

For Immediate Release  
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### **CASA Volunteers Needed for Children in Foster Care**

Each year, children enter the foster care system due to abuse and neglect. This year, 438 children in the Concho Valley had a Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) by their side. However, 128 children are still in need of a CASA Volunteer. Children's Advocacy Center of Greater West Texas, Inc. (CAC) is an umbrella organization consisting of four programs: Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA), Hope House, Family Enrichment Services, and Outreach & Awareness. CASA Volunteers advocate for the best interests of children who have been abused or neglected and whose home will be determined by a court of law. The CASA Volunteer stands beside the child throughout their journey to provide comfort, love, stability, and help guide the child to a safe and permanent home. Essentially, CASA volunteers build a relationship with a child in foster care and the individuals in their life such as daycare providers, therapists, pediatricians, teacher, and social workers.

Our CASA volunteers are ordinary people from all walks of life, ages, and ethnic groups who do the extraordinary by making a difference in the life of a child. CASA Volunteers are not required to have any previous training or education background. CAC develops, trains, and educates CASA Volunteers on how to advocate for the child and ensure their voice is heard. "CASA Volunteers are vital to our program and the children in foster care in our community. 128 children in the Concho Valley are in need of a CASA Volunteer to give them individualized, concentrated attention. We would love for every child in our program to have a CASA for Christmas, and our long-term goal is for every child in CPS custody in our area to have their very own CASA Volunteer, says Shirley Davis, Director of CASA."

Every child has a story and it is our responsibility as a community to do all we can to ensure each chapter of their life is brighter and more prosperous, even in the midst of their journey through foster care. If you are interested in volunteering your time to help change a child's story, contact Rebekah at 325-653-HOPE or email [rbeltran@cacgreaterwtx.org](mailto:rbeltran@cacgreaterwtx.org).

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