



CASA
of Monterey County
COURT APPOINTED SPECIAL ADVOCATES
FOR CHILDREN

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MEDIA RELEASE

CASA of Monterey County One of Four Selected for California Juvenile Justice Project

Salinas, CA
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Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) of Monterey County announces it is one of four programs in the State selected to participate in the California CASA Association's *Pilot Project: "CASAs for Youth in Juvenile Justice."* Funded through a private donor, this two-year research project will:

1. Create a curriculum for CASA Volunteers serving Juvenile Justice Youth.
2. Document the outcomes when a CASA Volunteer serves a youth in Juvenile Justice Court.
3. Compare these outcomes with justice-involved youth that do not receive a CASA Volunteer.

"We are honored to have been selected to participate in this life changing project," said **Vicki Myers**, Executive Director of CASA of Monterey County. "CASA of Monterey County has been changing the lives of children in foster care for 24 years. We are eager to work with our Juvenile Justice partners and bring that same level of advocacy and support to our youth who are involved in the Juvenile Justice system. This would not have happened without the support of the California CASA Association, the Superior Court of California, Monterey County and the Monterey County Probation Department, Juvenile Division."

"We are very grateful to CASA of Monterey County and the Monterey County Juvenile Probation Department for collaborating to provide our justice-involved youth with the meaningful, significant support offered by the dedicated CASA volunteers in our community," said the **Honorable Stephanie E. Hulsey**, who currently presides in the Juvenile Justice Court of Monterey County.

The **Honorable Carol Isackson**, Retired Juvenile Judge, Project Lead at the California CASA Association, stated: "We are excited for this opportunity to document our belief that CASA Volunteers will make a marked positive outcome in a ward's life."

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