

October 2015 - Vol 4, Issue 10

Court Appointed **Special Advocates** of Mendocino & Lake Counties



ember of the National CASA Association

DOES YOUR ORGANIZATION BACKGROUND CHECK USING THE CHILD ABUSE CENTRAL INDEX

The Attorney General administers the Child Abuse Central Index (CACI), which was created by the Legislature in 1965 as a tool for state and local agencies to help protect the health and safety of California's children. Defined in Penal Code sections 11164 through 11174.31, these statutes are referred to as the "Child Abuse and Neglect Reporting Act" or "CANRA".

Investigated reports of child abuse are forwarded to the CACI. These reports contain information related to substantiated cases of physical abuse, sexual abuse, mental/emotional abuse, and/or severe neglect of a

The information in the CACI is available to aid law enforcement investigations, prosecutions, and to provide notification of new child abuse investigation reports involving the same suspects and/or victims. Information also is provided to designated social welfare agencies to



help screen applicants for licensing or employment in child care facilities and foster homes, and to aid in background checks for other possible child placements, and adoptions. Dissemination of CACI information is restricted and controlled by statute.

Why Children Need Ongoing Nurturing Relationships

Consistent, nurturing relationships are essential for intellectual and social development

Although consistent nurturing relationships with significant adults are taken for granted by most of us as a necessity for babies and young children, we often do not put this commonly held belief into practice. Pioneers, such as Erik Erikson, Anna Freud, and Dorothy Burlingham, revealed that to pass successfully through the stages of early childhood, children require sensitive, nurturing care to build capacities for trust, empathy, and compassion.

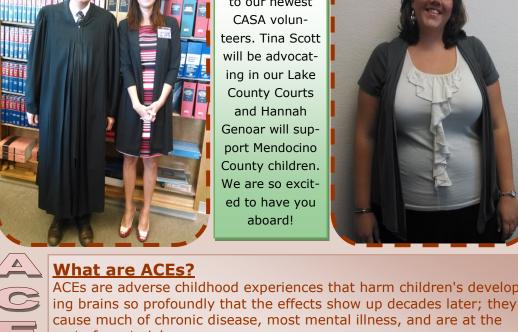
young children help the central nervous system grow appropriately. Listening to the human voice, for example, helps babies learn to distinguish sounds and develop language. Exchanging gestures helps babies learn to perceive and respond to emotional cues and form a sense of self. <u>NURTURE</u>

Supportive, warm, nurturing emotional interactions with infants and

Hannah Genoar

with CASA Tina Scott in Lake County

Judge Hedstrom



CASA volunteers. Tina Scott will be advocating in our Lake **County Courts** and Hannah Genoar will support Mendocino County children. We are so excited to have you aboard!



who took Oath in





root of most violence.

"ACEs" comes from the <u>CDC-Kaiser Adverse Childhood Experiences</u> Study, a groundbreaking public health study that discovered that childhood trauma leads to the adult onset of chronic diseases, depression and other mental illness, violence and being a victim of violence.

The ACE Study has published about 70 research papers since 1998. Hundreds of additional research papers based on the ACE Study have

also been published.



MUST BE 21 OR OLDER TO ATTEND. A benefit in support of the abused children served by the Court Appointed Special Advocates of Mendocino & Lake Counties.

