

anything is possible

WHEN SOMEONE CARES



CASA

Court Appointed Special Advocates
FOR CHILDREN

THE NATIONAL COURT APPOINTED
SPECIAL ADVOCATE ASSOCIATION

'17

*annual
report*

our NETWORK



Dear Friends and Partners,

Thank you for your unyielding support for the mission of the National Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) Association. It is because of you - our committed volunteers, dedicated state and local program staff, and generous donors - that we have made a positive impact on behalf of children in need.

As we celebrate 35 years of advocacy for children, we reaffirm our commitment to addressing a growing need and increasing our impact throughout our communities. Our multi-year strategy is built on a framework that includes five enabling focus areas: 1) Strong Support to Programs, 2) Effective Partnerships with State Organizations, 3) Planning, Research and Analysis, 4) a Platform for Financial Stability, and 5) Governance Effectiveness.

This framework offers the necessary platform to enable state organizations to provide strong support to local programs. We are working on four initiatives to support this structure: 1) Network Development, 2) Organizational Development, 3) Quality Service and Performance Measurement, and 4) Stakeholder Engagement and External Affairs.

A GROWING CAPACITY

As part of the network development initiative, we began building a highly effective standards model, strengthening our support to local programs and enhancing our training delivery standards. These initiatives, along with a new governance excellence program, will help members of our network enhance their capacity to serve local communities.

Maintaining the quality of service to children is paramount to achieve our mission. Working with and through our state organizations, we are conducting a gap analysis that assesses areas where we do not currently have program coverage. This work explores where there are the poorest outcomes for children and where programs have the capacity to expand.

A GROWING NEED

The number of children removed from their homes due to abuse or neglect continues to increase, rising by more than 40,000 nationwide from 2012-2016. At the same time, we know the issues that children face continue to evolve.

To address these needs, we know we must increase our volunteer base. We understand the importance of accelerating the implementation of our strategy to serve more children. The strategy includes recruiting and training thousands of dependable and trusted advocates who offer hope and stability at a time when a child's life hangs in the balance.

We are improving our training programs. This includes updating our approach to training volunteers and facilitators, enhancing training materials, and developing new components, such as flexible, online learning options. Our new curriculum addresses the challenges that children face, like substance abuse, trauma, and economic disparity.

A GROWING IMPACT

Last year we received the results of an independent study that examines the caliber of our advocacy, as well as the effectiveness of our service model. The results showed that children with a CASA volunteer fare much better than those without; they spend 25 percent less time in foster care and are much less likely to return to the child welfare system. Our volunteers helped to close more than 100,000 cases in 2017, providing permanency for vulnerable children.

Looking ahead, we will continue to work to support our strategy, to achieve our mission and to ensure children who have experienced abuse or neglect have a CASA volunteer speaking up for their best interests.

Thank you for your caring, your advocacy, and your partnership.

Sincerely,

Tara Perry
Chief Executive Officer

William "Bill" Collins
Board of Trustees Chair

'17

board of trustees

CHAIR

William "Bill" Collins
Partner
Covington & Burling LLP
New York, NY

VICE CHAIR

Patricia "Pat" Bresee
Retired Juvenile Court Judge
Atherton, CA

TREASURER

Adam J. Liff
President, Diversified Funding
and Management
Santa Barbara, CA

SECRETARY

Britt Banks
Executive Director
Getches-Wilkinson Center
University of Colorado Law School
Miami Beach, FL

MEMBER-AT-LARGE

Senator Mary Landrieu
Senior Policy Advisor
Van Ness Feldman
Washington, DC

Joseph "Joe" Bankoff
Chair, The Sam Nunn School
of International Affairs
Georgia Tech University
Atlanta, GA

Dr. William Bell
President and CEO
Casey Family Programs
Seattle, WA

Renne Bilson
Past Board President
CASA of Los Angeles
Studio City, CA

Patrice Comey
Child Advocate
McLean, VA

Danielle Maurer
Child Advocate
Washington, DC

James "Jim" Rishwain
Chair Emeritus
Pillsbury Winthrop Shaw Pittman LLP
Los Angeles, CA

Kris Perry
President
Save the Children Action Network
Washington, DC

Lisa Stuart
Child Advocate
Greenwich, CT

EX-OFFICIO TRUSTEE

Judge Anthony Capizzi
Montgomery County Juvenile Court
Dayton, OH
President, National Council of
Juvenile and Family Court Judges

our IMPACT

85,000+

Volunteer advocates help change children's lives every day

260,000+

Children have a CASA volunteer advocate speaking up for their best interests



A child with a CASA volunteer finds a forever home **25% faster**



CASA volunteer advocates help close about **100,000 cases** every year



A child with a CASA advocate is much less likely to re-enter the foster-care system

Sources: 2015 Research and Consulting Study; 2017 National CASA Association Program Study

2017 financial results

INCOME

Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP)	10,547,600
Foundations	1,330,500
Individuals	646,000
Fees	587,400
Dues	246,300
Corporations	113,500
Other	62,500

TOTAL INCOME 13,533,800

EXPENSES

Grant Disbursements to State, Local Programs	5,298,600
Personnel	4,661,200
General and Administrative	1,043,600
Contracts	989,800
Travel	665,600
Rent	339,200

TOTAL EXPENSES 12,998,000

our INFLUENCE

leaving a legacy

Barbara Cooper grew up in England during World War II - one of the 800,000 children sent away from their homes to protect them from aerial bombing raids. While it meant that Barbara had to be separated from her family in Bristol, west of London, it also meant she was safe.

Until her passing in 2017, Barbara opened her heart to reach beyond her extended family and touch the lives of children in foster care, because she understood what it felt like to be separated from her family as a child.

Barbara and her husband, Ken Ravenna, have been long-time contributors to National CASA. In honor of his late wife, Ken recently established The Barbara Cooper Fund to enable National CASA to create an internship program for youth transitioning out of foster care. The program is designed to provide critical work experience for these young adults, while improving their job prospects.



lighting the darkness

Alise's life was chaotic - she stole to buy drugs, leading her to the darkness of a jail cell. When Alise gave birth to Rebekah, her baby was whisked away within minutes because she had been exposed to drugs. Alise and Rebekah would not see each other again for almost a year.

But when Alise met her daughter's CASA volunteer, Michelle, her life changed. Michelle was the first person to show Alise a picture of Rebekah and share information about her. She encouraged Alise. Through this process Alise was able to see that there was hope and she did everything needed to be reunited with her daughter, including substance-abuse treatment and parenting classes.

Today Rebekah is a bright, energetic child who loves school and says she has the best mom ever. Alise earned a bachelor's degree in behavioral science and now works with birth parents across the nation whose children have been placed in foster care.

Alise shows those parents that there is hope - just like the light of hope a CASA volunteer gave her when all she could see was darkness.



our SUPPORTERS

THANK YOU TO ALL OUR DONORS, WHO MAKE GROWTH AND PROGRESS POSSIBLE. TOGETHER, WE ARE A POWERFUL VOICE FOR VULNERABLE CHILDREN.

\$100,000+

Akerman LLP
Barbara Cooper Fund
Fidelity Charitable Trustees' Initiative
Jewelers for Children
Kappa Alpha Theta Foundation
Toy Industry Foundation

Tara Lisa Perry
James Rishwain
The Community Foundation of Middle Tennessee
Wells Fargo Advisors
Jeanine and Daniel Wiener-Kronish

\$5,000-9,999

\$25,000-99,999

Annie E. Casey Foundation
Dr. William Bell - Casey Family Programs
The Honorable Patricia Bresee (retired)
Robert and Gayle Culak
Fred and Mabel R. Parks Foundation
Independent Charities of America
Silicon Valley Community Foundation
Yahoo Employee Foundation

Anonymous
Britt Banks
Renne J. Bilson
Richard M. Cashin
Covington & Burling LLP
Sally W. Erny
Gerald and Diane Hayes
Jamieson Charitable Foundation
Kappa Alpha Theta - Alpha Lambda Chapter
Kappa Alpha Theta - Beta Epsilon Chapter
Kappa Alpha Theta - Eta Phi Chapter

\$10,000-24,999

N. Bernard Aldridge
Joseph Bankoff
William Collins
Steve Dow
Ronald C. Honeyman
Adam Liff
Danielle Maurer
Greg M. Maurer
Diane Nunn

Kroger/Fred Meyer Jewelers
Peter and Sheryl Neupert
Schwab Charitable Fund
Sidney Stern Memorial Trust
The Rossetti / Gunn Family
Scott Zimmer

\$1,000-4,999
Daniel J. Adelstein
Anonymous

Mary Afflerbach
Shari Agastein
All-State Legal
Carlos Anaya
Joseph Auletta
Beth Ballentine
Bari Lipp Foundation
Lisa Scott-Benson
Roberta Bissell
Bruce Blakeman
Chip and Kaoru Block
Robert and Taffy Bright
Michael and Margaret Brownrigg
Charles Brumback
Allison and Kevin Burrus
Paige Cantlin
Cards for Causes, LLC
Brian Carnes
Frank Chambers
Michael Choy
Eleanor and Larry Cohen
Live Nation - Colorado
Jennifer Copes
Andrew Craig
Peter and Jill Dame
Michael and Kelly Davenport
Susan Deifer
Jaykumar Desai
Donate for Charity Inc.
Donna Drackett

Marie Dushime
Family Office Foundation
FirstGiving
Ronald Fischer
Judith and Glenn Frye
James Gallisdorfer
Lawrence Genalo
Katherine and Travis Giddings
Mr. Donald Gimbel
Give With Liberty
GoTab Inc.
Rebecca Grear
Darryl and Adele Harper
Jessica Hastings
April Hatfield
Rebecca Haun
Talia and Aaron Heath
Jennifer Hichme
Winnie and Paul Holzman
Dean Howard
Fidelity Investments
David and Amy Johnson
Blondean Jones
Kappa Alpha Theta - Alpha Gamma Chapter
Kappa Alpha Theta - Alpha Omicron Chapter
Kappa Alpha Theta - Alpha Tau Chapter
Kappa Alpha Theta - Beta Phi Chapter
Kappa Alpha Theta - Delta Chapter
Kappa Alpha Theta - Delta Chi Chapter
Kappa Alpha Theta - Epsilon Tau Chapter
Kappa Alpha Theta - Rho Chapter
Kappa Alpha Theta - Zeta Rho Chapter
Kappa Alpha Theta - Zeta Theta Chapter
Krista Kellogg
Kendra Scott LLC

Marie Kennedy
Piper Kotwica
Andrea Kucirek
Senator Mary Landrieu
James and Jean LeClare
Susan and Arthur Leeds
Jeffrey and Rachel Lipp
Martie Maguire
Tom Mitchell
Mary Ellen and Robert Mittelstaedt
Betty Montgomery
Network For Good
John Nicoletti
Joseph Nunn
Michelle Olson
Paul Pakalski
Carlo and Julia Panaccione
Kay Parr
Thomas Parrish
Gloria and James Pattillo
Carin and Michael Piraino
Bruce and Ruth Platt
Pledgeling Foundation
Peter Privert
Brad Ray
Maria Rigatti
Lois Rosen
Abbey Ruby
Marjorie Rudden
Salesforce.org
Veronica Sandoval
Nicolette Santilla
Seattle Foundation
Joseph Seitz
Emily Sheikh
Shoreline Branham LLC
David Sietsma
Patrice Silver
Andrew and Rhonda Smulian

David and Jill Spector
Richard Spees
Francine and Alexander Ter Weele Ttee
Romi Thakur
The Benevity Community Impact Fund
The McWilliams/Piraino Family Foundation
The Paul and Erika White Family Foundation
The Zimmer Family Foundation
Together We Rise Corporation
United Way of Greater Philadelphia & SNJ
Charlene Wallen
William Van Nortwick and Maria Henderson
Susan Zabloudil

To donate, visit
casaforchildren.org/donate





THE NATIONAL COURT APPOINTED
SPECIAL ADVOCATE ASSOCIATION

100 West Harrison St
North Tower, Suite N500
Seattle, Washington 98119

1625 Massachusetts Ave NW
Suite 520
Washington, DC 20036

800.628.3233
casaforchildren.org

OJJDP

This project was supported by
Award 2015-CH-BX-K001 awarded
by the Office of Juvenile Justice
and Delinquency Prevention at the
U.S. Department of Justice