

April is Child Abuse Awareness and Prevention Month and

April 5th is CASA Child Advocacy Day 2019

Sample Proclamation

WHEREAS, we all have a responsibility as individuals, neighbors, community members and citizens of (Your City/Town) to help create healthy, nurturing and safe experiences for children; and

WHEREAS, healthy and safe childhoods help produce confident and successful adults; and

WHEREAS, child abuse and neglect often occur when people find themselves in stressful situations, without community resources, and don't know how to cope; and

WHEREAS, incidences of child abuse and neglect can be reduced by making sure all families have the support they need and deserve to raise their children in healthy environments; and

WHEREAS, **Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA)** is authorized by State Statute and Federal Law to help the Court and Child Welfare systems make "best interest" decisions on behalf of children removed from home because of abuse or neglect; and

WHEREAS, CASA volunteer advocates in (Your Community) help to ensure that abused and neglected children who are placed in foster care and other out-of-home placements are safe and receive the services they need to achieve well-being; and

WHEREAS, CASA advocates reduce the number of moves between placements, help shorten the overall time a child remains in placement, and serve as a consistent person in the child's life until that child achieves permanency in a safe home with a loving family;

NOW, THEREFORE, I (Name/Title) do hereby proclaim April 2019 as Child Abuse Awareness and Prevention Month in (Your Community) and April 5 as CASA Child Advocacy Day 2019; and urge all citizens to support the CASA network across New Jersey, as it strengthens families and helps children learn, grow, and thrive.

Signed this X day of 2019 (Name/Title)

