

## Mission Statement

to provide a volunteer court advocate for abused and neglected children within our jurisdiction, so they may ultimately find a safe, supportive and permanent home.



**Be the strongest  
voice for an abused  
or neglected child**

## Volunteer Today



### CASA

Court Appointed Special Advocates  
FOR CHILDREN

2ND JUDICIAL DISTRICT

504 Main Street Suite 470  
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### CASA

Court Appointed Special Advocates  
FOR CHILDREN

2ND JUDICIAL DISTRICT

## Court Appointed Special Advocates

Serving:

Nez Perce County

Latah County

Clearwater County


Lewis County

Idaho County

## **A Child with a CASA**

### **Volunteer is**

- ◆ More likely to be adopted, than to linger in long-term foster care
- ◆ Half as likely to re-enter the foster care system
- ◆ More likely to have a plan for permanency, especially children of color



## **Number of Children Served in 2<sup>nd</sup> Judicial District CASA**

**2012**

179 Children

**2013**

193 Children

**2014 (thru 10/31/14)**

194 Children

## **Acceptance into the Program**

*Initial screening of potential GAL advocate advocates is achieved in five (5) steps*

- ◆ A completed application must be submitted by the applicant in person for a pre-interview
- ◆ Three (3) references from persons unrelated to the applicant are obtained
- ◆ A release of information for appropriate background checks is obtained and all advocates are required by Idaho Code to complete background checks prior to receiving a case and at least every two years thereafter. Included in the background checks are the Idaho Department of Health and Welfare child abuse central registry, National Sex Offender's registry and finger print FBI National Criminal Investigation Checks (NCIC).
- ◆ Attend CASA/GAL pre-service training
- ◆ Final determination of placement in the program will be decided upon after a final screening and passing of the background check.



## **Training**

Advocates are required to complete 30 hours of Guardian ad Litem pre-service training prior to accepting their first case appointment. The training is in accordance with the guidelines set forth by the National CASA standards.

## **Specific duties of the GAL are:**

- ◆ To meet with the children appointed in the case at least once monthly
- ◆ To conduct an independent factual investigation of the circumstances of the children including, without limitation, the circumstance described in the petition.
- ◆ To file with the court a written report stating the results of the investigation recommendations and such other information as the court may require.
- ◆ To act as an advocate for the children for whom appointed at each stage of proceedings. To participate fully in the court proceedings and, to the degree necessary, adequately represent the child, and shall be entitled to confer with the children.
- ◆ To facilitate and negotiate to insure that the courts, the Department of Health and Welfare, Child and Family services and other service providers fulfill their obligations to the children in a timely fashion.
- ◆ To monitor the circumstances of the children to assure compliance with terms of the court's orders are being fulfilled and remain in the best interest of the children.
- ◆ To maintain all information regarding the case confidential and to not disclose the same except to the court or other parties to the case.