

OUTCOMES FOR CHILDREN

Fourth Judicial District CASA



The long-range outcomes for children with a CASA volunteer are that children have a safe and permanent home and that children don't "fall through the cracks" of the system that is in place to protect them. Fourth Judicial District CASA and CASA programs across Oklahoma have identified initial and intermediate outcomes that, when measured, demonstrate the real changes we are making in the lives of children.

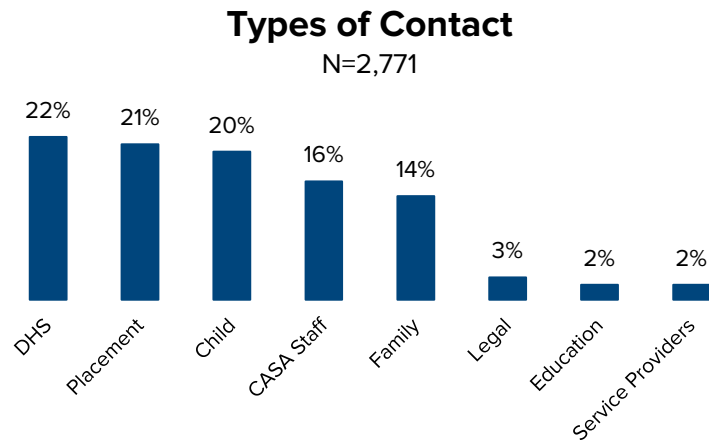
During the 2023 fiscal year, Fourth Judicial District CASA recorded outcomes for the children that were appointed a CASA volunteer. Following are the results for the children in Blaine, Garfield, Grant, Kingfisher, Major, and Woodward Counties.

OUTCOME: QUALITY COMPREHENSIVE HISTORY/CASE STATEMENTS ARE COMPILED TO FACILITATE THE CHILDREN'S MOVE TO PERMANENCY.

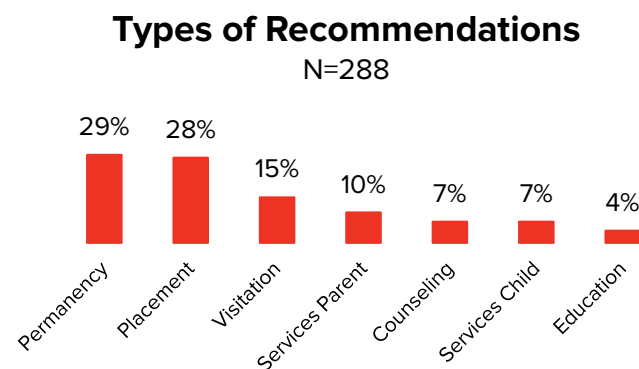
CASA volunteers serve as the "eyes and ears" of the court outside the courtroom. To provide judges with the most accurate information in their reports, volunteers must maintain contact with anyone who may have pertinent information to the case.

During FY2023, **2,771 contacts** were made by CASA volunteers on 39 cases (with 68 children being served on those cases). CASA volunteers talk to children, foster parents, service providers,

educators, parents, and relatives. All of the information gathered through these contacts is compiled into a report that is presented to the judge presiding over the case.



OUTCOME: SOCIAL, MENTAL, EMOTIONAL, PHYSICAL, THERAPEUTIC, EDUCATIONAL, AND SAFETY NEEDS OF CHILDREN ARE IDENTIFIED AND ADDRESSED.



In their reports to the judges, CASA volunteers make recommendations based on their independent, objective opinions as to what is in the best interests of the children. A total of **288 independent recommendations** regarding services, visitation, placement, etc. were made to the court by CASA volunteers.

OUTCOME: INCREASED STABILITY FOR CHILDREN AND CONTINUITY WITH AN ADULT INVOLVED IN THE CASE.

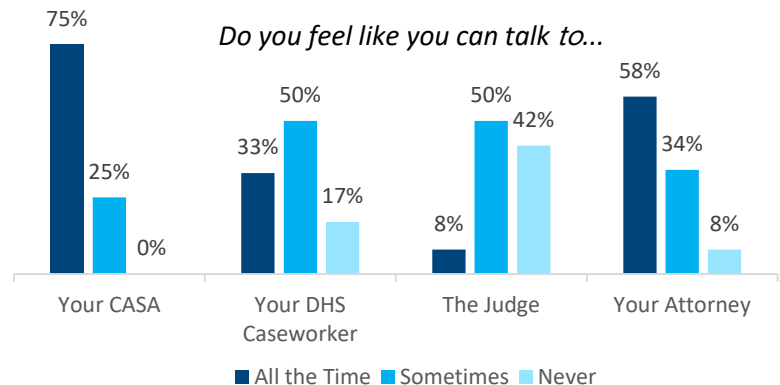
Children in the judicial system need to have a constant presence in their life that is looking out for them. We asked children with a CASA if they felt like they could talk to the adults in their lives (aside from biological and foster parents).

CASA volunteers are a constant in the life of a child. Often they are the people who have been on the case the longest and have firsthand knowledge of the case’s history.

During the 2023 fiscal year, many children experienced a change in professionals working on their cases. There were **228 professional changes** (including social worker, attorney, judge, and therapist).

Children Say They Can Talk with CASA Volunteers More

(CASA Youth, Ages 6-18)
N=12



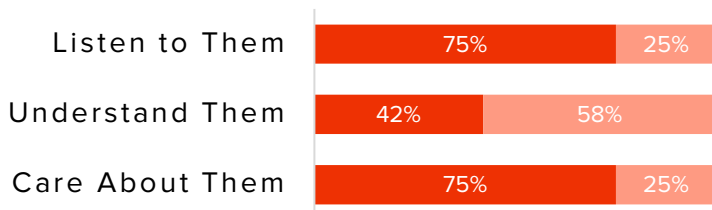
OUTCOME: CHILDREN HAVE A VOICE REPRESENTING THEIR BEST INTERESTS.

Within the year, CASA representatives were present at **all** hearings for cases that were appointed a CASA. During the 2023 fiscal year, **37 CASA volunteers spoke up on behalf of 78 abused and/or neglected children** in our community.

Children Say CASA Volunteers:

N=12

■ All the Time ■ Sometimes



For more information on Fourth Judicial District CASA, visit www.fourthjdcasa.org or call 580-242-1153.

