



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Over \$120,000 Raised In Support of Fight For Basic Human Rights of Children

Adams and Broomfield Counties, CO – Five-hundred individuals rallied together in support of CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates) of Adams and Broomfield Counties at its annual Kaleidoscope of Hope (KOH) fundraising luncheon on Thursday, November 17, 2011 at the Denver Merchandise Mart. The gathering raised over \$120,000 to aid the program in its mission to make sure that every child who cannot live safely at home has a caring, compassionate CASA Volunteer who will help fight for their right to be safe, ensure that they are treated with dignity, and assure their safe passage out of foster care. Building a stronger community for all.

Each year, in Adams and Broomfield Counties, there are over 1,300 children who have been physically, sexually or emotionally abused or neglected, and who are in desperate need of a caring, committed CASA Volunteer to speak up for their best interests. In Adams and Broomfield Counties, there are over 250 CASA volunteers, and we are in need of more great community members to become advocates for children. CASA conducts volunteer training classes three times a year.

Guests gathered at the event to learn about the work CASA does through volunteer advocates who speak up for children of abuse in court. The event featured several speakers, including Bill Christopher, CASA Board Chair and The Honorable Peter Stapp, 17th Judicial District Juvenile Court Magistrate, who expressed the importance of CASA's role from the court's perspective, and Simone Jones, Executive Director for CASA of Adams & Broomfield Counties.

"The overwhelming support that was pledged at this event to help our communities' most vulnerable citizens during these tough economic times is truly heartwarming. The communities in Adams & Broomfield Counties really understand the significant needs of children suffering from child abuse and neglect and are taking action to fight for their basic human rights," Jones said.

The program also included a moving performance by child singers Avery and Channing Leopold who moved the audience to tears with the song "Pray".

The CASA KOH Luncheon was made possible by the support of the following generous Gold Sponsors: Adams County Government; Hyland Hills Park & Recreation; Nance Plumbing & Heating; Rocky's Auto; United Power; Wells Fargo; Vestas; Lafarge; A Precious Child; Gay & Lesbian Fund for Colorado; and Jay's Grill & Bar. Silver Sponsors: First Bank; and The Bromley Companies. Video Sponsor: Rocky Mountain Microfilm and Imaging. Floral Sponsor: Petals & Pearls.

While this year's luncheon has passed, child abuse and neglect is a year-round problem. CASA of Adams & Broomfield Counties encourages the community to make a financial contribution or become a CASA volunteer to help in the fight against child abuse. Individuals can make a single contribution or pledge a monthly donation. To make a financial donation, please call 303.654.3378 or visit www.casa17th.org/donate.

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CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates) of Adams and Broomfield Counties is a 501 (c)(3) non-profit organization that works to make sure that every child who cannot live safely at home has a caring, compassionate CASA Volunteer who will help fight for their right to be safe, ensure that they are treated with dignity, and assure their safe passage out of foster care. Building a stronger community for all. Each year, in Adams and Broomfield Counties, there are over 1,300 children who have been physically, sexually or emotionally abused or neglected, and who are in desperate need of a caring, committed CASA Volunteer to speak up for their best interests. In Adams and Broomfield Counties, there are over 250 CASA volunteers, and we are in need of more great community members to become advocates for children. CASA conducts volunteer training classes three times a year. For more information about CASA, call (303) 654-3378 or visit www.casa17th.org.



Pictured: Simone Jones, CASA Executive Director and The Honorable Peter Stapp, 17th Judicial District Juvenile Court Magistrate



Over 500 guests mixed and mingled at the CASA KOH Fundraising Luncheon.