



CASA

Court Appointed Special Advocates
FOR CHILDREN

TENNESSEE

**Be
For
The
Child**



On any day **20,000** children who have experienced abuse and neglect need CASA volunteers to speak up in juvenile court for their best interests.

Definition of Best Interests*, Tenn. Code Ann. 36-6-106. Adapted from TN Supreme Court Rule 40.

5,216 children served by **1,568** volunteers who donated **100,678** hours of service.

This is a **24%** increase in new children appointed a CASA volunteer, **9.2%** increase in new volunteers trained and taking juvenile court appointments, and **18%** increase in volunteer hours.

Foster care in Tennessee costs **\$8,800*** per month. Having a CASA volunteer can shorten a child's time in foster care by at least a month. CASA volunteers served **5,216** children and saved Tennessee taxpayers approximately **\$45.9 million** in FY 24.

*according to information from the TN Dept. of Children's Services



Scan here for supporting documentation and additional information.

Budget Request for Recurring Funds

\$1,205,000 -- 17+ programs & TN CASA to operate at current levels of service.*

*This funding is included in the \$25 million budget request for the TN Victim Service Providers Alliance

To expand CASA and the number of children we serve:

\$300,000 -- \$5,000 for each of the 60 current counties.

\$180,000 -- \$45,000 for four new counties.

\$1,685,000

"It's not what she said that stuck with me, it was what she did. She's been there through so many stages in my life, all the ups and downs, and made sure I knew I wasn't forgotten.

*From a young woman who had a
CASA volunteer*