



CASA of Atlantic & Cape May Counties  
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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
April 23, 2010

**FIFTEEN DOLLAR UNLIMITED RIDES AT GILLIAN'S WONDERLAND PIER ON MAY 23**  
*Special CASA Day Offers Special Ride Pricing*

**SOMERS POINT, N.J.:** Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) of Atlantic and Cape May Counties will host a special CASA Day at Gillian's Wonderland Pier in Ocean City on Sunday May 23 from 1 to 4 p.m. Gillian's will offer exclusive 3-hour, \$15 unlimited ride wristbands to anyone who mentions the CASA promotion. The wristbands are valid on all Gillian's rides from 1 to 4 p.m. on May 23 only. The event, made possible through the generosity of Gillian's Wonderland Pier, is an effort to help raise awareness of abused and neglected children living in Atlantic and Cape May Counties. For more information call (609) 601-7800 or visit [www.atlanticcapecasa.org](http://www.atlanticcapecasa.org).

- WHAT:** CASA Day at Gillian's Wonderland Pier  
**WHEN:** Sunday, May 23, 2010 from 1 to 4 p.m.  
**WHERE:** Gillian's Wonderland Pier, Ocean City, N.J.  
**COST:** \$15 per wristband for unlimited rides from 1 to 4 p.m.  
**DETAILS:** For more information, call (609) 601-7800 or visit [www.atlanticcapecasa.org](http://www.atlanticcapecasa.org)

**About CASA**

Trained CASA Volunteer Advocates speak on behalf of abused and neglected children in the foster care system and are dedicated to ensuring these children are placed in safe permanent homes as quickly as possible. By matching trained community volunteers with children, CASA ensures that the needs and best interests of these children are met. CASA Volunteer Advocates also can improve the decision-making ability

of Family Court judges regarding these children. Volunteering for CASA is a rewarding experience says Volunteer Advocate Judy from New Jersey, “The CASA program addresses one of the most compelling problems of our society, narrows it to one small child and allows me to enter that life and make a difference.” In Atlantic and Cape May Counties, over 700 children a year live in foster care. Last year, CASA served 275 abused and neglected children and helped place 93 children in permanent homes. CASA is a United Way Partner Agency.

### **About National CASA**

In 1976, Judge David Soukup, then Presiding Judge of King County Superior Court in Seattle, Washington, realized he was making life-altering decisions regarding children’s lives without enough information about the children. He began to look for alternative ways to make sure that the child’s best interests would be consistently presented to the court. Judge Soukup decided to use trained community volunteers, individuals who would be asked to make a commitment for the life of a child’s case. His idea became a full-fledged program in 1977 and word of its success spread quickly. Encouraged by the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges, new CASA programs began to develop around the country. Nationally, more than 68,000 CASA volunteers serve more than 240,000 abused and neglected children through 1,018 local CASA program offices. Since the first CASA program was established in 1977, CASA volunteers have helped more than two million abused children. For more information on the national CASA program please visit [www.nationalcasa.org](http://www.nationalcasa.org).

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