

Capital Area CASA Association presents . . .

Casas for CASA 2010

WHO? ABUSED CHILDREN

More than 300 children are currently living in foster care in East Baton Rouge Parish because they have been abused or neglected by their caregivers. These children enter into complex social services and juvenile court proceedings through no fault of their own. They are **innocent victims of abuse, neglect, and abandonment**. They belong to no one as they sit silently waiting for the courts to decide their future. Many of these children become victims a second time, lost in an overburdened foster care system that cannot pay close attention to each child whose life is in its hands. Sometimes a child can remain adrift in foster care for months, even years.

VOLUNTEERS

CASAs – **Court Appointed Special Advocates** – are community volunteers trained to give special representation to abused children so they will not fall through the cracks of overworked, under funded juvenile justice and child protection systems. Since 1992, more than 800 volunteers have provided a voice in court for 1,500 abused and neglected children.

WHAT?

Casas for CASA is a **playhouse fundraiser** to generate public awareness and funding to support the work of CASA in our community. Local builder Faulk and Meek will construct and donate a child-size playhouse designed by a local architect. (Please see enclosed playhouse photographs.) The event kicks off with CASA Fiesta, an evening of dining, dancing and silent auction shopping followed by three weeks of playhouse raffle ticket sales at the Mall of Louisiana. Casas for CASA culminates with Kids Day, an afternoon of children's activities and entertainment ending with the raffle drawing.

WHEN?

The playhouse will be on display for three weeks from July 24 to August 15 at the Mall of Louisiana. CASA Fiesta will be held Sunday July 25 and Kids Day will be held Sunday August 15.

WHERE?

The **Mall of Louisiana** provides an excellent venue for Casas for CASA. The event is included in Mall of Louisiana promotional activities and advertising. Over 10,000 shoppers each weekday and 25,000 each weekend will see the Casas for CASA exhibit with sponsor names prominently displayed.

WHY?

All children deserve a safe and permanent home. Casas for CASA will enable the organization to continue its work and achieve its goal – a CASA for every child who needs one.