

April 26, 2023

Dear Oregon Legislators,

First, I want you to thank you for visiting Southern Oregon to find out what our needs and priorities are. I also appreciate all the hard work you do to help make our communities a better place to live.

Since my retirement, I have been a CASA volunteer for the last 13 years. I find it very challenging, rewarding, and effective work.

**Here are some the facts about the effectiveness of the work we do.**

A foster child...

- \* Paired with a CASA is more likely to find a safe and permanent home.
- \* Is half as likely to re-enter the Child Welfare System.
- \* Tends to perform better academically and behaviorally in school and is more likely to receive all court ordered services.
- \* Benefits greatly from their CASA who is quite often the only constant in their otherwise chaotic life.
- \* Has an ally who strongly advocates for what is best for them.

**CASA's also give a A LOT OF BANG FOR THE BUCK!**

- \* Each paid CASA staffer can support 30+ unpaid volunteers who in turn advocate for 30 to 60 children or more!
- \* It was recently estimated that Oregon CASA's provided over 235,440 hours of service to children in a calendar year.
- \* An Independent Sector's estimate stated that meant at \$27.50 per hour, that would result in \$6.4 MILLION IN VOLUNTEER SERVICES!

We humbly request that you continue to support CASA's and the very important and impactful work they perform in our communities.

Thank you!

David Rowley

CASA