



Iowa CASA Program

Annual Report, FY 01

Court Appointed Special Advocate

Fiscal Year 2001

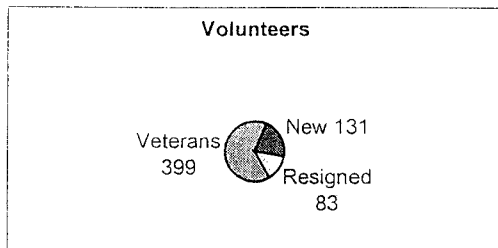
**A POWERFUL VOICE
IN A CHILD'S LIFE.**

July 1, 2000 – June 30, 2001

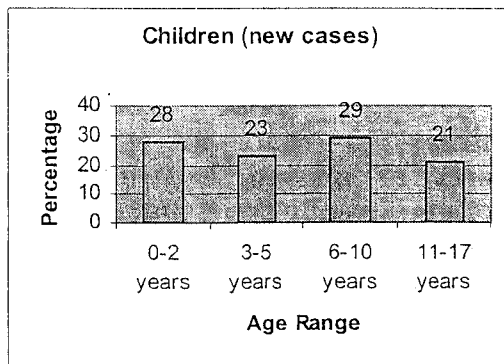
Message from the Director

.....Suzanne Boyde

January 2001 marked the 15-year milestone for the Iowa CASA Program. During that time, CASA has grown from two to thirteen locations, and now is available to children in every judicial district. In FY 01, 613 CASA volunteers impacted the lives of 1,129 of Iowa's most vulnerable children.



Our overall volunteer base grew by 12% in FY 01, with a 13% turnover rate due to the resignation of 83 volunteers.



Children of all ages are served by CASA, but nearly 80% are 10 years old or younger.

New CASA Cases Percentage by Race	Asian	Biracial	African American	Caucasian	Hispanic	Native American	Other/Unknown
General Iowa Population	1	1	2	93	3		1
CASA (new cases)	1	12	7	72	5	2	0
F.C. Population	1	0	12	71	4	2	0

	FY 00	FY 01
Iowa Children Served	994	1,129
Volunteers	554	613
New	165	131
Retired	73	83
Volunteer Hours	30,780	37,284
Volunteer Miles	184,617	194,669

The two Native American/Minority projects (Toledo and Sioux City) continued with their Iowa Court Improvement Project grant funding and began work on a handbook of best practice for the rest of the state. Even though the Supreme court did not include funding for these project positions for FY 02, the spirit continues.

The Supreme Court Child Advocate of the Year Award was bestowed upon Newton CASA, Jill Viau. Chief Justice Louis Lavarato recognized Jill during his State of the Judiciary address on January 10, 2001.

In April, National CASA honored Judge William Owens of Ottumwa as one of nineteen judges nationwide nominated

as Judge of the Year at the national conference in Minneapolis.

CASA prepared for the rollout of a data collection and case management program that is used by CASA programs nationwide. This program will allow CASA to analyze its work more effectively. We are looking forward to testing and fully implementing the COMET system in the next year.

The Davenport and Des Moines programs were selected from across the United States to participate with thirty others in a nationwide child welfare outcome study.

The first volunteers in the Ames and Waterloo offices were among the 131 trained and sworn in this year. There were 83 veteran CASAs who retired.

Iowa began using the new national CASA training curriculum this year. The 30-hour pre-service training is intensive and much more "hands on" than in the past.

In 2001, CASA supported two statewide conferences. In the spring, Friends of Iowa CASA sponsored a statewide conference in Des Moines that was attended by more than 100 volunteers and staff. In September, CASA and the Iowa Coalition Against Domestic Violence offered a session on the best interest of children in cases involving domestic violence

The duties of the CASA are listed in the Code of Iowa in Chapter 232.2 (22). The National CASA Association also certifies Iowa CASA programs.

The role of the CASA volunteer is:

Investigation

Carry out an objective, systematic examination of the situation, including relevant history, environment, relationships, and needs of the child.

Facilitation

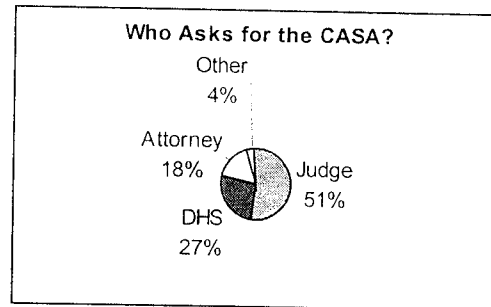
Identify resources and services for the child and facilitate a collaborative relationship between all parties on the case, helping to create a situation in which the child's needs can be met.

Advocacy

Speak up for and plead the case of the child.

Monitoring

Keep track of whether the orders of the court, as well as the plans of the child protective services agency are carried out. Report to the court. Inform the child protective services agency when any of the parties do not follow those orders and plans.



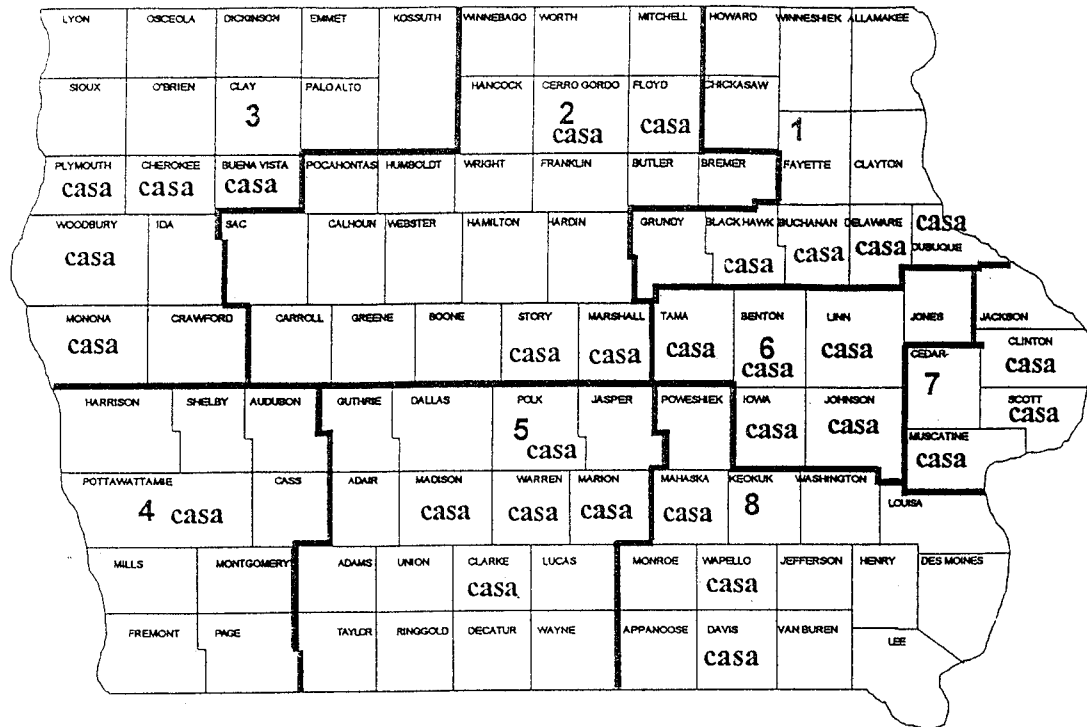
Although the Judge assigns the CASA, requests often come from other participants in the court process.

IOWA CASA MISSION

To provide adult community volunteers to represent the best interests of abused and neglected children in juvenile court proceedings.

State CASA Office 515 281-6254
Ola Babcock Miller Building
1112 East Grand Avenue
Des Moines, Iowa 50319

IOWA JUDICIAL DISTRICTS AND CASA COUNTIES



State CASA Office
Suzanne Boyde

Local Offices

1st District (Dubuque & Delaware Counties)

Cindy Aland-Juncker
700 Locust Street, Suite 708, Dubuque 52001
Phone: 319-582-8991

1st District (Blackhawk & Buchanan Counties)

Renee Else
Courthouse, 316 East 5th Street, Waterloo 50703
Phone: 319-833-3314

2nd District (Cerro Gordo & Floyd Counties)

Suzan McKiness, Cerro Cordo Courthouse
220 N. Washington Ave, Mason City 50401
Phone: 641-421-3080

2nd District (Story & Marshall Counties)

Steve Ward
PO Box 683, 314 - 6th Street, Ames 50010-0683
Phone: 515-233-2961

3rd District (Plymouth, Woodbury & Monona Co.)

Marla Treiber & Michalene Christiansen
Trosper-Hoyt Bld, 822 Douglas, Sioux City 51101
Phone: 712-279-6602

3rd District (Buena Vista & Cherokee Counties)

Kathy Fritz, Buena Vista Co. Courthouse
PO Box 1186, 215 E. 5th St., Storm Lake 50588
Phone: 712-749-5184

4th District (Pottawattamie County)

Anne Christensen
300 W. Broadway, Suite 6, Council Bluffs 51503
Phone: 712-322-5024

5th District (Polk County)

VeeAnn Cartwright & Kevin Schnoebelen
431 E. Locust, Suite 202,
Phone: 515-281-5960

5th District (Warren, Marion, Madison, Clarke Co.)

Bev Miller
207 South 1st St., Suite A, Indianola 50125-2502
Phone: 515-961-5179

6th District (Linn & Johnson Counties)

411-3rd St. SE, Suite 570, Cedar Rapids 52401-1811
Phone: 319-364-6147

6th District (Tama, Benton * Iowa Counties)

Dennis Rowell
221 West High Street, Toledo 52342
Phone: 641-484-5353

7th District (Scott, Muscatine & Clinton Counties)

Georgann Wyatt and Nancy Manion
2942 Brady Street, Suite B, Davenport 52803
Phone: 319-322-0955

8th District (Mahaska, Wapello & Davis Counties)

Aprile Goodman
107 S. Court, Suite 3, Ottumwa 52501
Phone: 641-683-9474