



August 2020



A Very Fond Farewell

Please join us in thanking Renée Espinoza for 7 ½ terrific years as SFCASA's leader!

We will miss her.

Visit our website for messages from Board Chair [Lisa Pearson](#) and [Renee](#).

Upcoming CE Opportunity

Safety Conversations (Virtual Advocate Support Group) on **Thursday, August 6, at 6-8 pm on Zoom**

Join Sue Lockyer (Case Supervisor) and Mia Ragent (Education Specialist/Case Supervisor) to learn how to talk with the young person you support about safety and reducing the harm of risky behaviors. We will provide practical suggestions, and an opportunity to discuss and practice what a safety conversation with your youth might look like.

To register, email our Training Specialist at training@sfcasa.org.

Back to School Survey!



Time to go back to school! If you work with a youth in grades K-12, take 2 minutes to fill out this **mandatory** survey: [SFCASA Back to School Survey](#). Schools in CA start as early as 8/10, this information will be critical for how you tailor your education advocacy, especially with distance learning. Surveys must be completed by **Friday, August 7th**.

Make your donations and volunteer hours go further!

Did you know many employers will match employee donations, or make contributions for the volunteer hours their employees log? Ask your HR department or check out [Double the Donation](#) to see if your employer has a matching gift or volunteer hour benefit program.

P.S. Did you make a donation when you were fingerprinted? Get it matched!

Resuming In-Person Visits with Youth

Next Gen Free Online After School Program



SFCASA encourages Advocates to consider if and how they might feel comfortable resuming in-person visits with their youth. Please refer to our detailed guidance [here](#) and know that we support Advocates to make the decision that works best for them. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact your Case Supervisor.

Bay Area Video Coalition's [Next Gen](#) after school program offers training in video production, audio production, game code design, and animation for youth ages 14-17. The program is free to all participants and will be offered online this school year. The Fall 2020 program runs from September-December on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Youth can apply for the fall 2020 or spring 2021 semesters [here](#).

Out of County Youth Resources

Many of our CASAs support youth who reside outside of San Francisco County. Our staff and a group of volunteers have been working to compile resources to support you and your youth to get connected with organizations located near their placements. The [Community Resources for Youth](#) section of our website is now categorized by county and will be updated regularly.

Please contact your Case Supervisor if you would like to share any resources with us.

iPads Available for Youth under 13

We still have a few iPads available on a first-come first-served basis. These are available to youth 13 and under to support their technology needs and distance learning.

Please contact your Case Supervisor to request an iPad and schedule a pick-up time.

Community Learning Hubs



DCYF and the SF Recreation and Parks Department are planning to implement Community Learning Hubs to support children, youth, and families during the school year. These Learning Hubs will provide low-income youth with a safe, neighborhood-based place for distance learning close to home. Learn more about the Hubs [here](#).

Learn to Be Free Tutoring Program

As schools gear up for distance learning this fall, we are continuing to share educational resources to support your youth.

SFCASA has a partnership with **Learn to Be Tutoring**, a nonprofit that provides free and remote tutoring services to K-12 students in math, reading, writing, and English. Due to placement and school changes, youth in foster care often fall behind academically as they may not have access to the extra support and personalized attention they need to thrive. Since Learn to Be offers online services, youth can work with the same tutor regardless of where they live or what school they attend.

Our partnership includes a customized [enrollment link](#) where CASAs can automatically sign their youth up for a tutor!



Customized Wooden Initial Gifts

Do you want to send your youth a personalized gift during this unprecedented time?

We have a volunteer who creates customized wooden letters that reflect your young person's interests and hobbies!

Fill out this [survey](#) to request a gift for your youth. All gifts will be mailed to you or your youth from SFCASA.



Delivering smiles to children one birthday cake at a time®

Cake4Kids Is Open!

Cakes4Kids is accepting requests to celebrate youth's birthdays!

They are also accepting requests for youth who may need a "pick-me-up" treat; however, priority is given for birthday requests.

All desserts will be delivered to the SFCASA office to be picked up by the advocate.

Due to limited in-office presence, please contact our [Program Assistant](#) or your Case Supervisor to submit a request.

