

CASA of Peoria County



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Mission

To ensure that every abused and neglected child is placed in a safe and permanent home by utilizing specially trained community volunteers who advocate for abused and neglected children going through the court system.

Vision

That every abused and neglected child is placed in a safe permanent home as quickly as possible. To build the nationally recognized advocate program for abused and neglected children in Peoria County and extending to Tazewell County and throughout the 10th Judicial Circuit. Specifically, our vision is to:

- Increase volunteerism with quality case management and training;
- Provide consistent and quality advocacy services and programs;
- Increase awareness and visibility for Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA); and
- Implement fundraising plans that will sustain our future for generations to come.

Values

We believe that all children have the right to a safe, permanent home and deserve the support and involvement of their community to make this possible.



Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) helps children achieve permanent homes

and reduces the likelihood of future court involvement.

Upcoming Events

CASA Caballos
August 18, 2018
Weaver Angus Farm

CASA Hole-in-One
Fall 2018
Country Club of Peoria

CASAblanca
"Dancing with the Local Stars"
November 3, 2018
Par-A-Dice Hotel Casino

How to Help

Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) is a nonprofit organization that recruits and trains community volunteers, who are appointed by judges to be independent fact finders and to speak up for the best interests of abused and neglected children in our community. You can help by becoming a CASA volunteer or supporting CASA with your donations. To find out more about this challenging and rewarding opportunity, call (309) 669-2939 or visit casapeoria.org.

Last fiscal year, CASA of Peoria County served 329 children. The cost to advocate for each child, excluding in-kind contributions, is approximately \$1,200.

The average monthly cost for a child placed outside of the family home is \$5,698. CASA involvement reduces the time a child spends in foster care by an average of eight months, saving taxpayers over \$45,000 per child. Last fiscal year, CASA of Peoria County volunteers helped close cases for 75 children—a savings equivalent to about \$3.4 million to Peoria County.

As of December 2017, there were 1,036 pending abuse and neglect cases in Peoria County. CASA's goal is to serve 35 to 40 percent of the kids in need of a volunteer advocate this fiscal year.

Children assigned a CASA volunteer are 50 percent less likely to re-enter the foster care system. Cases with CASA involvement are more likely to achieve a permanent home for the child. Cases with CASA involvement resulted in a third fewer moves to other foster homes.

CASA is expanding to the full 10th Judicial Circuit and we need your help! Please volunteer to be the voice of a children in court.

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