



CASA

Court Appointed Special Advocates
FOR CHILDREN

HALL-DAWSON
CASA PROGRAM, INC.

THE GUARDIAN

● VOICES OF ADVOCACY

● STORIES OF HOPE

● UPDATES FROM CASA



June 2026

Recognized for Impact

Established Affiliate Award of Excellence:

Hall-Dawson CASA



We are honored to share that Hall-Dawson CASA has been named the recipient of the Established Affiliate Award of Excellence by Georgia CASA.

This recognition celebrates our program's long-standing commitment to high-quality advocacy, volunteer support, and meaningful outcomes for children in foster care. In 2025, Hall-Dawson CASA served 387 children with the support of 99 dedicated volunteers, achieved a 92% permanency rate, and reached a 90.5% volunteer retention rate.

This award is a reflection of the people who make our mission possible: our incredible staff, dedicated CASA volunteers, board members, community partners, donors, and supporters. Your commitment ensures that children in Hall and Dawson Counties have consistent, compassionate advocates by their side when they need them most.

We are deeply grateful for this recognition and proud to continue changing children's stories together.

[VIEW MORE OF OUR IMPACT](#)



Our Voices

Be the voice that helps a child find hope, stability, and a path forward.



“If I had to describe CASA volunteering in one word, it would be *equitable*.”

Every child deserves fairness, advocacy, and the opportunity to have their voice heard.”

-Tamila D.
CASA volunteer

OUR VOICES
OUR CHILDREN
OUR COMMUNITY

A child will hear thousands of voices throughout their life.

Some will encourage them. Some will guide them.

Some will disappoint them. And some will leave them wondering if anyone is listening at all.

For children experiencing foster care due to abuse or neglect,

a CASA volunteer can become a different kind of voice.

The voice that shows up. The voice that asks the hard questions.

The voice that refuses to let their needs be overlooked.

The voice that says what needs to be said, even when it's difficult.

Behind every positive outcome is someone willing to speak up.

Start your volunteer journey today.

BEGIN YOUR JOURNEY

Our Children

The Mission for Permanency

Permanency is central to our mission at Hall-Dawson CASA.

We are pleased to share that in May, nine children achieved safe, permanent homes with the support of our volunteers.



9

CHILDREN
ACHIEVED
PERMANENCY

CHANGE A
CHILD'S STORY.™

OUR VOICES
OUR CHILDREN
OUR COMMUNITY

Thank you to the following CASA volunteers appointed to nine children who achieved permanency in May 2026:

Robbie M. – 1 child- Reunification

Bobbie C. & Deb D. – 4 children- Family Preserved

Cathy V. & Seth V. – 1 child- Reunification

Katie C. – 2 children- Reunification

Wanda K. – 1 child- Reunification

Our Community

The Ripple Effect



Gust Askounis



At Hall-Dawson CASA, we often talk about the power of advocacy. We talk about the difference a caring adult can make in a child's life. We talk about permanency, stability, and outcomes.

But sometimes, the most powerful stories come from the people who understand those needs firsthand.

For longtime Hall-Dawson CASA supporter Gust Askounis, supporting children isn't just a charitable cause—it's personal.

Gust first learned about CASA through his friend Seth Vining, a longtime CASA volunteer and respected community leader who coached both of Gust's sons.

Through conversations with Seth, Gust began learning more about CASA's mission and the role volunteers play in advocating for children experiencing foster care.

What started as curiosity quickly became something deeper. Because as Gust learned more about CASA, he recognized something familiar in the children the organization serves.

When Gust was just 12 years old, he lost his mother. Shortly afterward, his father became seriously ill and spent two years in the hospital. With both parents unable to care for him, Gust moved from relative to relative, carrying a burden no child should have to bear.

"I remember being lonely and feeling real lonely and that nobody was out there," he recalls....

[READ THE FULL ARTICLE](#)

Volunteer Spotlight

2026 Volunteer of the Year



Allison Lee.

HOW CAN I VOLUNTEER

Meet Allison

Hall-Dawson CASA is proud to recognize Allison Lee as our Volunteer of the Year.

Since becoming a CASA volunteer in March 2024, Allison has advocated for 11 children across six cases, demonstrating exceptional compassion, courage, and commitment. Whether navigating complex family dynamics, addressing educational challenges, or advocating for children's safety and well-being, Allison consistently goes above and beyond to ensure every child she serves feels seen, heard, and valued.

From her very first case, Allison's dedication made an immediate impact. After identifying serious safety concerns in a foster home, she promptly elevated those concerns and later testified confidently in court, helping ensure the children were placed in safe environments and ultimately

reunified with their mother. Her persistence, sound judgment, and unwavering focus on the best interests of children have earned the respect of judges, attorneys, and child welfare professionals alike.

Beyond her advocacy, Allison serves as a passionate ambassador for CASA. She has shared her experiences with prospective volunteers, participated in training panels, and helped raise awareness about the important role CASA volunteers play in our community.

Please join us in congratulating Allison Lee on this well-deserved recognition and thanking her for the extraordinary difference she continues to make in the lives of children in Hall and Dawson Counties.

"She doesn't just volunteer her time, she gives her heart."

-Patricia Domonique , Advocate Supervisor

Thank you, Allison, for the countless hours you dedicate, the fierce advocacy you provide, and the heart you bring to every child and every space you enter. Your commitment helps amplify our mission and change children's stories every day.

Congratulations on being named Hall-Dawson CASA's Volunteer of the Year!



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