



## **CASA for Lancaster County**

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### **CASA JOB DESCRIPTION:**

A CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocate) is a trained, citizen volunteer appointed by a Juvenile Court Judge to ensure that the needs and interests of abused or neglected children are being met. CASA volunteers are assigned to dependent and/or delinquent (truant or ungovernable) children who are under the Juvenile Court's jurisdiction and are assigned at the discretion of the Juvenile Court.

#### **● Requirements for being a CASA**

- Make a commitment to serve as a CASA for a minimum of one year
- Be willing to donate 4 – 10 hours a month
- Be at least 21 years of age
- Have your own transportation
- Be literate and able to communicate clearly
- Complete an application form and provide three acceptable references
- Complete a thorough background check
- Participate in an in-depth training program
- Be mature, respectful, honest, professional, and objective
- Respect the confidentiality of all parties
- Be committed to respecting cultural diversity

#### **● Responsibilities of a CASA Volunteer**

- To serve as an arm of the Juvenile Court as researcher, monitor, and child advocate
- Interview child, parents, foster parents, and any other concerned parties or relatives
- Review appropriate records and reports
- Work with attorney Guardian ad Litem's representing the best interest of the child
- Confer with counselors, teachers, social workers, etc. involved with the case
- Submit thorough, independent, written reports to the Court with copies to all parties prior to court hearings
- Appear in court as needed to answer questions or testify on findings or recommendations.
- Maintain records of all findings and document all contacts.
- Visit institutions, foster homes or group homes where child is placed or may be placed.
- Maintain contact with program coordinator and submit all documentation.
- Remain involved in the case until the Court's jurisdiction is terminated.