

Meet Advocate Mentor Nilene Evans

Nilene Evans is a valuable member of NJ CASA, as she is an: Advocate Mentor, representative on the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion group for all the NJ CASA programs, and a member of the Bergen CASA Program Committee. Nilene will tell you that she loves what she does and she says that the most fulfilling part is “seeing the children safe” and helping them “find a path.”

Nilene states that her most impactful and memorable experience at CASA was her first big case. There were six children, all siblings, living with their grandmother. She recalls their adoption day as a heartwarming experience, where balloons and people’s smiles decorated the courtroom with joy. She says that much of her work at CASA can be described as “sad because you hear such sad stories, and it’s just such a delight to see the adoption part, and the children safe and happy with their grandma.”

Nilene’s message to any new or perspective CASAs is that making a difference in the lives of foster children, is truly fulfilling. She states that “it’s hard but so rewarding” and that “it’s worth all the training and all the time, because the children so need it.” She hopes that more people become CASAs and do the hands-on work, because “making a difference in this world is what matters.”

Nilene is a cherished Bergen County CASA. We are very grateful for her intelligent impact upon so many aspects of this program. For example, earlier this year Nilene spent several weekends at the office as we conducted a total overhaul including refiling just about every piece of paper. Her legal background came in very handy when we were deciding how to restructure our files. We are very fortunate to benefit from Nilene’s passion for helping others and for creating a positive impact within her community.