



CASA's Mission, Vision and Goals

MISSION

CASA supports and promotes court-appointed volunteer advocacy so every child who has experienced abuse or neglect can be safe, have a permanent home and have the opportunity to thrive.

VISION

A safe, healthy, permanent home for every child.

GOALS

- Promote permanency for children through information gathering, monitoring, case facilitation and advocacy.
- Prevent incidence of re-abuse through monthly visitation, monitoring and ensuring access to services.
- Ensure each child's healthy development, medical and emotional wellness, education, safety, and stability.
- Support Family Court by having professionally trained CASAs available to monitor and advocate for vulnerable children.

ABOUT OUR PROGRAM

EAC Network is a not-for-profit social service agency that empowers, assists, and cares for over 43,000 people in need through 100 programs across Long Island and New York City. Our mission is to respond to human needs with programs and services that protect children, promote healthy families and communities, help seniors, and empower individuals to take control of their lives.

CONTACT US

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part of a community working to
Change a Child's Story™

CASA of New York State (CASANYS) is a funded Victim Assistance Program of the New York State Office of Victim Services. Funding is provided through federal Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) project 2018V2GX0047. CASANYS and its member local CASA programs are proud members of the National CASA/GAL Association for Children.



About Victim Assistance



A collaboration between CASA and the New York State Office of Victim Services



CASA
Court Appointed Special Advocates
FOR CHILDREN



About CASA and OVS

ABOUT CASA

Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASAs) are professionally-trained, objective community volunteers appointed by Family Court to advocate for children who are in out-of-home placement or who are at risk of being placed in foster care.

CASAs monitor a child's medical and mental health, educational needs, well-being and permanency planning. Key to a CASA's work is regular visits with the child or children to whom they are assigned.

CASA is appointed by court order to collaborate with others involved in a child's case and gather information from all interested persons including parents, foster parents, teachers, case managers, doctors, therapists, attorneys, other service providers and the child. CASA provides fact-based reports to assist the Court in addressing the child's needs and in determining what is in their best interest.

Children assigned to CASA may be home with, or safely reunified with their parents. In other cases, children and youth are permanently placed with relatives or are adopted. CASA's ultimate goal is for children to grow up in permanent, safe, healthy family homes.

WHAT IS THE NEW YORK STATE OFFICE OF VICTIM SERVICES?

The New York State Office of Victim Services (OVS) provides guidance and support to the network of Victim Assistance Programs, which includes Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA). OVS provides this guidance and support in order to assist children and others who have been the victims of crime in accessing needed services.

CRIME VICTIM COMPENSATION

Children assigned to CASA as a result of an abuse or neglect proceeding in Family Court, and who are victims of a criminal matter may be eligible for Victim Compensation. OVS may be able to help with expenses related to the crime of which they were a victim.

HOW CAN CASA AND OVS HELP?

By completing a Victim Assistance Application, children and youth may have lifelong access to supportive services. These can include counseling, travel reimbursement, medical care and other items that are related to having been the victims of abuse or neglect and that cannot be paid for by other sources or coverage.

Pursuant to Article 15 of the Executive Law (also known as the Human Rights Law) and all other State and Federal statutory and constitutional nondiscrimination provisions, CASANYS will not discriminate against any applicant for victim assistance because of race, creed (religion), color, sex (including gender expression), national origin, sexual orientation, military status, age, disability, predisposing genetic characteristic, marital status or domestic violence victim status. More info at ovs.ny.gov.

HOW DO I APPLY FOR CRIME VICTIMS COMPENSATION?

CASA staff and volunteers are here to assist with the filing of Victim Assistance Applications with the New York State Office of Victim Services. While CASA is primarily focused on assisting with the filing of applications for assigned children and youth, CASA can, as a Victim Assistance Program (VAP), assist others with applications or refer individuals to other VAP organizations in their community who can assist.

For more information about Crime Victims Compensation, please contact your local CASA program or, to learn more, contact:

New York State Office of Victim Services
Alfred E. Smith State Office Building
80 South Swan Street, 2nd floor
Albany, NY 12210-8002
www.ovs.ny.gov

