

# CASA for Children

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**Lift up a child's voice.  
A child's life.™**

## Program Highlights (July 2011 – June 2012)

- CASA for Children celebrated 18 years of serving children.
- In all, 104 children and youth had the sustained, personal attention of a CASA volunteer in 2012.
- We opened 32 cases involving 57 children and closed 28 cases with 44 children.
- 59 volunteers contributed nearly 2289 advocacy hours last year—that's \$34,100 worth of service. They also traveled 18,552 miles to fulfill their mission as an advocate.
- 20 new volunteers—regular people from all walks of life—completed training last year to become volunteer advocates.
- We purchased a downtown Staunton property to increase awareness and reduce operating expenditures. The new facility is located in close proximity to the Augusta County and Staunton Juvenile and Domestic Relations Courts, where approximately 70% of CASA cases are appointed.
- We established a satellite office in Lexington and hired a part-time Advocate Manager to serve Alleghany, Covington, Lexington and Rockbridge area.
- We completed a capacity building assessment and set S.M.A.R.T. goals for program expansion, fundraising, board/staff development, and at-risk youth aging out of the foster care system.

"[CASA volunteers] thorough investigations have never failed to supply me with a wealth of information that I, as an attorney with an active practice, simply have inadequate time to gather myself. It amazes me that this very professional level of service is provided by a volunteer-based organization."  
– Colleen T., Guardian Ad Litem

## Exciting Goals for 2013

- This fall we will expand the capacity of CASA for Children to **serve a higher proportion of children** in the child welfare system. Last spring the Honorable David O'Donnell of Harrisonburg/Rockingham and the Honorable Paul Tucker of Buena Vista J&DR Courts invited our program to serve in their communities. We plan to provide volunteers by September in Harrisonburg/Rockingham and by November in Buena Vista.
- This fall CASA will train volunteers with Fostering Futures, a new curriculum developed by the National CASA Association. This training is designed to give volunteers a solid base of knowledge and skills to **advocate on behalf of youth between the ages of 14 and 18.**