

We hope that you and your loved ones are doing well and have not been directly affected by the coronavirus. The staff at CASA of New Jersey are doing well and continuing to work from home.

During this crisis, many of you have had to cancel or postpone family celebrations, life events, trips, and more. We are sorry this has happened. We, too, have had to postpone until a future date the CASA of New Jersey fundraiser Blossoms and Bright Futures: A spring social celebrating CASA child advocacy that was scheduled for June 13.

We know that during a crisis, the most vulnerable in our society suffer the most. Children in foster care have already suffered trauma from their abuse or neglect, and their removal from their homes. Many have special educational, medical, and behavioral health needs, making it even more challenging for them and their foster parents in this time of stress and isolation. For these and many other reasons, experts expect to see a rise in the number of children entering foster care as a result of the pandemic. We must not only stay strong and continue our work as an organization during the crisis but prepare to increase the number of foster children we serve as a result of it.

Although it is difficult to ask for a donation at this time, we must. It is our organization's responsibility to ensure that every child in foster care is safe and has an advocate in their corner to speak up for their best interests in court and in the community, regardless of what is happening in the world around us. A donation of any amount, whether it be \$10, \$100, \$1,000 or more, will make a difference to a child's life. Donations can be made online at www.CASAofNJ.org/Donate

Thank you for your time.
Stay safe and stay well.

Sincerely,

April Aaronson
Executive Director
CASA of New Jersey