mackenzie and Mykala placed with the relative immediately.

Young is confident that Zack’s involvement has been the difference for not only Kiara, Jaquree, Mackenzie and Mykala, but the 26 other children he has served as well.

“Without Zack, many of the family placements on his cases would have gone unexplored. He is always the first to contact perspective placements, and, on every case I’ve worked with him, those relatives see him as a primary source for guidance and instruction regarding the children and the system. The trust they have in Zack means everything when attempting to build relationships that will ultimately contribute to our children finding permanence.”

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From the CEO

Dear Friends,

It's show-and-tell time! Between our Summer CAI Luncheon, the CAIFirst e-letter and being in the office in the last couple months, many of you have had a chance to take a sneak-peek at our brand new, recruitment-focused advertising campaign. I'm thrilled to announce that after months of conceiving and production, the campaign has made its official debut!



Les Schmaltz, court appointed advocate since 2003

Join me in expressing Child Advocates' most sincere appreciation to The Cohen Group Advertising for their time and talent in developing the *Part-Time Hero* campaign. True pro-bono service is hard to come by, but Cohen Group principal, Mark Cohen, and creative director, Robert Miller, generously answered the CAI Marketing Committee's plea late last year, and we couldn't be more pleased with the end result. We also want to thank June Lohman and Comcast Cable for their continued support by way of considerable airtime for the TV component of the campaign.



Victoria Varner, court appointed advocate since 2005

I love the testimonial concept of the campaign, because when it comes down to it, we're all full-time "somethings" – full-time executives, full-time moms, full-time engineers. But our court appointed advocates have added an additional challenge to their full-time lives and responsibilities – the role of *Part-Time Hero*. Late last month, we held my personal favorite event for all of our *Part-Time Heroes*, the annual Volunteer Appreciation Event.

Congratulations to Zack Coapland, the 2007 recipient of the *James A. Gwinn Outstanding Volunteer of the Year* award. Zack is a fantastic representation of the 508 (as of press time – and that's a record for us!) real *Part-Time Heroes* active on cases this year – take a look at our impressive list:

- | | | | | | | |
|-------------------|--------------------|---------------------|-------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|------------------|
| Mohammad Abdallah | Cindy Barnard | Sarah Blake | Sandra Calloway | Jacquelin Crowley | Eddy De Los Santos | Mark Eisenbraun |
| Molly Abshire | Teresa Barragan | Mary Blanchard | Cleo Campbell | Katie Cullen | Scott Deaner | Rose Ellisor |
| Damar Adhoch | Angelina Barreda | Susan Blanchard | Donald Campbell | Deborah Culver | Kathleen Delpit | Maurice Emery |
| Kristen Adkins | Cynthia Barrett | Walter Blanchard | Tracey Carlton | Lance Cumberland | Karen Deran | Jennifer Engdale |
| Matthew Alberty | Jennifer Barrett | Mary Bock | Tammy Carter | Janet Cunningham | Christine Diaz | DeDee Enqvist |
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| Kathryn Arnaud | Carolyn Berner | Becky Brusen | Zack Coapland | Ashleigh Dawdy | Susan Dudley | Kelly Ferguson |
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| Michelle Attaway | Teri Bier | Rosalie Buggs | Cynthia Conners | Vanessa Dawson | Rebecca Eckerman | Jennifer Fett |
| Leticia Bailey | Belinda Bilanoski | Tiane Burke Stephen | David Cooney | Terri Day | Bruce Edison | Carl Fischer |
| Deborah Balfanz | Michael Bingham | Edward Byrd | Michelle Copeland | Deborah Dayton | Chaundra Edwards | Mary Fischer |
| JoEllen Ball | Susan Bishop-Brown | Bertha Cabello | Shannon Cordray | Deanna De La Garza | Jeffrey Edwards | Jannett Flores |
| Claudia Baltodano | Eric Blackman | Charlene Cafarelli | Tamara Costello | Erika De la Garza | Patricia Eike | Rosalinda Flores |

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In addition, I want to thank all of our 2007 *Heroes Society* members. The growing support for our annual campaign has really been inspiring to me, as it further reinforces your belief in our program and our need for more people like you helping these children. Thank you!

Suzyn Gilvan

Maureen Holcombe, court appointed advocate since 2006



Focus on the Friends

FRIENDS OF CHILD ADVOCATES

MEET OUR INCOMING PRESIDENT

It's changing-of-the-guard time for the Friends Governance Council. After two years of dedicated leadership, Amy Anton will step down from her tenure; but not without first gifting us with her successor, Judy Farrell. At Amy's introduction, Judy joined us in 2006 and will take over the reigns for 2008.

In just one year, Judy has jumped into volunteering for the Friends: at the Angels of Hope Luncheon, the annual Holiday Party, the Friends Wrapping Party at Santa's Warehouse, the Friends Easter Egg Hunt and the Pull for Kids Auction. As the saying goes, "ask a busy person when you want something done!" We're thrilled that Judy has agreed to be our future leader!



Becky Brusen, Amy Anton, Elizabeth Cummins, Judy Farrell and John Lupomech.

A HORSE NAMED ESCADA

Who knew that ESCADA founders, Wolfgang and Margaretha Ley, began their fashion empire with winnings from a bet made on a horse named Escada? The gamble is still paying off today, as Neiman Marcus welcomes the 30-year fashion veterans to the *Angels of Hope Luncheon* November 27.



Luncheon Honoree Mary Bratton with daughter and hostess Carrie Pepi.

Recent addition, creative director Damiano Biella (formerly of Valentino), will put on an awe-inspiring runway show at the event. Attendees will have a chance to win a \$2,500 ESCADA ensemble from the Spring '08 collection in the Luncheon Raffle.

The Friends celebrated the upcoming event at a September 13 Kick-Off Party in the home of Carrie and Al Pepi. Guests are still raving about the Southern-style spread

underwritten by Sharon and Rocky Fields. In attendance were *Angels of Hope Luncheon* Chair Mollie Castaneda and Honoree Mary Bratton, a long-time Friends and Luncheon supporter.

For information or tickets to the *Angels of Hope Luncheon*, contact marla.endieveri@childadvocates.org or 713-529-1396, ext 234.

Snapshots



CAI and Accenture staff enjoy an Astros game with a lucky group of teens served by CAI.



A child served by CAI and her personal shopper at the Cameron Childspeer.



Advocate Kathleen Forde accepts a donation of quilts for our children from the Parkway Place Quilting Group.

Voices

Court appointed advocate volunteers tell us how making a difference in an abused child's life has made a difference in their own.



KITTY ARNAUD

Court Appointed Advocate since 2004

The children I've had the opportunity to work with have enriched my life in so many ways. I will never forget back-to-school shopping with a kindergartener. She twirled around in her new outfits and I saw a tiny angel right there in front of me. I also remember delivering twin beds to two little

sisters who were so excited about having their own place to sleep. The simple things we all tend to take for granted mean so much to them. I am so thankful that Child Advocates has made it possible for me to be a part of these special little people's lives. I am a much better human being just for having known each one of them.



TERRY BOYKINS

Court Appointed Advocate since 2001

Making a difference in the life of an abused child has made a difference in my own life because it gives me a feeling of accomplishment. I take pride in knowing that I can use my influence to make a positive change for someone else and help steer a child into a better life so he might

grow up to be a healthy, productive member of society. The experience has made me strive to be an even better father to my own child. There is no greater feeling than to be able to give of yourself to someone who isn't able to give anything in return.



PAM GARY

Court Appointed Advocate since 2005

Becoming a Child Advocate was more than I could have ever dreamed of. I have always been amazed by the spirit of these children. No matter how bad things have been for them, they rise above it all and search out love. It's been the most rewarding adventure of my life besides raising my own two

children. I've been a witness to so many miracles through Child Advocates. Some people say how terrible a place the world is but what I see is there are so many wonderful people working together to help others.

Donor Spotlight



JOHN AND BONNIE MCMILLAN

The McMillans are true friends to Child Advocates. Not only are they both tenured advocates, serving nearly 50 children between them, they are also very generous financial supporters. Since 2000, they have made substantial stock and cash donations – enough to serve nearly 35 abused and neglected children. By making a gift of stock as opposed to cash, John and Bonnie avoid the tax

on appreciation in value of the donated gift – thus it's an even larger win-win than normal!

HARRY S. & ISABEL C. CAMERON FOUNDATION

The Cameron Foundation has been a long-time and consistent supporter of Child Advocates, allowing us to serve over 46 children. By providing on-going support year after year, the Cameron Foundation recognizes that each year the need for our services grows and each year, we need help in providing critical advocacy services for the abused and neglected children in Harris County. This type of support truly makes a difference and is crucial in our efforts to address the ever-growing need.

FRIEDKIN AFFILIATED COMPANIES

GSFSGroup, GSMarketing, GSTTS, Gulf States Toyota, and Westside and Northside Lexus make up The Friedkin Affiliated Companies. In addition to several of them having supported us through the Pull for Kids, Car Pros for Kids and other gifts, they recently chose Child Advocates to benefit from their *One Good Swing Deserves Another* Charity Golf Tournament. Not only did the event raise nearly \$50,000 in funds for us, it also raised awareness for our mission in the community.



Angie Sherrell (former court appointed advocate and VP/GM GS Marketing), Daryl Kenningham (President GSFS Group), Rick Burnett (CAI Board Member and Burnett Staffing), Karim Kafray (CAI Development Director).

Thanks Donors

The donors listed below contributed to Child Advocates, Inc. between June 1 and September 30, 2007 in an amount equal to or greater than the cost of serving one child for one month (\$130). Child Advocates also extends our sincerest appreciation to the 287 individuals and companies giving between \$1 and \$129, which totalled more than \$15,000 during this period, whom we were unable to list due to space constraints.

32-64 children for one year

Child Advocates Endowment, Inc
The Ellwood Foundation

16-31 children for one year

Harris County Community
Development Department
H-E-B Houston Children's Festival,
presented by Baker Hughes
Texas CASA, Inc.
Victims of Crime Act

6-15 children for one year

In honor of Child Advocate
Volunteers and Children
Cameron Corporation
The Enrico and Sandra di Portanova
Charitable Foundation
Mr. and Mrs. Gary L. Forbes
Mr. and Mrs. Frank Gruen
Mr. and Mrs. Mac Haik
George & Mary Josephine Hamman
Foundation
Houston Golf Association
LSF Foundation
Mr. and Mrs. John W. Luchsinger
Morgan Stanley & Co. Incorporated
National CASA Association
The Simmons Foundation
Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts

3-5 children for one year

Amegy Bank of Texas
Mr. James D. Brodnax
C. Wayne and Patricia J. Miller
Foundation
Harry S. & Isabel C. Cameron
Foundation
Comerbrook Development Company
Encore Bank
Equipment & Technical Services, Inc.
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The Hoglund Foundation
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Dr. Maconda B. O'Connor
Mr. and Mrs. Sam Oliver
The Robert and Janice McNair
Foundation
Mr. and Mrs. Michael Sonnier
Spark Energy
Mr. and Mrs. Jack Sweeney

One child for 8-18 months

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Baker Alloy and Metal Inc.
Bank of America
Mr. and Mrs. Mark Barineau
BB1 Classic-Uptown
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The P and C Carroll Foundation
Page.713 Model & Talent Agency
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Mrs. Jessica Wood

One child for 4-8 months

Air Savers Inc.
Mrs. Dede Ale
Mr. and Mrs. Camp Bailey
Becher Family Foundation
Bevco International, LLC
BP
BWI, Inc.
CASA Program of Delaware County
City of Houston (Combined
Campaign)
Ms. Laurie Daily
Ms. Patricia E. Dever
Douglass Community Services, Inc.
Fricasa, L.P.
Friends of Newberry County
Guardian Ad Litem
Program
Mr. and Mrs. Levon G. Hovnatanian
Hydro Gulf of Mexico, L.L.C.
Kappa Delta Alumnae Association
Mr. and Mrs. Demuri Kasradze
Ms. Faye Kimura
Ms. Tama Klosek
Mr. Glynn R. Kruger, Jr.
LIT Group, Inc.
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Mr. and Mrs. Tom McCaffrey
Mr. and Mrs. Jim McCoy
Mr. and Mrs. Neal McKim
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Ms. Andrea Osborne
Mr. and Mrs. James R. Riley
Mr. and Mrs. Corbin Robertson
Mr. and Mrs. Ron Sterlekar
Ms. Lori A. Stewart
Mr. David Stroble
Mr. Carl S. Stutts and Mrs. Tessa
Lesley
Mr. David A. Thompson
Mr. and Mrs. Stephen A. Thorington
United Way of Tri-State
W. J. Deutsch & Sons Ltd.
Mr. Charles F. Winder
Workscope

One child for 2-4 months

Mr. Douglas J. Abbott
Mr. and Mrs. David Batey
Mr. and Mrs. Chris Black
Ms. Sarah M. Blake
Mr. and Mrs. Jack Butts
Bx3 Digital LP
CASA Rock County

Mr. and Mrs. Bob Cavnar
Mr. and Mrs. M. H. Cron
Mr. Carl D. Doby
Employee Benefit Solutions, Inc.
Galveston County Children
Protective Services
Harris County Community
Supervision & Corrections
Department
Mr. and Mrs. Eric Hodnefield
Houston Pilots
Kacal's Auto & Truck Service
Kroger Food Stores
Mr. and Mrs. Robert J. Licato
Mr. and Mrs. Scott Martin
Parkway Villages Retirement Community
Patti Hunter Moody Family Trust
Mr. and Mrs. Tom Regan
Reliant Energy
Mr. Jamey Rootes
Mr. Mark Short
State Employee Charitable Campaign
The Linda and G. Arnold Kaufman
Foundation, Inc.
Ms. Heather D. Thompson
Transtar Federal Credit Union

One child for 1-2 months

Mrs. Donna G. Alexander
Dr. and Mrs. Melvyn Anhalt
Mr. Marshall Bendalin
Mr. and Mrs. James R. Bratton
Children's Assessment Center
Mr. Andrew W. Chu
Mr. and Mrs. Ernie Cockrell
Columbia Gorge CASA
Mr. and Mrs. Scott C. David
Ms. Marla S. Endieveri
Ms. Raychel Fallon
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Program
Pi Beta Phi Fraternity
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Dr. and Mrs. Santiago A. Sanchez
Sierra Nevada Brewing Co., Inc.
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Ms. Tamara L. Schultz
Mr. and Mrs. William F. Taber
Mr. and Mrs. Kevin F. Tiernan
TOSCA Partners LTD
Judge C. David Turk, III

Part-Time Heroes

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

Thomas Forbes	Delana Jacobson	Diana Mattingly	Kay Pyatt	JoEllen Sweeney
Kathleen Forde	Tina James	Kristin Mauro	Kristin Pylant	Bronwyn Swinbank
Charles Formica	Jennifer Jax	Marie McCollough	Gloria Quackenbush	Judith Swires
Denise Fowler	Noemi Jenkins	Elizabeth McCormick	Jackie Ramirez	Lani Sykes
Stephanie Francis	Shamyra Jeremiah	Stephanie McCormick	Tamara Ranck	Cathy Takeuchi
Carolyn Frazier	Bridgette Joe	Erin McCrory	Daniel Reyes	Dea Taylor
Nina Friedman	Angela Johnson	Bertha McCue	Peta-Gay Rhinehart	Susan Taylor
Aimee Friend	Dawn Johnson	Ahide McGuffie	Valerie Rice	Betty Taylor-Thompson
Allen Frieze	Natalie Johnson	Bonnie McMillan	Daniel Robb	Ana Teran
Elvira Fuentes	Natalie Johnston	John McMillan	Gayonne Robinson	Sara Terral
Vicki Gaither	Ann Jones	Joanne McRae	Jana Robinson	Emily Thailing
Sonya Galvan	Regina Jones	Elisa Meadows	Laron Robinson	Cheri Thomas
Henry Garcia	James Joseph	Bridget Medina	Gail Robusto	Lewis Thomas
Maricela Garcia	Caroline Juszczak	Brooke Medina	Dawn Rodriguez	Ed Thompson
Dennis Gardner	Renee Kariv	Alice Melott	Linda Rodriguez	Judieth Thompson
Pamela Gary	Grace Kaye	Maria Mendoza Ayyat	Martha Rodriguez	Rhonda Thompson
Dana Gavrilu	Jessica Keefover	Alison Meyers	Sherrilynn Rollins	Kevin Tiernan
Kelly Gerland	Andrea Keller	Mickey Meyer-Sturgis	Antoinette Romano	Laura Tiernan
Michelle Gershenson	Catherine Kellman	Christina Miller	Frank Rosie	Lois Tietz
Harit Ghelani	William Kennedy	Lillian Miller	Helen Ross	Brenda Tolbert
Robert Gibbons	Gary Kenney	Michael Miller	Laura Rowley	Jeanna Townsley
Megan Gillespie	Ellen Kerman	Marion Mills	David Roy	Heather Trachtenberg
Cindy Goehring	Johanna Kesterson	Hiromi Miyagawa	Kelly Rucker	Charlotte Treadwell
Naomi Goldstick Rosner	LaShabriel Keys	Rebecca Modisetee	Rorika Rueda	Irving Tredler
Israel Gomez	Susan Kibbee	Carol Moffett	John Rundlof	Alfredo Trejo
Susan Gottlieb	Duane King	Dwannah Montgomery	Nancy Saad Attra	Toya Trevino
Jessica Gottschalk	Jaddy King	Julie Montgomery	Eugene Sabatier	Kristen Tully
Norma Goulette	Marsha Kistler	Andrea Moore	Claire Sabatier Womack	Lisa Tuters
Kellee Green	Jameela Klaimy	Elizabeth Moss	Sandra Salas	Julie Ung
Sandra Greenstone	Patricia Koehler	Vivian Mower	Sylvia Scarborough	Robert Uppot
Allison Grover	Victoria Kohler-Webb	Lorna Muniz-Farr	Raymond Scheliga	Victoria Varner
Nancy Grubbs	John Krebs	James Murphy	Kelly Schellinger	Norma Vault
Dana Guebara	Maria Kubelka	Linda Murphy	Jana Schey	Christina Vega
Vickie Guerin	Brenda Kuciemba	Norma Murphy	Lester Schmaltz	John Veith
Donna Guient	Melissa Kulkarni	Suzanne Musgrove	Teresa Schneider	Amy Marie Velasquez
Terry Guyton	Diana Kurtz	Richard Neyrey	Kim Schuetzner-Swords	Stephanie Viator
Michael Hagood	Cinda Lack	Tranchau Nguyen	Rachel Seifert	Alejandra Villanueva
April Halberdier	Phyllis Lacy	Wendy Nishi	Bernadette Session	Darryl Vincent
Debra Hamilton-Christopher	Marilyn Lalor	Jennifer Norton	Ashley Shanks	Beverly Von Kurnatowski
Paula Hansen	Gretchen Lange	Pamela Nunnally	Gina Shannon	Christi Wadle
Tanya Hanway	Deborah Langel	Kellie Nwokedi	Kerry Sheppard	Mary Jane Wakefield
Lee Hargrove	Kristi Lasater	Ginger Oakes	Suzanne Shields	Johnny Walker
David Harkins	Teresa Lauderdale	Heidi Obie	Andrea Sills	Brenda Ward
Margaret Harlan	Dasie Lawson	Heather Olin	Peggy Simon	Kathi Warne
Quinton Harp	Yen Le	Leesa Oliver	Sharon Simons	Penney Warren
Yvonne Harris	Brandon LeBlanc	John O'Malley	Lisa Simpkins	Darlene Warring
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Christine Hill-Steele	Ethel Lucas	Susan Patterson	Jon Sorensen	Wanda Williams
Kimberly Hodge	Kelly Lumpkin	Catherine Perez	Nancy Spencer	Mark Wilson
Eric Hodnefield	John Lupomech	Patricia Perez-Romo	Holly Spillers	Nydia Wimberly
Maureen Holcombe	Huong Luu	Shephali Perkins	Barbara Springer	Charles Winder
Lindsay Horton	Joanna MacMillan	Cynthia Petzinger	Beverly Stegall	Laura Wirth
Charlotte Howell	Maria Maher	Suzanne Pham	Janet Steiner	Margo Withers
Nicholas Howell	Deanne Malloy	Darcey Philipp	Jennifer Stengel	Anna Wood
Amalia Huerta	Joan Mandola	Jennifer Plessner	Christina Stewart	Arline Worsham
Lynn Hughes	Lisa Mangos	Bernadette Powell	Maria Stiger	Catherine Wray-McCreight
Shannon Hullinger	Kama Mangram	Pamela Powell	Susan Stotzer	Robert Wright
Claudine Illg	Charles Mann	Cheryl Powers	Lisa Strauser	Sarah Wynne
Carolyn Ingersoll	Janet Marshall	Myracle Primus	Michael Strong	Amy Zalewski
Elizabeth Ingersoll	Ana Martinez	Veronica Procaskey	Carl Stutts	David Zell
Christopher Jackson	Celeste Martinez	Maria Proctor	Carla Suarez	Jon Ziegler
Harry Jackson	Kari Martinez	Deborah Prout	Edgardo Suarez	
Stacy Jackson	Martha Martinez Gomez	Christina Putman	Arthur Sullivan	

Doing Something



JOHNNY WALKER

As if we didn't already think he was great! Child Advocates congratulates Johnny Walker, a court appointed advocate, Young Professionals for Children volunteer and all-around Child Advocates supporter, on being selected by his employer as the Houston winner in the 2007 *Accenture Volunteer Services Awards*. Johnny has been serving abused and neglected children through our program since 2003

and has worked on six cases with a total of nine children – on whose behalf he has given more than 550 hours of his time. To further recognize Johnny's dedication and hard work, Accenture will provide a \$1,000 donation to Child Advocates in his honor!

CHERYL BROWN AND MONIQUE NOLK

Cheryl Brown and Monique Nolk both took advantage of their employer's 3:1 matching gift program, and this ultimately benefited Child Advocates in ways numbers cannot define. Both Cheryl and Monique, HP employees, donated their own funds and then HP tripled those funds, which paid for two brand-new HP servers – valued at \$9,000 each. By receiving this in-kind server gift we save on both hardware dollars and staff dollars that we can use to serve more children. We are so grateful for both Cheryl and Monique's generosity and for companies like HP, who create programs to encourage charitable giving.



JAMIE BLAKE

Jamie Blake has been an active member of the Young Professionals for Children since 2004. As a banker with Encore Bank, Jamie recognized an excellent opportunity for Child Advocates earlier this year. He learned that his client, Hospitality USA, was hosting a charity golf tournament and immediately set out to acquaint the company with the mission of Child Advocates.

Jamie's involvement proved to be instrumental, as Child Advocates was selected to benefit from the recently held *Sherlock's on the Green: British Pub Open* golf tournament sponsored by Hospitality USA. Thanks Jamie!

YPC Update

YOUNG PROFESSIONALS FOR CHILDREN

SOCIALS

In case you missed our July and September socials (at Little Woodrow's and the Dark Horse Tavern, respectively) you'll want to be sure to mark your calendars for the last YPC social of the year on Thursday, November 29.

Plan to grab a friend and join us from 6:00-8:30pm (exact location TBD – visit www.childadvocates.org as the date nears). Socials are great opportunities for many of our newer members to sign up for events and get acquainted with the crew.

CHILDREN'S EVENTS

Remodeling masters, The Brothers Strong, hosted our annual Great Pumpkin Party at their facilities this year! Event chair Amanda Hall planned an afternoon of tricking, treating and Halloween-themed wood crafts for the kids that won't soon be forgotten. The day was topped off by some amazing frisbee dogs, lunch and pumpkins galore! A big thanks to our friends at Brothers Strong for their ongoing support of YPC.



YPCers Vu Nguyen and ChiChi Onyeso

YPC members, make sure you don't miss our next event by ensuring that your background checks are clear – they need to be resubmitted each year. If you're not sure of your background check status, send an email to Lourdes at lourdes.nierman@childadvocates.org to inquire.

JOIN YPC TODAY

Interested in getting in on the fun? Become a new YPC member or renew your lapsed membership for only \$35. Go to www.childadvocates.org/YPC.htm and click "join YPC" to print the necessary forms.

Special Thanks

Cyrus One for donating space and services in their data center, valued at nearly \$13,000

Hospitality USA for choosing Child Advocates as beneficiary of the *Sherlock's on the Green* Golf Tournament

Friedkin Affiliated Companies for choosing Child Advocates as beneficiary of the *One Good Swing Deserves Another* Charity Golf Tournament

Office Depot and **Cameron Corporation** for donating backpacks and school supplies for the Cameron Childspree

Kirksey and **Burnett Personnel** for sponsoring independent school-supply drives for the Cameron Childspree

Adams and Reese LLP for donating school supplies and a cash gift to the Cameron Childspree

Target for hosting and for providing the breakfast for the hungry shoppers at the Cameron Childspree

Sharon and Rocky Fields for underwriting the Angels of Hope Luncheon Kick-Off Party refreshments, rentals and service

Carrie and Al Pepi for allowing us to have our Angels of Hope Luncheon Kick-Off Party in their River Oaks home and for donating the valet parking fee and beautiful flowers

ExxonMobil for offsetting the high costs of gasoline by donating 25 gas cards, valued at \$25 each, to the volunteers who drive all over Harris County and beyond to serve our children

Texas State Optical for donating 30 vouchers for eye examinations and glasses to the children we serve through Gilbert and Rachel's Closet

Vision Corner LLC for donating a pair of glasses to a special child who needed them most

Houston Zoo for providing 200 passes for our families

Capital Grille for their donation of gift certificates for the backpack stuffing party

Members of St. Martin's Episcopal Church Mother/Daughter Stitchers and Knitters group for making Christmas stockings for our children

Susan Kritzler and **Just 4 Fun Scrapbooking** for their donation of scrapbook supplies for the Life Book program

Mary Ann Berstein and the **West Houston Chapter of the National Charity League** for making birthday favor bags for our children

Happenings

FOR DETAILS ON THE THINGS LISTED HERE AND THE LATEST CALENDAR UPDATES, VISIT WWW.CHILDADVOCATES.ORG/CALENDAR

NOVEMBER

27 The 2007 *Friends of Child Advocates' Angels of Hope Luncheon and Fashion Presentation* by Neiman Marcus – Westin Galleria Hotel Grand Ballroom, 11:30 AM to 1:30 PM. The honoree is Mary Bratton and the fashion presentation will feature ESCADA. Email marla.endieveri@childadvocates.org for details.

29 YPC social. See website for location, 6:00-8:30pm, all members and prospective members are welcome!

NOVEMBER / DECEMBER

Santa's Wish List Program – sponsor a child's wish list or help in Santa's Warehouse this holiday season. Email suzanne.ronne@childadvocates.org for more information.

JANUARY

13 *Chevron Houston Marathon, Aramco Houston Half Marathon and El Paso Corporation 5K* – Child Advocates is one of the official charities of the Houston Marathon with a goal to raise \$50,000! Join the team by running, walking or supporting others. It's easy to become a fundraiser by using the online resources that the Houston Marathon has provided. Visit our website for more details or e-mail marathon@childadvocates.org.

26 Advocacy University begins. Sign up for an orientation session now! www.childadvocates.org.

FEBRUARY

1-29 *Car Pros for Kids* – Visit a participating auto service provider during the month of February to make a \$25 donation to Child Advocates and receive a certificate for two free oil changes. Visit www.carprosforkids.com for participating locations.

23 Advocacy University begins. Sign up for an orientation session now! www.childadvocates.org.



Board Voice

BOB DAVIS

Why I'm involved with CAI...

My involvements with CAI began out of curiosity about the Children's Festival. I wanted to get involved in something useful away from work. I called CAI and asked about the festival. They suggested I come by the office. After seeing the video explaining the purpose of the organization along with the stories from the volunteers, I was hooked.



The need is obvious. However, what attracts me the most about CAI is the volunteer nature of the organization. As such, the work is done by incredibly committed individuals whose motivations to help children are far stronger than any job can provide.

I'm also very interested in the management issues of the program. Sonya and Betsi offer extremely energetic leadership which has unique management problems requiring constant replenishment and training of volunteers, maintaining a top notch staff, and building relationships with the courts and CPS.

My greatest contribution to CAI...

Thus far, I would guess my greatest contribution to CAI has been in raising money to support the program. However, I hope that my business and management experience has been helpful to the board committees on which I serve.

When I am not volunteering for CAI, I like to...

Outside of CAI, I like to work, play golf with my buddies, and wrangle the horses, pygmy goats, sheep, llamas, longhorns, wild turkeys, and geese on our farm in Chappel Hill. I get lots of help from seven dogs and lots of directions from the boss, Cathleen.

My greatest CAI experience...

My greatest experiences with CAI have been in meeting the volunteers and hearing their stories. I'm always amazed by the time, effort, and often the tenacity exhibited as these folks work for the children.

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Spotlight On ...

CAR PROS FOR KIDS

A group of local auto service providers – including several major dealerships – are teaming up to support Child Advocates again this year for the annual *Car Pros for Kids* program. During the month of February when you visit any of the participating locations and make a \$25 or more donation to Child Advocates, you will receive two free oil and filter changes to be used anytime during 2008.

Benefits:

- ◆ Customers get two free oil changes
- ◆ Merchants generate additional customers simultaneously as they have an opportunity to “do something” for the community
- ◆ Child Advocates raises awareness of child abuse and neglect while raising money to serve children. 100% of the donations go directly to Child Advocates!

To date, *Car Pros* has raised over \$410,000; this year our goal is to raise at least \$50,000 or enough to serve 30 children. In the works – FREE oil filters from NAPA and possibly a TV commercial dedicated to the *Car Pros for Kids* program!

E-mail carprosforkids@childadvocates.org or call Andrea at 713.529.1396 ext. 214 for more details. Visit www.carprosforkids.com for participating locations.

CPS SUPERSTARS - HADIYAH CONATE

Despite less-than-glowing press coverage of Child Protective Services, we continue to work with many shining stars within the agency. Hadiyah Conate is one of those. She graduated from training in January and, even with 49 current cases, remains devoted to ensuring the best outcomes for children.

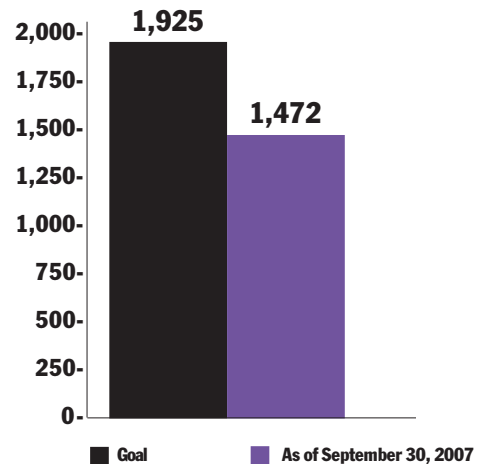
Advocacy Coordinator Keishawna Harris – currently working with Hadiyah on a case with six children – says:

Hadiyah believed the children were being over-medicated when they came into care and that the mother may have fabricated some of their illnesses. She obtained all of the medical records, interviewed the children, had them each reevaluated and found they did not need the medications after all. Hadiyah also located several fathers and relatives in order to get all six children in relative placements. It has been my pleasure to work with Hadiyah and fight alongside her for these children.

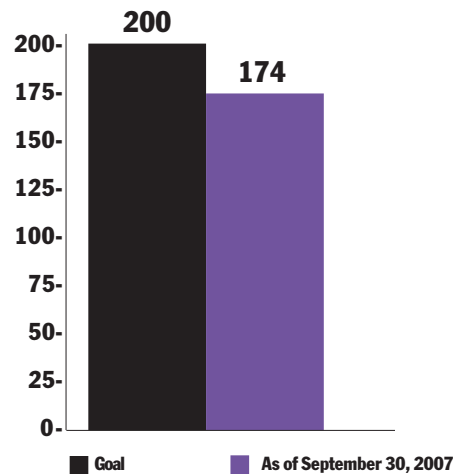


Goal Review

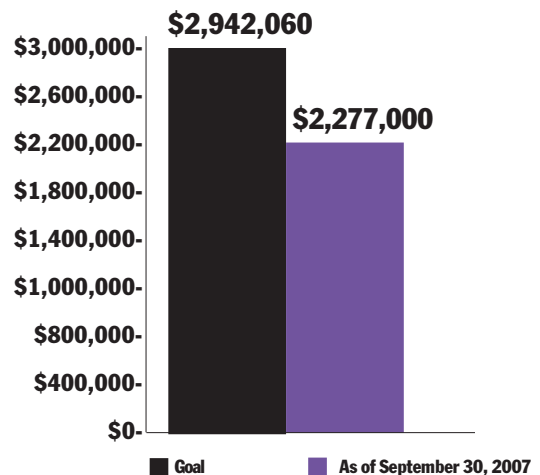
CHILDREN SERVED



VOLUNTEERS TRAINED



ACCRUAL BASIS BUDGET RAISED



Thrive

Richard Hipp, Senior Assistant County Attorney, talks about the difference a court appointed advocate makes in the legal process.

A few years ago I decided that I wanted to have a Child Advocates volunteer on all of my CPS cases. I don't recall any particular event that led to that decision. Instead, I believe it was based on the totality of my experiences with the volunteers and Advocacy Coordinators, and they have never let me down.

The volunteers play an enormous role in the life of a CPS case. They develop a unique understanding of the family dynamics including the extended family, and normally they develop and maintain productive and positive relationships with the children who are the subjects of the litigation. In many cases the CPS caseworkers are not in positions to be able to develop these types of relationships because of the adversarial nature of the proceedings, so the perspectives of the volunteers and Advocacy Coordinators are always welcome.

In one of my cases while the volunteer was visiting the family of the child victim of sexual abuse one of the mother's relatives approached the volunteer and confidentially told her that she had seen the mother and the man who had committed the abuse together recently at Wal-Mart. Based on this information we were able to obtain the Wal-Mart surveillance tapes and confronted the mother with the evidence. She admitted that she had been seeing the man throughout the case and she provided us with information which we gave to the Houston Police Department who then executed an outstanding arrest warrant on the man. Needless to say this was a big break!

Child Advocates, Inc. and its volunteers are welcome additions to all of my CPS cases because of their unique relationships with the parties. Fortunately, the judges before whom I appear agree!

Richard Hipp
Senior Assistant County Attorney

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OUR MISSION

Child Advocates, Inc. mobilizes court appointed volunteers to break the vicious cycle of child abuse. We speak up for abused children who are lost in the system and guide them into safe environments where they can thrive.