

Let's make the world a better place to be a kid.

The need is great and public resources are limited.

In Douglas County:

- 463 children have been in foster care at least once during the past year.
- 296 children were victims of child abuse, with 55% of victims under the age of 6.
- Children are in the system an average of 28 months before placement in a permanent home.
- The poverty rate is the highest in Oregon. Last year 10,781 (47%) of its 22,762 children lived in low income households. Childhood poverty rates are on an upward trend, having increased 14% in 2007 and averaging 50% higher than the rest of Oregon.

Your donation translates into powerful, effective volunteers.

- Our volunteer-based model allows us to serve more children with our available resources.
- 85% of the work is done through volunteer rather than paid staff.
- 91% of all funding goes directly toward services.
- Total cost of supporting one CASA for one year is \$1940 and that CASA will donate an average of 160 hours devoted to casework.

How you can help

- \$42,000 Support the Advocacy Coordinator position
- \$15,000 Help get the word out (newsletters, ads, etc)
- \$15,000 Support a volunteer training class
- \$9,700 Provide one month of volunteer supervision
- \$7,800 Pay rent for one year
- \$1,940 Support one CASA advocate for one year



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Emily was abandoned by her mother.

So were her three sisters.

CASA VOLUNTEER STEPS IN HERE.

They live in four different foster homes

and will likely never see each other again.

A LOVING FAMILY ADOPTS THEM ALL.

BE THE DIFFERENCE.

VOLUNTEER AT NATIONALCASA.ORG, 1-888-414-CASA

Every child deserves a loving home.



It shouldn't hurt to be a child.

Emily and her sisters spent a lot of time taking care of each other, even though the oldest was only six years old. They weren't supposed to answer the door or talk to the neighbors. They didn't get to play outside very often and they never ate three meals a day. They spent three days alone before a policeman came to the door.

A woman they had never met came with the policeman and took them in a car. They were sobbing and confused. They were alone with a stranger and had no idea where they were being taken. The woman could not comfort them; they wanted their mom and would only see strangers for days.

Over 400 Douglas County children are placed in foster care each year. Often siblings cannot be placed in the same home and are separated from the only family they know. These children need strong, independent advocacy. Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASAs) work to make sure they receive the best support available.

Parents cannot always be helped: but it is not too late for their children. Early help for children who have been abused or neglected increases their chance for a bright future. **Children teamed with a CASA:**

- experience fewer foster placement changes and are less likely to spend time in long-term foster care;
- receive more court-ordered services;
- are more successful in school;
- are less likely to re-enter the child welfare system (number of re-entries is reduced by half); and
- have a greater likelihood of a permanent resolution of their situation.

*Our goal is to serve every child in foster care.
Your gift will help us get there.*

*These children need someone to tell their stories
and protect their futures.*

Here's what we accomplished last year

- Our 70 active CASAs advocated for 238 children** in Douglas County. We served 51% of the children who were in foster care and needed a CASA.
- 17 new CASAs were recruited, trained and assigned** to new cases providing advocacy for 37 new children.
- CASA volunteers successfully closed the cases of 87 kids**, who found safe permanent homes.
- CASAs donated more than 6004 hours** of unpaid volunteer advocacy—the equivalent of 3.5 full-time employers—saving tax payers close to \$112,695 dollars a year.
- Our CASA advocates are supported by a staff of 4.35 FTEs, 10 volunteer board members and by 700 organizations, foundations and individual donors. Less than 18% of our budget comes from the State of Oregon. We spend dollars effectively: 91% of our budget goes directly to provide services.

*We thank all of our CASAs for their exceptional
volunteer efforts and all of our supporters for mak-
ing it possible for CASA to continue to speak up
for foster children in our community.*

Help us speak up for foster children in Douglas County.