

Bev has been a CASA volunteer for five years. During that time, she has served 15 families, advocating for 33 children. Thank you, Bev, for taking cases with multiple children!

Besides her CASA work, Bev loves learning about other cultures and traveling. She also volunteers for the Irish American Club and Mercy St. Charles Auxiliary. As a Mercy St. Charles volunteer she works at the gift shop and helps with the Sterile Processing.

Lucas County CASA is blessed to have Bev on our team. Here is what she told us about her CASA volunteer work.

How has being a CASA volunteer impacted your life? I have a better understanding of differences in people, culture and choices.

## Why did you decide to become a CASA volunteer?

I became a CASA volunteer to be the voice for children and advocate for what is best for them.

## In your opinion, why is it essential for children who are victims of child abuse and neglect to have a CASA Volunteer?

CASA volunteers are essential because they can represent the abused and neglected child outside of the family. Then they can report back to the court what they learned during their investigation.



Bev's granddaughter inspired her to become a fearless child advocate. How did you collaborate and coordinate your investigation efforts with the other professionals on your case? Having good communication skills is very important to be a successful CASA volunteer.



In your time as a CASA Volunteer, has there been an experience that has impacted you the most?

In the last five years I have gained a better understanding of mental illness and the impact it has on the family.

If you were speaking with an individual who is considering becoming a CASA Volunteer, what would you tell them? I will tell them that being a CASA volunteer is one of the most rewarding things I have ever done.

## Which three qualities or skills should a prospective CASA volunteer possess?

CASA volunteers need to be an awesome listener, understanding of others who make choices different than you would make, and compassionate for others.

## JOIN OUR NEXT CASA TRAINING CLASS

The forty (40) hours of free, interactive training begins on Tuesday, June 18th and ends with the swearing-in ceremony on Friday, July 26. Training nights begin with dinner and take place at the Juvenile Justice Center 1801 Spielbusch Ave., Toledo, 43604. Apply today at CASAKids.net

Prepared By Andrea De la Roca