




# CASA

Court Appointed Special Advocates  
**FOR CHILDREN**

## Newsletter

SEPTEMBER 2019

Morgan County CASA

Topic	Topic	Topic
<p><b>WHEN TALKING ABOUT CASA</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>CASA children are in care 8 months less than children without CASA.</li> <li>There were no tragic child deaths with a CASA case.</li> <li>Fewer than 8% of CASA children re-enter foster care.</li> </ul>	<p><b>REMEMBER TO TURN IN YOUR CALENDARS TO ME EACH MONTH!! I NEED THESE AS PART OF OUR ACCREDITATION.</b></p> <p>Things to put on your calendar</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Contact with kids</li> <li>Contact with caseworkers, schools, therapist, parents, etc.</li> <li>Any trainings .</li> <li>Anything that involves your working your case.</li> </ul>	<p>Happy Birthday!!</p> <p>Valerie Flowers</p> 

### Key Dates

#### NEW VOLUNTEER TRAINING

NOV 11-14, 2019

If you know someone who might be interested in this training, please let Libby know.



#### VOLUNTEER MEETING

NEXT MEETING WILL BE

SEPTEMBER 17, 2019

10:30-11:30

Presbyterian Church Daycare

800 West College

Jacksonville, IL

## My name is pamela



I was 7 years old the first time I was taken from my home. Foster homes came and went. Schools were here and there. Caseworkers drifted in and out of my life. After six years of placement, the court appointed Pat.

Pat came to see me quite often and called me when she couldn't come in person. She worked with my lawyers to appeal the court's decision. She got me visits with my old foster family, made sure I was seeing my therapist regularly, and checked with my teachers to make sure I was managing in school. She brought me newspaper clippings of youth who made it through hard times and of students who were able to get scholarships to cover their education.

I never had someone stand for me like she did. She stood before the judges, the lawyers, my mother, and caseworkers and wasn't swayed by their opinions. It completely amazed me. I trusted her more with every visit. She became not only an advocate but a friend.

Earlier this year, I testified to a legislative committee on behalf of the CASA program. At the end of the testimony I said, "To give a child a CASA is to give them a voice. To give them a voice is to give them hope, and to give them hope is to give them the world". As a child who was assigned a CASA years ago. I believe that with all my heart.

### ADVOCACY NETWORK FOR CHILDREN

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### LIBBY GAIGE

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