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Nonprofit Direct Mail Letter

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December 2, 2014

Dear Susan,

Have you ever needed someone to stand up for you in a time of need? Well you aren't the only one. In fact **1,900 children** become **victims of abuse and neglect every day** in our nation, and all of them need someone to stand up for them.

That is where CASA comes in; we provide services and train advocates to stand up for children like these.

Let me tell you about a little girl named Charlene. Before the age of six, Charlene was repeatedly abused by her mother's boyfriend. When asked about her prior abuse, Charlene said "**I used to feel so ashamed** of who I was, I would wear baseball caps in pictures and cover my face." She kept the abuse secret for years until the first time she screamed out for help, and her mother told her she was making the whole thing up.

Charlene and her sister were taken from their mother at the ages of six and four, and were placed into the foster care system. Charlene remembers this as "**an awful time**" when both she and her sister "**were terrified.**"

Enter Miss Belle to the rescue. Miss Belle is a trained CASA volunteer, who was appointed to Charlene and her sister's court case. Miss Belle advocated for and watched over Charlene and her sister when they had no one else. She stayed with Charlene and her sister every step of the way, providing them with someone who they could trust and depend on.

She taught Charlene to love who she is, and how to feel beautiful inside and out.

Now is your chance to help

Donate to CASA today so we can help the 60 percent of abused and neglected children who are suffering as we speak! With 951 programs around the nation we advocated for 238,527 abused and neglected children last year, but there are

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thousands more waiting for an advocate, and without money to fund our services, we are unable to get to them.

You have the opportunity to be just like Miss Belle, who no matter where the girls were living went to visit them once or twice a week, and took them to do activities like going to the park or the library. Prior to their time with a CASA volunteer, these kinds of activities were not possible for Charlene and her sister.

By signing up to become an advocate today you too could become a hero for an abused or neglected child in need.

Miss Belle helped Charlene and her sister locate their biological father who had split up with their mother when the girls were just babies. His parents have now adopted Charlene and her sister, and have provided them with the safe, forever home the girls so desperately needed.

Donate today

As a nonprofit organization we **rely 100 percent on donations**, like yours to continue our programs for children like Charlene. Donate now by visiting www.casaforchildren.org (<http://www.casaforchildren.org>).

Volunteer to be an advocate

We work hard every day to train and support citizens like you, so that they can become the best volunteers possible. CASA volunteers are often the only constant adult presence in these children's lives and the children look up to them as heroes, just as Miss Belle is to Charlene. You too can be a CASA volunteer. Call us today at (800) 628-3233 to learn more.

We raised almost \$1 million last year, to support children with the best protection we could, but we need more to protect additional children. Now is your time join this important cause.

Donate \$10 dollars this month to help provide a child with a hero, and continue to do so for the rest of the year to ensure their safety and happiness. Call **(800) 628-3233** now to learn how to support CASA.

Sincerely,

Nancy Myster, President

CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates)

P.S. A victim of abuse and neglect, just like Charlene, needs an advocate today. Donate to CASA today to make a difference.

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