

2024

## CASA OF SOUTHWEST MISSOURI

### Who we are...

CASA's (Court Appointed Special Advocates) are trained volunteers, who are assigned to a child's case in foster care. The CASA volunteer advocates for the child's best interest.

The CASA serves as both a mentor and an advocate for the foster child. Often, our CASA's are the most consistent person in a child's life during their time in foster care.





# The Case for CASA

Kids with a CASA **ACHIEVE MORE** 

in school

Kids with a CASA are

### **LESS LIKELY**

to re-enter foster care because of repeat abuse or neglect







Kids with a CASA will spend **LESS TIME** in foster care



Kids with a CASA have **MORE STABILITY** in their foster homes



CASA **CAN SAVE** 

taxpayers over \$24,000 for every child exiting foster care more quickly



### Program Information

CASA of Southwest Missouri recruits, trains, and supports community volunteers who advocate for the best interest of children in foster care in Greene, Christian, and Taney Counties.

- OI Chronic Neglect, Physical Abuse, Sexual Abuse
- O2 Foster care system = constant change
- $_{
  m O3}$  Serves children and young adults (0-21)

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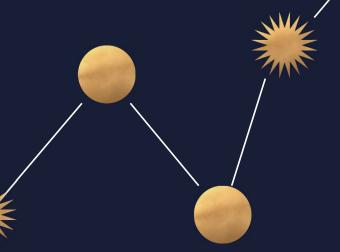
- There are over 1,300 children in foster care in Greene, Christian, and Taney Counties.
  - The average child in foster care will be in the system for 2 years or more

### 2023 CASA Outcomes



- OVER 450 CHILDREN SERVED
- OVER 300 CASA ADVOCATES
- ALMOST 900 CHILDREN SERVED IN THE CLUBHOUSE
- THE URGENT PROBLEM?
  - MORE CHILDREN IN FOSTER CARE COMPARED TO THE STATE AVERAGE
  - HUNDREDS OF CHILDREN WAITING TO BE SERVED
     BY CASA













### The power of ONE consistent adult

### In 2 years...

- 13 sets of parents
- 6 case workers
- 8 schools
- constant change
- 1 CASA

### Other Ways to Help

PLEASE HELP US SPREAD THE WORD ABOUT CASA



Employer matching gifts or paid volunteer hours

Event
Sponorships and
Committees



Tell Your Friends,
Family and
Connections and bring
them in for a tour

Thank you for helping change a child's story.



