

Cindi Broaddus to be guest speaker @  
CASA's 4<sup>th</sup> annual "Love-a-Child" dinner/silent auction.

3<sup>rd</sup> District CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates for Children) is pleased to announce Cindi Broaddus, sister-in-law of Dr. Phil McGraw, has agreed to be the key note speaker for the 4<sup>th</sup> annual "Love-a-child" dinner/silent auction to be held Saturday, March 27, 2010 at the Quartz Mountain Lodge Convention Center.

"Cindi has a powerful story to share" states CASA's Executive Director, Shirley Sutherland. Her story is one of hope and transcendence, born of a conscious and dedicated determination to turn a nightmarish experience into something positive and uplifting. Her unforgettable journey back to life and a glorious renewed sense of purpose will serve as an inspiration for others offering eloquent and illuminating truths about love, healing and the amazing power of choice while providing and invaluable road map to a new understanding of what matters most.

Here is part of her story:

Cindi Broaddus didn't realize that her life was about to be forever altered as she sat in the passenger seat of a car on a lonely highway, speeding toward the airport in the early morning hours of June, 5 2001. A single mother of three and a delighted new grandmother, she was thinking only of her imminent, well-earned vacation when a gallon jar filled with sulfuric acid, tossed from an overpass by an unknown assailant came crashing through the windshield. In a heartbeat, Cindi was showered with glass and flesh-eating liquid, leaving her blinded, screaming in agony, and burned almost beyond recognition. When she reached the hospital, the attending doctors gave her little better than a 30 percent chance of survival.

But Cindi Broaddus did survive-and after years of excruciating years of recuperation and seemingly endless sessions of skin grafts and reconstructive surgery she emerged from her ordeal in many ways stronger than she had ever been.

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*Sometimes life throws a curveball....  
and sometimes it drops a bomb*

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During years of reconstructive surgeries she became the driving force to enact legislation to make our highways a safer place.

In May of 2002 the "Cindi Broaddus Act" was passed. This piece of legislation made it a felony to throw anything from a bridge or overpass.

She has been featured on nationally known shows, such as the Dr. Phil Show, CNN Live with Larry King, the Today Show with Katie Couric and most recently was a guest on the Hour of Power with Dr. Robert Schuller.

In May of 2005 she was presented a “Citation of Congratulations and Thankfulness” by Governor Brad Henry as an example to all Oklahomans that it is possible to triumph over tragedy and to conquer. Additionally, Governor Henry proclaimed June 7, 2005 as Cindi Broaddus Day in the State of Oklahoma.

Cindi sits on the Board of Directors of The Dr. Phil Foundation. She has also worked with The Virtue Foundation of New York to bring about change in laws for acid burn victims world wide. She proudly stood before the members of the United Nations and told her story in the hopes that we can bring an end to this horrific crime.

She is the author of a book, “A Random Act”. Her book was recently named a finalist in the Inspirational Memoirs category in the Books for a Better Life award. She now travels around the country giving motivational speeches. She currently works and lives in Duncan, Oklahoma.

“I am honored that she will come and be a part of our fund raising event” Sutherland adds. “She has so much to offer audiences who listen to her story. Like the children CASA advocates represent, victims of crimes performed against them, Cindi offers hope and stands as a role model to all – choosing to not be a victim any longer-but using her tragedy to bring about good in the lives of others”.

Tickets for the dinner/event are required and will be available starting Feb 10<sup>th</sup>. Social hour and silent auction will begin at 5:30pm. Dr. Phil will introduce and welcome Cindi via video. Dinner choices are salmon or pork loin. Tickets are \$25.00 single or \$45.00 a couple. Ashley Nicole Wheeler will provide dinner entertainment. Items available for auction include: Airline tickets; Bed & Breakfast stays; VIP tickets to Dr. Phil show; Theatre, Ballet and Symphony passes; Hotel stays; Restaurant vouchers; oil changes; haircuts; etc. For more information about the event or to order tickets, call 580-482-4600 or 580-318-2377. Tickets available at the CASA office located @ Altus NBC Bank - 123 W. Commerce St. Room #230.