



SECOND JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT

Department Title: Family Services Department

Program Title: Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) Program

Manager: Kendra Materasso

Hours of Operation: Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Program Description: Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) programs provide critical support for abused and neglected children who are under the protection of the juvenile court. The CASA Program in the Second Judicial District Court supports trained CASA volunteers who advocate for the best interest of the child, working to move the child out of the system and into a safe, permanent home as quickly as possible. CASA volunteers undergo a training and development program that consists of 40 hours of pre-service training and 12 annual in-service training. The core responsibilities of the CASA are to advocate for the child's best interests in the courtroom, act as a watchdog for the child during the duration of the case, serve as a fact finder for the judge and ensure the court has all the relevant facts and up to date information about the child. CASA volunteers are typically appointed to one case at a time. Low caseloads for CASA volunteers mean the courts can make better decisions for children and each child has the benefit of a consistent and caring adult presence in his or her life.

Accessible Services and Support: Two full-time case managers provide training and support to CASA volunteers, manage the program's day-to-day operations and work collaboratively with judicial officers to ensure the program meets the needs of the court.

Summary of Services:

Year CASA program was established in Washoe County	1989
Number of Children in Foster Care in Washoe County as of July 2025	615
Number of CASA volunteers in Washoe County	93
Number of children helped each year by local CASA volunteers	189

Contact us: 775-328-3298

To provide a powerful voice for abused and neglected children under the jurisdiction of the Second Judicial District Court.