



A powerful voice in a child's life

“What a joy it has been to work with the CASA volunteers in my courtroom. I admire and respect the professionalism, caring, ability to delve into the important issues in the case, and desire to be an advocate for the children which has been shown by CASA. The CASA volunteers play an important part in my ability to make an appropriate decision in the difficult cases related to the abuse and neglect of children.”

Judge Sandra Price
San Juan County District Court

For More Information Call:

San Juan CASA Program Director
(505) 592-0168

San Juan CASA Volunteer Supervisor
(505) 592-0167



San Juan



Court Appointed Special Advocates
FOR CHILDREN

San Juan CASA's mission is to support effective volunteer advocacy for the best interest of abused and neglected children involved in the court system, and to ensure that every child has a safe, supportive and permanent home.

Physical Address: United Way Building
903 West Apache

Mailing Address: Childhaven
807 West Apache

CASA helps children gain a voice

All children have a right to a loving home. Yet each year in San Juan County, hundreds of children are abused, neglected, or abandoned by their families. Many of them are removed from their homes and placed in foster care or institutions. Eventually, they end up in court. Their only "crime" is that they have been victims. It is up to a judge to decide their future. Should they remain in foster care? Be reunited with their parents? Or be adopted? The CASA Volunteer is a voice for the child and paints a picture for the Judge to help them make an appropriate decision based on the child's individual needs.



CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates)

Established in San Juan County in 1996, CASA volunteers advocate for the best interests of abused, neglected and abandoned children involved in the court system. A CASA is a trained community volunteer appointed by the Children's Court Judge to represent the best interests of a child in court. Once a CASA volunteer is appointed to a case they become an official part of the judicial proceeding, working alongside attorneys and social workers as an appointed officer of the court. When a CASA volunteer is appointed to a child's case, he or she is responsible for finding out as much as possible about that child. CASA volunteers search for information, review records, interview parents, talk to teachers, caregivers, and, most importantly, the child. These volunteers then appear in court and make recommendations to the Children's Court Judge.

Become a CASA Volunteer! All over San Juan County people just like you are making a difference in the lives of neglected children. CASA volunteers are responsible adults who can talk to people with problems, who have time to commit, and who care about our children.



Who Are CASA Volunteers?

CASA volunteers come from a variety of professional, educational, and ethnic backgrounds. They require no special experience. Volunteers are selected based on their objectivity, competence and commitment.

Once accepted, San Juan CASA program provides training for volunteers. They learn about courtroom systems, and the special needs of children who have been abused and neglected.

It takes about ten hours a month to be a CASA volunteer. It is hard work that is very gratifying.

