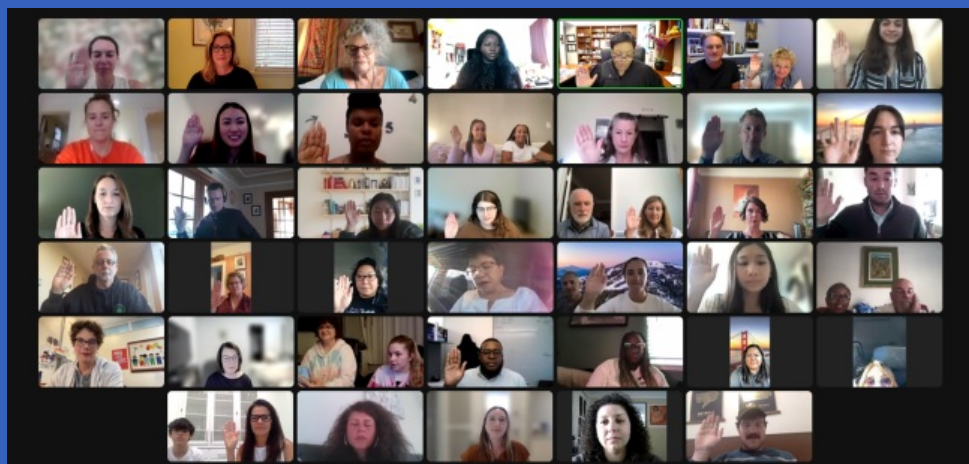




## Your Help Needed to Meet Court Report Deadlines! Please Submit Your Drafts 4 Weeks Before the Hearing Date

Let's work together to reverse the concerning trend of late court reports. Our judicial, attorney, and PSW partners rely heavily on SFCASA court reports, and their feedback has consistently indicated how difficult it is to not have the report in adequate time, and in some instances not at all before the hearing. SFCASA have an obligation per Rule 12.22D of the Local Rules of Court to file and serve your report upon all attorneys no less than 10 calendar days prior to the hearing date. **Please be sure to have your court report draft to your Case Supervisor no later than four weeks before the next court hearing** to ensure sufficient time for you and your case supervisor to engage in a collaborative editing process and for the SFCASA team to file and serve the report. Please reach out to your Case Supervisor or Director of Programs [Erika Dirkse](#) with any questions or feedback. We can do better and want to partner with you to do so!

## Congratulations to our Summer 2022 Training Cohort!



Welcome to our newest virtual training class of CASAs swearing- in on September 8<sup>th</sup>. We are excited to support you as you embark on your CASA journey.

IT IS TIME TO  
CELEBRATE YOU!

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 28TH



# ADVOCATE APPRECIATION Party

WHERE?

ALL GOOD PIZZA

1605 Jerrold Avenue, San  
Francisco, CA 94124  
Outdoor Beer Garden

6:00 PM

## Castro Street Fair



SFCASA

APPLIED AS A BENEFICIARY ORGANIZATION  
OF THE CASTRO STREET FAIR

OCTOBER 2, 2022

We will need your  
help!



We are recruiting volunteers who  
want to support SFCASA and Castro  
Street Fair at the same time.



Are you interested in volunteering  
on October 2nd?

This is an opportunity to meet and share time with other CASA volunteers in a different context. Volunteers who want to participate in this event are helping with the logistics of the fair. We are looking for 15-20 volunteers who want to support us in this event. Soon we will be giving you more details about the event and the tasks that the volunteers will support.

If you want to be a volunteer for this event please respond in this [link](#).

# SFCASA

## A Home Within Therapy Project



### DO YOU KNOW A YOUTH IN FOSTER CARE WE CAN HELP?

A Home Within-CASA Therapy Project (ACTP) matches youth impacted by the foster care system with clinical therapists for weekly pro bono teletherapy sessions.

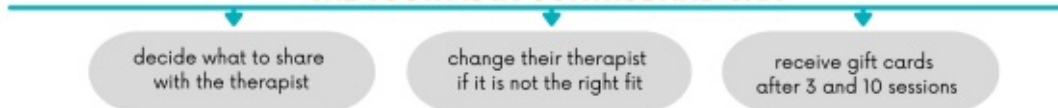
Clients are in foster care, 12-21 years of age or have recently aged out, many have experienced trauma and would benefit from weekly teletherapy. ACTP offers opportunity to improve communication, address anxiety and depression, and learn self-esteem and self-love so symptoms don't become severe.

Clients can be referred by their CASA volunteer, social worker, other advocate, or they can self-refer. Youth are not required to have a CASA volunteer to participate, and teletherapy doesn't end when the youth ages out of foster care.

#### FEEDBACK FROM OUR PARTICIPANTS



#### THE YOUTH IS IN CONTROL AND CAN



#### THE PARTNERSHIP

CASA of Contra Costa County is the leading service provider of individualized one-to-one advocacy for youth in foster care.

A Home Within is a national nonprofit that recruits and supports volunteer clinicians who offer free weekly teletherapy to youth currently in care and foster alumni.

#### CONTACT

✉ [elliottnight@cccocasa.org](mailto:elliottnight@cccocasa.org)

☎ 925-256-7284 Ext. 127



#### YOUTH REFERRAL APPLICATION

🌐 <https://bit.ly/3zoqHXQ>



In June 2021 A Home Within and CASA of Contra Costa County were awarded a 3-year grant through The Community Reinvestment Grants Program administered by the California Governor's Office of Business and Economic Development.

## Educational Advocacy

The Back 2 School event held on August 20<sup>th</sup> was a success! Many thanks to everyone who made the event possible and to those who were able to attend the

event! If your youth still needs a backpack, please reach out to your Case Supervisor. Backpacks will be provided on a first come, first serve basis while supplies last.

A friendly reminder that CASA is excited to share that Andromeda Math Partners, a tutoring company specializing in math and physics, has offered to designate three spaces to CASA youths. The program is free and the curriculum has a socio-emotional component. Andromeda Math Partners' diverse team of tutors have experience working with youths from varying backgrounds. For more information, please contact the Educational Advocacy Specialist at [alexis@sfcasa.org](mailto:alexis@sfcasa.org).

# High Quality Math Tutoring

## Pre-algebra, Algebra & Geometry

Ever feel like  
this about  
math?



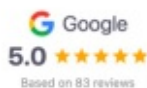
We'll help you  
feel like this!



Register now for  
**FREE**  
**TUTORING**  
fall semester  
begins  
**September 6th**

*Spaces are limited. Contact us today.*

### ALEXANDER TUTORING



*"This Alexander Tutoring program changes the lives of young people. God bless your team because my son is very happy as he went from grades C and D, to grade A. It really was a miracle that you came into our lives."*

- Alexander Tutoring parent



### Ensuring Students Succeed in Math

Students engage in one-on-one online tutoring with their professional math tutor for one hour per week - **all free of cost.** Students improve their math grades, deepen foundational skills, and feel more confident and comfortable with math. We serve 8th grade through high school to help students achieve success throughout their high school math journey.

### Andromeda Math Partners

*brought to you by Alexander Tutoring, Innovate Public Schools & Enliven Learning Partners*

Fall Semester 2022: September 6 - December 15

**To register, email or text:**

info@andromedaeducation.com | (510)617-6674



Premium  
Phone Plan  
for Youth!



## iFoster and T-Mobile FREE Phones for CA Foster Youth

### PHONE PLAN

- New smartphone (Moto G7 REVVL4) with 32GB, front/back cameras
- Unlimited talk
- Unlimited text
- Unlimited high speed smartphone data
- 10GB of high speed hotspot data then unlimited 3G hotspot data
- Unlimited domestic data roaming
- Optimized video streaming at 480

**UNLIMITED!**

Phone service provided  
by iFoster partner:

**T-Mobile**



### ELIGIBILITY

- Youth age 13 to 26 inclusive
- Were in foster or Kin-Gap care on their 13th birthday or later
- Ward of Court or County Dependency Letter required as proof of foster care status
- iFoster registers youth anonymously on the TMobile network to ensure privacy & can turn phones off as needed (i.e. lost, direct request)
- Phones arrive assigned to specific youth, activated & ready for use
- Phones are imaged with the iFoster app to access hundreds of free resources & iFoster's digital life app

### APPLICATION

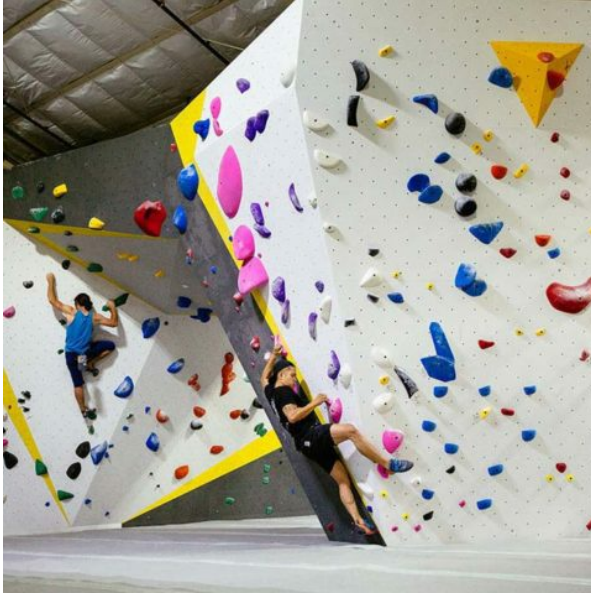
- Click button to apply. Youth or their supportive adults can apply.



**QUESTIONS?** For more information please call 1-855-936-7837 or [phone@ifoster.org](mailto:phone@ifoster.org)

## Indoor Rock Climbing and Bouldering Classes for Youth & CASAs!

SFCASA has partnered with **Touchstone Climbing**, an indoor rock climbing gym to offer free classes for CASAs and youth at all locations! Their locations include **San Francisco, Oakland, Berkeley, Sacramento,**



and Fresno.

**Details:**

CASAs who are members of Touchstone or become members may add their youth to their membership for free.

**Free Intro to Climbing Class**

Learn the basic skills needed to start rope climbing: how to secure your harness, tie a figure 8 follow-through knot and complete your safety checks. You will also learn how to belay using an ATC belay device, catch a fall and lower your climber back to the ground.

If it is your first time rope climbing, this class is required for advocates and youth 14 and older to learn to belay. Youth 13 and under may observe you in the class as you learn and climb with you afterwards

**Free Intro to Bouldering Class**

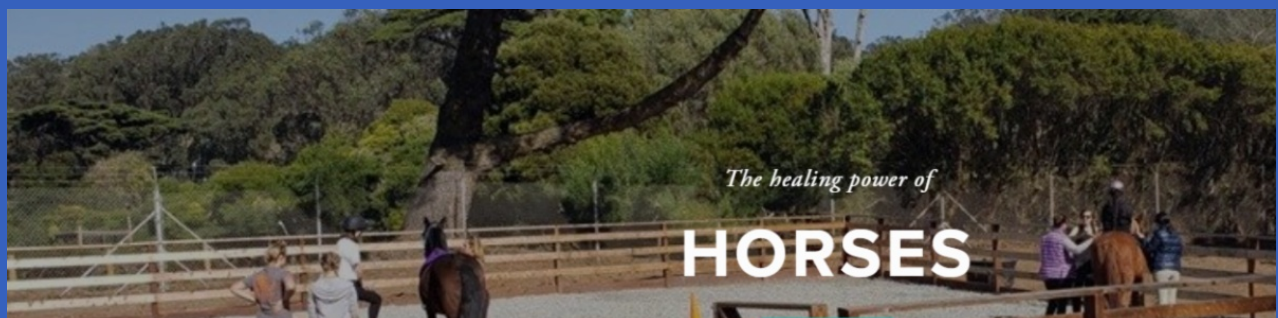
Get an overview of safety practices, the layout of the gym, bouldering etiquette, and basic technique. This class is highly encouraged for first timers.

For all classes, please arrive at least 15 minutes before the class starts. Reservations made in advance online or over the phone are recommended.

Contact our **Program Assistant** for a pass that you can redeem at any Touchstone location. This pass can be used for a day pass or for adding your CASA youth to your Touchstone membership.

Before your visit, please complete your **online waiver** for yourself and your CASA youth. **All youth must have a waiver signed by a parent, legal guardian, or caregiver.**

Full details available on our website [here](#).



SFCASA has partnered with **Brady Therapeutic Riding** to offer low-key, safe and fun sessions learning about horses. Youth can come, hang out and decide what they want to do: volunteer-type activities (grooming, saddling horses, cleaning stalls) and/or get on the horse for a riding lesson, and/or a combination of the two! Brady Therapeutic Riding is located on the SF Zoo campus, and helps youth learn about being present, letting go of stories, and being aware of their

body via relationships with gentle rescue horses. There are no foster youth labels or jargon at “Hanging with the Horses”, just a time and space to learn, grow and heal.

SFCASA covers the cost of sessions. Introductory sessions are on Sunday mornings, after which times can be scheduled on afternoons W-F, and Saturdays. Please contact Program Manager Sue Lockyer ([sue@sfcasa.org](mailto:sue@sfcasa.org)) for more information or to get started with “Hanging with the Horses”.

## Upcoming SFCASA CE Opportunities

*Enhance the impact of your advocacy!*



### **Working with Juvenile Justice Involved Youth 101**

**Wednesday, September 7, 2022 from 6-8 PM on Zoom (2 CE credits) with SFCASA Juvenile Justice Coordinator, Luna Robledo**

This training is intended for current and future CASAs matched with a young person in the juvenile justice system, if you serve a youth in the JJ system or a young adult accessing AB12 through Probation, please plan to attend this training. Serving a JJ youth has key differences in many areas including: the team members, the court hearing types and procedures, the key advocacy areas, the resources available to the youth, and more. Additionally, the youth themselves tend to have different experiences and characteristics than their dependency involved peers that are crucial to understand when connecting with a JJ youth in order to best serve them and their families. This training will dive into all the special considerations of working with a justice involved teen or young adult. Specific questions or topics you would like to discuss are welcomed prior to training, submit to Luna at [Luna@sfcasa.org](mailto:Luna@sfcasa.org).

Register [HERE](#)

### **Effective Communication**

**Tuesday, September 13th, 2022 from 6-8 PM on Zoom (2 CE Credits) with Dr. Natalia Estassi**

Communication is essential in forming and maintaining healthy relationships. This training will review effective communication techniques we need as providers and



address the challenges that may come up with working with youth and families in our system of care. The importance of role modeling and best practices for self-disclosures so we can be most effective in your role as a CASA. The importance of positive attention for youth and how to best consistently provide this to youth will be explored, as well as strength-based practices.

Register [HERE](#).

## **The Intersection of Race, Systems Involvement, and Children with Disabilities: Creating More Equitable Education Systems with Jill Rowland, David Noble, Elana Zada and Alexis Ramsey of Alliance for Children's Rights**

**Part 1: Tuesday, Sept. 21, 2022 from 6:00-8:00pm on Zoom (2 CE credits)**

**Part 2: Wednesday, Sept. 27, 2022 from 6:00-8:00pm on Zoom (2 CE credits)**

This is a two-part training series. In the first training session, participants will learn the historical and legal backdrop of how our education system has become so unequal and will also explore how implicit bias impacts children of color. Part Two will explore how children of color and those with disabilities are over-represented in the special education, school discipline, child welfare, and juvenile justice systems, as well as ways to advocate to better assist children within these systems. Upon completion of training, participants will have a better understanding of how race, discriminatory systems and practices impact students of color and/or students with disabilities. Participants will learn practical strategies to better-equip them to support the youth they serve.

PART 1: Register [HERE](#)

PART 2: Register [HERE](#)

## **CASA Community Network Huddle – Maintaining Boundaries** **Monday, September 26, 2022 from 6-7pm on Zoom (1 CE credit)**

The CASA Community Network (CCN) is a network for CASAs, organized by CASAs and hosted by CASAs. We share, lean in and on, and support each other through events, such as The Huddle. In The Huddle we learn from experts - ourselves - we have collective years of expertise among us. We are a network of support - who better understands the ups, the downs, the joys, the challenges than we do.

Please join us for our next Huddle for informal sharing with and supporting of each other. All CASAs and ERHs are welcome to attend!

Register [HERE](#)

## **TAY Engagement Strategies**

**Wednesday, October 12th, 2022 from 6-8pm on Zoom (2 CE Credits) with Allison Roeser**

Is it sometimes a challenge to connect with the teen or young adult that you serve? We will explore together the common challenges of engaging, and will hear from experienced CASAs highlighting strategies and approaches that have worked well. We will also hear about ways to advocate "behind the scenes" during times of less direct communication with your youth. Attendees will have the opportunity to speak with other CASAs having similar experiences and will leave

with clear next steps for ways to stay engaged during the natural ebbs and flows of communication with their youth.

Register [HERE](#)

Please visit [Additional Continuing Education Opportunities](#) for alternative options.

*Do you have ideas for future CEs? Let us know by emailing [training@sfcasa.org](mailto:training@sfcasa.org)*

## Transitional Age Youth/ Non-Minor Dependent Corner (TAY/NMD)

### Can U Relate: Healthy Relationships Course

Shores of Hope will be hosting an information session and course about Healthy Relationships with an October Open Call for Enrollment. There are two flyers, one is for the course enrollment with a QR code to enroll, and the other is the invite for our info session, which will be held on September 22 at 6PM via Zoom and includes a clickable link leading to the meeting registration.

Shores of Hope has an additional incentive this cohort; if students **enroll by September 27** they can also receive a free swag bag with the physical version of class materials and some fun October goodies!

## You're invited to our Info Session!

Thursday,  
September 22  
@6:00PM  
via Zoom

### Who should attend this info session?

- \* Teens ages 14 - 19
- \* Youth Advocates
- \* Parents and other trusted adults in teens' lives
- \* Staff working with youth
- \* Anyone interested in learning more about the *Can U Relate?* course!

[Click to Register](#)

We'll answer all your questions and more!

Next Cohort Starts:  
October 7 - 28  
Monday | Wednesday | Friday  
4:30 - 6:00PM  
[outreach@shoresofhope.org](mailto:outreach@shoresofhope.org)

Presented by:



## Relationships can be scary... But they don't have to be!

Enroll now to learn the skills to...

- 👤 Not be haunted by your past or spooked about the future
- 👤 Clearly communicate without ghosting
- 👤 Clear away the fog on relationship expectations
- 👤 Express your authentic self so you don't have to wear a mask

Earn  
gift cards  
and  
raffle prizes!

October 7 - 28  
Mon | Wed | Fri  
4:30 - 6:00PM  
10 sessions via Zoom  
Enroll by September 27  
to receive our October swag bag!

[outreach@shoresofhope.org](mailto:outreach@shoresofhope.org)

Enroll Now!



SHORES OF HOPE

## American Industries Scholarship

American Industries is a scholarship from Together We Rise for current or former foster youth pursuing a trade or vocational certification. The application cycle is still open and the deadline has been extended to **September 15th, 2022 at 3pm PST**. Please click the button below to fill out the application and check eligibility requirements. Additionally, if there are any questions or concerns please feel free to contact [TA@togetherwerise.org](mailto:TA@togetherwerise.org) or text/call at (714)202-7629.

To learn more and apply, click [here](#).

## CASA Tip of the Month

*Celebrate the small wins! Every little bit of progress is important, no matter how small.*



You can help  
give a child the  
gift of love.  
Someone you  
know could be  
an amazing  
volunteer.  
Please, share  
our message  
with your friends  
and family!

[www.sfcasa.org/volunteer](http://www.sfcasa.org/volunteer)



SFCASA | 2535 Mission Street, San Francisco, CA 94110-2511

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