



## PRESS RELEASE

### For Immediate Release

#### Media Contact:

Laura Wall | Executive Director  
CASA For Children of Mercer and Burlington Counties  
(CASA: Court Appointed Special Advocates)  
609.434.0050 | [lw@casamercer.org](mailto:lw@casamercer.org)

# Protective Face Masks Crafted and Donated for CASA Children, Advocates, and Case Workers

Ewing, NJ—July 27 2020—[Court Appointed Special Advocates \(CASA\) for Children Mercer Burlington](#) announced that more than 400 personal protective equipment (PPE) masks were recently crafted and

donated for use by CASA children, advocates, and Department of Children Protection and Permanency (DCP&P) case workers in Mercer and Burlington counties.



*Pictured:* Members of Princeton Sankofa Stitchers Modern Quilt Guild—Vickie Meisel, Gail Mitchell, Judith Miles, Connie Ellis—with CASA Advisory Committee Chair Marge Smith, Advisory Committee Member Denyse Leslie, and Executive Director Laura Wall.

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, a group of volunteers from the [CASA Advisory Committee](#), the [Princeton Sankofa Stitchers Modern Quilt Guild](#), and friends and family of both groups worked to sew hundreds of PPE masks that will be used by CASA children, advocates, and DCP&P case workers in both Mercer and Burlington counties.

The idea began in March as the pandemic was beginning to disrupt day-to-day activities across the state of New Jersey and worldwide. CASA's Advisory Committee members had a strong desire to contribute. Nikki Dolin, one of the Advisory Committee members, had the idea of crafting masks that were acutely needed and difficult to secure.

The idea began in March as the pandemic was beginning to disrupt day-to-day activities across the state of New Jersey and worldwide. CASA's Advisory Committee members had a strong

With dozens of volunteers contributing to the effort, protective face masks have now been delivered to DCP&P case workers who have continued to work in the field to serve children and families. CASA advocates have been serving their children virtually through phone and video calls. Advocates and children will receive their masks as their advocates are able to safely return to in-person visits.



Children's face masks crafted by the CASA volunteers will be used by children who have been removed from their homes due to abuse and/or neglect.

“It was a sheer pleasure to hand deliver the masks to the dedicated DCP&P case workers in both Mercer and Burlington counties,” stated CASA Executive Director Laura Wall. “CASA greatly values its partnership with DCP&P and are so thrilled that these masks will be used by case workers, advocates, and the children they serve.”

CASA's mission is to train and supervise community volunteers who advocate for the best interests of children who have been removed from their homes due to abuse and/or neglect. Advocates are the heart and soul of CASA. The need for advocates is great as there is currently not a sufficient number of volunteers to serve all

children in need. Individuals who are interested in learning more about how advocates can literally change the life of a child in need can find out more at the [CASA website](#). [Donations](#) are also welcome and enable CASA to serve children in need.

###

## ABOUT CASA

The Court Appointed Special Advocates for Children (CASA) mission is to train and supervise community volunteers, appointed by the Family Court, to advocate for the best interests of children who have been removed from their homes due to abuse and/or neglect. CASA's dedicated volunteer advocates strive to ensure the emotional, physical, and educational well-being of these children while they reside in foster homes or residential facilities. The ultimate goal is for the advocates to help establish a safe, stable, and permanent home for each child served.

Web: [www.casamb.org](http://www.casamb.org) | Twitter: [@CASA\\_MercerBurl](https://twitter.com/CASA_MercerBurl) | [LinkedIn](#) | [Facebook](#)