

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact:

Lisa Barsky Firkser, Ph.D.

Executive Director, CASA of Morris and Sussex Counties Inc.

Phone: 973-998-7590 | Fax: 973-998-7589

Local Abused and Neglected Children Now Have Something to Call Their Own

CASA, Knights of Columbus, and My Stuff Bags Foundation Team Up to Help Victimized Kids

Morristown, NJ – November 2, 2011 – CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates) of Morris and Sussex Counties will be distributing 180 duffel bags filled with blankets, stuffed animals, and toiletries to children who are victims of abuse and neglect and living in foster homes or residential facilities. These bags and supplies were funded by the My Stuff Bags Foundation and the Morristown Knights of Columbus. The Morristown Knights of Columbus have been supporters of CASA for many years. Marc Marowitz, owner of the Morristown Deli, and Gerry Russo, Grand Knight of the Morristown Knights of Columbus, facilitated this donation of stuffed duffel bags for the vulnerable children served by CASA. Children in foster care are filled with fear, anger, confusion, and a sense of powerlessness at having been removed from their homes and families. Most take few possessions with them, leaving behind favorite toys, cherished stuffed animals, and other precious items of their childhood. Even when they do take belongings, many quickly grab a plastic trash bag to transport their things. This is why a duffel bag stuffed with a cuddly lap blanket, book, and stuffed animal is the perfect gift for these children. These bags will help liven up their days and provide something that truly belongs to them. CASA volunteers will be equally grateful to deliver these bags and be part of this positive experience of giving.

About CASA of Morris and Sussex Counties: CASA of Morris and Sussex Counties is part of a statewide network of community-based non-profit programs that recruit, screen, train and supervise volunteers to “Speak Up for a Child” removed from home due to abuse or neglect. CASA is the only program in New Jersey that uses trained volunteers to work one-on-one with children, ensuring that each one gets the services needed and achieves permanency in a safe, nurturing home. Visit www.casamsc.org or call 973-998-7590 for more information about CASA of Morris and Sussex Counties.

Picture Attached. Names under picture, L-R: Lisa Firkser, CASA Executive Director; Marc Marowitz, Owner Morristown Deli; Gerry Russo, Grand Knight Morristown Knights of Columbus; Pat Nolan, CASA Development Director