Abstract

The purpose of this thesis practicum project was to conduct a program evaluation, in limited scope, of the Jefferson/Gilpin County Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) volunteer program in six identified child outcome and process goals within the program. The six objectives included: permanency, length of court jurisdiction, stability and sibling placement, least restrictive placements, close proximity of the planned permanent home, and frequent visitation. This project reviewed 127 CASA cases that were closed in the years 2007 and 2008. Results indicate that the Jefferson/Gilpin County CASA program met and/or exceeded the standards set by the National CASA Association for 2007 and 2008, with the possible exception of length of time under court jurisdiction and was in compliance with state statutes and policies regarding visitation, sibling placement and permanency.