

1 [Supporting Court Appointed Special Advocates Budget Request]

2 **Motion to support Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) request of**
3 **\$250,000 to sustain programs that serve 400 systems-involved youth in FY 23-24**
4 **and 24-25 budget.**

5 WHEREAS, Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) is vital organization
6 committed to providing support and guidance to systems-involved youth in San
7 Francisco; and

8 WHEREAS, CASA's programs have consistently demonstrated their
9 effectiveness in meeting the needs of 400 foster youth, ensuring their well-being, and
10 advocating for their best interests; and

11 WHEREAS, CASA's dedicated volunteers play a crucial role in advocating for
12 foster youth, offering a voice for those who may otherwise go unheard; and

13 WHEREAS, CASA's budget request of \$250,00 per year is necessary to sustain
14 and enhance their programs, ensuring the continued provision of essential services to
15 foster youth; and

16 WHEREAS, the upcoming fiscal years of 2023-2024 and 2024-2025 present an
17 increasing demand for support, as more systems-involved youth require CASA's
18 assistance; and therefore be it

19 RESOLVED, the San Francisco Youth Commission expresses their unwavering
20 support for CASA's budget request of \$250,000 to sustain their programs in FY 23-24
21 and 24-25; and

1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the San Francisco Youth Commission urges
2 Mayor London Breed and San Francisco Board of Supervisors to support this budget
3 request.

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5 **Supplemental Information:**

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7 See attached document [Letter of Support]

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Youth Commission
City Hall ~ Room 345
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place



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June 5, 2023

San Francisco Mayor London Breed
San Francisco Board of Supervisors
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place
San Francisco, CA 94102

Subject: Letter of Support for Court Appointed Special Advocates Budget Request

Dear San Francisco Mayor London Breed and San Francisco Board of Supervisors,

The San Francisco Youth Commission expresses their full support for Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) and their budget request of \$250,000 per year to sustain their programs in San Francisco, specially addressing the needs of 400 systems-involved youth during FY 23-24 and 24-25. We believe that investing in the welfare and well-being of foster youth is not only a moral obligation but also an essential responsibility for our community.

CASA's unwavering dedication to starving foster youth in San Francisco has been commendable. The organization has consistently demonstrated its commitment to ensuring that every child in foster care receives the care, guidance, and support they



deserve. By advocating for the best interests of these vulnerable young individuals, CASA has played a pivotal role in bridging the gaps in the welfare system and has had a profoundly positive impact on the lives of countless foster youth.

Supporting CASA's budget request is crucial for several reasons. Firstly, the requested funds will enable CASA to sustain and expand their programs, reaching a larger number of youth. By serving 400 youth, CASA will have a broader reach, allowing more young individuals to benefit from the personalized attention and support that CASA advocates provide. These young individuals often face significant challenges, including trauma, instability, and a lack of consistent guidance. CASA's intervention is instrumental in ensuring that these youth have a stable, nurturing environment and the necessary resources to thrive.

Secondly, investing in CASA's programs is a sound financial decision for our community. By providing support and guidance to foster youth, CASA helps reduce the long-term societal costs associated with the negative outcomes that often result from a lack of support during the critical transition to adulthood. Research consistently demonstrated that the foster youth who receive CASA services are more likely to graduate high school, pursue higher education, and secure stable employment. By equipping these youth with the skills and resources they need to become productive,



self-sufficient adults, we can break the cycle of dependency on social services and foster a strong, more resilient community.

Last, supporting foster youth is a matter of social justice and compassion. These young individuals have already faced significant adversity and challenges beyond their control. By investing in CASA's programs, we are reaffirming our commitment to creating a just society where every child has an equal opportunity to succeed, regardless of their background or circumstances. The funds allocated to CASA will empower dedicated advocates to ensure that foster youth's voices are heard and their rights are protected within the child welfare system.

In conclusion, the San Francisco Youth Commission wholeheartedly supports CASA's budget request of \$250,000 to sustain their programs and address the needs of 4000 systems-involved youth in San Francisco during FY 23-24 and 24-25. By investing in CASA, we are investing in the future of our community, empowering foster youth to overcome obstacles and build successful fulfilling lives. We urge you to consider the immense impact that this investment can have and make a strong commitment to supporting CASA's vital work.

Sincerely,

Youth Commission
City Hall ~ Room 345
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place



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Emily Nguyen, Chair

Adopted on 06/05/2023

2022 – 2023 San Francisco Young Commission