

When home is no longer safe and a child must enter foster care, a judge may appoint a CASA or Court Appointed Special Advocate, a volunteer to guide that child to a safe and permanent home as quickly as possible.

Approximately

275

children are waiting for an advocate

Every year, hundreds of children are legally removed from their homes in order to protect them from further injury. **AS A CHILD MOVES THROUGH THE MAZE OF THE JUDICIAL SYSTEM, THE VOLUNTEER ADVOCATE IS OFTEN THE MOST CONSISTENT PERSON IN THAT CHILD'S LIFE.**

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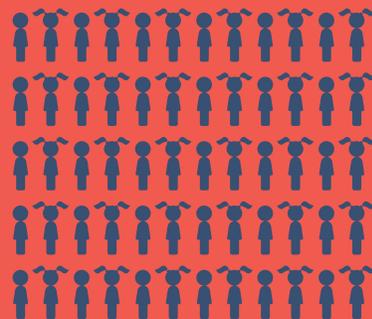
PAID
CASA
STAFF



SUPPORTS
30
VOLUNTEERS

WHO
SERVE
UP TO

60
CHILDREN



Tarrant County has the
3RD HIGHEST
number of confirmed cases of
child abuse and/or neglect in Texas

5,630 CHILDREN
were confirmed child abuse victims
in 2017, up 9% from 2016

In 2017,
418 CASA VOLUNTEERS
DONATED **42,000 HOURS**
of their time (an equivalent
of **\$1,013,880**)
and drove
260,000 MILES



The cost of
action is far
more affordable
than the cost of
inaction.

When intervention does not take place, research shows that children, more often than not, become lost in the system, repeating the cycle of abuse and ultimately ending up on the streets, filling our local jails and prisons.

Children with a CASA volunteer:



Have shorter lengths of stay in foster care (18.3 months in 2016, 19.5 months in 2017)

Compared to children without a CASA (23.2 months in 2016).



Are less likely to re-enter care once they find a permanent home.



Are more likely to pass all classes in school.

95%



of children whose cases were closed in 2017 found permanency (adoption, relative placement, reunification)

1,022



Number of children who had a CASA in Tarrant County in 2017

159
new volunteers were trained
to be advocates in 2017

559
families were served, providing
1,022 children a voice in court

50%
of children served are
between the ages 0 and 5

CASA OF TARRANT COUNTY TRAINS VOLUNTEERS FROM ALL WALKS OF LIFE, AGES AND ETHNIC GROUPS.

Being a volunteer advocate requires no advanced educational degree or legal experience. But it does require special people with concern for children and a genuine desire to help.