



# A VOICE OF PERSISTENCE

## Gayle Sutton

### How would you describe yourself in 3 words.

Passionate. Patient. Persistence.

Your Volunteer Coordinator agrees, but would also describe you as collaborative, vivacious, dedicated, and always professional!

### Why did you chose to get involved with CASA?

I chose to get involved with CASA because:

1. There was a need for CASA volunteers in Henrico.
2. I wanted to make a different in the community by sharing my time, talents and treasures
3. Advocating for children and youth is a strength for me.

### What is your best moment, to date, as a CASA?

My best moment to date is the day I showed up to visit my child after a cancelled visit on my part. She grabbed me, hugged me, and said, "I missed you." I was startled because this was so atypical for a thirteen year old and this was only like visit number four. So after just three visits, there was some kind of connection. A pretty cool moment for me.

### What advice would you give a new CASA?

Stay focused on the child. The other stuff will overwhelm and distract you. Remember you are the advocate for the child.

### Who inspires you?

My dad who is deceased continued to be my inspiration. I can always find his voice in my quiet space. He listens when I talk. For me that is reassuring, comforting, and a blessing.

### What is your favorite way to spend your time (outside of CASA, that is!)?

Traveling, walking, water aerobics, reading, eating good food, drinking good bourbon/beer/wine and listening to good music!