

# **CASA VOLUNTEER TRAINING AGENDA**

Training will be held \_\_\_\_\_

From \_\_\_\_\_

## **SESSION 1: Introducing the CASA Volunteer Role**

Objectives of this session include understanding the CASA volunteer role and the history of the child welfare system. Introduction to working a case is also included in this session.

## **SESSION 2: The Well-Being of the Child**

Objectives of this session include understanding how children grow and development. The special needs of children are discussed as well as the importance of attachment in child development. Also covered is recognizing child abuse and neglect and the risk factors that can lead to abuse and neglect.

## **SESSION 3: Trauma, Resilience and Communication Skills**

During this session a CASA volunteer will be introduced to understanding child trauma and the effect it has on a child's development. Skill building in the area of communication and interviewing will be covered.

## **SESSION 4: Mental Health, Poverty and Professional Communication**

This training session covers how mental health affects families. Also discussed is poverty, confidentiality, team work, and the necessity of timely, effective communication.

## **SESSION 5: Substance Abuse and Cultural Competence**

The goal of this chapter is to increase the volunteer's understanding of substance abuse and learn more about substance abuse statistics. The topic of cultural competence is introduced in this chapter. Topics cover diversity and the disproportionality in the child welfare system.

## **SESSION 6: Domestic Violence and Cultural Competence**

This training session covers the topic of domestic violence and how it affects children and families. The topic of cultural competence is continued in this session as we explore culture and the perceptions associated with different cultures. Stereotyping vs. cultural competence is also discussed as well as tips on how to become more culturally competent.

## **SESSION 7: Educational Advocacy, Older Youth and LGBTQ Youth**

The goals and objectives of Session 7 include the educational challenges for children in the child welfare system. Statistics on youth aging out of foster care, the laws related to older youth in foster care is introduced. Also included is a glossary related to LGBTQ.

## **SESSION 8: Wrapping Up**

In Session 8 the volunteer will learn more about working a case from their initial case notes to the skills necessary to write an effect court report, appear in court and adequately monitor a case..

***Thank you for your participation and your willingness  
to help the children in our community!***