

1970s

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1977 King County Guardian ad Litem Program founded, later renamed Dependency CASA Program



First issue of *The CASA Connection*

Ronald Reagan presents the President's Volunteer Action Award to National CASA. Accepting on behalf of volunteers nationwide are Linda Paolino, president of the Rhode Island CASA Advisory Board (pictured with Reagan) and Carolina Oaxaca, a volunteer from Los Angeles (profiled on page 12).



1982 National CASA founded and managed by volunteer board
Number of CASA/GAL program offices: 88

1983 Number of states with CASA programs: 29

1984 First 2 National CASA staff members hired
Debut issue of *The CASA Connection*
Number of states with CASA programs: 38

1985 First OJJDP cooperative agreement
Number of children served: 10,000
Number of CASA/GAL program offices: 159

1986 Beth Waid becomes second National CASA CEO
First G.F. Bettineski Child Advocate of the Year award presented

1987 Number of children served: 40,000
Number of volunteers in service: 12,000
Number of CASA/GAL program offices: 271
Number of states with CASA programs: 44

1988 National CASA Tribal Court program begins with grants to five tribes
Parade magazine article generates more than 2,000 inquiries to National CASA

1989 National CASA becomes Kappa Alpha Theta Foundation's national charity

Carmen Ray and James Wootton announce the first OJJDP cooperative agreement.



National CASA Association Executive Director CARMEN RAY and JAMES WOOTTON of the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention announce the first OJJDP Cooperative Agreement.

Beth Waid, second National CASA CEO





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National CASA board circa 1991

- 1990 National standards for CASA/GAL programs introduced
Number of children served: 72,000
Number of volunteers in service: 17,000
Number of CASA/GAL program offices: 412
- 1994 CASA/GAL programs reach all 50 states, District of Columbia and Virgin Islands
Michael Piraino becomes third National CASA CEO
- 1995 Debut of CASAnet website providing resources to staff and volunteers
Number of children served: 129,000
Number of volunteers in service: 38,000
Number of CASA/GAL program offices: 642
- 1996 Congress amends Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act to codify GAL representation by volunteers
- 1997 COMET software debuts to help programs manage data and evaluation
National Bar Association endorses CASA volunteer advocacy
- 1998 New design of *The Connection* appears

- 2000 Number of children served: 174,137
Number of volunteers in service: 47,063
Number of CASA/GAL program offices: 900
- 2002 National Light of Hope event held on the National Mall in Washington, DC
Judge Glenda Hatchett becomes National CASA spokesperson
Lighting the Way book of essays by volunteers published
- 2003 Jewelers for Children begins partnership with National CASA
First National CASA Diversity Award presented
Online *Judges' Page* debuts as first project of new Judges Liaison Committee
National CASA unveils new logo to unify CASA/GAL network and build nationwide awareness
- 2004 Pew Commission recommends greater support for CASA in *Fostering the Future* report
Someone There for Me book of essays by foster youth published
- 2005 Report released confirming that CASA volunteers are highly valued by judges
Number of children served: 226,204
Number of volunteers in service: 53,847
Number of CASA/GAL program offices: 948
- 2006 National CASA named official "CBS Cares" charity
- 2007 2,000,000th child served by a CASA volunteer

