

We are for the child.



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

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For Immediate Release

### **Friends of Iowa CASA & ICFCRB receives \$6,000 grant from Variety – the Children’s Charity**

Friends of Iowa CASA & ICFCRB has received a \$6,000 grant from Variety – the Children’s Charity to fund gas cards for volunteers to visit the abused and neglected children who have been removed from homes and put into foster care.

Friends of Iowa CASA & ICFCRB is a nonprofit organization serving the entire state of Iowa, advocating for these at-risk children. It is the goal of the organization to have a CASA volunteer for every Iowa foster child to look out for their best interests so he or she is not lost in the “system” and instead finds a safe and stable home in which to thrive.

The Variety grant will be used to purchase gas cards to allow the volunteers, who often have to travel hours each way, to reach these foster children and become their voice as they move through the juvenile court process. These volunteers make a real, tangible difference. A foster child with a CASA volunteer is much less likely to drop out of school, land in jail, end up homeless, or worse.

“This is a wonderful blessing and gift,” said Jamie Fitzgerald, President of the Friends Board. “These CASA volunteers mean everything to the foster kids they meet. They are the ones speaking up for them, advocating for them, and making sure the cycle of abuse ends. Moreover, they travel to see them on their own dime. This grant will make it so much easier for them to do their amazing work.”

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

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