

We are for the child.



Best outcomes for abused and neglected children – every child, every time

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
December 14, 2022

Friends of Iowa CASA and ICFCRB receives grant from Variety - the Children's Charity (Des Moines, Iowa)

Friends of Iowa CASA and ICFCRB has received a grant from Variety - the Children's Charity to fund the "CASA Essential Travel Project." The Project provides gas cards to volunteer Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASAs) to defray cost to the volunteers, especially when extensive travel is needed to advocate effectively for the children they serve.

Friends is a non-profit organization established for the sole purpose of supporting the work of Iowa's CASA Program and Iowa Citizens Foster Care Review Boards and the volunteers working in those programs. This project is directed toward the CASA program.

CASAs are highly trained volunteers appointed by judges throughout the state to watch over and advocate for abused and neglected children. Typically working with one child at a time, CASAs gather information about the circumstances and needs of the children they serve. They provide comprehensive reports to the juvenile court and child welfare agency to help focus attention on each child's needs. Volunteers stay with each child until the case closes with the child placed in a safe, permanent home. The CASA volunteer provides the constant presence of a caring adult in the life of each child served.

During this time of increased cost of gas and increased transportation needs due to changes in Iowa's foster care program, the Essential Travel Project has been particularly helpful to many volunteers who were challenged by the increased cost they bore for their volunteer work.

Variety – the Children's Charity is dedicated to improving the lives of children who are underprivileged, at risk, critically ill or living with special needs. Grant funding is provided to programs and initiatives that directly impact the well-being of children in our community. For more information on Variety grants and programs please visit varietyiowa.com.

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