








# Impact Sheet

Every child  
deserves...





hope.

-  In 2008, 411 children in Kent County were removed from their homes, slightly down from 465 removals in 2007 and up from 385 removals in 2006.
-  In 2008, 913 children in Kent County were eligible for a CASA, leaving 689 children unserved.
-  In 2008, CASA of Kent County was able to serve 224 children. However, many of those were carried over from 2007's count.
-  The average cost for CASA to advocate for one child for one year is \$1,000.
-  CASA is the only local volunteer organization that empowers everyday citizens to become appointed members of the Kent County court system in order to act on behalf of abused or neglected children.
-  Children with a CASA volunteer are substantially less likely to spend time in long-term foster care (defined as more than three years in care – 13.3% compared to 27%).
-  CASA is effective in identifying the needs of children and parents as shown by CASA cases having more court-ordered services involved.

One Kent County teen answered the question "What is a CASA?" by saying  
*"I don't really know what it is, but whenever I need her, she's there."*

*"This has been the most rewarding volunteer job that I have ever had – because I am helping the children who need help. I love it because I can make a positive difference in their lives."*

— CASA Volunteer

-  CASA cases are twice as likely to become permanently closed – with the child not reentering the child welfare system.
-  CASA volunteers spend significantly more time in contact with a child than a LGAL (lawyer guardian ad litem).
-  A child with a CASA volunteer is more likely to be adopted (and just as likely as a child without CASA services to be returned to his or her biological parents).
-  Our goal is to link one volunteer with EVERY child in need of our services.

*"As a child, having a CASA volunteer meant having somebody that I knew was on my side. So many times the little kid feels caught in the middle and feels as if nobody hears what you have to say....Having a CASA made me feel like I had somebody who was on my team."*

— Former Foster Youth