



VOICES FOR CHILDREN



Volunteer Outreach Initiative for Community Engagement and Support (VOICES) Program

Voices For Children CASA VOICES Ambassador Program Mission:

The VOICES Ambassador Program helps to sustain an effective CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocate) program by engaging and educating community members and raising awareness of the agency and its services.

Dear Prospective VFC CASA Volunteer,

Thank you for your interest in serving Voices For Children CASA! The following VOICES documentation provides a summary of volunteer roles available to community members seeking to provide service to Voices For Children CASA of Boulder County.

All prospective volunteers should complete the VOICES Volunteer Application Form in order to indicate interest in volunteering with VFC CASA.

If you have questions about becoming a Voices For Children CASA VOICES Ambassador please contact Nancy Miller at the VFC CASA office:

Phone: (303) 440-7059 | Email: nancy@vfccasa.org

We look forward to working with you to improve the well-being of children in Boulder County.

Sincerely,

Frannie Ray-Earle
VOICES Ambassador Committee Chair
Voices For Children Board Member & Treasurer

VOLUNTEER POSITION DESCRIPTION

Nature of Work

This ambassador volunteer position exists to support the Voices For Children CASA program in Boulder County, CO. The VOICES Ambassador Program seeks to share the mission of VFC CASA with community members through education and community outreach. VOICES volunteers are expected to serve as public advocates of VFC CASA within Boulder County.

Who We Are

About Us

- Voices For Children CASA (VFC CASA), is a non-profit agency that provides Court Appointed Special advocates, known as CASAs, to assist Guardian ad Litem (GALs). (www.vfccasa.org)
- CASAs volunteer their time to work with abused and neglected children in Boulder County. They are a stable adult in a child's life and give each child sustained, personal attention.

The Need

- Nationally, each year more than 800,000 abused and neglected children are referred to the courts because they cannot safely live with their families.
- On average foster children remain in the system for 3 years, are moved at least 3 times, and attend 9 different schools.
- Locally in 2010, 164 children received VFC CASA services.

The Results

- Children with a CASA volunteer are half as likely to spend time in long-term foster care.
- Colorado saves \$2,075 for each month foster care is not needed for a child.
- Fewer than 10% of children with a CASA volunteer re-enter the foster care system.
- In 2010, 50 cases which had received VFC CASA services were closed after placing 88 children in safe homes.
- The CASA program consistently demonstrates sustainable, accountable results!

Your Support Is Critical

- Volunteer for VFC CASA
 - Serve on the Board of Directors
 - Become a CASA
 - **Become a VOICES Ambassador Volunteer**
 - Join a committee – Examples: Business Partnership, Donor Care, or the Light of Hope
 - Help raise funding
- Voices For Children CASA must continue to provide well-trained and supervised CASA volunteers as needed for child victims in Boulder County.

Voices For Children CASA
VOICES Ambassador Program

<p>Description</p>	<p>VOICES Ambassadors volunteer time and effort to further the cause of Voices For Children CASA. As such, all ambassadors must have a working knowledge of the organization and should be willing to share the organization’s mission with others. Volunteers dedicate time to the planning and implementation of programs and events.</p>
<p>Expectations</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Attend one (1) Ambassador Training Meeting 2. Volunteer a <u>minimum</u> of two (2) times (approximately 4 hours) annually 3. Ambassador volunteer opportunities may include: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) assisting in the planning or execution of a service or educational outreach program or activity for a VFC CASA, or b) sharing the mission of the organization at an organized event, business/community outreach or educational activity. 4. Be accountable. Only volunteer for those activities for which you can truly commit your time and know you will attend. 5. When volunteering with VFC CASA, VOICES Ambassadors will always be working in coordination with organization staff, board members or CASAs. <p>VOICES Ambassadors are not authorized to represent or work on behalf of the organization without prior consent and approval from VFC CASA staff, board members or CASAs.</p>
<p>Minimum Qualifications</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ambassadors must be 18 years of age or older. 2. Ambassadors should be willing to commit to a minimum of 4 hours of volunteerism per year.



Volunteers from Kappa Alpha Theta Fraternity gather at the VFC CASA 25th Anniversary Party (April 2010)

Voices For Children CASA
VOICES Ambassador Program

<p>Volunteer Role</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ <u>EMAIL:</u> Upon becoming a VOICES Ambassador, you will receive email notification of impromptu volunteer opportunities. Simply reply by email or call the VFC CASA office by the requested deadline to sign up to assist. ➤ <u>COMMITTEES:</u> Volunteer committees comprised of staff, board members and CASAs manage all programming and activities at VFC CASA. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ During the application process, VOICES Ambassadors are matched to committees based on expressed volunteer interest. ○ Ambassadors are encouraged to communicate with committee chairs and attend committee meetings to learn more about how to start contributing to the organization. ➤ <u>TIME:</u> Volunteer what you can! Minimal time commitments are required to become a VOICES Ambassador. Use this program to fit into your schedule and make a difference for CASA kids! Share your schedule availability with committee leaders in order to get the most out of your volunteer time. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ If at any time you no longer wish to be VOICES Ambassador, or would like to modify your level of volunteerism, simply notify the VFC CASA staff, committee leaders or the VOICES Ambassador Program chair.
<p>Examples of Volunteer Committee Opportunities</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ <u>Business Partners Committee</u> - Share your experience as a volunteer and encourage local businesses sponsor or donate time to VFC CASA. ➤ <u>Community Booths</u> - Spread the word about VFC CASA, help run our booths at your local community activity! ➤ <u>Donor Care Committee</u> - Help express gratitude to organization donors with annual cards, gifts and other tokens of appreciation. ➤ <u>Light of Hope Planning Committee</u> - Help plan and execute our annual fundraiser. ➤ <u>Office Administration</u> - VFC CASA staff occasionally need assistance with office administration, mailings or errands. ➤ <u>Public Relations/Marketing Committee</u> - Have a knack for public relations or marketing? Use your talents for writing, photographing, designing or editing. ➤ <u>VOICES Ambassador Education & Outreach Committee</u> - Help plan a community outreach activity to educate Boulder County about VFC CASA.

Voices For Children CASA
VOICES Ambassador Program

<p>To Apply</p>	<p>Complete the VFC CASA VOICES Ambassador Application Form</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Fill in required information - Indicate your preferred volunteer activity or contribution(s) <p>Please submit the specified documentation in a single packet.</p>
<p>Application Submission</p>	<p>Submit your application electronically by emailing your completed form to: info@VFCCASA.org</p> <p>Submit your application documents by mail or in person to the VFC CASA Office, located at 2305 Canyon Blvd., #101, Boulder, CO 80302.</p>
<p>Post-Application</p>	<p>Get Started! Upon submitting your VOICES Ambassador Application you will be contacted by the VOICES Ambassador Program Chair and VFC CASA Staff to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Schedule a 30 minute Ambassador Training Meeting 2. Refer you to VFC CASA volunteer committees which you may be interested in joining. <p>Get Involved!</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Follow-up with VFC CASA committee chairs to initiate your involvement as a VOICES Ambassador. 2. Attend committee meetings to learn more about opportunities to volunteer your time.



VOICES FOR CHILDREN



CASA
Court Appointed Special Advocates
FOR CHILDREN

**Volunteer Outreach Initiative for Community
Engagement and Support (VOICES)
AMBASSADOR PROGRAM APPLICATION**

Applications can be submitted by

Email to: info@VFCCASA.org

Mail to: Voices For Children CASA
Attn: VOICES Ambassador Program
2305 Canyon Blvd. #101, Boulder, CO 80302

DATE: _____

NAME: _____

PHONE(S): Work _____ Home: _____

Cell: _____ Preferred contact: W ___ H ___ C ___

EMAIL: _____ FAX: _____

HOME ADDRESS: _____

EMPLOYER and PROFESSION/VOCATION: _____

EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND: _____

I AM A (check all that apply):

- Current Voices For Children CASA
- Former CASA with _____ agency
- Former Board Member with _____ agency
- VFC CASA Donor
- Business Partner with VFC CASA
- No Prior Affiliation with VFC CASA
- Other: Please Describe _____

1. How did you hear about Voices For Children CASA?

2. Why are you interested in becoming a VFC CASA VOICES Ambassador?

3. Please use this space for any additional comments or information you would like provide to VFC CASA.

4. Please describe your volunteer availability below (i.e. preferred activities, days of the week or times):

5. Complete and return the attached "Volunteer Interest Indicator" form with your application.

Questions? Call the Voices For Children CASA office at (303) 440-7059.

VOLUNTEER INTEREST INDICATOR

1. On a scale of 1 (high) to 3 (low) rank the opportunities for which you are interested in volunteering.

VOICES Ambassador Opportunities	RANK
Business Partners Committee <i>Examples: Assist in educating local businesses or recruiting new sponsors</i>	
Community Booths <i>Examples: Spend 1-2 hours at a VFC community booth during events like Bolder Boulder, Rhythm on the River, 29th Street Mall Events, Lafayette Peach Festival, Halloween Booths</i>	
Donor Care Committee <i>Examples: Thank you cards, small gift delivery to donor homes, plan donor gatherings</i>	
Light of Hope Planning Committee <i>Examples: Organize venue, catering and other event planning preparations. Recruit attendees or help execute fundraising events</i>	
Office Administration <i>Examples: Organize US postal mailings, prepare nametags, etc</i>	
Public Relations/Marketing Committee <i>Examples: Write short stories, design marketing communications, photograph events, help publicize VFC CASA</i>	
VOICES Ambassador Education & Outreach Committee <i>Examples: Help plan a community education and outreach event, help grow the VOICES program and help recruit new volunteers</i>	

2. Tell us how you would like to contribute to VFC CASA.

3. Please check any areas in which you have skills or knowledge that you would like to volunteer to VFC CASA.

Accounting/Finance	
Child Development	
Event Planning / Organization	
Fund Raising / Community Outreach	
Law Enforcement / Legal	
Medicine / Health Care	
Newsletter / Writing / Editing	
Computer / Information Technology	

Other (Please Describe):
