



## Volunteer Job Description

The CASA:

- Researches- determining all relevant facts through personal interviews and a review of records, documents, and clinical data.
- Advocates- presenting the relevant facts before the Court at hearings, through written reports and direct testimony.
- Facilitates/Collaborates- ensuring that the Court, social services, and legal counsel fulfill their obligations to the child.
- Monitoring- ensuring compliance by all parties and bringing to the Court's attention any changes in circumstances that may require modification of the Court Order.

CASA volunteers are the eyes and ears of the Court, making independent, objective recommendations regarding the best interest of the child. Since the CASA is only one of the parties providing recommendations to the Court, the Court may or may not accept the CASA's recommendations. Each case is decided on the facts presented by all parties and how those facts relate to the case and State and Federal law.

The CASA is NOT:

- A Big Brother or Big Sister
- A counselor/ therapist
- A babysitter for the child to whom he or she is appointed
- An advocate for the parents or anyone other than the assigned child.
- An attorney (therefore, does not offer legal advice or advocate the child's wants, although that may be taken into consideration)
- A crisis counselor

A CASA DOES NOT:

- Take the child into their home or have the child in their custody
- Become a surrogate
- Become part of the resolution of the case
- Transport the child
- Supervise visits between parents and children
- Try to work out problems between family members, except by making recommendations to the Court or the families to whom they are assigned
- Make placement arrangements for the child
- Give money or expensive gifts to the child or family