

Promoting Self-Esteem in Teen Foster Girls

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CASA

Court Appointed Special Advocates
FOR CHILDREN

CASA OF MORRIS AND SUSSEX
COUNTIES, INC.

CASA

CASA's mission is to be a strong voice for the best interests of vulnerable children who have been removed from their homes or put under court supervision due to abuse, neglect, or abandonment. They recruit, train, and supervise community volunteers to be mentors, advocates, and champions for each child on his/her journey to a safe, loving, permanent home.

CASA currently helps support two homes for girls in Morristown, which is who we wish to help. 12 girls currently live in these homes, and we hope to give them some beauty items to help them feel more accepted at school and in their everyday lives, as well as to help them feel more normal.

Phones

At CASA, one of their biggest needs was cell phones for the teenagers. The organization collects used phones, and then purchases cards with a set amount of minutes. The phones, along with the cards, are then given to the teens who need them. They use these phones to stay in touch with family and for use in an emergency. We are helping to collect the phones, and to do so we have set up a donation box in the CMS main lobby.

Makeup

At CASA, one very overlooked need is makeup. While they often receive clothing and toy donations, they rarely get any beauty/self-care products for their teen girls to use. To help the teen girls that CASA cares for, we are collecting makeup and other beauty products to help the girls feel more like normal teenagers, and to give them something to enjoy. We are asking a few beauty companies to donate products to help these girls and give them the supplies that they need.

Fundraising

As we work on our project, we plan to have various fundraising events, including bake sales. We are planning to work with the CMS builders club in order to raise money for our project. We will use the money that we raise to help purchase makeup and other beauty products for the teen girls currently residing in group homes.

Why we chose this

We chose to support teen girls in foster care because we think that it is easier for us to relate to them. We are around the same age as these girls that we will be helping, so we figured that we would more easily be able to pick out the products that we are giving to the girls. Also, we feel that they are often overlooked. When people think of foster children, they automatically think of little kids that are in need of toys and stuffed animals, but do not consider the older children that are going through the same hardships. We also realized that these girls may not have access to makeup. Makeup is a large part of a teen girl's life, and we thought that it would be a good idea to fulfil this need by collecting these products. Another part of our

Why We Chose This (continued)

project is the phones that we plan to collect and give to the girls. Most teens these days could not stand to live without their phones, but unfortunately, this is not a luxury available to all. We wanted to give these girls phones so that they could stay in touch with family and have a way to communicate in an emergency.