



Anne Arundel County Court Appointed Special Advocates, Inc.

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A Parent's Guide to CASA

What is a CASA?

CASA is short for Court Appointed Special Advocate. CASAs are volunteers who get special training to work with kids who are in the social service system. They are appointed by the Master who is assigned to your child's case, but they do not work for the Department of Social Services nor do they work for the Court System. They do not get paid for the time they spend on your child's case.

What do CASAs do?

CASAs provide information to the Master so that good decisions can be made about your child's future. They will talk to you, other relatives, teachers, counselors, social workers and anyone else who may be able to provide information about your child. They will also get to know your child by spending time with them. They will find out what your child wants and needs. Once the CASA has gathered information, they will appear in court at each scheduled hearing and make a recommendation to the Master about what is best for your child's future.

How will I know what the CASA is going to say?

The CASA gives a written report to the Master at the Court hearing. You will get a copy of the report about one week before the hearing.

What Can I expect?

You can expect that the person assigned to your child cares about what happens to them. This volunteer wants to make sure that your child has everything they need to have a bright future. You can also expect that they will ask you a lot of questions. You know your child better than anyone and your input is important.

Who can I call if I have a question?

If you have any questions, please call Denise Larbig, Program Manager at 410-267-7877, ext. 2.