

# Forgotten Children Campaign - Forgotten Children Exhibit in Washington, DC

Every day, 850 children enter America's foster care system because they cannot live safely at home. If this fact surprises you, it is probably because it is rarely reported or talked about unless a terrible tragedy occurs. In a very real sense, these children are all but forgotten.

National CASA is committed to drawing public attention to these forgotten children by launching a dramatic exhibit at the Washington Monument in Washington, DC. Beginning Monday, May 19, 2008, 850 life-size displays of foster children will appear at the Washington Monument. These displays represent the 850 children who enter the foster care system each day. For the remainder of the week, through Friday, May 23, 850 additional cutouts of children will appear each day until the total reaches 4,250 displays representing the 4,250 children who entered foster care during the workweek. Each child display will hold a placard with a message and a call to action. A variety of messages, obtained from a recent national focus group study of current foster youth, will be featured in the stand-up displays. Six versions of the child displays illustrate the diversity of children in foster care.

The *Forgotten Children* exhibit will provide a powerful backdrop for media interviews with members of Congress, national and local celebrities, National CASA executives, former foster children and executives from sponsoring agencies. Below is a schedule of events. It will be updated on a regular basis as new spokespeople join our exhibit and together we explore real solutions to the challenges facing children in foster care.

## ***Forgotten Children* Exhibit Schedule of Events**

Monday, May 19	Exhibit kicks off with CBS TV star Danny Pino
Tuesday, May 20	Faces of Foster Children day, sponsored by Casey Family Programs
Wednesday, May 21	Achieving Permanence for Foster Children, sponsored by the Freddie Mac Foundation
Thursday, May 22	Youth in Transition, CASA will release a national study on older foster youth
Friday, May 23	Opportunity to view full exhibit of 4,250 displays, closing ceremony