

ReMoved: Reflections and Suggestions

At the 2014 National CASA Conference, a discussion session was held on the short film *ReMoved*. Groups of attendees were asked to submit their suggestions on how the film could be used by their local CASA/GAL program. Their thoughts follow.



In summary, out of around 20 responses:

- Over half (11) mentioned using the film for **training**
- Eight specified **in-service training**
- The responses were split on whether the film is useful for **recruitment**, with 5 for and 4 against

On Training:

- Several people suggested using the film as an introduction to a training session, possibly on a specific subject addressed in the film, such as:
 - Domestic Violence
 - Impact of multiple moves on children
 - Permanency
 - Sibling Bonds
 - Removal/CPS System
- Or combining the film with a discussion of what resources would be available for a similar case in their local district, or what impact a volunteer could have in a similar case.
- One group suggested also using it during training for new staff.

On Recruitment:

- A few people felt it would be more useful for recruiting foster families than CASA volunteers, although one person suggested using it at a joint recruitment session for both!
- One attendee said it would work well for the kinds of recruitment presentations he/she does, by following the video with an explanation of what a difference a CASA volunteer could make in a similar situation.

- Another said they didn't think it should be used for recruitment, since the emotion of the film was so affecting that people might apply to volunteer who were not ready for the commitment.

Other Suggestions:

- Possibly of interest to other people involved with foster children, some suggestions were:
 - Public School Teachers
 - Board Members
 - CPS Workers
 - Child Welfare Boards
- Another suggestion about showing the film to local board members included the comment that it was always good to find new ways to remind their board about the mission, and what kids in care go through.
- One group suggested using the film as a therapeutic tool to help children going through the system process their feelings about it.
- Another mentioned using it for volunteer retention – reminding current volunteers of why they are involved in the cause.
- Some groups were doubtful about its use for fundraising, as there is no CASA volunteer in the story. Others thought the emotional impact would be useful to raise funds anyway.

Thank you, everyone who participated! We hope these ideas will help more local programs find new ways to use this and other media resources.

Reminder: The makers of *ReMoved* have chosen to make this film available to anyone who can use it in support of foster kids and foster parents. It is free to stream online, or download a hi-res version for \$25.

Download, share or view *ReMoved* on Vimeo: <http://vimeo.com/heschle/removed>