

# Logann's Lemonade Stand

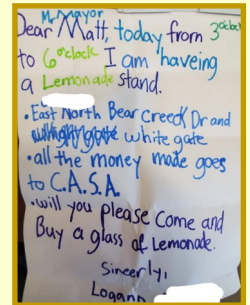
*When life gives you lemons, make lemonade!*

In support of Child Abuse Awareness month in April, Logann Albrecht, the 7-year old daughter of Keith and Ashlee Albrecht hosted a lemonade stand on Friday, April 16 using lemons from the family's tree. Sweet Logann knows the importance of helping foster youth. Her grandmother Kim has been a volunteer advocate at Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) of Merced County for almost 10 years! In addition to seeing the important work her Grandma Kim does, Logann's teacher Mrs. Avila helped inspire her. The classroom discussed the different things the students could do to help others and who they would like to raise money for. The class of second graders also discussed the foster care system and the difficulties foster kids face.

2020 was a rough year for fundraising but Logann did an awesome job starting 2021 off on the right foot. Her goal was to raise \$500 and she raised over \$4000! A few days after Logann's lemonade stand, two of her classmates Diana and Zoe followed her example, had another stand, and raised additional money. As Logann said, "It is like I am their fundraiser!" All proceeds from both lemonade stands was donated to CASA of Merced County. Logann, along with her brother Benny, Mom, Grandma Kim, Cousin Marin McAuley and Aunt Shelly Harris delivered a check to CASA on April 21. Per Logann's request, the funds she raised will go to help CASA youth with necessities and extracurricular activities.

CASA of Merced County advocate for the best interests of abused and neglected children within the court system. Based on the belief that every child is entitled to a safe and supportive home, CASA works through trained volunteers in collaboration with key agencies, legal counsel and community resources to serve as the child's advocate in the Merced County Juvenile Court System.

For more information on CASA of Merced County, how you can become a volunteer or make a donation please go to their website [www.mercedcasa.org](http://www.mercedcasa.org) or call 209-722-2272.



Pictured from left to right Cathie Lancaster, Ashlee Albrecht, Logann, her cousin Marin McAuley, Grandma Kimberly McAuley, Logann's brother Benny and her Aunt Shelly Harris.

## Foster Care Awareness Month



May was National Foster Care Awareness month and you can show your support by purchasing a Turn a Life around t-shirt for \$25! Please stop by the CASA of Merced County office to purchase yours today!

You can also visit our website to make your purchase [www.mercedcasa.org](http://www.mercedcasa.org) or Venmo @CASAofMerced. If you would like us to ship your t-shirt, please pay \$30 total to include \$5 for shipping.



## Corbin Cash Distillery

On Saturday, May 22 CASA was able to set up a table booth for the first time in over a year! We had help from two of our wonderful Advocates, Sonia Alshami & Cindy Lurtizen, along with two employees, Stefani Durbin & Angela McKellar. It was truly wonderful to be out in the public again, being able to sell our CASA t-shirts and raise awareness. We hope to host another booth in the near future and we definitely hope to see you all there!





Executive Director Cathie Lancaster enjoyed being out in the community again and sharing info about CASA! This was the first time in over a year she was able to make an in person presentation. A big thanks to Atwater Rotary for their generous donation! We will put the money to good use helping CASA kiddos. Pictured left to right, Cathie Lancaster, Ana Boyenga and Mike Nelson. Mike is a former Advocate.



CASA is excited to host our First Annual Golf Fore CASA tournament on Saturday August 14 at Pheasant Run Golf Course in Chowchilla. CASA is looking for teams of four, hole sponsors and cart sponsors.

For more information:

Call the CASA office at 209-722-2272

Text Sonia at 209-259-8189 or Cathie at 209-631-6313

Not everyone can be a CASA volunteer, but everyone can help a foster child. **We hope you can join us!**



CASA had a great visit from Miss Merced County Kiley Pastori on May 17, 2021. Kiley's grandfather, Jerry O'Banion, was a former County Supervisor and had always been a huge supporter of CASA! Kiley is now following in his footsteps by promoting CASA and even hosting a Fundraiser to support our Foster Youth! During her visit to drop off the donation, Kiley was able to tour the newly updated office and learn more about the wonderful things CASA has going on. We are so grateful that Kiley has chosen CASA as her platform in the Miss California Pageant. We cannot wait to see all of the wonderful work she completes in the future! Thank you Kiley!

### Happy National CASA Day!!

CASA is grateful that Senator Josh Newman (CA Senate District 29) put forth Bill SCR 49, declaring May 28th as CASA Appreciation Day in California. This is an opportunity for California to honor and thank the dedicated CASA volunteers who ensure children and youth in the foster care system have their voices heard every day.

CASA Appreciation Day also gives the residents of California a chance to better understand the critical



role a CASA volunteer plays in the lives of young people, and inspire others to contribute their time and resources to support children in foster care.



A BIG thank you to Sunrise Rotary for their continued support of CASA! It was Executive Director Cathie Lancaster's pleasure to speak to Merced Sunrise Rotary about our organization. We are absolutely grateful for the generous donation that was presented by President Doug Forte. Fun fact, Doug and Cathie went to Atwater High School together.