

Did You Know...

53% of children who suffer abuse and neglect are more likely to become juvenile delinquents and 38% are more likely to become violent criminals as adults.

With CASA Kane County, 99.5% of children serviced did not experience a recurrence of abuse and neglect.

DCFS receives over 3,700 reports of child abuse and neglect in Kane County per year.

How You Can Be A Powerful Voice

Your investment today will enrich the lives of children who will never know you. Every dollar you donate stays local within the CASA Kane County program and supports our mission of advocating for abused and neglected children.

There are many ways that your gift can support the CASA program:

- ♦ Annual gifts that support the case management, training and day-to-day operations.
- ♦ Scholarship funds that support the ongoing education and training for CASA volunteers and staff.
- ♦ Endowment gifts that serve a specific purpose.
(Please ask us about endowment naming opportunities that can be established through cash, securities, real estate or through a bequest.)

With your generosity, CASA Kane County can help a child rise from a life of hurt to a life of hope. Your gifts allow our program to respond proactively to the growing concerns of abuse and neglect.

How You Can Help

BECOME A CASA VOLUNTEER

The first step in becoming a CASA volunteer is attending a general information meeting. This first introduction meeting usually occurs at the CASA office at the Kane County Courthouse and lasts about 45 minutes. For more information about the program or to make an appointment, please call (630)232-4484.

MAKE A DONATION

You can stand up for abused and neglected children by making a donation. Your contribution will support CASA volunteers in their efforts to help some of our most vulnerable children. The CASA Kane County program relies on the annual support of individuals, foundations and special event supporters.

The Communities We Serve

Aurora	Montgomery
Batavia	Mooseheart
Burlington	North Aurora
Campton Hills	Pingree Grove
Carpentersville	Plato Center
East Dundee	Saint Charles
Elburn	Sleepy Hollow
Elgin	South Elgin
Geneva	Sugar Grove
Gilberts	Valley View
Hampshire	Virgil
Kaneville	Wasco
Lily Lake	Wayne
Maple Park	West Dundee



Report suspected abuse or neglect by calling the Toll Free 24 Hour Hotline (800)-25-ABUSE.

CASA Kane County

Kane County Courthouse
100 S. Third Street, Suite 460
Geneva, IL 60134
(630) 232-4484 Phone
(630) 232-4562 Fax

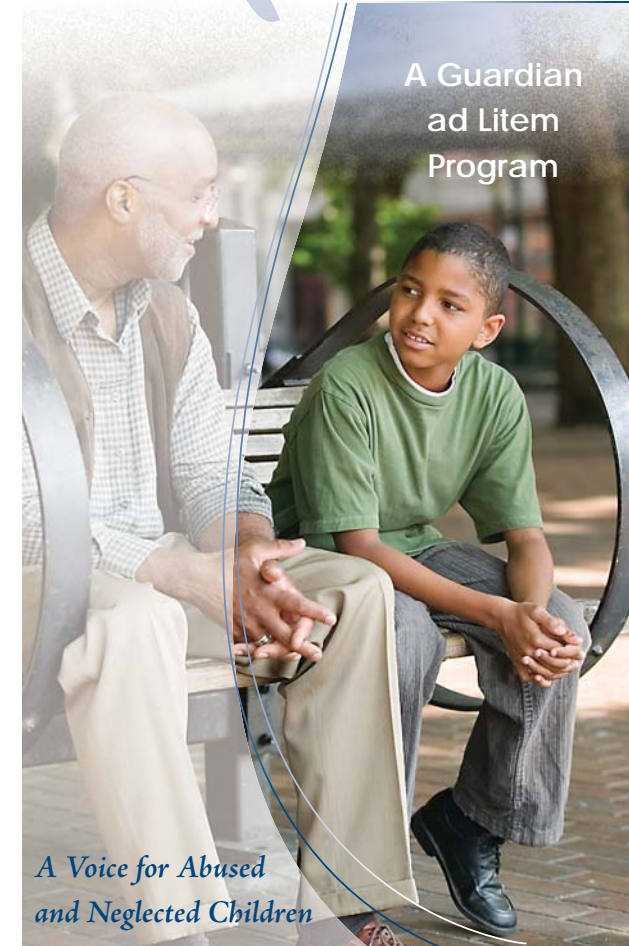
Please visit our website at www.casakanecounty.org to learn more.



Court
Appointed
Special
Advocates
For Children



A Guardian
ad Litem
Program



*A Voice for Abused
and Neglected Children*



CASA Court Appointed Special Advocate

Our Mission

CASA Kane County is a nonprofit, volunteer organization that advocates for the best interests of abused and neglected children within the Juvenile Court system.

Our Vision

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

Our Values

- ◆ Increase volunteerism with quality case management and training
- ◆ Provide consistent and quality Guardian ad Litem services and programs
- ◆ Increase awareness and visibility for CASA Kane County
- ◆ Implement fundraising plans that will sustain our future for generations to come

“You start out changing a child’s life and discover you’ve changed your own.”

A CASA Volunteer

Who We Are

CASA Kane County recruits, trains, and manages community volunteers to serve as Court Appointed Special Advocates for children who are in court due to abuse and neglect. CASA volunteers serve on one case at a time and are appointed by the Juvenile and Probate Court Judges to be the Guardian ad Litem (GAL). The goal of every case is to find a safe, permanent home for the child.

Children in the child welfare system commonly experience changes in their caseworkers, foster parents, schools, teachers, friends, doctors, etc. The CASA program prevents these children and their needs from falling through the cracks of the system by providing a trained volunteer who is solely focused on each child’s needs.

The Court benefits from our work as we assist Judges in making difficult decisions. The entire community benefits as these children will grow up happier, healthier and live more productive lives and who will model positive care and support for their own children, rather than continue the cycle of abuse.

What We Do

ROLE OF THE CASA/GAL

The CASA/GAL is appointed by the Judge and works independently from but cooperatively with the Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) and its contracted agencies.

AS GUARDIAN AD LITEM TO THE CHILD, THE ADVOCATE IS ENTITLED TO:

- ◆ Visit the child
- ◆ Observe parent/child visitations
- ◆ Investigate the child’s situation and needs
- ◆ Interview relevant people such as parents, relatives, foster parents, social workers, school and medical personnel
- ◆ Review records (medical, school, etc.)
- ◆ Submit reports to the court with recommendations
- ◆ Attend and participate in all court hearings and meetings regarding the child

Our History

The CASA movement began in 1977 with Seattle Judge David Soukup, who was frustrated that the child protection system did not provide children adequate representation in court. He conceived the idea of using trained community volunteers to speak up for the children’s best interests. Over three decades later, there are nearly 1,000 CASA and GAL program offices nationwide.

The CASA Kane County program was then established in 1988 by concerned citizens, child welfare professionals and court personnel who knew the needs of abused and neglected children were not being met. In 1992 our status of Friends of the Court changed to GAL – Guardian ad Litem, that gave our advocates a far stronger voice in court, making them a full party to the case with an attorney appointed to represent them.

Today, the CASA Kane County program has over 200 CASA volunteers, pro-bono attorneys, a full professional staff, a Chairman’s Advisory Panel and a governing Board of Directors who represent the best interests of over 500 abused and neglected, dependent and private guardianship cases each year.



“To give a child a CASA is to give them a voice. To give them a voice is to give them hope, and to give them hope is to give them the world.

I believe that with all my heart.”

Pamela Butler, Former CASA Child

THANK YOU for making a difference in the life of a child... one child at a time.



Name: _____

Company: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

General Contribution for: _____

In Honor of: _____

In Memory of: _____

Matching Gift with: _____

Special Instructions: _____

Credit Card Information: _____

Name: _____

Card Number: _____

Security Number: _____ Expiration Date: _____

Signature _____

Please mail your donation to:

CASA Kane County
100 S. Third Street, Suite 460
Geneva, IL 60134

For more information or to donate online, please visit www.casakanecounty.org. Thank you for your consideration.