

## **A CASA Story**

At just 3 years old, Josh was abandoned by his mother and placed into foster care. He bore physical scars and faced developmental delays. Recognizing the urgent need for individual advocacy, the judge appointed a CASA volunteer to focus on Josh's healing journey, giving him the needed attention.

Josh's past abuse had scarred his emotional well-being, leading to violent outbursts in moments of frustration. These behaviors proved challenging for foster parents, resulting in Josh being moved three times within seven months. His CASA recognized that these frequent changes only intensified his trauma. She tire-lessly advocated for intensive therapy, special education, and foster parent training to help stabilize Josh both at home and in school.

However, the CASA knew this was just the beginning. Determined to find Josh a forever family, she sought a permanent adoptive home. When a young couple expressed interest, she maintained regular communication, informed them about Josh's progress, and strengthened the connection.

On the day Josh met his future adoptive parents, his CASA was by his side, guiding him through the big transition. She supported him weekly until his adoption was officially finalized, proving that a dedicated advocate can transform not only a child's current circumstances but their entire future.

## **CASA in 2024**

788 volunteers served
1,936 children with 31,019
hours of their time and
traveled 235,020 miles.

6,098 child visits were conducted by court appointed volunteers!



Court Appointed Special Advocates or CASA programs recruit, screen, train and support volunteers. Those volunteers are appointed by judges to advocate for foster children who have been removed from their homes due to abuse and neglect.

## TOTAL BENEFIT

\$18,122

## RETURN ON INVESTMENT



\$3,018

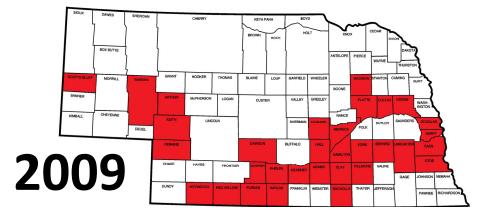
For every \$1 invested in Nebraska CASA, \$6 are returned to the state of Nebraska.

22 CASA programs served 55 counties in 2024!

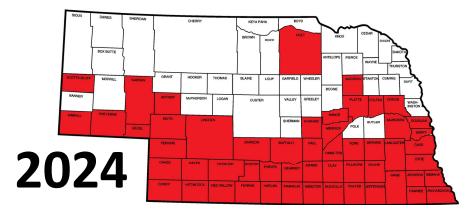
A child with a CASA volunteer is more likely to find a safe, permanent home with a consistent and responsible adult presence.

A child with a CASA volunteer is more likely to do better in school and spend less time in foster care.

More than 1,300 children in Nebraska are in the Foster Care system without a CASA volunteer.



1,187 Children Served by 443 CASA Volunteers



1,866 Children Served by 788 CASA Volunteers