# **CASA of Klamath County**



# CASA Court Appointed Special Advocates FOR CHILDREN

Awards the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges, Chief Justices and State Court Administrators, National Association of Counties, Pew Commission on Children in Foster Care and the American Bar Association.

**Hours** Mon – Fri: 8:30 am – 4:30 pm

### Mission

The mission of the CASA for Children of Klamath County program is to provide trained advocates for abused and neglected children who are dependent on the Juvenile Court to ensure their right to a safe and permanent home. Through this advocacy, we will seek a timely disposition of each case.

# **Company Overview**

In 2011, CASA celebrates 20 years of child advocacy in Klamath County. The CASA program needs and appreciates the support we receive from our community that allows us to advocate for the most vulnerable children in Klamath County. For every \$600 raised, CASA provides full advocacy for a foster child for one year ensuring the child's right to a safe and permanent home.

# **Description**

A Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) is a community volunteer who has received specialized training to advocate for a child's needs in the child welfare and court systems. In addition to ensuring the child's voice is heard in court, CASA collaborates with family, agencies, and schools ensuring child safety, child well-being and permanency for foster children. We have always known that our Court Appointed Special Advocates make a difference. In many cases, we know that they ARE the difference. A volunteer's encouragement can be the difference between a teen dropping out of school and being the first in her family ever to graduate. A volunteer's patience and belief in a parent can be the difference between the parent giving up and reevaluating priorities. A volunteer's diligence can be the difference between a child being shuffled from placement to placement and having a place to call "home". Research shows that a child with a CASA spends less time in foster care, receives more services, and has more success in school.

### **General Information**

VOLUNTEER. Every child deserves hope and a chance for a better future. If you would like to learn more about volunteer opportunities, contact CASA at tmeyer@klamathfallscasa.org or call (541) 885-6017.DONATE. The CASA program needs and appreciates the support we receive that allows us to advocate for the most vulnerable children in Klamath County. For every \$900 raised, CASA provides full advocacy for a foster child for one year ensuring the child's right to a safe and permanent home. There are a number of ways you can support CASA including:MAILED DONATIONS.

Donations can be mailed to CASA, 403 Pine Street, 3rd Floor, Klamath Falls, OR 97601;ONLINE

DONATIONS. <a href="http://klamathfallscasa.org/give/donate">http://klamathfallscasa.org/give/donate</a>. Donations can be made online by using PayPal, MasterCard, VISA, American Express or Discover Card; CIRCLE OF HOPE - <a href="http://klamathfallscasa.org/give/hope">http://klamathfallscasa.org/give/hope</a>. You can make monthly donations by joining CASA's Circle of Hope; or BEQUEST -

http://klamathfallscasa.org/give/bequest. You can create a legacy of hope for abused and neglected children through a bequest in your Will.Klamath County consistently ranks near the top for the highest rates of child abuse and neglect in the state. Your support ensures more foster children have a voice in court and a consistent, caring adult. The bottom line is that CASA volunteers give children hope and a chance for a better future. CASA volunteers provide an outside perspective to the entire child welfare system so that more children are kept safe, attention is placed on their overall wellbeing and they are placed in permanent homes. An investment in CASA is an investment in the children in our community. The CASA program:

- Provides judges with the information they need to make critical decisions about each child
  - · Increases educational advocacy and student achievement
  - · Increases the accountability of the child welfare and court systems
    - · Reduces the number of children in long-term foster care
      - · Connects children with family and relatives
    - · Aligns children and families with appropriate services
      - · Ensures that children are only in state custody once
    - · Provides children with hope and a plan for their future

Phone (541) 885-6017

Email <u>info@klamathfallscasa.org</u>
Websitehttp://www.klamathfallscasa.org

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