

**CASASTART<sup>SM</sup>** (Striving Together to Achieve Rewarding Tomorrows) is a community-based, school-centered substance abuse and violence prevention program developed by The National Center on Addiction and Substance Abuse at Columbia University.



**About Neighborhood House**

Since 1906, Neighborhood House has been helping diverse communities of people with limited resources attain their goals for self-sufficiency, financial independence, health and community building.

We are proud to be partnering with the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation; Nesholm Foundation; City of Seattle — Office of Neighborhoods, Seattle Public Schools, and the National Center for Addiction and Substance Abuse (CASA).



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A community-based, school-centered substance abuse & violence prevention program

**CASASTART<sup>SM</sup>**



*“If it wasn’t for the additional help [CASASTART] is giving me, I know I would have given up on my kids.”*

– **CASASTART** parent



Neighborhood House

**Neighborhood House**

**CASASTART<sup>SM</sup> Program**

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**Neighborhood House**  
 Strong Families. Strong Communities. Since 1906.



CASASTART's positive youth development framework keeps high-risk nine-to-14 year old middle schoolers free of drug and criminal involvement.

**Community Approach** We work in middle schools in Seattle with students referred by school staff. Our school-based youth case managers take a holistic approach, bridging student and family with school, community activities, juvenile justice or law enforcement (if needed) and others to coordinate services.



**Student Success** Neighborhood House's CASASTART team works to make sure all youth succeed by staying connected to school and making healthy choices. By providing long-term personal support, our case managers help children and teens to achieve their individual goals.

Our team is in the classroom, making sure students meet teachers' academic standards. We work with kids where ever they might be, during and after the school day. During school vacations, we're supporting CASASTART students with programs and activities.

**Family Success**

Families call us at any time of day when they need extra help — from motivating their kids to go to school to dealing with a family crisis. We visit families in their homes to support their children, connect with their schools or access community resources. At CASASTART, we believe that positive social supports lead to more resilient youth, stronger families, and safer neighborhoods.



CASASTART has been recognized as a Model Program by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration and an Exemplary Program by the Safe and Drug Free Schools Program, U.S. Department of Education.



*“Besides my family, you are the only other person who understands what I’m going through with my child.”*

– Paulette, CASASTART parent

**Compared to a control group, CASASTART youth were:**

- 60% less likely to sell drugs
- 20% less likely to use drugs in the past 30 days
- 20% less likely to commit a violent act
- More likely to be promoted to the next grade in school

