

# **Circle of Care** is CASA Mental Health's quarterly publication for child, youth and family mental health in Alberta.

## **CASA House is Hope: Jill and Faer's Journey**

Driving away after dropping your child off at an intensive live-in mental health program is hard.

That's how Jill Oliver describes feeling after admitting her youth, Faer, to CASA House in 2022.

For Jill's family, the journey to get the right treatment has been long and challenging, surpassing 10 years. "When Faer was in Grade 2, things came to a head," says Jill. "The outbursts were dominating the home."

The following year, Faer was referred to CASA Mental Health and assigned a therapist who helped with emotional regulation.

Learn more about their family's journey:



Jill and Faer generously participated in CASA's back-to-school giving campaign by sharing their story. Watch the video, continue reading their story or make a gift today to make a difference for kids headed back to class. Your support helps ensure more kids and youth with mental health challenges have the resources and support to succeed this school year.

**Read Their Story** 

Make a Gift

# **Trauma Program Launches in Calgary**

Children and youth in the Calgary area can now receive free complex trauma treatment. CASA Mental Health is expanding and has established new services in Calgary to provide mental health resources that meet kids where they are, serve more children and youth and provide support built directly into families' lives.

The Trauma program is for children between the ages of five and 17 and their caregivers. It nurtures connection and safety in the caregiver-child relationship after experiencing trauma.

Located at CASA Calgary (#200 1000 7 Avenue S.W., Calgary, AB), the Trauma

program officially opened its doors on Aug. 11, 2025, with a limited number of patient referrals. When the program is fully operational, it will serve hundreds of children and youth per year.



The Calgary Trauma team celebrating the Calgary Stampede!

**Learn More** 

# **Deeply Committed: New Director Champions CASA Classrooms Expansion Across Alberta**

More services and more capacity for Alberta families, closer to home.

Lori Roe is deeply committed to improving outcomes for children, youth and families.

Earlier this year, CASA welcomed two new directors to its Senior Leadership Team to lead the expansion of muchneeded mental health programs and make a life-changing difference for more families. Lori, CASA's Director, Clinical is leading the expansion of the CASA Classrooms program to seven new locations across Alberta in fall 2025. This proven model of schoolbased mental health care is entering its third school year of bringing specialized mental health treatment to students in Grade 4 through 12 where they live and learn.



Lori Roe is the new Director, Clinical (CASA Classrooms) at CASA Mental Health.

Learn more about Lori's vision for CASA Classrooms.

#### **Leave a Lasting Legacy**

Making a gift through your will is an easy way to support a cause that is important to you. With a legacy gift, you can shape the future of mental health in Alberta. Your will makes a difference. **Learn more**.

Give Help Get Help



#### **CASA Beat: Our 2024-25 Annual Report**

CASA's 2024-25 annual report is out now! Your support helped us do amazing things last year:

- We served 11,133 children, youth and family members, from 121 communities across Alberta — up from 8,972 and 91 communities the previous year.
- We opened 10 CASA Classrooms.
- We hired 163 new team members.
- We started planning and designing four new CASA House facilities.

Read more in this year's CASA Beat magazine!

### Interested in donating securities? Start now to get your 2025 tax receipt.

When you donate publicly traded securities to CASA Mental Health, you're making a life-changing impact for kids' mental health. You also eliminate the capital gains tax you'd pay if you sold them first. You'll receive a charitable tax receipt for your gift, and giving is simple just ask your broker to complete our **transfer form**. To ensure your receipt is issued for this tax year, start your transfer by mid-December since processing can take additional time around the holidays. And don't forget to let us know when you've made a gift so we can thank you! **Learn more**.

#### **CASA IN THE NEWS**

**CASA Mental Health Supporting Kids Going Back to School** 

Going back to class can create feelings of uncertainty and anxiety for some students. As parents, how can we support our children, and how do we know if they're just feeling uncertain, or if they're struggling and need more help? **Michael Neeland**, program supervisor with CASA Mental Health's Core program joined Global Morning News to help parents sort through some of those questions.



Watch the segment here

# Taking an Age-Appropriate Approach to Talking About World Events

The things we see on the news are often scary and can take a toll on our mental health.

Michael Neeland joined Global Morning News to talk about maintaining hope and resilience through tough times.



Watch the segment here

#### Wills Week is Oct. 6-10!

Planning for a legacy gift in your will ensures that your dreams and aspirations for the community continue beyond your lifetime.

Edmonton Community Foundation partners with a dedicated team of volunteer estate lawyers to answer your questions about will and estate planning. Wills Week sessions are free of charge to the public and offer information about:

- Creating and/or updating a will.
- What a will can and cannot do.
- How a will can help save taxes for both you and your estate.
- Why it is so important to have a will prepared with the help and expertise of a lawyer, accountant, and financial and estate planner.

Sign up for a session today!

#### **EVENTS**

Save the Date! Garden of Hope: An Enchanted CASA Carnival for Kids' Mental Health Returns in Full Bloom on Friday, March 20, 2026.



Hosted at the Edmonton Convention Centre, this award-winning gala promises an unforgettable evening raising funds for **free**, **life-changing mental health care** for kids and families.

Since its inception, the award-winning CASA Carnival has raised over \$4 million for CASA Mental Health and was instrumental in the opening of CASA Centre in 2016.

## Featured Fundraiser: Braving the Elements for Kids' Mental Health\*

On Sunday, Feb. 8, 2026, the Running Room will host the **Hypothermic Half Marathon** at the Highlands Golf Club. The race is a powerful community fundraiser in support of CASA Mental Health. Every stride taken in the half-marathon or 10K fuels hope and treatment for children and families who rely on free mental health care.



Be part of something bigger this winter. Register today, support a runner or

spread the word to help turn every kilometre into meaningful change. Learn more.

Get help, give help. Visit our website atcasamentalhealth.org

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