

PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CASA of Kern County receives grant from Target for "Let's Read" program

Bakersfield, CA – August 8, 2008

CASA of Kern County today announced a partnership with **Target** in recognition of CASAs efforts to speak on the best interests of abused and neglected children in Kern County. The \$1,000 grant will support the CASA "Let's Read" program which provides expanded opportunities for dependent children, age's birth through nine years, to participate in educational, recreational and social opportunities.

CASA volunteers will provide transportation and accompany their assigned children to a local bookseller to purchase a book or books of their choosing. Each CASA will read and review the book(s) with their assigned child (ren). They will additionally take the child (ren) on an outing to the library, and encourage their child (ren) s' caretakers to get each child a library card. The CASAs will monitor the children through their teachers at school regarding their reading skills.

This grant is part of ongoing efforts by Target to strengthen families and communities throughout the country. Since opening its doors in 1946, Target has given 5% of its income to the communities they serve.

*CASA of Kern County – a non-profit organization that trains community volunteers to speak
for the best interests of abused and neglected children in court – is a member of the
National Court Appointed Special Advocate Association.*