



STRENGTHENING THE VOICES OF CASA STATEWIDE

TEXAS CASA SEEKS PUBLIC POLICY INTERN

Location: Austin, Texas

Reports to: Sarah Crockett, Senior Public Policy Associate

Effective: August 23, 2021

CORE VALUES:

Texas CASA's core values are equity, respect and compassion. Texas CASA commits to prioritize keeping families together whenever safely possible, with a focus on child and family wellbeing and stability. Texas CASA commits to support programs advocating for children and families of all cultures, abilities, identities and backgrounds, and to destigmatizing issues faced by families within the child welfare system. Texas CASA believes in compassionately standing by families, and that all people deserve quality advocacy.

Texas CASA is an inclusive, welcoming and affirming organization that values, celebrates and actively seeks out diverse candidates. We are an equal opportunity employer and do not discriminate against any individual, employee or applicant on the basis of race, national origin, color, creed, sex, age, pregnancy, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, disability, or veteran or citizenship status. People of all identities are encouraged to apply.

HISTORY:

Texas CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates) is part of a national volunteer movement that began in 1977 in Seattle when a juvenile court judge conceived the idea of citizen volunteers speaking up for the best interests of children who are in foster care due to allegations of abuse or neglect. Today, the CASA movement has evolved into one of the largest volunteer organizations in the country. CASA volunteers are appointed by judges to watch over and advocate for these children in court, school and other settings; with the goal of reuniting children with their families whenever safe and possible. Volunteers stay with each case until it is closed with the goal of ensuring these children are kept safe and have the opportunity to thrive and grow.

In Texas, there are 72 local CASA volunteer advocacy programs with more than 11,000 volunteers serving nearly 30,000 children in 219 counties across the state. Texas CASA is the statewide organization that provides funding, resources, training and support to these local programs to ensure they can operate effectively and seek out the best possible volunteers who will advocate passionately for the children they serve.



POSITION SUMMARY:

Texas CASA seeks a dynamic, motivated and knowledgeable Intern to support the Public Policy Department with various tasks and research related to Texas CASA's training for local CASA programs, resource development, and event planning.

Interns will participate in a mandatory orientation, but will have the ability to work flexible hours up to 20 hours a week. In addition to working with the Public Policy Department, interns will gain exposure to the other divisions of Texas CASA by collaborating with fellow interns on a long-term project. Interns will have routine meetings with their department mentor as well as the other participants in the internship program. In addition to gaining practical skills necessary for Public Policy Department, the internship program seeks to expose interns to the broader work of Texas CASA and the child welfare system and general office environment.

QUALIFICATIONS:

Required:

- Intermediate skills in Microsoft Office (Outlook, Word, Excel, PowerPoint).
- Must be able to pass a background check.

Preferred:

- Enrollment in an undergraduate and/or graduate program in social work, public affairs, or another similar degree program.
- Relevant work experience and/or lived experience in the child welfare system.

KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS & ABILITIES:

- Willingness to advance knowledge of the child welfare system as well as the Texas legislative process.
- Commitment to diversity, equity and inclusion; as well as willingness and openness to learning, growing and having discussions around this arena.
- Disciplined work ethic and comfort working in a team-oriented environment.
- Ability to manage multiple projects simultaneously, work independently, meet deadlines, organize and prioritize responsibilities, and identify and resolve conflicts in a timely and appropriate manner.
- Skill in interpersonal relationships, including the ability to motivate people, negotiate among multiple parties, resolve conflicts, and establish and maintain effective working relationships with various levels of stakeholders.
- Effective oral and written communication skills, including public speaking and presentations.
- Ability to manage and maintain confidential information.



PHYSICAL REQUIREMENTS & WORK ENVIRONMENT:

The Intern may be expected to attend offsite meetings/event, including outside of Austin. The Intern will spend some time in the office that could involve intermittent physical activities including bending, reaching, sitting and walking during working hours. Additionally, it is anticipated that the person may spend several hours of each day seated at a computer. Reasonable accommodations may be made to enable a person with physical disabilities to perform the job.

FLSA STATUS: Non-exempt

COMPENSATION & BENEFITS:

This is a part-time, up to 20-hour/week, internship to begin approximately late August 2021, and end approximately mid-December. Interns will be paid \$15/hour for their work during the internship.

Intern will be eligible for 403(b) retirement with 5% contribution by Texas CASA as well as worker's compensation coverage.

HOW TO APPLY:

By 09/06/21 , please email a cover letter and resume to jobs@texascasa.org. The subject line of the email should be "Texas CASA Intern Application." In the cover letter, describe the reasons for your interest in the position.

Please email requested documents with attachments in PDF format only. We do not accept phone inquiries regarding the position.