



GEORGIA COURT APPOINTED SPECIAL ADVOCATES, INC.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Lori Derhammer
loderhammer@gacasa.org
404.874.2888

Legislators to Meet with Child Advocates at “CASA and Foster Youth Day at the Capitol” on Tue., Feb. 10

Atlanta, Feb. 3, 2009 – “CASA and Foster Youth Day at the Capitol,” an annual event hosted by Georgia Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA), Inc. will take place on Tue., Feb. 10, at the State Capitol. CASA volunteers, board members and staff from across the state will meet with members of the Georgia Legislature to share their concerns and ask for support for the abused and neglected children in the care of the state, numbering more than 11,000 at any one time. As in past years, CASA will be joined by teenage foster youth from across the state.

Sadly, 60 children in Georgia died from abuse or neglect in 2007. Over 250 incidents of child abuse and neglect are reported daily in the state and every day, 90 children are victims of confirmed abuse or neglect in Georgia.

Through individualized attention, CASA volunteers advocate for the best interests of Georgia’s abused and neglected children. Bringing urgency to children’s needs, both in and out of the courtroom, CASA volunteers promote safety, permanency and well-being through independent recommendations.

Details

The day will begin at 9:30 a.m. at the Tull Fellowship Hall of Central Presbyterian Church at 201 Washington Street, across from the Capitol, with a legislative briefing and remarks by Tom C. Rawlings, Director, Office of the Child Advocate. At approximately 10:30 a.m., the group is scheduled to receive a CASA Proclamation from Governor Perdue, along with a group photo. After meeting with their legislators, the day will conclude with a drop-in luncheon from 11:45 to 1:00 to thank the legislators for their support of CASA, foster children/youth and child welfare issues.

Volunteers Needed

Everyday citizens can make a big difference to the CASA program in their community by becoming a CASA volunteer or giving a charitable donation. CASA volunteers currently serve 126 of Georgia’s 159 counties and CASA is working to expand its program statewide.

Georgia CASA, Inc., located in Atlanta, is a nonprofit organization that develops and supports court-sanctioned, community-based programs that provide trained and supervised volunteers to advocate for the best interests of abused and neglected children involved in juvenile court proceedings. The vision of Georgia CASA is for each abused and neglected child to have a safe and permanent home. Last year, over 1,870 CASA volunteers served over 8,760 children in Georgia. To find out more about “CASA and Foster Youth Day at the Capitol” and the CASA program in Georgia, visit www.gacasa.org or call 404.874.2888.

###

1776 PEACHTREE ROAD, NW • SUITE 219, SOUTH TOWER • ATLANTA, GA 30309
404.874.2888 • 800.251.4012 • FAX 404.874.2889 • info@gacasa.org • www.gacasa.org

MEMBER OF THE NATIONAL COURT APPOINTED SPECIAL ADVOCATE ASSOCIATION