



Dear Volunteer Applicant,

We are excited about your interest in helping change lives and futures for children in need of a voice. This volunteer experience will be the hardest job you will ever love, it is both challenging and immensely fulfilling.

This packet includes the following:

- Application and volunteer information
- Personal Questionnaire
- Authorization to Release Form

Once we have received a completed application we may invite you for an interview. All CASA volunteer candidates must complete a thorough screening and background inspection, must be interviewed by experienced CASA staff, and have four references.

CASA does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, creed, religious preference, gender, gender expression, disability, sexual preference, or veteran status. Unfortunately, not every applicant is accepted for our volunteer positions. CASA reserves the right to deny a volunteer position to any applicant without explanation.

Together, we can stop the cycle of family violence and conflict, not only for this child but for future generations to come. I look forward to meeting you soon. Thank you for giving your time to such a worthy cause.

If you have any questions, please call me at 447-9898, extension 1008. You can also reach me by e-mail at rosemaryj@casappr.org.

Sincerely,

RoseMary Jaramillo
Volunteer Services Manager

Start dates for 2010 trainings

Advocacy:	January 25	SEPT:	January 12
	April 12		April 13
	July 12		July 23
	September 20		September 21

Share with us.

How much actual time per week can you give to CASA?

Are you available during the daytime Monday through Friday?

What does your typical week look like?

What other responsibilities do you have?

Special skills or other interests (please list).

How did you hear about CASA? *(By listing the name of the friend or colleague who recruited you, they will receive membership in the CASA Champions Program)*

EMPLOYMENT (Beginning with most recent, list history for the past five years, including part-time, temporary, or seasonal employment. Use separate sheet if necessary.)

Have you ever had difficulties with employment? (Finding a job-keeping a job, etc)_____

From (date)	To (Date)	Job Title	Supervisor	Employer
_____ Employer Address				_____ Phone
Duties: _____		Reason for Leaving: _____		

From (date)	To (Date)	Job Title	Supervisor	Employer
_____ Employer Address				_____ Phone
Duties: _____		Reason for Leaving: _____		

From (date)	To (Date)	Job Title	Supervisor	Employer
_____ Employer Address				_____ Phone
Duties: _____		Reason for Leaving: _____		

Were you ever discharged, asked to resign, furloughed or put on inactive status for cause, or subjected to disciplinary action while working in any of these organizations? Y N

If yes, explain:_____

Have you resigned after being informed employer intended to discharge you? Y N

If yes, please explain: _____

AUTHORIZATION TO RELEASE INFORMATION

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

This authorizes CASA to contact references and past employers for information regarding my ability to perform the functions of a Court Appointed Special Advocate, SEPT Facilitator, or office and/or fund development support.

A PHOTOSTAT OF THIS AUTHORIZATION WILL BE VALID AS THE ORIGINAL.

Signature

Date

Print or type name



CASA

Court Appointed Special Advocates
FOR CHILDREN

CASA OF THE PIKES PEAK REGION

VOLUNTEER QUESTIONNAIRE

Name _____ Date _____

The goal of the volunteer application and interview is for CASA staff to learn more about you, for you to learn more about the role of CASA volunteers and to determine if this volunteer opportunity is a good match for your interest and skills. An invitation to be interviewed or acceptance into the CASA training program does not guarantee acceptance into the program.

Answers must be submitted in essay style and typed format. Please type responses on a separate sheet of paper.

1. Tell me about your childhood. What are some of your happiest/saddest memories? Siblings? What is your current relationship with your family?
2. Tell me about your mother and father. What did you like best about them? How did they discipline you? If you were spanked, what with? Did it work?
3. Describe your temperament. What do you like best about yourself? What would you improve? Strengths? Areas of discomfort?
4. What is your personal experience with child abuse, divorce and/or domestic violence?
5. Describe the kind of things that cause you the most stress or anxiety? How do you handle stress or anxiety?
6. What do you feel constitutes child abuse?
7. Why do you want to make a commitment to this agency?
8. In a short paragraph, tell us how you have utilized self evaluation/self help during a challenging period in your life.
9. Share with us a time (not work related) when you were committed to a project for a long period of time.
10. Share your personal philosophy of life (brief paragraph).

There are several scenarios that we ask you read and think about your answer. These do not require a written response, but they will be reviewed during the interview.

If requesting Advocacy Program, review the below scenarios:

11. You are on a case involving a baby and a three-year old. The case was opened because of severe neglect and domestic violence. The children are with mom and dad is in jail. You go to visit mom and the children early one cold snowy morning. Mom tells you she just used her last diaper on the baby and she only has enough cereal for that day. You have \$10 in your purse/wallet. **What do you think would be the best thing to do?**

12. Which home for this little girl? Family A is a young couple who each had a couple of marriages before the one they are currently in. Family A's house is messy with several broken windowpanes. Family A's biological seven-year old daughter was physically abused by mom and educationally neglected. The child has been placed in a foster-adopt home. You suspect that Family A's mom and dad have marital problems and alcohol issues. Because of poverty, the little girl did not have any books in the home and the few toys and clothes were from a thrift shop. Family A's mom and dad are successful in a treatment plan that includes classes in parenting and anger management as well as substance abuse evaluations. Mom and dad love and have concern for their daughter and want her back.

The seven-year old has been living with foster-adopt Family B for about six months. Family B is a middle-aged couple who are educated with a strong faith system. They take the little girl to church and introduce her to a rich cultural experience to include the arts, music, dance and literature. They ensure she gets a tutor at school to help her catch up and they shower affection and praise on her. Their home is well ordered and calm. They want to adopt the child and give her a life of love, care and potential. Family B is very good about taking the child to weekly supervised visits with Family A. During the visits, the child interacts with her biological parents by running to them and receiving hugs. **At this point, what are your thoughts about the best long-term solution for this child's placement?**

There are several scenarios that we ask you read and think about your answer. These do not require a written response, but they will be reviewed during the interview.

If requesting SEPT Program, review the below scenarios:

13. During visitation time, you notice the bringing parent has not changed the child's diaper and that the child's clothes are wet and dirty. When you ask the parent why the child has not been changed, she tells you she used her last diaper on the baby a few hours ago and she only has enough cereal for that night. **You have \$10 in your purse/wallet.**

What do you think would be the best thing to do?

14. Each time you volunteer at the SEPT site, you notice that one of the visiting girls consistently arrives with dad in worn hand me down clothes with stains, unkempt hair, and shoes that slightly small for her growing feet. However, when witnessing the parent/child relationship, you notice that the parent and child display great affection for one another.

When visiting her mother in the program, the mother brushes her hair, provides a bag of new clothes, and a lavish meal. In addition, the mother brings flash cards to help her learn addition/subtraction and books to take home. **What are your initial assumptions about each parent?**