

What is CASA?

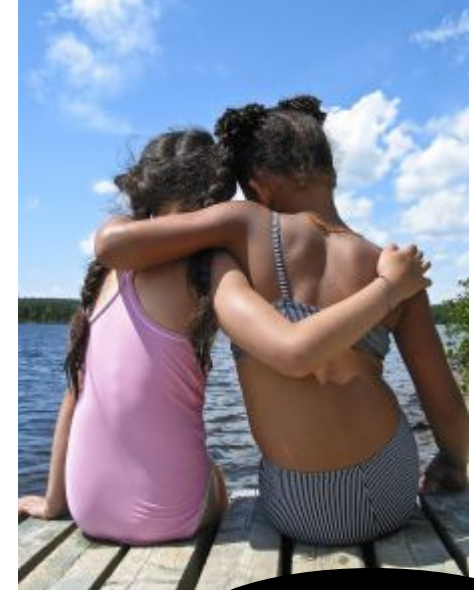
CASA stands for Court Appointed Special Advocates. CASA's mission is to provide volunteers to serve as independent voices in court for abused and neglected children in the South Plains area. CASA volunteers are trained and court appointed to investigate, monitor, report, and serve as advocates for the best interests of children in the court system. The CASA volunteer is there to help secure a permanent placement for the child in a caring environment. Our work is based on the belief that every child deserves a safe and permanent home.



Junior Friends of CASA is a way for youth to get involved with helping abused children in the community.


CASA
Court Appointed Special Advocates
FOR CHILDREN
CASA OF THE SOUTH PLAINS, INC.
#24 Briercruff Office Park
Lubbock, TX 79412

JUNIOR FRIENDS OF CASA



806-763-2272
www.lubbockcasa.org

TOP 10 WAYS YOUTH CAN HELP CASA

1. Gift cards Galore! We are always in need of gift cards to major retailers! We send the gift cards to our kids placed out of the area for birthdays and special occasions (usually around \$15-\$20 in value).



2. Office supplies! CASA is required to keep case files on all of our CASA children. As a non-profit, we are always careful with how we spend our funding. However, copy paper and folders are a major expense for our organization. A **PAPER PALOOZA** (or paper drive) would be a great way to support CASA and our ability to serve children.



3. Have you heard??? A major obstacle for non-profits is getting the word out about our cause. We are looking for the right group of students to help "spread the word." Some ideas the students could utilize:



Design a t-shirt campaign-

Use the school's art department to design and implement a t-shirt campaign to publicize CASA and encourage volunteering.



Blanket in Blue- Tie blue ribbons on a tree/fence at the school for each child currently in foster care in your county. Blue ribbons symbolize the prevention of child abuse. A copy of the "Blue Ribbon Story" can be provided by CASA.

Pinwheel Park- Line the walks of the local courthouse (or school grounds, or local park) with colored pinwheels for the kids in foster care with a CASA volunteer and white ones for the kids still in need of a CASA volunteer.



4. Cookie Monster! CASA currently provides approximately 10 volunteer trainings per year. We are in need of cookies, individually wrapped snacks or bottled water for each training. In the past students have baked cookies and brought them to the first night of training for our volunteers trainees.



5. National Adoption Day!

In November each year, CASA teams up with several agencies for National Adoption Day. On this day, dozens of children are adopted out of the foster care system. We are currently seeking a partner to help decorate and serve refreshments to the families and guests.



6. Thanks! CASA hosts a Volunteer Appreciation dinner each November. This is the one night we pamper volunteers who so graciously give of their time to help children in our community. We are currently in search of youth volunteers to serve the CASA volunteers their meal and help facilitate the evening.

7. Christmas Gifts! CASA has a gift drive every December for our CASA children. The goal is to provide a Christmas gift for every CASA child. Gift drives are essential to obtaining that goal.

8. Lace up your Running Shoes!

CASA's annual 5K is held in April each year. We would love to have your group join us as participants in the run/walk or volunteer to staff the event.



9. Greeting Cards- Many CASA children are moved out of the area and are placed in different parts of Texas. CASA still maintains contact with these children and is always in need of greeting cards for birthdays, graduations, encouragement or "just because." Students can have a greeting card drive, or could make it a group project and make the cards for our CASA volunteers to send to their kids.



10. MyPaks- CASA provides backpacks to children entering the foster care system. The backpacks are stuffed with toiletry items, a stuffed animal, a few basic school supplies, etc. Students have purchased items for the backpacks, held school wide drives for the backpack items and even stuffed backpacks for CASA. We will be happy to send you more information about the MyPak project if you are interested.

JUNIOR FRIENDS OF CASA

These are just ten ideas we have brainstormed to get our local youth involved with CASA. We have many more (i.e., a Fun Day sponsored by kids for local foster kids, CASA's dodgeball tournament in February each year, Casafest CASA playhouse event in August, etc.) and would love to talk with you about the best fit for your group.

We look forward to working with you!

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Email _____

YES! I am interested in:

- Gift Cards Galore!
- Office Supplies
- Have you heard???
- Cookie Monster
- National Adoption Day
- Thanks!
- Christmas Gifts
- Lace Up Your Running Shoes
- Greeting Cards
- My Pak
- Other —clerical assistance in our office, help with our newsletters, or another idea you may have...

Please return this portion to :
CASA
#24 Briercroft Office Park
Lubbock, TX 79412
or fax to 806-763-2273.

