



# COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

## *Department of Criminal Justice Services*

The Honorable Jackson H. Miller  
Director

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To: Criminal Justice Services Board Grants Committee

From: Melissa O'Neill, DCJS CASA Program Coordinator

Date: June 1, 2023

Re: 505640-FY 2024-Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) Expansion Grant Program  
FY2024

### **Purpose of Funding**

The Department of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS) administers funds designated for the purpose of supporting Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) programs as grants to non-profit organizations and local units of government. DCJS invited CASA programs considering expansion of CASA services to previously unserved areas in the Commonwealth to submit a Letter of Interest indicating the organization's readiness and ability to expand services. DCJS evaluated the Letters of Interest received and invited the programs who demonstrated readiness to implement expansion projects to complete a full application for funding. The CASA expansion funding will be available through the federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) for FY24 (July 1, 2023 – June 30, 2024).

### **Number applications received + total amount requested**

For Fiscal Year 2024, DCJS staff request approval to award \$343,124 federal ARPA funds to 3 local CASA programs.

### **Number applications denied**

There were no applications denied funding. Under this solicitation, eligible applicants include only those invited to apply based on previously submitted letters of intent.

### **Summary - request/recommendation to Committee**

In summary, DCJS staff **request approval to fund 3 CASA programs expansion grants** for the 12-month period 7/1/2023-6/30/2024, totaling **\$343,124, Federal ARPA** funds.

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## ARPA - CASA -- Grants Committee Recommendations (Cover Report)

### ARPA - Court Appointed Special Advocates Expansion

1-Jun-23

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Application #	Location	Jurisdiction	Requested DCJS Funds	Requested Local	Requested Total	Recommended DCJS Funds	Recommended Local	Recommended Total
509035	Blue Ridge CASA for Children	Other	\$ 178,296.00	\$ -	\$ 178,296.00	\$ 178,296.00	\$ -	\$ 178,296.00
511023	Greater Richmond SCAN	Other	\$ 42,862.00	\$ -	\$ 42,862.00	\$ 42,862.00	\$ -	\$ 42,862.00
508850	Piedmont CASA, Inc.	Other	\$ 121,966.00	\$ -	\$ 121,966.00	\$ 121,966.00	\$ -	\$ 121,966.00
<b>Program Category SubTotal:</b>			<b>\$ 343,124.00</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 343,124.00</b>	<b>\$ 343,124.00</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 343,124.00</b>
<b>Grant Program Grand Total:</b>			<b>\$ 343,124.00</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 343,124.00</b>	<b>\$ 343,124.00</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 343,124.00</b>

# Grant Application Summary

Grant Application Number	Grant Program	Application Type	
509035	American Rescue Plan Act	New	
Applicant Location	Town, City, County, etc.		
Blue Ridge CASA for Children	Other		
<b>Grant Application Category: &gt;&gt;&gt;&gt;&gt;&gt;</b>			
Internal Status	Ranking Score (if New)	Requested	Recommended
Meets criteria	0	\$178,296	\$178,296

## Grant Project Description

Expanding our existing CASA program to encompass two additional counties, Shenandoah and Page. These counties are in the same judicial district as Harrisonburg and Rockingham, which we already serve.

CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates) recruits, selects, trains, and supervises volunteers to advocate for children who have experienced abuse/neglect. CASAs serve as an extra set of eyes and ears for the Juvenile and Domestic Judge, collecting information from all parties in a child's life and compiling information in a court report. CASA's Court Report is the most comprehensive report the court will receive on their child's case. Children with a CASA on their case receive more services and are less likely to be reabused in the future.

## Project Performance to Date (if Continuation)

## Additional Staff Recommendations/Comments

**Fund as requested**

## Subcommittee Recommendation/Comments

Concur/accept staff recommendation as presented <input type="checkbox"/>	Concur w/staff recommendation as modified below <input type="checkbox"/>	Disagree w/staff recommendation as stated below <input type="checkbox"/>
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# Grant Application Summary

Grant Application Number	Grant Program	Application Type	
511023	American Rescue Plan Act	New	
Applicant Location	Town, City, County, etc.		
Greater Richmond SCAN	Other		
<b>Grant Application Category: &gt;&gt;&gt;&gt;&gt;&gt;</b>			
Internal Status	Ranking Score (if New)	Requested	Recommended
Meets criteria	0	\$42,862	\$42,862

## Grant Project Description

SCAN is proposing an expansion of our Richmond CASA program to serve the City of Petersburg.

## Project Performance to Date (if Continuation)

## Additional Staff Recommendations/Comments

Fund as requested

## Subcommittee Recommendation/Comments

Concur/accept staff recommendation as presented <div style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></div>	Concur w/staff recommendation as modified below <div style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></div>	Disagree w/staff recommendation as stated below <div style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></div>
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# Grant Application Summary

Grant Application Number	Grant Program	Application Type	
508850	American Rescue Plan Act	New	
Applicant Location	Town, City, County, etc.		
Piedmont CASA, Inc.	Other		
Grant Application Category: >>>>>>			
Internal Status	Ranking Score (if New)	Requested	Recommended
Meets criteria	0	\$121,966	\$121,966

## Grant Project Description

Piedmont CASA provides trained volunteers and professional staff to advocate for the best interests of abused and neglected children and youth; promoting and supporting safe, permanent, and nurturing homes for these victims within the child welfare system, the community, and before the courts of the 16th Judicial District of Virginia. We intend to expand our service area to previously unserved counties within the 16th Judicial District - Fluvanna, Madison, and Orange - working to ensure that the child victims in these counties receive the same necessary and appropriate advocacy support provided to those just across their county's border.

## Project Performance to Date (if Continuation)

## Additional Staff Recommendations/Comments

Fund as requested

## Subcommittee Recommendation/Comments

Concur/accept staff recommendation as presented <input type="checkbox"/>	Concur w/staff recommendation as modified below <input type="checkbox"/>	Disagree w/staff recommendation as stated below <input type="checkbox"/>
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