




Monthly Newsletter

A monthly update for our community on the latest news in our organization

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In this Issue!

- Upcoming Events
- CASA Training

Be Heard!

We want to hear from you!



Our Programs

Athens-Oconee CASA

Family Time Community Visitation Center

Guardians for Children

SPARC - Supportive Parenting and Access Resource Center

SafeCare Home Visitation

I Am For The Child



Every year, over 200 children are the victims of abuse or neglect in our community. Wards of a well intentioned but overwhelmed child welfare system, these children can slip through the cracks. Unless someone like you steps in and says, "I am for the child".

**Lift Up a Child's Voice.
A Child's Life.**

The Athens-Oconee CASA Program is now recruiting volunteers to act as legal advocates for abused and neglected children. CASAs (Court Appointed Special Advocates) are trained community volunteers that act as the eyes and ears of the court, speaking up for a child or sibling group by providing written recommendations to the court as to the best interests of the child. Visit www.childrenfirst-inc.org/athens-oconee-casa to find out more.

Upcoming Events

Thursday, Jan 12th

Childcare@ DFCS 6-9pm@ Clarke County DFCS

Thursday, Jan 19th

CASA Volunteer Orientation

6pm @Children First - 693 North Pope Street

Come find out more about CASA and becoming an advocate for a child in need!

To RSVP, email Mary at mary@athensoconeeCasa.org.

Saturday, Feb 4th

CASA Sweetheart Luncheon

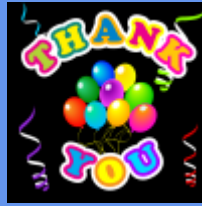
@ Outback Steakhouse

Proceeds benefit Athens-Oconee CASA

Tickets are \$15. Contact Mary at 706-613-1922x1 to purchase tickets or find out more.



A big thank you to the Bike Athens' Bike Recycling Program for making this holiday extra special for 18 children involved with Children First. Bike Athens provided refurbished bicycles for these children and youth this Christmas. What a wonderful surprise under the tree!



We would also like to thank Naria Williams and Rebeka Geer, who served as Social Media / PR Interns at Children First this past semester. They both worked hard on events, the website, and our social media presence. Their efforts really paid off and we wish them the best in their future work!



SafeCare Family Visitation is Children First's newest program. SafeCare offers research-based, practical parenting education for parents in need. We are excited to say that we have received funding to provide SafeCare services to 20 families free of charge this year! SafeCare is perfect for teen or young parents, families with a lack of resources, or families receiving help with income or food costs. Referrals can be made by DFCS, hospitals, or other community organizations. Call 706-613-1922x1 to find out more.



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 You are receiving this email because you are a part of Children First's mission to engage families in the community and through the courts in order to ensure safe, stable, nurturing living environments for children.

Our mailing address is:

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