CASA VOZ DE NIÑOS · LAREDO, TEXAS

The CASA *Effect*

Standing by every child, every step of the way.

OCTOBER 2026

2
cases closed in October

216.36
total hours logged by the whole CASA team in October

231
Webb County children in DFPS conservatorship (Aug. 31, 2025)

October figures run October 1-28, 2026, from approved contact logs in Optima.

October on the calendar

- **Oct. 8** - Human-trafficking webinar for advocates and staff.
- **Oct. 20** - Webb County Care Coordination meeting.
- **Oct. 27** - Notes Power Hour - time to get October case notes in shape.
- October Community Partner Presentations
- **Oct. 24** - Advocates Continued Virtual On Going Training
- **Oct. 27** - Our Board Continues to Work Hard in Helping Us with Holiday Preparations

ADVOCATE SPOTLIGHT

Maria Aguero marked her CASA anniversary on **October 22**. Thank you, Maria, for another year of showing up for Webb County children - in court, on visits, and everywhere in between.

October in pictures



Case closings - celebrating October permanency



Maria Aguero - 8-year CASA anniversary, Oct. 22



Special Shout Out to Our Extended CASA Framily on the Beeeeeary Spooktacular Pumpkin - Thank you for sharing with us

Why the work matters: Webb County by the numbers

On August 31, 2025 - the most recent county-level count published by the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services (DFPS) - **231 children in Webb County** were in DFPS legal responsibility. That is 14 fewer than the 245 children counted a year earlier, and each one of those children needs a consistent adult in their corner.

122
children in temporary conservatorship

109
children in permanent conservatorship

3.3 yrs
average time in care for those 231 children

Across Texas, 17,623 children were in DFPS legal responsibility on the same day. Counting every child who spent any time in DFPS custody during fiscal year 2025, the Webb County total was 334 children.

Source: Texas DFPS Data Book, datasets CPS 2.4 and CPS 2.3 (data.texas.gov). Fiscal year 2025 ran September 1, 2024 to August 31, 2025.

Training Treats: October podcast mini-series

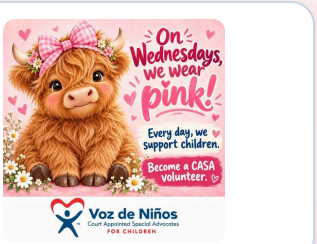
October training was one podcast episode a week - listen on the go, jot down your takeaways, and send the completed tracker back. Podcast hours count after coordinator approval, and all ongoing training hours are due **November 1, 2026**.

Week 1 - The TBRI Podcast: “Felt Safety, Part 1”

Week 2 - Creating a Family: “Helping Kids Transition From Foster Care to Adoption”

Week 3 - Creating a Family: “7 Core Issues in Adoption & Foster Care”

Week 4 - Foster Parent Well: “Tackling Stress in Foster Care & Adoption and Finding Time for Self Care”



ON WEDNESDAYS, WE WEAR PINK

Every day, we support children. This October graphic from the CASA Voz de Niños team pairs a little pink with a standing invitation: become a CASA volunteer. The next training cohort starts November 3 - see page 3.

CHRISTMAS TOY DONATION DRIVE

We’re kicking off our Christmas Toy Donation Drive early! Donate new, unwrapped toys for children ages 0–12 and help make the holidays brighter for local kids. Drop-off: CASA Office, 5702 McPherson Rd., Suite 16, Monday–Friday, 9 AM–4 PM. Please no toy guns, toy knives, or toys depicting violence.



Become a CASA: November training cohort

Know someone ready to stand up for a child? The next pre-service training cohort for new advocates meets at the CASA Voz de Niños office on four dates in November:

- **Tue, Nov. 3** - 5:00-8:00 PM
- **Sat, Nov. 7** - 9:00 AM-5:00 PM
- **Tue, Nov. 10** - 5:00-8:00 PM
- **Sat, Nov. 14** - 9:00 AM-5:00 PM

Your path to becoming a CASA starts here! Learn, apply, interview, train, and serve—with support along the way. Apply today: **https://tx-vozdeninos.evintosolutions.com/volunteerapplication**



Save the dates - New Cohort Advocate Training



Your path to becoming a CASA - Learn, Apply, Interview, Train, Serve

LOOKING AHEAD

October case notes are due **November 6**, and signed FBI fingerprint authorization forms and advocate continuing-education hours were due **November 1**. Thank you to every advocate who kept October moving - in the courtroom, on home visits, and on the phone.



The Adventures of Joy & Hope: Part 2 - Training Day

Joy the butterfly and Hope the Highland cow are back! The morning after their first adventure, Joy woke up with a brand-new question - was she really ready to help children? Hope took her to CASA training day to find out.



MAKE IT A GAME

Read the comic together, then spot these in the panels:

- Joy, the little blue butterfly
- Hope's pink bow and pink scarf
- The trainer's words: “Every child has a story”
- The sparkling heart in the sunset sky

THE STORY IN ONE LINE

“Every action matters. Every connection counts. Every advocate makes an impact.”

Begin your story at vozdeninos.org, or apply to train with the November cohort on page 3: **tx-vozdeninos.evintosolutions.com/volunteerapplication**