

Family Engagement Specialist

We are looking for a Family Engagement Specialist who can support CASA's mission by empowering volunteers and Child Advocacy Specialists to identify healthy connections, relational permanency, and safe homes for the children that we serve. Leading with grace and generosity is highly important to this role as it will require a spirit of partnership and cross-team collaboration.

CASA of Travis County believes every child who's experienced abuse or neglect deserves to have a dedicated advocate speaking up for their best interest in court, at school, and in our community. To accomplish this, the team at CASA educates and empowers diverse community volunteers who ensure each child's needs remain a priority in an overburdened child welfare system. Through inclusive, honorable and respectful involvement with families, courts and all parties, CASA makes independent and educated recommendations that prioritize children's safety and, wherever possible, preserve connections to their families.

The Family Engagement Specialist will work closely with Child Advocacy Specialists and their volunteer advocates, as well as specially trained Family Engagement volunteers, to locate and engage relatives and fictive kin of children to whom CASA is appointed. The Family Engagement Specialist will act as a consultant to Child Advocacy Specialists and their volunteer advocates on cases with limited permanency options, as well as those lacking in family connections and supports for youth. The Family Engagement Specialist will further provide regular education to Program Staff and volunteers to support continued growth and knowledge of best practices related to family engagement. They will also work closely with the Director of Family Engagement to collect and assess data that quantifies the impact of this work on the children served. The Family Engagement Specialist will demonstrate cultural humility in their interactions with staff, volunteers, children, and families and will demonstrate a commitment to volunteer engagement, child safety, and race equity in all endeavors.

At the end of your first year, success would mean building and maintaining relationships with Child Advocacy Specialists, volunteer advocates, and relevant community stakeholders, identifying areas of growth for family engagement efforts within CASA of Travis County, and implementing new approaches to training Program Staff on family engagement practices.

The Family Engagement Specialist is a critical role to move CASA of Travis County towards meeting our vision of providing a volunteer advocate, safe home and promising future for every child in Travis County who needs us.

Use the following link to apply:

<https://www.paycomonline.net/v4/ats/web.php/jobs/ViewJobDetails?job=70720&clientkey=6134204B6AA D5458C5AEA1BC7AA3A526>

Responsibilities

1. *Provides consultation and support to CASA Child Advocacy Specialists and volunteer advocates regarding family finding and engagement.*
 - Establishes relationships with Child Advocacy Specialists and provides regular opportunities for staff and volunteers to seek individualized coaching regarding family engagement tools and techniques.
 - Receives internal referrals from Child Advocacy Specialists, reviews case details, and works cohesively with Child Advocacy Specialists and assigned volunteers to identify and engage healthy connections to support children to whom we are appointed.

Seniority Level

Entry Level

Employment Type

Full-Time

Reports To

Director of Family Engagement

Starting Salary

\$50,000

- Conducts and documents internet and database searches for family members of children and youth to whom CASA is appointed.
2. *Supports volunteer advocates in family engagement efforts, including working directly with families of children served by CASA to identify and engage relative connections in the child's life and legal case.*
 - Provides regular and ongoing training, coaching, motivation, and guidance to volunteer advocates as it relates to family engagement efforts.
 - Collects and documents various data points related to Family Engagement on case pages and Family Engagement referrals.
 3. *Ensures the high standard of performance of services of CASA of Travis County.*
 - Models a commitment to race equity, child safety, and volunteer engagement.
 - Assists the Director of Family Engagement and Senior Director of Advocacy with program development and evaluation as requested.
 - Builds and maintains effective relationships with others on the CASA Program Team, volunteers, attorneys, caseworkers, and other stakeholders in the Travis County child welfare system.
 4. *Other duties as assigned.*

Qualifications

- A minimum of a Bachelor's degree is required. CASA of Travis County welcomes employees from diverse educational backgrounds and degree programs. In lieu of a degree, significant professional relevant experience may be considered.
- English/Spanish fluency.
- Demonstrated passion for the mission of CASA and our desire to keep children connected to their families and communities of origin.
- Demonstrated ability to communicate clearly, both orally and in writing, and interact in a supportive and cooperative manner.

Preferred Qualifications

- Experience in the Travis County child welfare system and/or with the CASA model.
- Experience in providing staff or volunteer supervision and ability to manage people.

Physical Requirements and Work Environment

The Family Engagement Specialist will be expected to have transportation to attend staffings, meetings, fundraising events, etc. While this position is not remote, there is some flexibility in scheduling and some tasks can be completed outside of the office. The position requires some flexibility as communication with advocates, legal parties, and families may occasionally need to occur outside of regular business hours. The Family Engagement Specialist will spend time in the office that could involve intermittent physical activities including bending, reaching, sitting, and walking during business 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.