

1541

Buttons of Bravery

Child Sponsorship

When a child visits Child Advocacy Services (CAS) they select a button from a jar. This is a very personal selection, because this button represents them. It tells their story. These stories are raw, emotional and heart wrenching. The button selection may take a long time. It may also take a long time to fully understand the circumstances for why this child needs help from CAS.

Children desperately need the services of CAS- an organization that gives them a voice, a sense of security and help with healing. Like buttons, children come in all shapes, sizes and colors. And they all need a secure thread to hold them tightly and let them know there is hope.

Brave children share their stories. Courageous adults help these children through their trauma, and assist them in finding safe and secure homes. Buttons of Bravery represents the journey of One Child for One Year under the care of CAS.

Be the thread of hope for One Child with a sponsorship of 1541.

Mary...

was 5 years old and living with her father. She did not have adequate food or clothing. The house was dirty, smelled of sour food and there was mold in the refrigerator. On the night she witnessed a violent altercation between her father and another man, she was placed in state custody.

Your 1541 child sponsorship helped CAS to be directly involved in making sure Mary received help, protection and an advocate.

Two years later, Mary is in a potential adoptive home. She has a bright future and two loving parents who are eager to adopt her.

Why 1541?

One thousand five hundred forty one dollars (1541)- that's what is needed to provide services for One Child for One Year at CAS. This includes:

- **Recruitment**, training and supervising of Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA volunteers)
- **Conduct** expert forensic interviews
- **Oversee** advocacy for all children
- **Provide** counseling services
- **Develop** and deliver prevention education

1541 « One Child « One Year in Child Advocacy

Just Imagine

the children who could be helped if...

- **Co-workers organized** to support *One Child?*
- **Corporations each sponsored** *One Child?*
- **Small businesses joined** the cause for *One Child?*
- **Civic organizations helped** *One Child?*
- **Church groups dedicated** resources to *One Child?*
- **Individuals donated** money for *One Child?*

Find Your 1541!

It's not necessary to donate a lump sum of 1541 to be a child sponsor. Earmark your check or donation toward 1541, and Child Advocacy Services will put it in the bank with other donations toward a child sponsorship.

Yes! Donations made to the 1541 campaign and Child Advocacy Services are tax deductible.

Did You Know?

There are more children who need Child Advocacy Services than we can help! 1541 allows us to serve more children with funds going directly to services.

True examples of 1541 in action



Jacob... was 11 when he entered his first foster home. At 17, Jacob is close to becoming an adult. Your 1541 child sponsorship enabled a CASA to be appointed to Jacob. Through this relationship, Jacob found a work apprenticeship after school. With encouragement and help from his CASA, Jacob has realized he has a future and will begin classes at a technical college.



Sarah... is now 7. While spending the night with her aunt, Sarah courageously shared that her step-father frequently touched her. Your 1541 child sponsorship provided a safe, child-friendly setting for Sarah to tell her story to a professional interviewer, so that she does not have to retell the story several times.



Duane... was 11 when he saw a fight break out in his neighborhood. He doesn't remember hearing the gunshot, but learned his 3-year old brother had been hit from the screams echoing inside his house. Your 1541 child sponsorship assisted Duane at the Children's Advocacy Center to preserve his testimony as a witness. This statement was used in the investigation to convict the adult responsible for the crime.



David... is a volunteer fire fighter. He conducts tours twice a week of the firehouse for children in scouts, school groups and other community organizations. While more involved with children than fighting fires, David had no training as a mandated reporter. Your 1541 sponsorship allowed David and his entire station to be trained in *Stewards of Children™*. As a result, ten children per person trained are better protected.