



BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA

A PROCLAMATION

COURT APPOINTED SPECIAL ADVOCATES DAY

- WHEREAS:** Since founding 36 years ago, 46 affiliate Georgia Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) programs have been established, reaching children in foster care in all 159 counties; and
- WHEREAS:** Last year alone, over 2,500 CASA volunteers advocated for more than 8,600 children in our state's legal custody, providing each child with impartial advocacy that nurtures hope, seeks solutions, and stands in the gap between a challenging present and promising future; and
- WHEREAS:** CASA volunteers are central to ensuring that all children who experience abuse or neglect have opportunities to thrive and reach their full potential with the support of permanent connections to family; and
- WHEREAS:** These individuals are deeply committed, specially trained volunteers from the community who are appointed by the juvenile court judge to improve a child's experience in foster care by providing individualized attention, bringing urgency to children's needs throughout their time in state custody, and offering consistency and continuity by helping to connect information among case managers, foster parents, attorneys, and many other stakeholders; and
- WHEREAS:** As external partners, Georgia CASA and its affiliates maximize resources and support for children and families involved with the child welfare system through increased community involvement and awareness, local and state advocacy efforts, and a more coordinated, compassionate response to child victims and families in crisis. Georgia CASA and affiliate CASA organizations have made countless contributions on behalf of Georgia's children; now
- THEREFORE:** I, BRIAN P. KEMP, Governor of the State of Georgia, do hereby proclaim February 15, 2024, as COURT APPOINTED SPECIAL ADVOCATES DAY in Georgia.

In witness thereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the Executive Department to be affixed this 14th day of February in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand and Twenty-Four.



GOVERNOR

ATTEST

CHIEF OF STAFF