



Information for Educators
about Working With CASAs

What is a CASA?

- CASAs, or Court Appointed Special Advocates, are volunteers appointed by a judge to advocate for the best interests of abused and neglected children during a dependency case.
- Voices for Children is the only non-profit organization designated by the juvenile court to screen and train CASA volunteers in Riverside County.
- The CASA spends time with their assigned case child/ren and works alongside social workers and other involved parties to identify any needs the child may have.
- Every active CASA in Riverside County has been trained by Voices for Children and appointed by a Judge to a specific child’s case.

Educators can lean on CASA supervisors!

Every CASA has an Advocacy Supervisor who is part of the Voices for Children staff.

To learn more about CASAs, to share any observations or concerns, or make a referral for services, call (951) 472-9301. All referrals are confidential!

Our supervisors are very engaged in cases and welcome calls/emails.

Educational Expectations of CASAs:

- See children at least once monthly, generally in their home setting.
- Monitor student’s academic progress by talking with their teachers and counselors
- Attend back-to-school night, parent-teacher meetings, IEPs, etc.
- Write court reports for each of the child’s hearings with info on placement; contact with siblings or relatives; medical, developmental, educational needs; and parents’ case plan and visits.

CASAs are allowed to:	CASAs are <u>not</u> allowed to:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Speak with teachers, counselors, and school personnel to hear about the child’s academic needs and progress • Review all academic records and access the school’s parent portal program, if applicable • Hold educational rights • Receive emails and written communication from other professionals through their Advocacy Supervisor. • Show their CASA badge and Court Order of Appointment as identification and as proof of completed background check. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Take children to their own home or place of work • Supervise visits between a child and their parents • Enroll a child in school, even if they are the educational rights holder • Sign any medical release forms, permission slips, or other forms that a caregiver would sign • Present their personal ID due to confidentiality

CASAs can receive copies of:

- Individualized Education Program (IEP)s
- Transcripts
- Cumulative file

Address: If you ever need to list a CASA’s address on any forms or send them a hard copy of a document, the Voices for Children mailing address is PO Box 7219, Riverside CA 92513.

If you ever have a question or concern about working with a CASA,
please don’t hesitate to contact their supervisor at 951-472-9301.
Working together, we can support the child and family.