

LOVE



*It's all a child needs!*

For a more in-depth explanation of what it means to be a CASA volunteer, please visit our website at:  
[www.sewardcountycasa.org](http://www.sewardcountycasa.org)



**CASA**

Court Appointed Special Advocates  
**FOR CHILDREN**

**SEWARD COUNTY**



**SEWARD COUNTY CASA**

**A CHILD NEEDS YOU  
TO VOLUNTEER  
AS AN  
ADVOCATE**



**CASA**

Court Appointed Special Advocates  
**FOR CHILDREN**

**SEWARD COUNTY**



*Serving children  
in Seward County since 1996*

**SEWARD COUNTY CASA**

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*"A CASA's focus and regularity of visiting encourage opening up. Just let them talk—that's one of the greatest gifts you give someone. Encouragement encourages courage."*

*Rick Pike*

**Seward County CASA**



## KIDS NEED ■■■■□■

To children, the judicial system is big. Overwhelming. And not always well equipped to hear them, much less determine their future. Let's face it, when you're 6 or 11 or 14 or 4 your voice gets lost in a courtroom environment made to deal with adults and adult problems.



Every day across Nebraska, judges consider the futures of children who have been abused and neglected by their parents and guardians. Judges decide whether these kids should be adopted, reunited with their families or placed in foster care. In some cases, these children fall through the cracks of a busy judicial system and an overburdened child welfare system to become victims a second time. That's where CASA can make a positive difference—focusing completely and energetically on the needs of one child at a time.

## CASA HEARS KIDS ■■

CASA stands for "Court Appointed Special Advocates"—trained volunteers from the community who are appointed by a judge to advocate on a one-to-one basis for a child who has been a victim of abuse or neglect.



CASA volunteers are there to get to know the children, listen to them, and represent their voice in the legal process.



*"As a CASA, I share love, encouragement and time with a child who is frightened and feels so alone. These children desperately need support, a friend and a cheerleader in life."*

*Virginia Fraser*  
**Seward County CASA**

## WHAT DO CASA VOLUNTEERS DO? ■

CASA volunteers are ordinary citizens who are committed to the concept that every child has the right to a safe and permanent home. After undergoing a certified training course, volunteers:

- Get to know individual children.
- Talk to parents and family.
- Attend court hearings.
- Interact with attorneys.
- Meet with social workers.
- Review records.
- Talk with teachers.

After exploring the history of an individual child, a CASA volunteer makes recommendations to the judge regarding the child's best interests.



CASA volunteers remain assigned to a child for the life of a case. Sometimes, CASA volunteers are the only consistent presence in a child's life during a confusing and tumultuous time. ■