

ARIZONA CASA PROGRAM

GETTING STARTED Training Manual



Source: National CASA Association 2007 Volunteer Training Curriculum

Dear Court Appointed Special Advocate Applicant:

You are about to embark on an adventure that will be fulfilling, challenging and amazing all at once. Your work as a CASA can have a life changing impact on the future of a child. Below is a poem we want to share as you begin this journey.

THE ADVOCATE

*“This is not about rescue, so as to feel good when the child lights up with a smile.
This is not about the comfort of compassion.
This is hard work, struggling with ripped families and children in clouds of pain,
Anger dancing round their heart in the turmoil of a world made crazy.
This is caring, yes, but also what is just, what should be demanded.
It takes love and a certain measure of courage, and in the simple act of person
helping person it becomes extraordinary.”*

—Mercedes Lawry

After completing this Getting Started Training Manual, you will have earned 7.5 of the 30 hours needed to become qualified to take on your first case. In addition, you will be eligible to attend the two-day CASA Advocacy Academy, where we will continue to prepare you to effectively advocate for the needs of a child.

Thank you for your willingness to give of your time and talents for the children of your county.

Most Sincerely,



Bonnie Marcus
Program Manager
Arizona CASA Program

Arizona CASA Program

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Section Overview

Section One: INTRODUCTION TO CASA

Section Two: UNDERSTANDING CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT

Section Three: ISSUES IMPACTING FAMILIES

Section Four: CHILD DEVELOPMENT BASICS

Section Five: DEVELOPING CULTURAL COMPETENCE

Section Six: BEING A CASA VOLUNTEER IN ARIZONA