



## 2008/2009 Educational Goals CASA's School-Age Children

As one component of our Educational Advocacy at CASA, advocates are asked to identify two or three educational goals for their school-age child at the beginning of each school year. In the fall of 2008, advocates returned these goals to their CASA Supervisor.

Typical goals submitted included:

- ✓ Increase reading comprehension
- ✓ Increase math proficiency
- ✓ Complete and turn in a majority of homework assignments
- ✓ Improve peer socialization skills
- ✓ Work cooperatively in a group 75% of the time
- ✓ Reduce unexcused tardies and/or absences

By June 2009, 25 of the children for whom goals were submitted were still active CASA kids at the end of the school year. Advocates who had submitted goals for their CASA child the previous fall were asked to report on how well their student performed on these goals. Sixteen responses (64%) were received. Half of the children (8) are 11 and under; half are 12 or older. 11 are girls and 5 are boys.

These are the results:

**In 75% of the cases, improvement in some or all of the goals was noted (12 children).**

**In 12.5% of the cases, no change was noted in their performance in these areas (2 children). One of these youth is a teen who changed her mind about her goals during the year; the other youth was removed from her home during this time period.**

**In 12.5% of the cases, the student's performance declined (2 children). Both of these youth are teens.**

The results from last year's survey indicate that there may well be a positive correlation merely between *identifying* goals for a student and the student's improvement in school performance. At the end of September, after the school year has begun in all districts, we will again be requesting goal-setting for the new academic year of 2009/2010. Each advocate will be asked to submit 2 or 3 goals for their student and we will send you guidelines to help you craft those goals. Our target is a response for at least 50% of our school-age children.