



[WWW.ADVOCCHILD.ORG](http://WWW.ADVOCCHILD.ORG)

CHANGE A CHILD'S STORY.<sup>TM</sup>  
VOLUNTEER.

## WHAT IS A CASA?

Court Appointed Special Advocate® (CASA) volunteers are appointed by juvenile court to advocate for children's best interests. This best-interest advocacy makes a life-changing difference for children and youth who have experienced abuse or neglect, many of whom are in foster care.

## HOW MANY HOURS A MONTH WOULD I VOLUNTEER?

An average volunteer puts in about 10-15 hours per month on a case. Sometimes they are needed to volunteer more or fewer hours based on the stage of the case and its complexities.

## WHAT TRAINING WILL I RECEIVE?

Don't worry! We will prepare you to do a great job as a new CASA. We conduct intensive training which includes 24 hours of in class training (once a week for 8 weeks), 12 hours of court and panel review observation, background screenings, drug testing, and being officially sworn in by local judges.

CASA volunteers must also stay abreast of training and complete 12 hours of in service trainings per year after their first full year of service.



## WHAT CAN I EXPECT AS A CASA?

Assignment of a case involving a child or sibling group involved in the foster care system. A CASA's court order on a case requires them to be in contact with their child(ren) monthly as well as their CASA coordinator, DFCS, parents, relatives, therapists, teachers, etc.

CASA volunteers use all gathered information on a case to advocate for the best interest of their child(ren) and the main vehicle to do so is turning in written court reports prior to hearings on the case. This makes good writing skills imperative for a CASA volunteer.

CASA volunteers must also be great note takers during their interactions with those on the case and turn in monthly logs to their coordinators documenting their work on their case.

## WHAT ARE MY NEXT STEPS IN BECOMING A CASA?

When you [complete our online application](#):

1. You will be contacted by a CASA representative to schedule an interview.
2. You will complete a background screening and drug test.
3. You will be scheduled to attend our 8-week training course.
4. You will be sworn in by a judge.
5. You will begin helping change a child's story!

## WHO DO I CONTACT IF I HAVE QUESTIONS?

Please email Emily Ciavarro, our CASA Program Manager at [emilycasa@advochild.org](mailto:emilycasa@advochild.org).

YOU HAVE THE POWER TO  
CHANGE A CHILD'S STORY.



**Advocates  
for Children**