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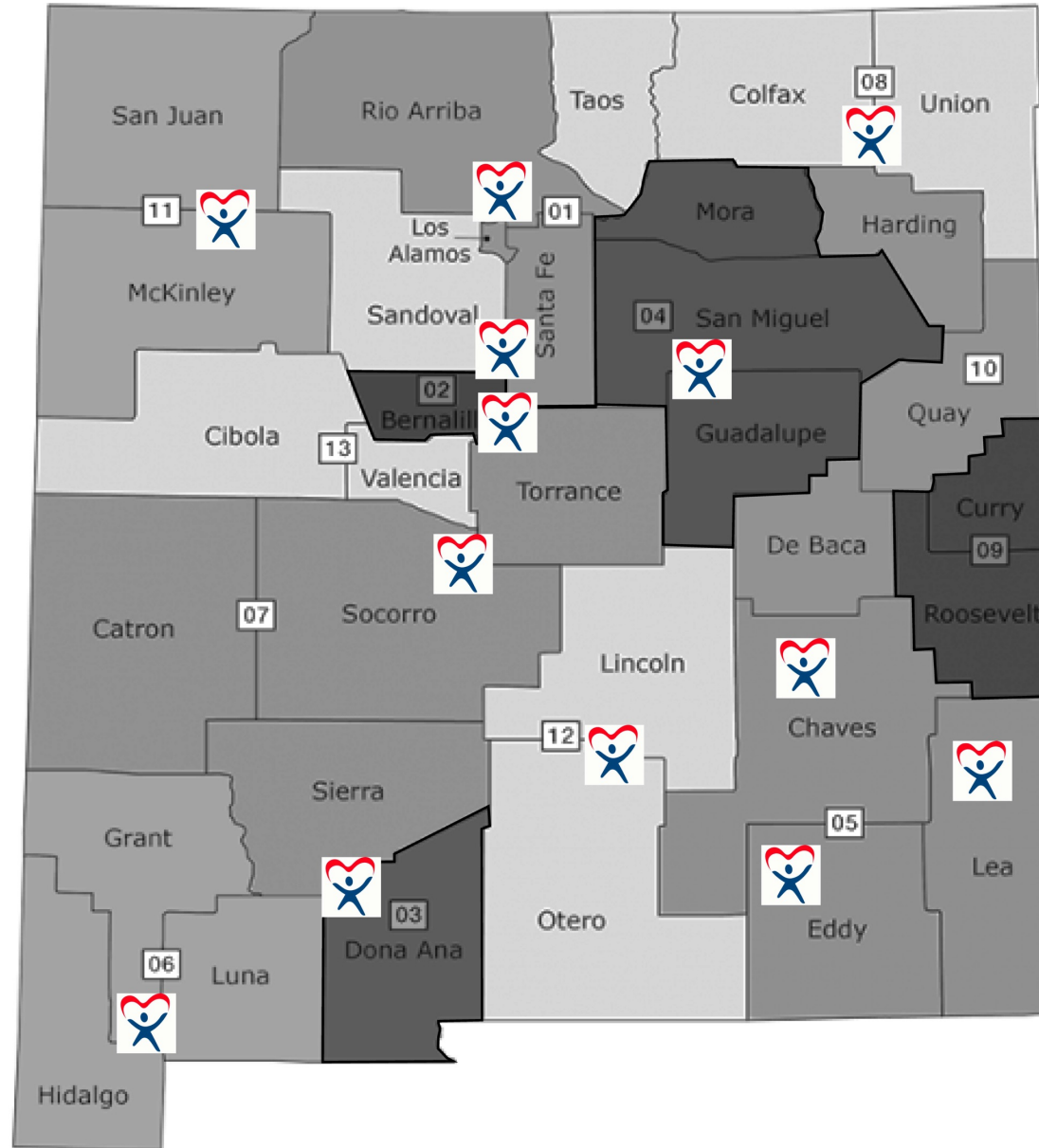
**CASA**

Court Appointed Special Advocates  
**FOR CHILDREN**

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**NEW MEXICO CASA ASSOCIATION**

**There are 13 CASA Programs in New Mexico, 12 are independent non-profit entities, and one is court-run.**

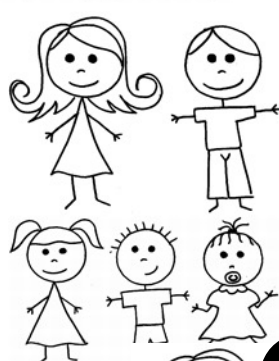
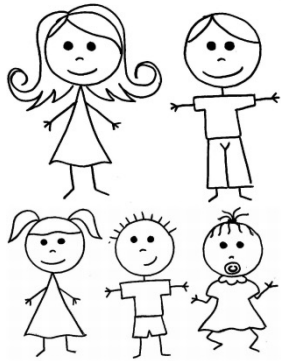
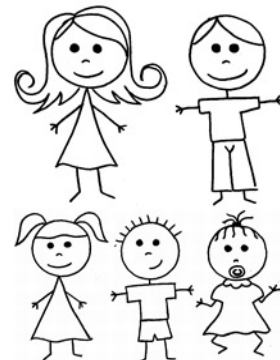
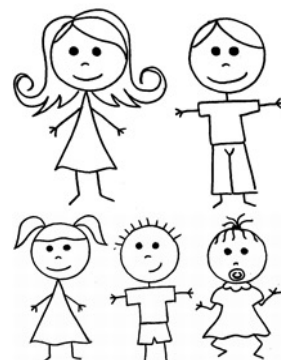
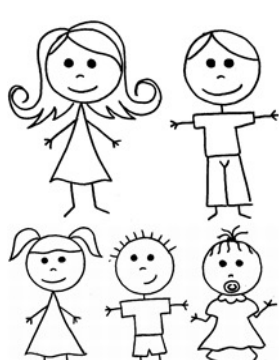
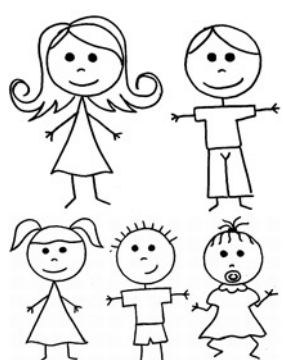
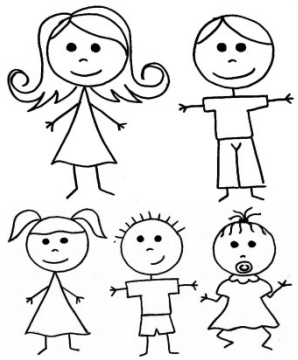




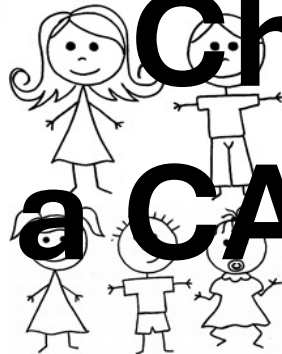
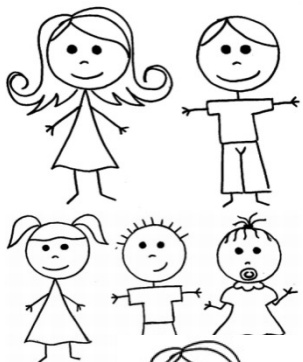
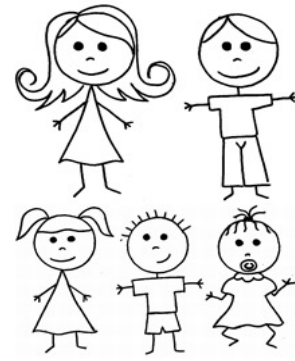
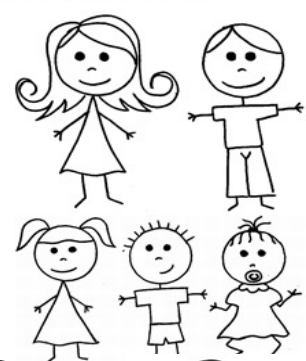
**2000**

**Children**

**in State Custody**

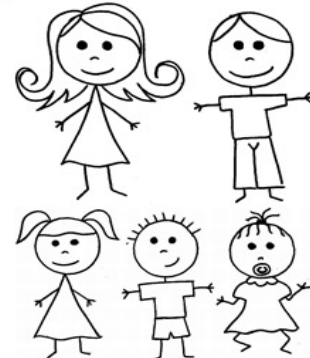
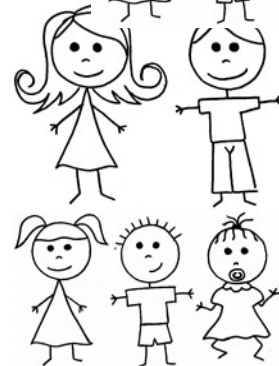
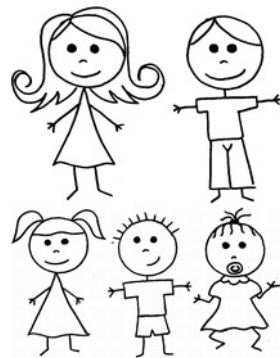
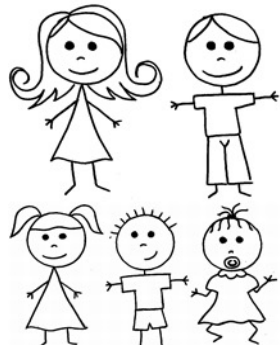
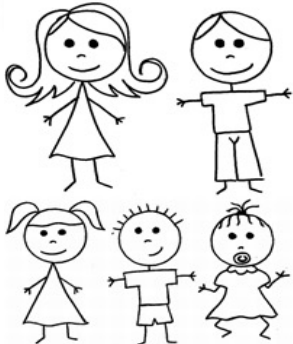


**800**



**Children**

**with a CASA Volunteer**





**A Court Appointed Special Advocate** is a person appointed as a CASA, pursuant to the provisions of the Children’s Court Rules, who assists the court in determining the child's best interests by investigating the case and submitting a report to the court.” §32A-1-4(E).



**Children’s Court Rule 10-164** governs the appointment, qualifications, powers, duties, reports, and procedures for CASAs. The CASA has an official role in judicial proceedings, working alongside professionals within the scope of Rule 10-164.

# TO BECOME A CASA VOLUNTEER



**Commit 10-15 hours of your time every month for at least 1 year.**



**Have the desire, patience and heart to work with children and families.**



**Participate in in-depth training sessions.**



**Complete fingerprint background check**



# WHAT DOES A CASA DO?

When a family is in crisis and becomes involved in the child welfare system, a CASA volunteer may be appointed by a judge to advocate for the child. The highly trained volunteer is someone from the child's community whose responsibility is to get to know the child and their family and advocate for their safety, permanency and well-being while in foster care. This is just one example of the difference a CASA volunteer can make in a child's life.



**CASA Program  
Staff also provide  
*specialized  
support and  
services to youth  
and families,  
including***

*Specialized advocacy services focused on the unique needs of infants and toddlers, Native American youth, and teenagers in foster care.*

*Advocacy and support services for youth involved with the Juvenile Justice system*

*Educational advocacy services to help foster and justice system-involved youth address the educational challenges they face*

*Advocacy for children involved in custody and domestic violence disputes*

*Supervised access and visitation services for families involved in custody and child visitation conflicts*

*Parenting skills classes and other family support services to support family stability and reunification efforts*





Thank You  
for caring enough to fight  
for my future