

CASA Volunteer Safety

This program is highly invested in keeping you – the CASA volunteer – safe. If you ever have a question or concern about the safety of any aspect of your work or if you feel apprehensive or fearful, you should immediately consult with the CASA program staff. The safety tips below are mostly common sense and good advice whether you are doing CASA volunteer work or not.

- **Think ahead** – know the situation and know where you are going in order to look confident.
- Meet a parent or another person in a **neutral place** initially, and if necessary, thereafter.
- **Be aware** of the immediate area.
- **Tell someone** where you will be, how long you will be there, and when you expect to return. If plans change, call and let that person know.
- Keep safe, but **be respectful** of the neighborhoods and homes you are entering.
- **Travel in pairs**, if necessary.
- You may want to **avoid carrying a bag**.
- **Trust your instincts**. If you are uncomfortable, take protective action – walk away.
- **Do not share your personal information** about yourself or your family, especially your home phone number and address. Home addresses can easily be found on the Internet using a home phone number. All correspondence and communication should flow through your cell number, if you feel comfortable, via email or through the CASA office.
- If you witness or see signs of illegal activity, **get out** of the situation as soon as you can.

CASA of Baltimore County – phone (410) 828-0515

Baltimore County Department of Social Services – (410) 853-3000

Baltimore County Department of Social Services Foster Program - (410) 853-3170