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August 17, 2022

Claudio Forest  
Summit Club of Flower Mound  
2300 Olympia Drive, Unit #270269  
Flower Mound, TX 75027

Dear Claudio,

On behalf of the board of directors, staff and more than 200 volunteers, I want to thank you for your support of Court Appointed Special Advocates of Denton County, Inc.

You are familiar with CASA of Denton County's work in the community, but perhaps not some of our more recent challenges. Because we work within the Texas Child Protection System, we cope with many changes, struggles, and shortcomings of a patchwork of services designed to keep our most vulnerable young citizens safe. Over the last year we have seen a myriad of troubling issues converge:

- Revelations from the foster care lawsuit that grab media headlines and ignite public ire.
- Initiatives aimed at improving the system that in reality have left many children without placements.
- Changes at the legislative level designed to keep children with their families but came without a corresponding increase in prevention services.

Recognizing that the children in the statewide system designed to protect them deserve better, we believe that this perfect storm all points to one conclusion – more children in Texas need a CASA, we need to reach more endangered and traumatized children.

Currently, we are looking at ways to move CASA of Denton County's work into an earlier phase of family strife – that is, before the children are removed from the home. This would allow us to do critical advocacy and make life-changing referrals for services that could become part of the solution to the problem of child abuse and neglect. Stay tuned for more information on this exciting update.

While the Texas Child Protection System experiences turbulence, CASA of Denton County remains steadfast. Despite rising costs, we have served all children who need us since May of 2021. Our 2022 statistics show that so far, in 92% of our children's cases, the judge and/or jury agreed with CASA's recommendation for the final outcome of the case.

We look forward to celebrating with you at North Texas Giving Day September 22, Evening of Elegance October 30, and throughout our Fund a Child Campaign. Our next Advocacy Academy begins September 9. If you know someone who would make a great CASA, go to our website for more information.

Sincerely yours,

**Debbie Jensen**  
Executive Director

A POWERFUL VOICE  
IN A CHILD'S LIFE!

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CASA of Denton County  
is a member agency of  
Texas CASA, Inc., the  
National CASA Association,  
and the United Ways  
of Denton County  
and Metropolitan Dallas.