

"WE are for the child"



facebook

So are all mandated reporter following the laws about...

Making and Screening Reports of Child Abuse and Neglect

All 50 States, the District of Columbia, American Samoa, Guam, the Northern Mariana Islands, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands have laws and policies that specify procedures for making and responding to reports of suspected child abuse or neglect. Mandated reporters are required by States to make an immediate report when they suspect or know of abusive or neglectful situations. [We need to do better](#)

- ⌚ The CASA Board of Directors meets on the 3rd Tuesday each month at 11:30am at the CASA office.
- ⌚ The Mendocino Co. Juvenile Justice & Delinquency Prevention Commission meets monthly on the 3rd Friday noon to 2 p.m. at the Probation Dept. conference room, 589 Low Gap Road, Ukiah.
- ⌚ The Lake Co. Juvenile Justice & Delinquency Prevention Commission meets monthly on the 3rd Thursday at noon, conference room C, on the 3rd floor of the Lake County Courthouse, 255 N. Forbes St., Lakeport.

Call 463-6503, visit us at www.mendocinocasa.org or find us on [Facebook](#) for more information about the many ways to VOLUNTEER with CASA of Mendocino & Lake Counties.

I was 12 and my brother was 13 when the first-time CASA volunteer met with us in our foster home. I remember the smile on her face and a quality about her that put us at ease. We were in a high level of care when we entered the system because we were angry that our sister was not put in the same home...plus we had been living on the streets, in cars, and in shelters. The CASA quickly learned that we weren't going to school because we were missing clean clothes, meals, and support that would allow us to make school a priority.



My CASA was there when no one else was. She was there when we fought our biggest struggles in foster care. She inspired us when we felt most uninspired. She motivated us to keep our grades up and stay in school. She also motivated us to dig deep within to overcome our toughest emotions. She gave us a high level of confidence.

My brother and I overcame our challenges and achieved many things. We earn A's and B's and in a much lower level of foster care. My CASA worker helped me to get into activities and take leadership roles. She put forth so much effort to ensure our success and without her immense inspiration and concern, I would not have the motivation or the desire to make a difference in the lives of others.

CASA of Mendocino & Lake Counties trains and supports caring adult volunteer mentors & Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASAs) to connect and advocate for foster youth, former foster youth, delinquent and at-risk youth.



Are you interested in becoming a CASA volunteer but you're in need of more information? Join us at one of our monthly OPEN HOUSES to learn more about CASA and pick up an application. Open Houses are held every 2nd Thursday of the month, from noon to 1 p.m. at the CASA Office at 327 N. State St., S-204 in Ukiah. To attend please R.S.V.P. by calling 707-489-5346 or emailing Sheryn at shildebrand@mendocinocasa.org.

Substantiated Cases of Child Abuse and Neglect: 2012

This is the latest data available on Kidsdata.org

Locations	Rate per 1,000
California	8.9
Lake County	6.0
Mendocino County	19.4

Definition: Rate of substantiated child abuse and neglect cases per 1,000 children under age 18.

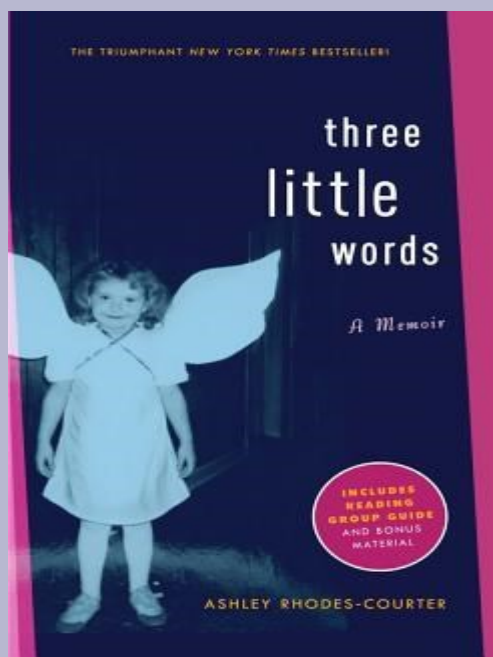
Data Source: [As cited on kidsdata.org](#), Needell, B., et al. (Apr. 2013). Child Welfare Services Reports for California, UC Berkeley Center for Social Services Research; U.S. data come from Child Trends analysis of Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System data through the National Data Archive on Child Abuse & Neglect, as cited on KIDS COUNT (Apr. 2013).

#CHILDABUSE Fact

A report of child abuse is **EVERY 10 SECONDS**



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A Must Read for all CASA Advocates

An inspiring true story of the tumultuous nine years Ashley Rhodes-Courter spent in the foster care system, and how she triumphed over painful memories and real-life horrors to ultimately find her own voice.