



More Secure Futures



A neglected or abused child paired with a CASA volunteer is more likely to find a safe, permanent home and half as likely to reenter the child welfare system. Children with CASA volunteers, especially children of color, are more likely to have a plan for permanency, a key predictor of future success.

Value of CASA Volunteers



For many children, their advocate remains the one constant in their otherwise chaotic life, particularly during the unprecedented challenges brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic. Children with a CASA volunteer tend to perform better academically and behaviorally in school, and they are more likely to receive all court-ordered services.

More Support Needed



Courts rely on the impartial perspective of trained and supported CASA volunteers. More than 93% of judges report a positive overall experience with the CASA program. Oregon law mandates every child in foster care must be assigned a CASA, but without adequate funding and additional volunteers, Oregon cannot meet this mandate – leaving nearly half of foster children without a CASA.

CASA Saves Money



One year of CASA advocacy costs just 4.8% of what it costs the state for a year of foster care. A single CASA staff member can train and supervise up to 30 volunteers who, in turn, can advocate for as many as 75 children. CASA's core reliance on trained and supported community volunteers ensures both compassion and efficiency.

Support HB 2387 and HB 2738



HB 2387 – Finalize the fiscal transition from DAS to Oregon CASA Network. As the funding hub and statewide coordinating entity, OCN will increase statewide efficiencies, local program capacity and support for local CASA programs.

HB 2738 – Invest \$5.92 million to improve CASA operations, increase outreach, train new volunteers, support more neglected and abused children and create a statewide distance training and learning program for CASA volunteers, which will strengthen training efforts and provide flexibility beyond the COVID-19 pandemic.



Praise from the Bench

“CASA is an important advocate for the children most at risk in our system. Volunteers take the time to delve into important issues and provide invaluable insight to the courts.”

Multnomah County Referee Morgen Wren Long

“The CASA’s report is always at least as important to me as the DHS caseworker’s report, and sometimes more so. That’s because the CASA has the time to provide me with more details about a child, especially in families with multiple children with varying strengths, needs, interests and activities.” **Columbia County Judge Jenefer Grant**

“The CASA program is one of the most useful tools a judge has when a child faces the possibility of falling through the cracks of a system where caseworkers have high caseloads. They bring a fresh set of eyes to ensure a ward of the court is receiving the services to ensure their emotional and physical well-being.”

Multnomah County Judge Xiomara Torres

**2,142 CASA volunteers
provided advocacy for 5,568
Oregon children in 2019**

“I appoint a CASA for every child placed in foster care, although there are not enough volunteers to assign to every child or family of siblings. CASAs remind me to focus on the needs of a child. I rely on thorough reports from CASA to remember why we are doing this important work to prevent further abuse or neglect. I can’t imagine a juvenile system without them.”

Crook/Jefferson County Judge Annette C. Hillman

“CASA volunteers are absolutely essential to protecting the safety and well-being of the children in our foster care system. The value the input of the CASA volunteers when making difficult decisions about the families and vulnerable children in our system.”

Union/Wallowa County Judge Thomas Powers

“CASAs combine the integrity of a juror, the neutrality of a Court Visitor and the wisdom of an expert witness as non-lawyers whose expertise is the life of a child. Imagine that. A child without a CASA is denied a bridge across troubled waters of the adversarial court process. And a judge without a CASA is at a disadvantage in her pursuit of true justice for children who most need it.”

Clackamas County Judge Susie Norby

Supporters of CASA Legislation

Association of Oregon Counties
Catholic Community Services
211 Info
Oregon Association Chiefs of Police
Oregon District Attorneys Association
Oregon Child Abuse Solutions
Oregon State Sheriff’s Association
Youth Villages