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## **CASA of Travis County Awarded \$12,500 for Family Drug Treatment Court Specialist**

**AUSTIN, TEXAS** (May 27, 2009) – The Texas Bar Foundation has awarded CASA of Travis County \$12,500 to support the lead Child Advocacy Specialist at the newly implemented Travis County Family Drug Treatment Court. Designed for parents of abused and/or neglected children, the Family Drug Treatment Court is used to provide accountability for substance abusing parents in danger of losing their children.

“Playing a role in the Family Drug Treatment Court in Travis County is important as we work to assist in keeping families intact,” stated Laura Wolf, Executive Director of CASA of Travis County. “The Texas Bar Foundation understands our mission in advocating for the best interest of the child and we are grateful for the opportunity to continue our work with this new Court.”

Since its inception in 1965, the Texas Bar Foundation has awarded more that \$9 million in grants to law-related programs. Supported by members of the State Bar of Texas, the Texas Bar Foundation is the nation’s largest charitably-funded bar foundation.

### **About CASA of Travis County**

CASA of Travis County is the only organization in Travis County appointed by judges to be *guardians ad litem* in child protective services cases. CASA provides advocates to speak up in court for the best interest of children who have been removed from their home due to abuse or neglect. CASA recruits, trains, screens, and supervises these community volunteers so that they may properly advocate for the best interest of the child. Volunteers drive the success of CASA and do so by being the voice so many children are left without. CASA volunteers not only spend time with the child entrusted to them but also meet with the child’s school, doctor, and care-giver in order to better assess recommendations they make to the court. CASA of Travis County was established in 1985 and continues to grow with over 400 trained volunteers serving more than 1,100 children each year.

For further information on CASA of Travis County, visit [www.casatavis.org](http://www.casatavis.org).

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