

3/5/26

Subject: 2025 Year in Review: Thank You for Standing with Survivors

Dear Friend,

As we reflect on 2025, one thing is clear: **none of the work of Citizens Against Spouse Abuse would be possible without you.**

Because of your compassion and support, survivors of domestic and sexual violence found safety, advocacy, and hope during some of the most difficult moments of their lives.

Here's what your support helped make possible in 2025:

- Survivors and their children found safe shelter and a path forward
- 24/7 crisis hotline advocates answered calls when survivors needed someone most
- Court and medical advocates stood beside survivors during intimidating and critical moments
- Counseling and support services helped survivors begin healing and reclaim their independence
- Community education and outreach strengthened awareness and prevention efforts

Every phone call answered, every safe night provided, and every survivor empowered represents a life changed—and **you were part of that change.**

One survivor shared:

"I didn't think anyone would believe me or help me. CASA gave me safety, strength, and hope when I needed it most."

Another survivor shared:

"Everything you do for women and their children is absolutely amazing. I can now provide for my children what they deserve. Happiness, safety, & security!"

In 2025, we launch two very important services: SART (Sexual Assault Response Team) & OBISSS (Online Brain Injury Screener and Support Systems).

- **SART:** With the new federal initiative to expand SANE services and the signing of the SANE Act in 2022, CASA has found the support needed to help advocate and assist victims of sexual violence by reconstructing our SART program. SART stands for Sexual Assault Response Team. SART is comprised of trained advocates and volunteers to assist victims of sexual violence during SANE exams, now required to be provided by all hospitals, with a focus on telehealth and rural, tribal, and underserved communities, as well as being present during police questioning or report filings, and any court appearances the victims may face. Our organization does not limit the definition of

“victim”, as we know firsthand, Sexual Violence affects everyone in the community. 2025 was a big year for SART. We have resumed quarterly meetings and have been able to provide an advocate for multiple SART calls from not just our local hospital, but also hospitals from surrounding communities. If you are interested in becoming a member of our SART team or have any questions about SART, please feel free to call 660-827-5559. We would love to speak with you.

- **OBISSS:** In 2025, we were approached by a member of the Missouri Coalition against Domestic and Sexual Violence about a program being launched through UMKC called OBISSS. OBISSS stands for Online Brain Injury Screener and Support Systems. With 93% of domestic violence victims sustaining undiagnosed brain injuries from domestic violence, we couldn't pass up the opportunity to work alongside some of the best to come up with an easy way to screen victims and provide them with the resources needed to help them navigate what used to be normal life while now living life with a possible brain injury. Throughout the year, OBISSS has grown and is now offered in multiple DV/SA shelters across the state as well as the VA. If you think you may have sustained a brain injury and are unsure of where to start, call 660-827-5559 and speak with one of our advocates about a screening.

As we look ahead to 2026, our commitment remains strong. The need for our services continues, and with your partnership, we will keep showing up—day and night—for survivors in our community.

From our Board members, Staff, and Clients, thank you for believing in safety, dignity, and healing. Thank you for standing with survivors. And thank you for being part of the CASA family.

With deep gratitude,

Julie Hoffert
Director of Development
Citizens Against Spouse Abuse, Inc.

P.S. If you'd like to continue making an impact in the year ahead, we invite you to stay connected, share our mission, or consider an early 2026 gift to support survivors.
Connect: www.casa-sedalia.org and Facebook: CASA SEDALIA

Upcoming Events:

CASA's Purse for a Cause fundraiser: Each month a new purse, visit Facebook for details.

CASA's Art Exhibit, Contest, & Online Auction: March 28th at the Home & Garden Show

CASA's 5K Color Fun Run: June 20th at Clover Dell

CASA's 10th Annual "In Her Shoes": October 3rd at Varied Industry Building