



CASA/GAL Pre-Service Training Richland County Juvenile Court

411 South Diamond Street, Mansfield, Ohio 44902
Right end of building—follow signs to lower level

Fall 2025 Mornings

Thursday October 2, 2025 9:00—12:30 p.m.	Chapter 1	Introducing the CASA/GAL Volunteer Role <i>Brooke Henwood</i>
Tuesday October 7, 2025 9:00—12:30 p.m.	Chapter 2	The Well-Being of the Child <i>Brooke Henwood</i>
Thursday October 9, 2025 9:00—12:30 p.m.	Chapter 3	Trauma, Resilience & Communication Skills <i>Brooke Henwood</i>
Tuesday October 14, 2025 9:00—12:30 p.m.	Chapter 4	Mental Health, Poverty & Professional Communication <i>Brooke Henwood & RCCSB with Don Newton, RCCSB</i>
Thursday October 16, 2025 9:00—12:30 p.m..	Chapter 5	Substance Abuse and Cultural Competence <i>Brooke Henwood</i>
Thursday October 16, 2025 1:30—4:00 p.m.	<i>Lunch Provided</i>	Court Observations (<i>tentative a.m./p.m. schedules</i>) <i>Meet upstairs in lobby or go up together</i>
Tuesday October 21, 2025 9:00—12:30 p.m.	Chapter 6	Domestic Violence and Cultural Competence <i>Brooke Henwood</i>
Thursday October 23, 2025 9:00—12:30 p.m.	Chapter 7	Permanency/Educational Advocacy, Older Youth & Diverse Youth <i>Magistrate Cannon & Brooke Henwood</i>
Monday October 27, 2025 9:00—12:00 p.m.	Chapter 8	CASA Experience & Wrapping Up <i>Current Volunteers & Brooke Henwood</i>
Monday October 27, 2025 Noon		Swearing-In Ceremony <i>Courtroom following training, guests welcome</i>

The CASA training curriculum consists of eight sessions, each of which requires pre-work by training participants. Sessions are planned for Mondays and Thursdays to allow several days before each session to commit to this process so that all participants can actively engage in group discussions to aid in our learning for this very important volunteer work. Thank you for planning your time accordingly.

CASA/GAL training and materials are provided at no cost.

Please contact Brooke Henwood, Director, at 419-774-5802 with questions

This training has been partially funded through a contract between Ohio CASA and the Ohio Department of Children and Youth. Ohio CASA supports local CASA/GAL programs in Ohio with training, technical assistance, legislative support, and standards implementation so volunteers may advocate for children in the court system who have been abused, neglect or dependent.

Richland County Juvenile Court CASA/GAL Program

CHANGE A CHILD'S STORY.

CASA stands for Court Appointed Special Advocate. CASA volunteers are community members, highly trained to advocate for a child's best interests in the Court. Retired Judge Ron Spon founded Richland County Juvenile Court's CASA/GAL Program in 1998 to serve the unique needs of abused and neglected children in our community.

CASA volunteer are appointed as officers of the Juvenile Court to work alongside attorneys, social workers, service providers and families. A CASA volunteer is assigned to a child's case to speak exclusively for that child in court proceedings and monitor the child's progress through the life of the case to ensure the child is in a safe, permanent home.

LEND YOUR VOICE

CASA volunteers make a life-changing difference for children who have experienced abuse or neglect. Richland County's children depend on our community's dedicated volunteers to speak up for their best interests.

Become a CASA VOLUNTEER

Are you looking for a meaningful way to make a difference in your community? CASA volunteers come from all walks of life, with a variety of professional, educational, and ethnic backgrounds.

To qualify, volunteers, must:

- Be at least 21 years of age
- Complete an application and submit references
- Go through a screening process that includes an interview, criminal background check and child welfare check
- Complete a minimum 30 hours initial training
- Secure 6 (preferably 12) hours of continuing education yearly.

"A child who is the subject of a CASA case touches many people. Everyone wants what is in the best interest of the child; however, there is often disagreement about the best path. A CASA has the opportunity to provide valuable insight into these complex and emotional situations. I am grateful to have the opportunity to participate in this honorable pursuit."

~Herb Homan, Richland County CASA Volunteer since 2016

Contact:

Brooke at Richland Co. CASA /GAL Program
411 S. Diamond Street
Mansfield, OH 44902
419-774-5802/bhenwood@rcjcoh.us

To Learn More:

Local: rcjcoh.org
State: ohiocasa.org
National: nationalcasagal.org

Richland County Juvenile Court CASA/GAL Program

Judge W. Steve McKinley



PLEASE SUPPORT OUR MISSION BY SPREADING THE WORD ABOUT CASA WITH YOUR FRIENDS, FAMILY AND COMMUNITY!