



## NEWS RELEASE

# WR Grace Foundation Supports Court Appointed Special Advocates

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Jan. 15, 2010**  
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**(Lake Charles, LA)**— Christine Dutridge with WR Grace Foundation presents \$1,000 to Erica Lewis, Senior Coordinator with Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA), and Julio Galan, Executive Director of Family & Youth, to support the CASA program.

CASA, a program of Family & Youth, recruits and trains volunteers who advocate in court for the best interests of abused and

neglected children. CASA volunteers serve as the eyes and ears of the court, gathering information on each child's situation. They also serve as the voice of the child, presenting their information, along with fact based recommendations, to the Family & Juvenile Court Judge, ensuring that the child's best interests are considered in every decision. There is no special background required to be a CASA – potential volunteers must be able to pass a criminal background check, have a love of children and a desire to help.

Family & Youth, a United Way Agency, believes that all individuals possess the ability to solve their own challenges and live full and healthy lives when support is available. It is the mission of Family & Youth to provide affordable and professional support through programs and services dedicated to the advocacy, counseling, and education for the people of Southwest Louisiana. Our effort and commitment to building family values will guarantee a stable and stronger community. For experienced professional assistance, contact Family & Youth at 337-436-9533 or 1-888-414-FYCA.



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**Family & Youth**  
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