UPDATE ALL HIGHLIGHTED AREAS. FEEL FREE TO MAKE CHANGES TO BEST SUIT YOUR NEEDS/TO REFLECT THE UNIQUE BACKGROUND OF THE NEW BOARD MEMBER. ONCE FINALIZED, COPY AND PASTE THE TEXT INTO THE BODY OF AN EMAIL TO YOUR LOCAL MEDIA. INCLUDE A PROFESSIONAL HEADSHOT IF POSSIBLE.

IF YOU NEED ASSISTANCE WITH ANYTHING, INCLUDING IDENTIFYING YOUR LOCAL MEDIA, PLEASE CONTACT THE TEXAS CASA COMMUNICATIONS TEAM. PLEASE SEND A LINK OR PDF OF ANY COVERAGE YOU GET. GOOD LUCK!

----------------

**For Immediate Release Contact:**Date First name, last name and title

Phone (xxx) xxx-xxxx

Email xxxxxxx

**[BOARD MEMBER NAME] Elected to [YOUR CASA PROGRAM] Board**

[BOARD MEMBER NAME], [BOARD MEMBER MOST RECENT TITLE/POSITION], was recently elected to the [YOUR CASA PROGRAM] Board of Directors.

“We are excited to welcome [BOARD MEMBER NAME] to our board of directors,” said [YOUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR NAME], [YOUR CASA PROGRAM] Executive Director. “[QUOTE ABOUT BOARD MEMBER’S UNIQUE EXPERTISE AND HOW IT WILL BENEFIT THE PROGRAM].”

The board governs [YOUR CASA PROGRAM], a nonprofit organization that provides trained volunteer advocates for children who are in the foster care system due to allegations of abuse or neglect. There are currently [# OF VOLUNTEERS IN YOUR CASA PROGRAM] professionally trained volunteers serving [# OF CHILDREN SERVED BY YOUR PROGRAM] children in foster care in [YOUR PROGRAM’S SERVICE AREA].

“[QUOTE FROM BOARD MEMBER ABOUT THEIR EXCITEMENT TO JOIN THE BOARD AND THEIR PASSION FOR MAKING A DIFFERENCE],” said [BOARD MEMBER’S LAST NAME].

FOR THIS PARAGRAPH, INCLUDE A BRIEF PROFESSIONAL BIOGRAPHY OF THE NEW BOARD MEMBER, INCLUDING INFO ON HOW THEY FIRST JOINED THE CASA MOVEMENT/HEARD ABOUT CASA.

CASA volunteers with YOUR CASA PROGRAM are specially trained and appointed by judges to advocate for a child or sibling group while they are in the foster care system. They advocate for the child in court, school and other settings; and get to know everyone involved in the child’s life, including their parents, foster parents, teachers, doctors, family members and others.

CASA volunteers advocate first and foremost for children to be reunified with their parents whenever safe and possible. When reunification is not an option, they may advocate for the child to live with another relative or family friend. They can also advocate for the child to be placed in an adoptive home. In all cases, CASA volunteers are steadfast, consistent presences for the children they serve, making sure they are safe and have the resources and connections they need to grow and thrive.

It is the goal of [YOUR PROGRAM NAME] and the other CASA programs in Texas to provide a CASA volunteer for every child in foster care across the state.

For more information about [YOUR CASA PROGRAM] and how to become a CASA volunteer, visit [YOUR URL OR BECOMEACASA.ORG]. Every child has a chance – it’s you.®

###