



VOLUNTEER APPLICATION

Dear Prospective Volunteer,

Thank you for your interest in becoming a volunteer advocate with CASA of Hidalgo County. Attached you will find our volunteer application. After we receive your completed application you will be contacted to schedule a pre-training interview. Applications can be mailed, faxed or e-mailed using the contact information below:

CASA of Hidalgo County
1001 South 10th Ave | Edinburg, TX 78539
Phone: 956-381-0346 | Fax: 956-381-9232
Email: lgarcia@casaofhidalgo.com

PERSONAL INFORMATION

First Name _____ Middle Name _____ Last Name _____

Are you known by any other names? _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Home Phone # _____ Work Phone # _____

Cell Phone # _____ Best Contact Number _____

Email Address _____

Date of Birth _____ Age: _____ Sex: M F

Social Security # _____ Driver's License # _____ State _____

Language(s) you speak _____ Ethnicity _____

Education Completed High School ___ AA/AS ___ BA/BS ___ MA/MS ___ PhD/EdD ___

Current student ___ Where? _____

Have you lived outside of Texas within the past 5 years? Yes _____ No _____

If yes please list the cities, states and/or countries you have lived in over the past 5 years:

City: _____ State: _____ Country: _____ Dates of Residence: _____

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Who should we contact in case of an emergency? *(Please include: Persons Name, Relationship and Telephone Number)* _____

How did you hear about the CASA of Hidalgo County program? _____

Have you ever applied to this or other CASA program before? _____

How soon can you start training? _____

EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

Current Employment Status:

Full Time _____ Part Time _____ Hours: _____

Retired _____ Other _____

Please list your employment history (present employer first):

NAME OF COMPANY & DATES EMPLOYED	POSITION	SUPERVISOR	ADDRESS AND PHONE #

List any community groups in which you are presently active (professional associations, faith communities, service organizations, etc):

Do you have any experience working with children? Yes _____ No _____
(If yes, please give organization names and details)

Do you give CASA of Hidalgo County, Inc. permission to obtain information from these companies and/or community organizations? Yes _____ No _____

If no, please explain _____

FAMILY HISTORY

Current Marital Status:

Single _____ Married: _____ Divorced _____

If married/committed: Spouse/Partner's Name _____

Spouse's Employment and Position _____

Please list names and ages of all of your children and where they reside:

Are you currently in the middle of any type of child custody dispute? Yes _____ No _____

Have you or your family had personal or professional experience with:

(If yes, please give a brief explanation)

Child Protective Services	Yes	___	No	___	_____
Juvenile court system	Yes	___	No	___	_____
Foster care	Yes	___	No	___	_____
Other child service agencies	Yes	___	No	___	_____

Please answer the following questions and give details and explanations if answer is yes:

Have you ever been hospitalized for an emotional issue?	Yes	___	No	___
Do you now, or have you had a drug/alcohol abuse or dependency problem?	Yes	___	No	___
Do you have any kind of health impairment?	Yes	___	No	___

Details: _____

CRIMINAL HISTORY

CASA of Hidalgo will ask all volunteers to complete a fingerprint criminal records check, which will reveal any arrest, charge or conviction. Please respond to the following questions so that this history can be discussed and evaluated. Please note that CASA considers and reviews the extent of the rehabilitation since the misdemeanor or felony was committed. **If you answer yes to any of the following questions, please offer an explanation in the space provided below.**

Have you ever been arrested/ charged and/or convicted of a misdemeanor?	Yes	___	No	___
Have you ever been arrested/ charged and/or convicted of a felony	Yes	___	No	___
Have you ever been or are you currently on probation?	Yes	___	No	___
Have you ever had any DWI arrests, charges, or convictions?	Yes	___	No	___
Have you ever had your driver's license revoked or suspended?	Yes	___	No	___
Have you ever been arrested/ charged or convicted of any sexual misconduct (including pornography)?	Yes	___	No	___

*****CASA program will reject any applicant found to have been convicted of, or having charges pending for a felony or misdemeanor involving a sex offense, child abuse, or neglect, or related acts that would pose risks to children or to the CASA program's credibility*****

Details: _____

PLEASE RESPOND TO THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS:

I am interested in working with children and families as a CASA volunteer because

Any hesitations or concerns regarding my participation in the CASA program at this point are...

Please provide COMPLETE contact information for three non-family references that have known you for at least one year.

Please do not list a relative or significant other. If possible, please list an employer or supervisor. CASA of Hidalgo County will email/mail a letter with a description of the CASA program and reference form for them to complete and return.

(1) Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____

Email Address _____

Relationship to you _____

(2) Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____

Email Address _____

Relationship to you _____

(3) Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____

Email Address _____

Relationship to you _____

The Undersigned acknowledges and agrees that:

I am interested in becoming a CASA volunteer, and know of no reasons why I should not be assigned to a child in the CASA program. I am aware that the children CASA serves have been abused, neglected, or abandoned by adults. I do not want to be another cause of disappointment to a child, and acknowledge that I will make a commitment of at least 18 months to the child/children and case to which I may be assigned.

As a CASA volunteer I will be willing to: (Please write yes or no)

- _____ Commit a minimum of 18 months to being a CASA volunteer.
- _____ Participate in CASA's new volunteer training program.
- _____ Participate in further training as offered to active volunteers in the program.
- _____ Visit in person with the child/children to which I may be assigned.
- _____ Prepare written reports to the court with the guidance and assistance of CASA.
- _____ Participate and attend court hearings and meetings on a child's case.

*******CASA does not discriminate based on an individual's gender, race, color, national origin, religion, sex, age, disability.*******

As an applicant to CASA of Hidalgo County, I understand and acknowledge that:

CASA of Hidalgo County is not obligated in any way to accept me into the volunteer training program by submission of this application.

CASA of Hidalgo County retains the right to refuse any individual that they feel would not be in the best interest of the program and further, CASA is not required to state reason(s) for non-acceptance into the program.

CASA of Hidalgo County will hold all information in the volunteer's file in strictest confidence. Such information becomes the property of CASA of Hidalgo.

I authorize CASA of Hidalgo County to conduct all background checks necessary to insure the safety and suitability of all program clients and participants. CASA will run the following checks on you: Social Security number verification, Fingerprint-Based Background Checks (FBC) – including, National and State criminal record checks, National and State Sex Offender Registry and Texas Child Abuse and Neglect Central Registry (ABCS). I agree that the results of all background checks will be sent directly to the CASA of Hidalgo County office.

I give permission to CASA of Hidalgo County to release information about my application, acceptance, and/or participation in this program to any other CASA program to which I may apply in the future.

I have truthfully responded to all of the questions on this application.

Signature of applicant

Date