



CASA for Kid's Inc. Mission

Our mission is to promote and support professionally trained Court Appointed Special Advocates for abused and neglected children in need of safety, stability and permanency, brought to the attention of the Juvenile Courts, giving them the opportunity to thrive.

What Is CASA?

CASA stands for Court Appointed Special Advocates: volunteers who are appointed by the Juvenile Court Judge to assist the Court in determining the best interests of children involved in child welfare proceedings.

Volunteers typically work with only one or two children and their families at a time. They devote the time and energy necessary to assist the Juvenile Court in making informed decisions for the child. Prior to their appointment, CASA volunteers are extensively screened and trained. These responsible and committed adults are supervised by CASA staff throughout their assignment. They are a strong voice for children in Court, speaking up for the needs of the children.

Once assigned by a Juvenile Court Judge, the CASA volunteer:

- ♥ **Interviews** those involved in the case to gather additional information that will assist the Court in making timely decisions in the child's best interests. If you are the child's parent, foster parent, caseworker, attorney, teacher, medical professional, or someone else involved with the child, you should expect that the CASA volunteer will contact you for an interview.
- ♥ **Communicates** with everyone involved in the case to collaborate on what is best for the child.
- ♥ **Reports** to the Court. After gathering information, the volunteer prepares a report that is reviewed by the program staff and submitted to the court.
- ♥ **Facilitates** discussion among the many people involved when a child is involved in Juvenile Court or the child welfare system. CASA can help keep the lines of communication open.
- ♥ **Monitors** progress. The CASA volunteer maintains contact with everyone involved, attends Court appearances, meetings, and follows up on Court orders. In addition, the CASA volunteer visits the child at least monthly. CASA volunteers continually report to the Court for the duration of the assignment.

What are the qualifications of a CASA volunteer?

A CASA volunteer must be at least 21 years of age and successfully complete an extensive screening process. Training is provided consisting of class work, court observation and successful mentoring with an experienced CASA Advocate. Upon successful completion of training, each volunteer is sworn in by the Court and takes an oath to focus on the best interests of each child to whom they are appointed and to maintain strict confidentiality. Volunteers are closely supervised by experienced program staff.

Help us reach every child in our community

- ♥ **Tell one person about CASA.**
 - ♥ **Invest your time in a child, volunteer.**
 - ♥ **Donate \$80 a month to lift up a child.**
- (CASA for Kids, Inc. is a 501 (c) (3) tax exempt charitable organization)*

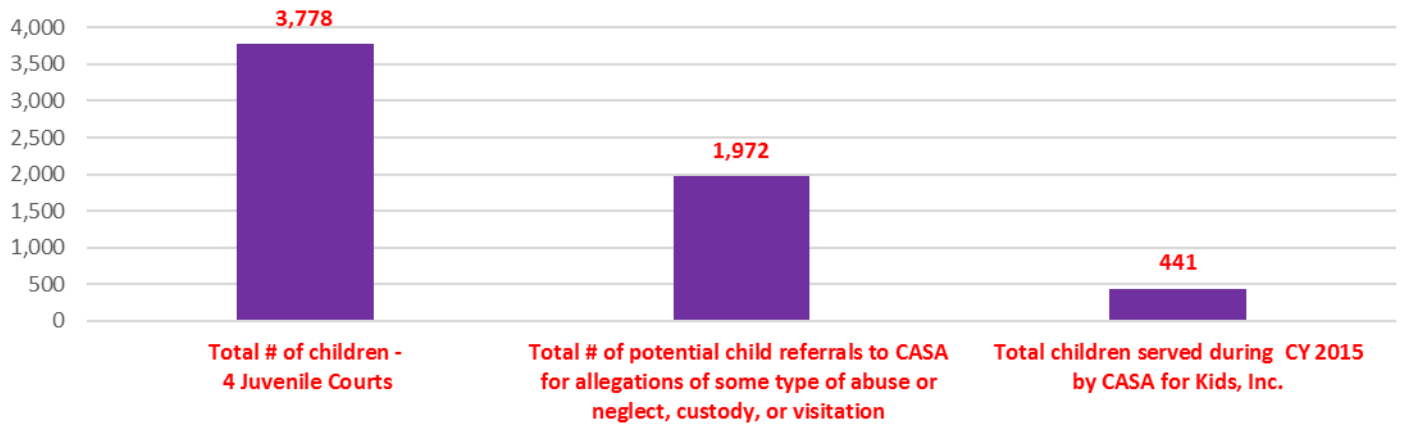
Children deserve a **SAFE, STABLE,** and **LOVING** home...Volunteers stay with children until they achieve permanency. For many abused children, a CASA volunteer is the only constant adult presence in their lives.

CASA for Kids, Inc.

310 Shelby Street • Kingsport, Tennessee 37660

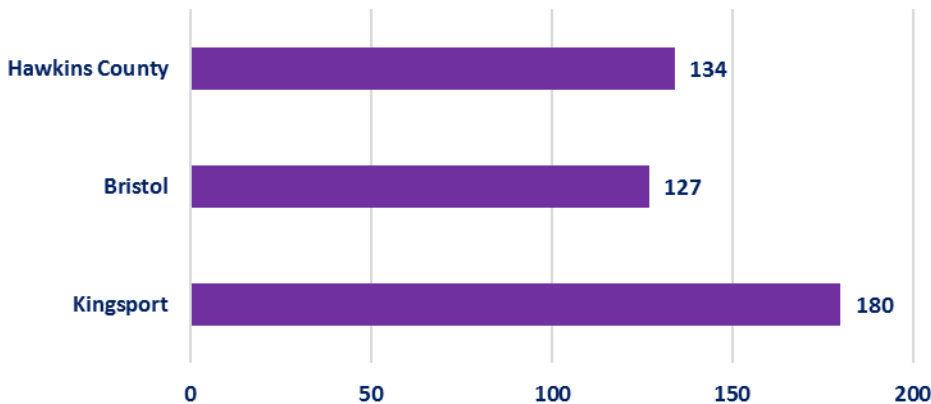
423.247.1161 • www.casa4kidsinc.org • mary@casa4kidsinc.org

Need for local Child Advocacy (Sullivan & Hawkins Counties combined)



**CASA for Kids, Inc. serves Sullivan and Hawkins County Juvenile Courts, a total of 4 Juvenile Courts: Sullivan County Division I and II (Bristol and Kingsport respectively); the City of Bristol TN Juvenile Court, and Hawkins County Juvenile Court, Rogersville.

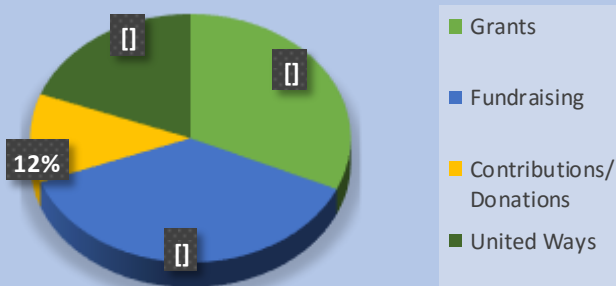
Children Served in Calendar Year (CY) 2015



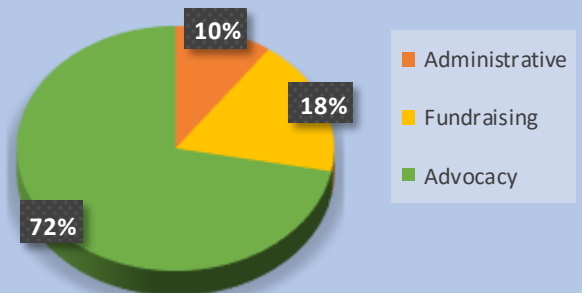
- ♥ **Types of cases assigned to volunteers:** Dependency/Neglect [educational (truancy), medical, environmental, emotional, physical or sexual abuse]; Custody [parents never married, parent request for custody to be returned to them]; Visitation; Home Study Only [one time courtesy home visit for other court]; Unruly; Delinquent
- ♥ **Types of abuse or neglect:** physical, sexual, or emotional abuse; medical neglect; educational neglect; environmental neglect; neglect/abandonment
- ♥ **Case Outcomes / Placement at time of case closure by program and Court:** adopted, relative or non-relative placement, reunified with a parent; long-term foster care [residential or foster home]

THANK YOU for making child advocacy possible in your community!

Income Total: \$468,873



Expense Total: \$430,446



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