

Newsletter

Friends of Iowa CASA

GIVING TUESDAY

OUR GOAL THIS MONTH

This Giving Tuesday (December 2nd), we invite you to donate to Friends of Iowa CASA (aka Friends) so 2026 is a year of hope for Iowa children who are adjudicated in need of assistance and in foster care. Last fiscal year, Friends supported 478 CASA volunteers, with 83 newly sworn volunteers statewide. Together, these individuals advocated for more than 1,100 Iowa children, driving over 224,000 hours for case-related work.

Recently, the Iowa Dept. of Health and Human Services took over funding the CASA operational costs. Friends is now charged with providing support to different initiatives to recruit and retain more volunteers in Iowa for these programs. This will be achieved through recruitment campaigns and events, gas cards to offset volunteer travel costs, providing opportunities to attend conferences and conventions with other child welfare advocates, among others. The sky is the limit on how we can serve our volunteer advocates and the children they are appointed to represent!

Visit our donation page to find out more:
www.iowacasafriends.org/donate

Donate directly [here](#) or scan the QR code to the right!

NEW WEBSITE RELEASE

We have revamped our website with the help of our UNI Intern, Kenny Barth. The site has a new logo, a new feel, updated material and more content we hope all users find more informational. Check it out at: www.iowacasafriends.org or click the logo below.



FREE GAS CARDS

Exciting news, everyone! Friends has received a Variety grant for 240 gas cards, each worth \$25. If you are a volunteer who hits the road for their case, send me an email and I'll make sure a gas card gets sent to you! These gas cards should be used for CASA's with case-related mileage. Thanks for your commitment to these kids!



Donate
NOW

A CASA story



A first time CASA took a case in March of 2021, and was appointed by a judge to serve on a case involving a 14 year old boy. As a teenager he was struggling with his mental health and had threatened to end his life. He was seeing a therapist, but continued to struggle with getting along with his father in addition to other stressors. The tension that occurred resulted in a physical altercation between the father and son. From peers to school to home situations, a host of other struggles were piling up in his life at this time as well.

The CASA volunteer who was appointed to the case was able to build rapport with the young man and his parents. At first, the volunteer was met with some resentment from the family, however was ultimately able to connect with them and encourage some mental health treatment for the entire family. The case closed 18 months later with the young man remaining in the home with his parents. When the case closed, the CASA volunteer reported that he didn't feel he had done a lot for the case but was able to report to the court about the family's progress.

Two years later the CASA office received an invitation for a graduation reception for this young man. When the coordinator reached out to the CASA volunteer he was shocked that 2 years later the young man and family had thought to invite him. At the graduation party they thanked him for the calm he brought to the family when they were struggling so much. The mother reported to the CASA that the young man would make comments that the CASA had said to him for encouragement. Although the CASA did not realize his impact on the young man he made a lasting impact on the whole family!



ARE YOU A GOOD FIT?

Friends of Iowa CASA is considering expanding it's current board, and looking for passionate volunteers willing to do the volunteer work needed to build and support our board and the CASA Program in Iowa.

If you think you might be a good fit as a member of our board and want to make a difference in the lives of children that have experienced neglect and abuse by supporting their amazing CASA advocates, reach out to us with a resume, your strengths and passions as well as how you you would add value the our board.

We looking forward to hearing from you soon!

Email your interest in knowing more about the opportunity to join out board to: support@casaandicfcrb.org

Upcoming Events

12/2/2025	Giving Tuesday
Spring 2025	CASA Conference
Spring 2025	Light of Hope