
ADVOCATE ALLEY

Volume 4, Issue 6

June 2010

Treat people as if they were what they ought to be, and help them become what they are capable of being. -Goethe

Dear Advocates,

I would like to take a moment to talk about Facebook with all of you. I am aware that not all of us use this social networking site, but I would venture to guess that we all hear about the positives/negatives of the site on a regular basis, whether it comes from the media, our peers, or our CASA children.

We here at CASA are big fans of Facebook. We have created a CASA of Monterey County group, use our page to communicate upcoming events to advocates and have even garnered a few donations and advocates from the site. It is great to have a way to connect with our volunteers and supporters at this level. That being said, Facebook is a social networking site- emphasis on social. Your profile page provides an in-depth view of your comings and goings, allowing friends to keep track of what you're up to, share photos of friends, family, etc. It's a lot of fun between friends.

On the other side of the coin is when Facebook is NOT appropriate, and the example I will focus on is between a CASA advocate and a CASA child. Within the boundaries of being an advocate, it is never appropriate to become "friends" with your CASA child on Facebook, as it is inviting them into your personal life, as well as the personal lives of your friends. Your ability to control what appears on your page is incredibly limited, and this is a proverbial can of worms we do not wish to open.

If you are not a Facebook user, please disregard my message. If you ARE a Facebook user and you are currently "friends" with your CASA child, we ask that you "unfriend" them immediately. If you are a user who is NOT a "friend" of your CASA child, now is a great time to reconsider your privacy settings. Please talk with your supervisor if you need assistance in explaining this to your CASA child.

This month's Continuing Education offerings are:

JUN	1st	Impacts of Domestic Violence & Attachment Theory	Julianne Leavy	6pm to 8pm
	3rd	Film Night- Girl Interrupted	CASA Film Club	6pm to 9pm
	16th	Peer Review	CASA Staff	6pm to 8pm

Please make sure to RSVP to michelle@casamonterey.org or 455-6800.

With gratitude,
Michelle Arnold
Program Manager

Take a Hike! (and help CASA in the process!)

The 2010 Hike for Charity offers trail variety so younger children as well as experienced hikers can participate. The event will include a 3K hike for kids, parents and friends, a 10K hike for the avid hiker and adventurer, prizes for the kids and a "Hike for Charity" tee shirts for all hikers

The goal this year is to get families, friends, hikers, and those who support Hike for Charity's efforts to join this great hike and raise money for local charities... one of which is CASA! Here are the details:
Save the date and mark your calendars!

DATE: Sunday, June 6th, 2010 TIME: 9:00 am

LOCATION: Garrapata State Park, Big Sur, California (aka: Soberanes trail or Rocky Ridge trail)

FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT: www.hikeforcharity.com

A group of Garden Railroad Hobbyists in the South Bay are holding the 16th annual food drive/Garden Railroad Tour to benefit St Josephs Family Center in Gilroy and the Community Pantry in Hollister.

The open house is scheduled for 9am to 4pm on Saturday, June 26th. Visitors are asked to bring a donation of non perishable food when they pick up a guide book at All Aboard Junction & Garlic City Books in Gilroy, BookSmart in Morgan Hill or Garden Accents in San Martin.

Visit 13 model railroads running through some of the most unusual backyard gardens in Morgan Hill, Gilroy, Hollister and Salinas.

You can pick up a guide book after June 1st at the All Aboard Junction train store at 8355 Monterey Street, Gilroy [behind Cottage Floors], Garden Accents at 11155 Lena Avenue, Gilroy [near 101-Masten exit], BookSmart at 80 East 2nd Street, Morgan Hill [Near Depot Street at RR Tracks]. For more information visit:

www.bagrs.org/FoodDrive



Advocate Birthdays



We would like to wish the following advocates a very happy birthday during the month of June...

Lou Doll	6/1
Pam Breslin	6/5
Lexi Ludovina	6/5
Chris Farmerie	6/6
Becky Rosenberg	6/8
Carlos Ram	6/11
Darlene Busby	6/15
Al Murphy	6/20
Lisbeth Dermody	6/22
Carolyn Moody	6/25

CASA LIBRARY BOOK REVIEW

The Irresistible Henry House by Lisa Grunwald

Review by CASA Trainee Denise Estrella

The Irresistible Henry House is a profound story of a boy not completely orphaned and brought up in a “practice house” in the 1940’s. In an age when Household Economics warranted the same status as a hard science, the reader learns that Wilton College maintains a practice house, inhabited by an instructor and a rotating class of young female students there to learn how to manage a household including the rearing of an infant. Infants are supplied by the local orphanage. This story investigates the response of a child to having multiple caregivers and the development (or lack of) attachment that affects the protagonist as he grows to adulthood and beyond. The story is fictional, but inspired by the common practice of established practice house and a photo of an actual practice baby named “Bobby Domecon” (short for Domestic Economics).

I read extensively and have been known to stop reading a book if I find the writing to be poorly researched, the subject dull or the style distasteful. I found this novel to be engrossing and finished it in four days. I particularly liked the details which set the novel in time throughout the decades, including in the story cultural icons such a Walt Disney and the Yellow Submarine. The story also finishes in an open ended fashion, suggesting to the reader that there is still much unknown about the effects of these practices on children.

Please share this information with your CASA child if appropriate.

Board Positions for Youth M.O.V.E. National Are Now Open!

Youth M.O.V.E. National is pleased to announce that it is currently accepting applications for its Board of Directors!

Do you have what it takes to be a part of something huge?

Do you want the opportunity to be a leader in the youth movement?

Do you want to see change made at a national level?

We are looking for 5 motivated youth between the ages of 18 and 25 who have experience in leadership roles, familiarity with different youth-serving systems and a passion for youth voice. Fundraising knowledge is also a plus.

As a Youth M.O.V.E. Board Member, you will be entitled to networking benefits including meeting new people in the field, seeing new places and communities around the country, and traveling to board meetings at various conferences twice a year. In addition, the experience and knowledge that you gain and earn by being a board member goes a long way on your resume.

If you or someone you know is interested in applying, please fill out the attached application and send it back to Youth M.O.V.E. National no later than July 1st.

Spread the word along! This could be your chance to be a National Change Agent!

Dear Potential Employment Partner,

Help us make a difference in our community and in the life of a youth this summer! Consider becoming an **Employment Partner** to the **Monterey County Youth Employment Program** and host one or more youth in a work experience or internship activity.

Partnering with local businesses, government and non-profits, the *Youth Employment Program* provides local youth, ages 14 to 21, with a variety of employment-related training services; including pre-employment skills training, ongoing employment counseling, job search assistance and direct subsidized work experience at both public and private worksites.

We are currently recruiting for businesses and organizations interested in becoming “*Employment Partner Work Sites*” for our 2010 summer activities. Your participation will provide youth with an opportunity to gain valuable, real world work experience while using concepts and practices they’re learning in other program activities.

Why Be An Employment Partner?

- Additional staffing - all wages and Workers Compensation paid for up to 640 hours between April 1 and September 30.
- Opportunity to “test” a potential employee - many of our previous Partners have gone on to hire their selected youth into a long-term position after the end of the program.
- You’re not alone - Professional Employment Relations and Youth Advisors will provide ongoing support to help make the youth’s transition into the work world easier and are available to answer any questions.
- Opportunity to serve as a professional mentor and change a youth’s life.
- Boost our local economy - wages a majority of the wages paid directly to each youth will go back into our local economy.
- Help youth participate in society and contribute as citizens in a meaningful way
- Be part of a larger effort to create a safe, productive summer for local youth!

How to Become a Worksite

To begin the process of becoming a worksite, please complete the attached “Employment Partner Application” and return it as soon as possible. **If you have any questions, please contact the Youth Employment Program’s WorkConnection staff at 755-5086; WorkConnection@co.monterey.ca.us.**

Please consider giving a local youth a real chance to learn basic job skills, develop a strong work ethic, and experience a productive summer.