



2016: FACT & IMPACT

CASA Makes a Difference₁

In **1992**, eight volunteers established CASA Child Advocates of Montgomery County. **Twenty-five** years later, our community's CASA program supports **238** volunteers who served **556** children in foster care in our county last year.

2016 Closed Case Outcomes for Children:

Family Reunification	29%
Placement with Relative/ Fictive Kin	23%
Adoption	25%
Received Family Services or Transferred to Another County	17%
Aged Out	6%

Giving a Child a CASA Volunteer means:

She is substantially less likely to spend time in long-term foster care.

He is half as likely as other foster youth to re-enter foster care.

Her family is offered more services to help keep the family together.

His odds of finding a safe, permanent home increases by half.

Children In Montgomery County₁

559 children in custody of DFPS

75% of cases were **neglect**

12% of cases were **physical abuse**

11% of cases were **sexual abuse**

36% of children were **under 5 years old**

Outcomes In Long-term Foster Care

25% experience **3** or more placement changes per year₄

65% experience **7** or more school changes from grades K-12₂

3-6 times more likely to have emotional, behavioral, and developmental problems₃

22% have been homeless after aging out₂

25% suffer from Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder₂

50% have chronic medical problems₂

3-11% earn a Bachelor's degree₂

¹ Data from CASA Child Advocates of Montgomery County, National CASA "I am for the Child" Campaign, and Department of Family and Protective Services. Please contact Alli@CASASpeaks4Kids.com / 936-441-5437, ext. 214 for further references and resources.

² *Foster Care by the Numbers*. (2011) Seattle, WA: Casey Family Programs.

³ Pecora, P.J. et al., (2005). *Improving Family Foster Care: Findings from the Northwest Foster Care Alumni Study*. Seattle, WA: Casey Family Programs

⁴ Leslie, L.K. (2008) *Testimony of Laurel K. Leslie, MD MPH FAAP on behalf of the American Academy of Pediatrics*. Washington, D.C.: Department of Federal Affairs