

2020 Illinois CASA State Conference

Chicago, IL

Call for Presentations

Are you a child welfare expert, attorney or academic? Are you part of an organization that utilizes the Illinois CASA/GAL network? Do you design, develop, or implement juvenile justice solutions? Do you study and measure juvenile abuse and neglect cases? The 2020 Illinois CASA State Conference needs you!

You are invited to submit a proposal to share your experience and expertise with our statewide network of specially trained volunteer advocates and staff from 32 local CASA programs at the 2020 Illinois CASA State Conference. This year's theme: *Change a Child's Story*™ will promote the importance of collaboration to affect change. We hope the experience will be educational, informative, inspirational and entertaining for our presenters and guests.

The conference attracts about 400 attendees, many of whom have direct responsibility for and decision-making authority over the provision of child advocacy services, solutions and practices. Year after year, it draws a loyal following of participants eager to learn about – and be able to implement – the latest ideas, best practices and relevant approaches in advocacy for children who have experienced abuse and neglect.

Presentation proposals are welcome on any topic relevant to CASA. The conference will feature both individual presentations and panel discussions. Topics of particular interest include:

- Human Trafficking, Domestic Violence, Addiction and Drug Trends in Illinois
- Trauma Informed Services, Foster Parent Recruitment
- Diversity, Inclusion, Implicit Bias, LGBTQ, Poverty
- Secondary Trauma, Volunteer Safety, Quality Advocacy
- Public Policy, Family First Act
- Community Engagement, Volunteer Recruitment and Social Media

Presentation timeslots will be 90 minutes and will be strictly regulated to ensure the conference runs according to schedule. All sessions must include time for audience questions and comments.

Presentation materials will be archived and made available to attendees. At the discretion of the presenter, materials may be made available to the public on the Illinois CASA website.

Please note that product demonstrations are **not** acceptable conference presentations. Individuals and organizations who wish to "showcase" sites or products will have an opportunity to do so at the Forum venue but not as part of their presentation. Please contact **Kristen Bertrand** for further details.

Deadline for submissions: January 30, 2020.

Proposal template, below.

Prospective presenters may submit up to three presentation proposals. Please submit presentation proposals in the format provided.

Once you have filled out the template, **submit via email to kristen@illinoiscasa.org.**

Speaker(s) / Presentation Proposal

First name: _____ Last name: _____

Name of your primary contact if other than you: _____

Telephone: _____ - _____ ext. _____ Email: _____

Your (Presenter's) Title: _____

Organization: _____

Telephone: _____ - _____ ext. _____

Email address: _____

Mailing address: _____

City, state and zip: _____, _____ - _____

Speaker / Organization web site address: _____

Brief biographical sketch (100 words or less): _____

If you've presented at an Illinois CASA State Conference before, please indicate when:

Available to present on the following date Friday, April 3, 2020 Morning Afternoon

Title of the presentation as you suggest it be published (10 words or less): _____

Brief summary/description of presentation (100 words or less): _____

Web address/ link to sample of presentation _____

Please indicate which track your presentation is best suited for:

Please provide the names of other speakers you'd recommend for our conference:

Please indicate if your organization is interested in being an exhibitor or sponsor: Yes No

In submitting this proposal, I certify that I am available for the date(s) designated above. I understand that I will not receive a speaking fee for the presentation(s). If selected, I agree to abide by the deadlines and other conditions of presenting. I understand that my conference presentation is not a showcase for promoting my business, practice or product, and I will not sell my products or services from the speaker platform. I understand I will provide summary updates or blog material prior to the conference for marketing materials.

I have read and understand the statement above.

Please save this form and attach it to an email to kristen@illinoiscasa.org. Please also attach a photograph of at least 300dpi or tif format to be used for marketing purposes if selected.

Upon evaluation by our Program Committee, you will be contacted no later than January 31, 2020. If you are selected as a speaker, Kristen Bertrand, Training Associate, will work with you to ensure your participation is a positive experience and help with all arrangements. Thank you very much for your interest in fulfilling Illinois CASA's mission. Illinois CASA, together with its local member programs, supports and promotes court-appointed volunteer advocacy for children experiencing abuse or neglect.