



---

## Show Appreciation for Ongoing Support

- Legislative support has resulted in a strong foundation for CASA advocacy in all parts of the state.
- Increased funding has enabled CASA affiliates to:
  - recruit, screen, train, and empower additional community volunteers to advocate for more children in state's custody; and
  - attract and retain highly committed and qualified local staff members, who are skilled and experienced in supporting volunteers.
- *If you are in an area with a high number of un-served children experiencing foster care, mention the particular needs for additional support and advocacy.*

## Support FY 2023 Budget-Increase Requests

- Present Georgia CASA's request for a \$200,000 increase to recognize increases in foster care population, children served, or service-area expansion and restore FY20 reduction to state CASA network administration. *(See flyer for additional details).*
- Express appreciation for Governor Kemp's budget priorities to provide raises to state employees acknowledging their commitment to serving Georgia; to offer 10% increases to foster parents, caregivers, and agencies and institutions recognizing their critical role in caring for children in state's custody; and for DFCS pilot projects supporting children with high needs to remain in their homes of origin.
- Seek support for CJCC's budget-increase request to fill the temporary, but debilitating, gaps created by the expected reductions in federal VOCA funds to victim-serving organizations. These dollars comprise the largest source of funding for the CASA network in Georgia, and advocacy would be adversely impacted by the underinvestment in the coming year.

## Share CASA's Momentum & Engage Legislators in the CASA Network

- Discuss current happenings and share recent achievements from your local affiliate.
- Offer to be a resource about CASA or child welfare issues as the session progresses.
- Invite your legislator to attend your next event, swearing-in ceremony, training, or to observe court.
- Ask legislators to spread the word about CASA within the district at their faith-based, civic, or professional associations or clubs and within their other circles.
- Share a CASA recruitment message for their constituent newsletter or social media profile.
- Take a photo or screen shot with your legislator and share on social media.

## Bring Attention to Needs of Children & Families

- Highlight issues that impact children and families in your area. *The following list is included to provide possible suggestions for discussion.*
  - Placement stability, permanency, and normalcy efforts for children in foster care
  - Foster parent and kinship caregiver support
  - Substance use treatment services
  - Mental health for children and youth in care
- Share how CASA and the community have come together through COVID-19 response and resiliency.