



HOUSTON HOSPICE  
*Life Matters*

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
June 29, 2015

### **Houston Hospice Heads Back to School Drive for Youth in Foster Care**

Houston Hospice is heading up its 4th annual “Back to School Project” for CASA of Matagorda and Wharton Counties to benefit local youth who are in foster care. This year’s goal is to collect school supplies and clothing for more than 22 local children ranging in age from 4 to 18. When a child enters the child welfare system, belongings are often left behind, including school supplies. Having inadequate or no school supplies hinders a child's ability to excel in the classroom and fit in.

Local businesses are invited to help by printing a flyer provided by Houston Hospice and placing it on a donation collection box at their location. Needed school supplies include: backpacks, dividers, highlighters, Kleenex, notebook paper, sanitizer, and zip lock bags. If businesses need a box, Houston Hospice will deliver one to them. In addition to collecting donations, businesses and individuals are invited to sponsor a student. Houston Hospice asks that each sponsor (whether an individual or company) provide one student with a new pair of pants, a shirt, a pair of shoes, a backpack, and a personal letter of encouragement. To learn the sizes and genders of students, sponsors may email Tiffany Livanec, the Community Outreach Liaison with Houston Hospice, at [tlivanec@houstonhospice.org](mailto:tlivanec@houstonhospice.org).

The deadline for donations and collection is Friday, August 7, 2015. Participants may deliver donations to the address listed below or contact Houston Hospice to arrange pick up:

Chamber of Commerce  
201 7th Street  
Bay City, Texas 77414

CASA of Matagorda and Wharton Counties is the voice for abused and neglected children who have been removed from their homes in this area. They work to ensure each child has a safe, loving and permanent home. When a child enters the foster care system because his or her home is no longer safe, a judge may appoint a committed volunteer to help them. That volunteer is called a Court Appointed Special Advocate®, or CASA.

Please contact Tiffany Livanec at [tlivanec@houstonhospice.org](mailto:tlivanec@houstonhospice.org) to learn more about how you can participate in the 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Back to School Project for CASA.

Houston Hospice is the only nonprofit hospice providing physical, emotional and spiritual care for patients and families throughout Matagorda and Wharton counties. To learn more about the local services offered by Houston Hospice, visit [www.houstonhospice.org](http://www.houstonhospice.org) or call 979-578-0314 or 800-420-6193 (toll free).

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