



Maryland CASA Association 11th Annual Conference

 **STANDING STRONG FOR
CHILDREN AND YOUTH** 

Saturday, April 1, 2017
Judicial College Education & Conference Center
Annapolis, MD

2017
SPONSORSHIP
PACKET

ABOUT



MARYLAND CASA ASSOCIATION

Maryland CASA Association is a private, non-profit (501c3) organization founded in 1997 and dedicated to ensuring all children in Maryland their right to safe, permanent homes. Every day in Maryland, children face abuse, neglect and abandonment. Often these children are confused and scared, lost in a maze of judges, attorneys, and social workers where life-altering decisions are made on their behalf. This is where CASA comes in.

Our mission is carried out through the support and development of Maryland's local Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) programs, which recruit and train adult volunteers to serve as advocates for victims of child abuse and neglect. Our vision is for all children in Maryland to grow up in safe, permanent homes and achieve their full potential.

WHAT IS THE ANNUAL CONFERENCE?

A full-day conference offering a keynote address by an inspirational speaker and twelve workshops led by experts in child welfare, education, mental health, the law, as well as board development and volunteer management professionals. Now for its 11th consecutive year, the Maryland CASA Conference is designed for current CASA volunteers and other child welfare professionals to collectively gather and enhance their ability to advocate for abused and neglected children.

WHO ATTENDS?

More than 200 CASA volunteers, staff and board members, as well as children's attorneys, social workers, and other professionals will be attending.

Of last year's 230 conference participants:

- 88% identified as female and 12% male;
- Majority (60%) were Caucasian, 30% African American;
- Majority were between the ages of 40 and 60+;
- 76% had either a Bachelor's or Master's Degree;
- 60% were employed either full or part-time; 20% were retirees.

*Each day in Maryland, **22 children** will be abused, neglected, or abandoned.*

*Roughly **5,000 children** are awaiting safe, permanent homes in Maryland right now.*

*The average stay in foster care is more than **36 months**.*

KEYNOTE SPEAKER



Chauncey Strong is a national child welfare trainer, consultant, motivational speaker and committed advocate who has dedicated his career to helping improve the outcomes for children and families involved in the child welfare system.

Chauncey has an insider's view of the foster care system and has worked in both private and public child welfare settings for more than 23 years. He is currently a Foster Care Supervisor with the Fairfax County Department of Family Services in Fairfax, Virginia and supervises the work of the Permanency and Life Skills Unit. He has worked in foster care, adoption, kinship care, community based services and youth development. Chauncey has extensive experience in direct practice, program development, senior management and community leadership.

Chauncey is a past-president of Foster Care Alumni of America and has served on several other local and national workgroups, committees and boards including The Foster Family-Based Treatment- Association-VA Chapter, and the Virginia Association of Family Preservation.

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Comments or questions? Please contact Patrick Seidl, Development & Communications Coordinator, at 410-828-6761 or Patrick@marylandcasa.org.

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