

## Welcome to the new officers for our board of directors



(pictured from left to right)  
 Secretary: **Kathy Miller** Vice Chairperson: **Shannon Robotham**  
 Chairperson: **Wess Robotham**  
 Treasurer: **Ryan Koch**

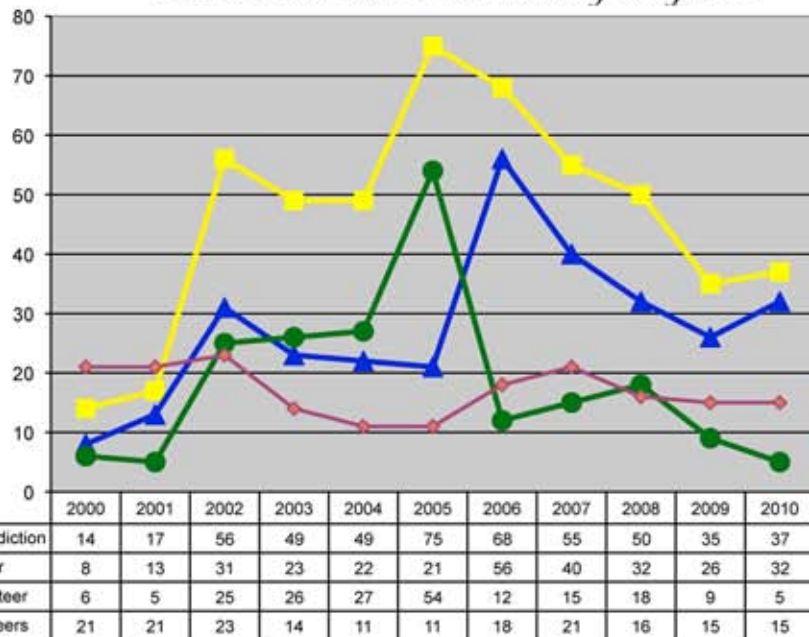


We welcome to the CASA office our new Financial Manager, **Fay Harre**

## 2010 Annual Advocacy Report

### Seward County CASA Program Activity

Percentage of Kids Served	2010 Statistics
2010: 86%	Ages of children in court system
2009: 74%	Birth - 5: 12
2008: 64%	6 - 11: 11
2007: 73%	12 - 17: 5
2006: 82%	18+: 4
2005: 28%	Males: 17
2004: 45%	Females: 15
2003: 47%	
2002: 55%	
2001: 76%	
2000: 57%	
1999: N/A	
1998: N/A	
1997: N/A	
1996: N/A	



### From A CASA Advocate

After I retired from teaching, I decided to take the training to become a CASA Advocate. I did not think that being a CASA Advocate would be fun, but I believed that it was something I should do. I soon found out that I was right, it isn't fun, but it is necessary.

I have had three cases. The first involved three children, the youngest having been born with meth in his system. The second concerned two teenagers whose mother loved them but was unable to care for them. The third case involved an infant and a sibling born while the case was open. Only one of these cases came out as I would have chosen, but the others resulted in families being reunited and the biological parents having grown in their ability to care for their children.

Being a CASA Advocate is not about making things come out "right," but about striving to be sure that things come out as well as they can for the children. In the current unsettled atmosphere of shifting responsibility for children in foster care, a CASA may be the key person in the child's life. There is no pay for being a CASA, but there is satisfaction in making a difference!

Pat Ohlmann