



"Every child who winds up doing well has had at least one stable and committed relationship with a supportive adult."

Center on the Developing Child, Harvard University



CASA

Court Appointed Special Advocates
FOR CHILDREN

Change a Child's Story

Learn about becoming a CASA volunteer in Arizona



Today's Discovery



The Role of a
CASA
Volunteer

Who Are CASA
Volunteers?

Children Living
in Foster Care

The Impact

Taking the
Next Step

About the
CASA Program

Q&A



Children In Foster Care

- Ages 0-18 (infant, toddler, elementary, older youth)
- Removed from homes due to abuse and/or neglect
- Living with relatives (kinship), in a foster home, or in a group home
- Experienced trauma
- *Just kids!*



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8,000

Children living
in Maricopa
County's Foster
Care System

1,000

Children living in
Maricopa County's
Foster Care System
who have a CASA
volunteer by their side



CASA
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Who Are CASA Volunteers?

- From all walks of life!
 - No experience needed
 - Full-time professionals
 - Retirees
 - Flexible schedule
- Co-CASA: share a case
- Desire to help children



“ Children in foster care need a champion on their side. They need to feel they matter. We are their voices.

Marcia

Maricopa County CASA Volunteer



Key Role of a CASA Volunteer

Get to know the Child(ren)
Gather Information
Collaborate
Advocate
Monitor



CASA 9

Court Appointed Special Advocates
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Qualities of a CASA Volunteer

- Consistency
- Flexibility
- Neutrality
- Patience
- Integrity
- Commitment
- Confidentiality



Real Impact

Youth who have a CASA:

Perform **better** in school

Spend **less time** in foster care

Experience **fewer** foster placements

Receive **more** court-ordered services

Services are more carefully targeted
& **received sooner**

Less likely to re-enter foster care system





Nationally

- Est. 1977 - Seattle, WA
- Judge David Soukup, Founder
- 49 States
- 96,929 volunteers serving 276,809 youth (2021)



Locally

- Est. 1985 in Maricopa County
- 15 Arizona Counties
- 1,200 volunteers (2021)



CASA

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CASA of Arizona

- Within Arizona Supreme Court
- Trains volunteers to become a CASA (currently online & virtual)
- Supports CASA programs throughout Arizona's counties



CASA of Maricopa County

- Part of Maricopa County Superior Court
- Interview and evaluate CASA applicants
- Manage/Supervise CASA volunteers in Maricopa County



Voices for CASA Children

- Nonprofit, fundraising/support arm to CASA of Maricopa County
- Assist in recruiting new CASAs
- Provide continuing Education & Training
- Child Enrichment Activities & Resources

VOICES Programs Supporting CASA Volunteers



CASA Child Enrichment

VOICES supports CASA volunteers and their CASA youth by providing complimentary experiences and resources supportive to a young person's well-being while living in foster care.

CASA Training & Education

Our robust Training & Education program is committed to providing CASA volunteers with ongoing learning opportunities supportive to their advocacy role.

CASA Care

CASA Care provides CASA volunteers with tools and techniques that are used to promote and improve emotional, mental, and physical well-being.

CASA Volunteer Recruitment

VOICES is committed to providing a CASA volunteer for every child in foster care who needs one. We reach individuals in the community who understand the need for advocacy and giving local foster youth a voice.



“

*My CASA youth told me,
‘You helped me have a vision and
showed me how to reach it.’*

Tom

Maricopa County CASA Volunteer



A Typical Month, A Yearly Overview



Monthly

15-20 hours working on the assigned case,
gathering information about the child & the case
2 or more visits with your CASA child(ren)
Communication with professionals, key players

Yearly

Write a summary report for the judge before hearings
(Twice yearly for youth 3+ years)
Participate in court hearings & other meetings
Ongoing continuing education (12 hours)

To Become a CASA Volunteer



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a CASA Volunteer looks like me

“There are many kids like my CASA teen who need a male role model to share personal experiences and voice concerns to the court. An advocate doesn’t have to be an entertainer, athlete or celebrity to send a positive message to a foster child.”

Mark
Local Business Owner and Radio Host

prospective advocates

[find volunteer information](#), [FAQ](#), [apply](#)

community

[quick facts](#) and [community partner information](#)

for judicial officers

[Judge’s page](#), [resource center](#), [contact CASA](#)



want to:

- Touch a life?
- Strengthen a community?
- Make a difference?
- Lead the way?
- Change the world for the better?

join us!  [Facebook](#)



Corporation for
NATIONAL & COMMUNITY SERVICE 
President Obama Calls on Americans to Serve
[learn more](#)

2010 CASA Annual Conference Notes



Volunteer Certification Application [\[return\]](#)

Volunteer Certification Application

Any willful omission or misrepresentation of any fact required to be disclosed in this application or any accompanying statement may result in certification (initial or ongoing) denial. This is pursuant to the Administrative Code Sections governing Court Appointed Special Advocates in Arizona.

Complete all questions of this application and fulfill all other requirements mentioned in the instructions.

Section I - Applicant Qualifications

I am a U.S. Citizen or Legal Resident.

Yes No

Applicants who are employed by DES, the Juvenile Court or child welfare agencies may serve as a CASA volunteer if authorized by a Juvenile Court judge. Are you employed by DES, the Juvenile Court or child welfare agency?

Yes No

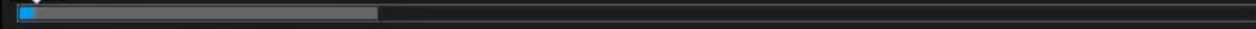
I am at least 21 years of age.

Yes No

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*“ As a CASA volunteer,
we have the power to uplift them.
We have the capacity to impact
a future generation.”*

Monique
Maricopa County CASA Volunteer



Next Steps



Go to www.maricopacasa.org

Fill out application

You'll hear from CASA of Maricopa County within 3 days to review your application and schedule an interview



Q & A Session

- What questions do you have about the CASA program?
- How is this sounding so far?
- Are you ready to take the next step?

For More Information:

Info@voicesforcasachildren.org

www.voicesforcasachildren.org

480.685.4888

