

## SHAC 10/19/2017

Minutes 15:30-16-25

Attendance:

Rachel Thompson, Janiece McClendon, Angie Day, Teri Pruitt, Christina Worth, Christie Martin, Madison Opitz, Cameron Krailo, John Norrell, Jennifer Moore, and Sunday Elerson.

Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) Representative, Janiece McClendon presented the services they provide. The judge for each foster case appoints a CASA to get to know the child on a personal level and advocate for what is best for the individual on the journey to help find his/her forever home. The CASA is a volunteer that trains for 32 hours and agrees to a one year commitment for the case that they are assigned to for the well-being of the child. The CASA communicates with school staff to discuss any education delays, strengths, appearance, behavior, interaction with other kids, and grades.

Janiece informed us that Van Zandt County ranks in the top 15% in Texas for abuse/neglect and there is a need for CASA volunteers and foster homes in our area. Please visit [www.casaforkidsofet.org](http://www.casaforkidsofet.org) for more information.