

PRESS RELEASE

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CASA/PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY ASSISTS LOCAL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL WITH EFFORTS TO HELP ABUSED AND NEGLECTED CHILDREN.

Local Groups Partner to Ensure that Children Entering Foster Care Have the Basics

HYATTSVILLE, MD: Yorktown Elementary School in Bowie, Maryland reached out to Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA)/Prince George's County requesting assistance in their efforts to get much-needed items to children entering foster care. Yorktown Elementary School, which identifies itself as a "community of caring," contacted CASA/Prince George's County's Executive Director, Ann Marie Foley Binsner, seeking help with coordinating their donations with the Department of Social Services. The group is filling at least 52 book bags with school supplies, new clothing, books/coloring books, toys, toothbrushes, toothpaste, comb-brush sets, etc. These items will be donated to the Prince George's County Department of Social Services and distributed to children in need. Binsner summed up the group's efforts in one word "amazing."

"I'm just happy that Yorktown Elementary allowed us to be a part of this," said Binsner. "Our mission is to give a voice to this often overlooked population and to help get children into safe, permanent homes as quickly as possible. Our volunteers work hard so these children have all of the supports that they need. This is a perfect opportunity to help to bring resources to meet their needs in a very tangible way."

The Prince George's County Department of Social Services Director, Gloria L. Brown, applauds the efforts of the caring community that exists at Yorktown Elementary School. "The children, teachers and parents are to be commended for their generosity. Children entering foster care are often in emergency situations; leaving the familiar to be faced with the unfamiliar. These donations will help make the transition a little bit easier."

To get more information about becoming a Court Appointed Special Advocate, please visit our website at www.speakforthechildren.org or call 301-209-0491.

