



CHANGE A CHILD'S STORY

Providing a VOICE for children in need
through advocacy, hope, and healing.

ABOUT US

- Nonprofit that trains & empowers volunteers as Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASAs) for children who have experienced abuse or neglect
- CASA volunteers are appointed by judges to provide a consistent, caring presence and advocate for a child's best interests
- Founded in 1984, now serving Jefferson, Bullitt, Henry, Oldham, Shelby, Spencer, and Trimble counties
- Over 15,000 children have received advocacy services



MISSION AND VISION

CASA of the River Region supports and promotes volunteer advocacy for all abused and neglected children.

Our vision is that kids who have experienced abuse and neglect will thrive in safe, stable, permanent homes.



OUR VALUES

- **Advocacy:** Giving children a voice.
- **Consistency:** Providing a steady, caring presence.
- **Empowerment:** Equipping children, families, and volunteers to succeed.
- **Relationships:** Building meaningful connections.
- **Trust:** Earning confidence through integrity and compassion.



WHAT WE DO

- Recruit & train everyday citizens to be volunteer advocates serving children involved in the family court system due to abuse and neglect
- In 2024, CASA of the River Region served 509 children with 177 volunteers
- Additionally, 125 children were served through our Back-to-School supply drive and 191 children were served through our Holiday Heroes wish list program



THE NEED IS URGENT

- Kentucky has the 4th highest rate of child abuse in the country
- Victimization rates are nearly double the national average (14.2 out of 1,000 children compared with 7.4 out of 1,000 children, nationally)*
- Largest percentage of victims are > age of 1 (34.6 out of 1,000)
- Caregiver risk factors include substance abuse, domestic violence, alcohol abuse, and inadequate housing

*Rate in Jefferson County is 5.1 out of 1,000 children according to Face It

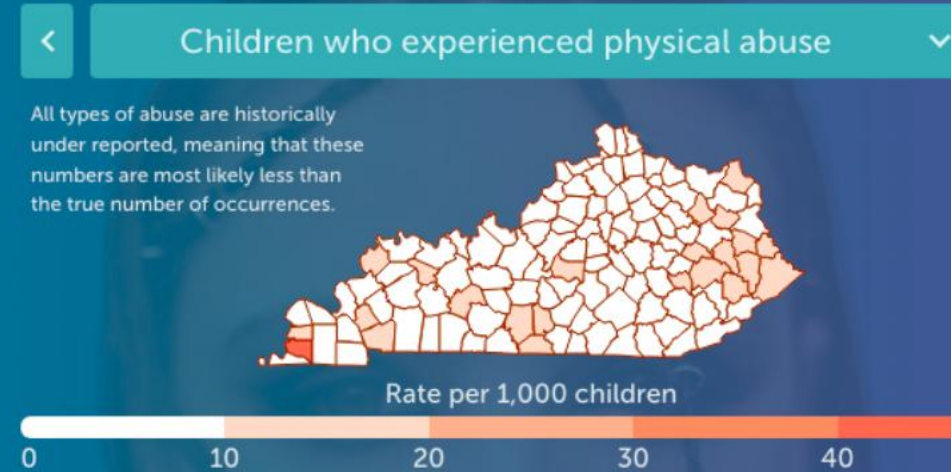


FACE IT DATA DASHBOARD

[Data Dashboard - Face It](#)

STATE DATA TRENDS

DEFINITIONS
DATA NOTES



Reports Made to CPS



Substantiations of Abuse by Type



FACE IT DATA DASHBOARD

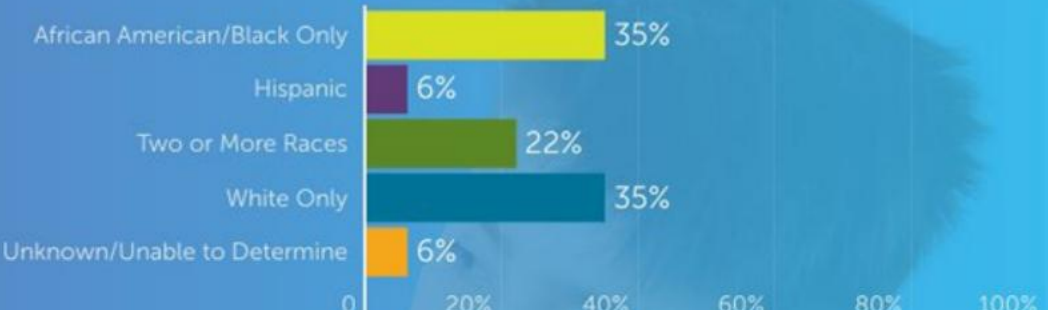
JEFFERSON DATA TRENDS

DEFINITIONS
DATA NOTES

Substantiated Fatalities/Near Fatalities



Children in Substantiated Investigations



Reports Made to CPS



Substantiations of Abuse by Type



THE NEED IS URGENT

Although CASA has supported nearly 500 children so far in 2025, the need continues to outpace our capacity. At any given time, approximately 200 children remain on our waitlist—simply because we don't have enough volunteers.

So what does it look like to step in as a CASA volunteer?



THE ROLE OF A CASA

<https://youtu.be/a5Z5owQq6VQ>



THE ROLE OF A CASA

- Get to know the child and their story
- Speak up in court on the child's behalf and in their best interests
- Work with judges, caseworkers, attorneys, families, and professionals
- Commitment: 1 to 4 hours per week

How does this help?



JUDGE'S PERSPECTIVE

<https://youtu.be/XrfuF72wvmo>



THOUGHTS FROM THE BENCH

With Chief Judge Derwin L. Webb
& Judge Denise Brown



CASA IMPACT

- Children with a CASA are more likely to find a safe, permanent home
- Spend less time in “the system”
- Less likely to re-enter foster care
- Improved school attendance and classroom performance
- Receive more appropriate wraparound services to address trauma, improve overall well-being and resiliency, and help families break the cycle of abuse and neglect!



CASA

Court Appointed Special Advocates
FOR CHILDREN

CASA OF THE RIVER REGION

VOLUNTEER PERSPECTIVE

<https://youtu.be/eRonSFUdqXE>



BECOMING A COURT APPOINTED SPECIAL ADVOCATE

Step 1. Apply online

(www.casarr.org/volunteer)

Step 2. Interview + background check

Step 3. Training (30 hours, flexible formats)

Step 4. Sworn in as an officer of the court

Step 5. Change lives



COMMON QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

What if I'm not a lawyer or social worker?

CASA training prepares you. Our volunteers come from a wide range of personal and professional backgrounds.



COMMON QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

Shouldn't I wait until I'm retired to volunteer?

Not at all. While retirees are an important part of our volunteer base, about 50% of our current CASAs work full-time jobs.



COMMON QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

What if I'm a busy person?

Life is full—CASA understands that. That's why our volunteer work is flexible. Most advocates spend 1-4 hours a week, a small but meaningful investment of time that truly changes a child's story.



COMMON QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

Isn't being a CASA emotionally heavy?

It can be, but you are never alone. CASA provides ongoing support and supervision, and the work is incredibly rewarding—you get to see the positive impact you make in a child's life every step of the way..



CALL TO ACTION

New CASA Training Class Begins November 18!

CASA of the River Region aims to train 25 new volunteer advocates by the end of 2025.

You can be the voice a child desperately needs—providing guidance, stability, and hope.

Get started today:

www.casariverregion.org/volunteer



OTHER WAYS TO HELP

- **Give a gift** to support our mission.
- **Spread the word**—tell friends, family, and colleagues about the need for volunteers.
- **Connect us** with your business, faith group, or civic organization.
- **Follow & engage** on Facebook, Instagram, and LinkedIn @casariverregion.
- **Get involved** through board service, events, or committees.



THANK YOU

Every child deserves a voice.
YOU can change a child's story today.



Telephone
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Website
www.casariverregion.org

