

# Get to Know CASA of the 2nd Judicial District

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CASA of the 2nd Judicial District was chosen as the 2023 Mitchell Williams Take Time To Give charity for the Jonesboro market. We are excited to share the story of CASA and their work in this interview with Executive Director Jeremy Biggs.

## **Describe the mission of CASA.**

Our mission is to recruit, train, and support volunteer advocacy for children in foster care until they reach a safe and permanent home.

## **Tell us about future plans or expansion plans for CASA.**

Our goal is to serve 100% of children in foster care. Over the past five years we have increased the number of children served from 52% to 73%. To meet this goal we must continue to recruit and train new advocates and focus efforts on retaining existing advocates.

## **Is there anything that you wish more people knew about your organization or the issues you are trying to solve?**

You do not have to have a law degree or a social work degree to become a CASA. We teach you enough in our pre-service training that you will be knowledgeable of applicable child welfare laws and policies. Our staff is there by your side to support you through your casework and is more than willing to assist you in any issues that arise with your case. All children deserve to be loved, their future is bright, and made to feel like they matter.

## **What would make the greatest difference in helping your organization improve upon the mission?**

Assisting us with opening doors to speak to small or large groups of community minded individuals who may become volunteer advocates with CASA. Assisting in promoting the great work being done by our advocates across social media platforms.

## **If I wanted to get to know your organization better, what are the best ways to learn more?**

Simply visit our website at [neacasa.org](https://neacasa.org) to learn more about volunteer roles and responsibilities and to complete an application to become a CASA.