

418 South Weber Street, Colorado Springs, CO 80903, (719) 447-9898, www.casappr.org

March 10, 2021

To Whom It May Concern,

As Executive Director of CASA of the Pikes Peak Region, Court Appointed Special Advocates, I am writing to verify <merge Volunteer Name> is a Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) Volunteer in the 4th Judicial District.

While CASA of the Pikes Peak Region is not the agency with authority to make decisions about vaccine prioritization, here is why we believe CASA Volunteers should be prioritized in Colorado’s COVID-19 Phase 1B.2 as essential human services/judicial department workers.

CASA of the Pikes peak Region is a local CASA program that advocates for children in the child welfare system throughout El Paso and Teller County. §19-1-206 CASA volunteers are appointed by courts in dependency and neglect proceedings, as these proceedings concern children who have experienced serious abuse or neglect and face the possibility of ongoing trauma and abuse, family and sibling separation, and many other adverse consequences.

CASA volunteers have a responsibility to perform a comprehensive, thorough, and independent in-person investigation, §19-1-208. State statute requires that CASA volunteers follow National CASA guidelines for in-person visits at least once a month with children, and many CASA programs require more frequent visits, even once a week. CASA volunteers must see children in their placements and communities, conduct interviews with professionals on the case, and observe in-person interactions between parents, caretakers, and children.

In 2020, over 2,241 CASA volunteers provided thorough advocacy for over 4,500 children in Colorado.

Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions about the role of the CASA and the essential judicial and human services functions I believe this volunteer performs as a CASA.



Angela Rose

Executive Director

CASA of the Pikes Peak Region

719-447-9898

angelar@casappr.org