

"To give a child a CASA is to give them a voice. To give them a voice is to give them hope, and to give them hope is to give them the world. I believe that with all my heart."

> -Pamela Butler (former foster youth)



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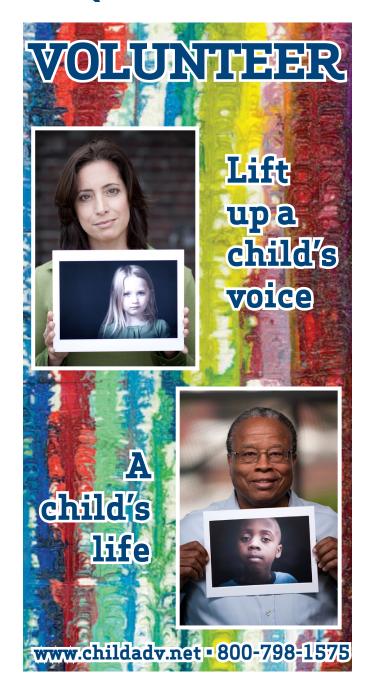




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CASA Court Appointed Special Advocates FOR CHILDREN

CHILD ADVOCACY SERVICES





Child Advocacy Services (CAS) is a private, non-profit umbrella agency providing services through the Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) program, Children's Advocacy Center (CAC) program, and other services supporting its mission to give Voice, Healing, and Security to children. CAS offers advocacy and clinical services for children and families in 10 parishes including Ascension, Assumption, East and West Feliciana, Livingston, St. Charles, St. Helena, St. James, St. John and Tangipahoa Parishes.

What is a CASA volunteer?

 A Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) volunteer is an everyday citizen who has been trained to advocate for abused and neglected children in the court system. They are appointed by a judge to represent the child's best interests and help them reach a safe, permanent home as quickly as possible.

What does a CASA volunteer do?

- Gets to know the child and gather information from all parties involved in the child's life such as family members, school officials, case workers and others with knowledge about the child.
- Attends court hearings, usually twice a year, to provide information and recommendations to help the court make decisions that are in the child's best interest.
- Provides a powerful voice and consistency for the child.

What are the requirements?

• Be at least 21 years old.

CASA Court Appointed Special A

- Complete a background check and a prescreen interview.
- Complete training available through traditional group or independent study.
- Maintain strict confidentiality.

Proven Results & Community Impacts

- A child with a CASA receives more services.
- A child with a CASA is 50% less likely to re-enter the child welfare system.
- A child with a CASA is more likely to be adopted.

www.usdoj.gov/oig/reports/OJP/a0704/final.pdf

I'm interested... what's my next step?

Contact us! Call 800-798-1575 Visit a local office or go to: www.childadv.net



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