



CASA OF NORTHEAST OKLAHOMA, INC.

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CASA OF NORTHEAST OKLAHOMA

DEBORAH PATTERSON SELECTED AS CASA VOLUNTEER OF THE MONTH

CASA of Northeast Oklahoma is pleased to announce Deborah Patterson has been selected as CASA Volunteer of the Month for March 2020.

Patterson has been a CASA volunteer for 1 ½ years, serving 4 children on 3 cases. Patterson says of her work with CASA, “My biggest reward is getting to help provide children with a better chance, either through reunification with their parents or a new home and life.”

Patterson is retired after many years of service in education, banking, and administration. She and her husband, Kelly Patterson, have been married for 14 ½ years. The Patterson’s enjoy spending their time together while working around their home and are currently in the process of some remodeling work. When Patterson does take a break from remodeling projects she enjoys working in her yard, reading, and shopping. Patterson was blessed with 2 sons; Jeff and his wife Michelle from Arkansas and Mark whom lost his battle to cancer on March 9, 1998 at the age of 28. “Although I miss him every day, he left us with his treasured daughter. Her name is Kendra and she now has a son, Mason, and they both look just like Mark,” says Patterson. Patterson is a member of Women Active for Christ (WAC) of Oklahoma thru the Local Chapter at Foundation Freewill Baptist Church and also serves as a host and member of the Ladies Bible Study Fellowship in Grove, OK.

“There is such a great need for this service. We help give these kids a chance for a better life and home. They are the victims and have no voice except for CASA,” said Patterson.

“Debbie has just blown me away with her outstanding level of dedication in advocacy in court, and during visits with her CASA children,” Delaware County CASA Coordinator Melinda Stotts said, “Debbie performs above all expectations required of CASA Volunteers because of her belief that all children deserve a safe, loving home. She has made recommendations, and stood for them in court, resulting in life changing decisions by the court to serve the children she serves best interest. She’s one amazing CASA.”

The mission of CASA of Northeast Oklahoma is to speak up for the best interests of abused and neglected children in the courts of northeast Oklahoma. CASA promotes the recruitment and training of quality volunteers who work to Change A Child’s Story for the better.

CASA of Northeast Oklahoma is a regional multi-district court-appointed special advocate program serving abused and neglected children with volunteer advocates in the 11th, 12th, and 13th Judicial Districts. CASA of Northeast Oklahoma serves the district courts in Craig, Delaware, Mayes, Ottawa, Rogers, and Washington counties, as well as the Quapaw Nation Tribal Court.

More CASA volunteers like Patterson are needed in northeast Oklahoma. The next training class is scheduled to begin April 7, 2020 at 5:30 pm at St. Andrews Episcopal Church in Grove, OK. Additional courses are planned in various areas of the region in the future. To volunteer, go to www.casaneok.org and click on “Get Involved,” and then “Apply Now.” The application takes 45 minutes to an hour to complete.

For more information about CASA of Northeast Oklahoma, please visit the program’s website or call (918) 923-7276.

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