



Mark Your Calendars

JOIN US AS A COURT APPOINTED SPECIAL ADVOCATE

**ORIENTATIONS 12:00 PM TO 1:00 PM
OCTOBER 16TH, 23RD, OR 24TH**

PLEASE CALL OR EMAIL TO CONFIRM YOUR ATTENDANCE

CASA of Lincoln County

P. O. Box 116

Newport, OR 97365

(541) 265-3116

Email: volunteers@casalincolncounty.org

Purpose: Advocate for abused and neglected children involved in dependency proceedings in Lincoln County Juvenile Court. You become the one consistent voice for a child in the Child Welfare system which currently is overloaded and the children's needs tend to be lost in the process without someone who can be sure they get the attention needed. Our Juvenile Court Judge relies heavily on an Advocate's information to make child centered judgments. You will be frustrated, challenged, praised, but, more importantly, most often rewarded when you see the smiles and happiness of the children. **The operative word is SPECIAL. YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE!**

Responsibilities are as follows:

- Investigator - Thoroughly and conscientiously investigates all of the relevant facts in the case.
Interviews all concerned persons, including the child, family members, DHS workers, educators, foster family, counselors, etc.
Investigates available alternatives.
- Advocate - Ensures that all relevant facts of the situation are presented to the court.
Recommends to the Court the plan that is in the child's best interest.
- Facilitator - Expedites placement of the child in a safe, permanent home on a timely basis.
Encourages appropriate service delivery to meet the child's needs.
Engages collaboration among relevant participants, fostering the child's best interest.
- Monitor - Monitors compliance with Court orders and brings to the Court's attention any change in circumstances that may require modification of the Court order.

Qualifications:

- Interest in children, their right to safety, and their special needs
- Conscientious, diligent, thorough, and reliable
- Able to maintain perspective and objectivity in an emotionally charged situation
- Open to learning about other cultures, demonstrating flexibility where cross-culture differences exist
- Able to devote time to training sessions, investigation, and follow-up of each assigned case.
- Able to work with a child, family members, professionals, and community partners in a cooperative fashion using tact, concern and positive human relations skills
- Skilled in both written and oral communication