



CASA MONROE

SPRING UPDATE



UPCOMING EVENTS:

*SUMMER SEND-OFF
Saturday, June 21st



*Coffee with CASA
Tuesday, June 24th, 9am, at
Cup Renneth Over in
Sweetwater



Thank you to each and every one who participated, sponsored, and volunteered in the 4th Annual CASA Monroe Superhero 5K. We feel so blessed by the turn out and support. As always, all of the proceeds go directly into helping develop our programs here at CASA Monroe. We look forward to making next year even better!

MAY IS FOSTER CARE AWARENESS MONTH



Every year more and more children go before juvenile courts through no fault of their own.

May is Foster Care Awareness Month
This month we celebrate the amazing foster families, social workers, advocates, and community members who open their hearts and homes to provide safety, stability, and love. Every child deserves a safe and loving environment to grow and thrive.





CASA MONROE NEEDS YOUR HELP! WE ARE IN NEED OF MORE VOLUNTEER ADVOCATES.

Our volunteers are everyday people from all walks of life with a variety of professional, educational and ethnic backgrounds.

You do not need any specialized skills to become a Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) volunteer. Most of our volunteers work full time and are able to serve at times that best fit their schedule.

What each of our volunteers have in common is a desire to make a difference in a child's life.

OUR NEXT ADVOCATE TRAINING WILL TAKE PLACE IN JULY. STAY TUNED FOR DATES!

Would you like to make that difference? Contact us to apply today or visit our website at www.casamonroe.org

MONROE COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE ORGANIZATION OF THE YEAR!



On May 8th, we proudly accepted the award of Organization of the Year at the Monroe County Chamber of Commerce Awards Banquet, held at Mashburn Farms. We are thankful for the support of our community and our board members!

WEBSITE UPDATES:

- Now you can register for Free Parenting Classes!
- We have added a Calendar of Events!
- Visit www.casamonroe.org



"BE FOR THE CHILD"





T

BECCA DODSON DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR

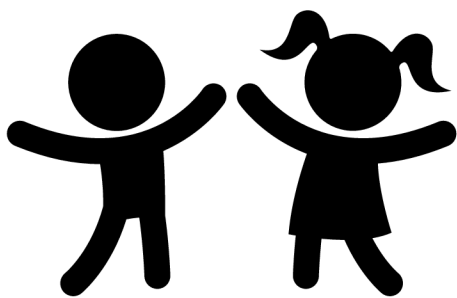
CASA MONROE IS PLEASED TO WELCOME BECCA DODSON AS THE NEW DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR. BECCA WAS BORN AND RAISED JUST SOUTH OF ATLANTA, IN THE SMALL TOWN OF NEWNAN, GA. SHE MOVED TO TELlico PLAINS 17 YEARS AGO WHERE SHE HAS LIVED ON A FARM, RAISING HER 3 CHILDREN. SHE WORKED FOR 10 YEARS AT RURAL VALE SCHOOL AND ALSO HOSTED WEDDINGS AND EVENTS AT HER FARM FOR 7 YEARS. WHEN SHE IS NOT AT THE FARM, SHE CAN BE FOUND AT THE BASEBALL FIELD WATCHING HER SONS PLAY BALL OR ENJOYING OTHER OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES. SHE IS EXCITED TO BE PART OF THE CASA MONROE TEAM AND HELP PLAN EVENTS FOR THE ORGANIZATION.

SAYLA PILKEY EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT

CASA MONROE IS PLEASED TO WELCOME SAYLA PILKEY AS THE NEW EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT. A LONGTIME RESIDENT OF MONROE COUNTY, SAYLA IS ORIGINALLY FROM ATHENS, TENNESSEE, AND HAS LIVED IN TELlico PLAINS SINCE THE AGE OF NINE. SHE IS MARRIED TO KALEB PILKEY, AND TOGETHER THEY HAVE THREE ENERGETIC BOYS WHO SHARE A DEEP LOVE FOR BASEBALL. THE PILKEY FAMILY ENJOYS SPENDING MUCH OF THEIR TIME AT THE BALL FIELD, SUPPORTING FRIENDS AND FAMILY. SAYLA AND HER HUSBAND ALSO PARTICIPATE IN ADULT SOFTBALL LEAGUES.

A DEVOTED MEMBER OF HER CHURCH COMMUNITY, SAYLA FINDS JOY IN HEARING HER CHILDREN SING AND LISTENING TO HER HUSBAND PREACH, AS HE SERVES AS AN ASSISTANT PASTOR AT BALLPLAY TABERNACLE IND. CHURCH OF GOD.

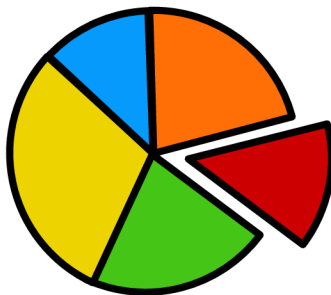
KNOWN FOR HER OUTGOING PERSONALITY AND DRIVEN NATURE, SAYLA BRINGS ENTHUSIASM AND A STRONG WORK ETHIC TO HER NEW ROLE. CASA MONROE IS CONFIDENT THAT SHE WILL BE A VALUABLE ASSET TO THE TEAM AND IS EXCITED TO HAVE HER ON BOARD.



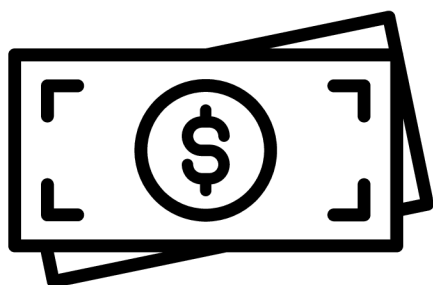
DID YOU KNOW?



IN MONROE COUNTY, 38% OF THE CHILDREN SERVED ARE GIRLS AND 62% OF THE CHILDREN SERVED ARE BOYS



JUVENILE COURT JUDGE ACCEPTED 98% OF CASA'S RECOMMENDATIONS FOR 2024.



IN 2024, 63 CASA MONROE VOLUNTEER ADVOCATES SERVED 181 ABUSED AND NEGLECTED CHILDREN! THE COST IS \$1200/EACH CHILD.

AGE RANGE OF CHILDEN SERVED:

- 36% 0-5
- 21% 6-11
- 21% 12-15
- 15% 16-17
- 7% 18+



WHY A CHILD'S CASE WAS CLOSED:

- 49% REUNITED WITH PARENTS
- 18% KINSHIP PLACEMENT
- 14% OTHER
- 7% TURNED 18

THE TENNESSEE AVERAGE COST PER SERVING A CHILD IS \$1400/EACH WITH THE NATIONAL AVERAGE BEING MORE.

JUVENILE JUDEGE SAYS...

"WE ARE FORTUNATE TO HAVE CASA MONROE IN OUR COMMUNITY. THE ORGANIZATION PROVIDES AN IMPORTANT SERVICE TO OUR FAMILIES AND THE COURT AT NO CHARGE. MORE IMPORTANTLY, CASA ADVOCATES SPEAK UP FOR THE CHILDREN, OUR MOST VULNERABLE CITIZENS, WHO NEED A VOICE. IT'S THE CHILDREN WHO ULTIMATELY BENEFIT FROM CASA'S WORK."

-JUDGE DWAIN THOMAS

GENERAL SESSIONS AND JUVENILE COURT
MONROE COUNTY

OUR NEWEST CASA
MONROE ADVOCATE
TRAINEES JUST WRAPPED
UP THEIR FINAL TRAINING
SESSION! IN THEIR LAST
CLASS, THEY HEARD
POWERFUL STORIES FROM
GUEST SPEAKERS — ONE
SHARING THE PERSPECTIVE
OF AN ADVOCATE, AND THE
OTHER SPEAKING AS
SOMEONE WHO NEEDED
ONE.

NEXT STOP: SWEARING IN
AND OFFICIALLY BECOMING
VOICES FOR THE CHILDREN
OF MONROE COUNTY!

