



We are CASA SHaW

CASA SHaW serves the Somerset, Hunterdon, and Warren (SHaW) counties of New Jersey. We are the voice of children in foster care, and we work to ensure that every child is provided an opportunity to be placed into a safe, loving, and permanent home.

Commitment



The CASA SHaW team is made up of ordinary people who are committed to be a constant positive force in the life of an abused, neglected, or abandoned child; because they know that every individual can make a difference. **This makes them heroes.**

Community



Each year 500 children from Somerset, Hunterdon, and Warren counties are thrust into the court system through no fault of their own. These are children who have been victims of physical, sexual, and/or psychological abuse, neglect, or abandonment. **These are our children.** CASA SHaW ensures these children have a voice in the court proceedings that determine their fates.

Partnerships



CASA SHaW strives to build valuable partnerships within the local community, with other organizations, and within CASA.

Education



Caring for the abused, neglected, and abandoned children in our communities may seem like an overwhelming task; but ignoring this problem affects all of us. **CASA SHaW is the place to start.** We are proof that every individual CAN make a difference.

Give Every Child a Chance

CASA SHaW relies on the support of donations to do our work. Join our “Give Every Child a Chance” campaign. Donations can be made directly through casashaw.org. CASA is a 501(c)3 organization and all donations are fully tax-deductible. Thank you for your support!

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What is CASA?

Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) for Children is a network of community-based programs that recruit, train and support citizen-volunteers to advocate for the best interests of abused and neglected children in courtrooms and communities.

CASA began in 1977, when a Seattle juvenile court judge, concerned about making drastic decisions with insufficient information, conceived the idea of citizen volunteers speaking up for the best interests of abused and neglected children in the courtroom.

Today CASA is a network of more than 950 programs in 49 states recruiting, training, and supporting volunteers to represent the best interests of abused and neglected children in the courtroom and other settings.

Volunteer advocates — empowered directly by the courts — offer judges the critical information they need to ensure that each child’s rights and needs are being attended to while in foster care.



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The Office of the Inspector General (OIG) reports that children with a CASA advocate are “substantially less likely to spend time long-term foster care.”¹ Families with a CASA volunteer receive more services, leading the OIG to conclude that, “CASA is effective in identifying the needs of children and parents.” Cases where CASA is involved are more likely to be “permanently closed.”

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Every **35** seconds
a child is abused or neglected.²
Many of these children
end up in foster care.



12% of children in foster care
end up homeless³

50% of children in foster care do not
graduate high school or get a GED³



96.5% of children served by **CASA SHaW**
do not return to foster care.



40% of abused and neglected children
are served by **CASA SHaW**⁴

The difference is you



CASA SHaW GOALS

for abused & neglected children:

- 100%** receive advocates
- 100%** placed in safe homes
- 100%** do not return to foster care

Give Every Child a Chance

Your financial contribution & support
will get us to our goals

Donate online:



casashaw.org



facebook.com/CASA-SHaW

Donate by mail:

CASA SHaW
150 Boulevard, Ste 3,
Washington, NJ 07882

CASA is a 501(c)3
organization and all donations
are fully tax-deductible.

References

1. The Office of the Inspector General (OIG) report. 2. In the US. 3. MacArthur Foundation Research Network on Transitions to Adulthood and Public Policy 4. 2012-13, CASA SHaW data.