

A powerful voice for foster children



CASA of Los Angeles and Share Inc.
presented

Glamour Gowns in April 2008

Dress collection is now suspended until January 2009

What is Glamour Gowns?

Glamour Gowns is an annual event in its seventh year sponsored by CASA of Los Angeles. Any high school aged girl in foster care in Los Angeles County may receive a free formal gown for her special prom night.

Who is eligible to receive a dress?

Any young woman currently in the Los Angeles County foster care system in need of a formal gown for a special event such as her prom may receive a dress.

Why is Glamour Gowns so important?

In Los Angeles County alone, nearly 27,000 children are in foster care. Many of these children lack the love, care and attention that most of us take for granted as we grow up. Finances are not always available for the purchase of “non-essential” items like a prom dress. CASA believes that attending a formal dance should be an opportunity open to every young woman regardless of family or economic circumstances. Many of these young women are repairing both emotional and physical scars and need to participate in normal school events along with their friends to feel progress and a sense of value in their lives. *Glamour Gowns* is a heart-felt enrichment event which enables young ladies to be princess for a day.

What was our goal in 2008?

Glamour Gowns provides dresses, while also building self esteem, self confidence and, most of all, the feeling of self worth. CASA of Los Angeles aims to provide a formal gown along with coordinating accessories for any teenage girl in foster care in need of a gown for a special event such as her prom and the chance to feel valued and glamorous. As many as 600 young women will participate in 2008. Each year brings us many more opportunities to help enrich the lives of these young women.





Glamour Gowns 2008

Where do these dresses come from?

All of the dresses are new or gently used, donated by generous individuals and businesses throughout Los Angeles.

How can I help?

CASA of Los Angeles looks forward to working with community individuals and businesses getting involved in a variety of ways in 2009, including:

- Local boutiques and bridal stores contributing new accessories and formal gowns (particularly for girls with curves).
- Dry cleaning businesses willing to clean used formal gowns.
- Corporate donations of make-up, jewelry, accessories, gowns (particularly for girls with curves), and floral and shoe gift certificates.

How does CASA of Los Angeles help abused and neglected children?

CASA of Los Angeles advocates for abused and neglected foster children in court and in the community. A Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) trained volunteer is appointed to a foster child's case by the judge making crucial decisions about the child's life. CASA volunteers make a difference in the lives of foster children, one child at a time, by ensuring they receive the services and support they are entitled to. The CASA volunteer is often the most stable adult presence in a foster child's life. Many foster children have commented that the CASA volunteer is the only person "who is not paid to care for me." CASA volunteers bring the voice of the community into a child welfare system that is often overly bureaucratic and impersonal.

CASA of Los Angeles, is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization; tax ID # 95-3890446. For more information visit www.casala.org or call 323.526.6329.

SHARE, Inc. is a non-profit philanthropic organization composed of women who are passionately dedicated and committed to raising funds for the developmentally disabled, abused and neglected children. For more information visit www.share4children.org or write Post Office Box 1342, Beverly Hills, CA 90213-1342.