

2018 Impact Report



CASA

Court Appointed Special Advocates

FOR CHILDREN

CASA OF CENTRAL TEXAS, INC.

New Braunfels Office
1619 E. Common, Suite 301
New Braunfels, TX 78130
830.626.2272

San Marcos Office
PO Box 1267
San Marcos, TX 78666
512.392.3578



@casacentex

Letter from the Executive Director



Norma Castilla-Blackwell

Board of Directors 2018 - 2019:

- JoAnne Germer, President**
- David Pfeifer, Vice President**
- Becky Lake, Secretary**
- Frank Pereira, Treasurer**
- Susie Russell**
- Carol Gaultney**
- Jeffrey Hargis**
- Angela Panebianco**
- Whitney Vaughn**
- Seth Worley**

Dear Friends,

In many ways FY 2018 – 2019 was a banner year for CASA of Central Texas. From implementing new groundbreaking initiatives to breaking ground on our Training & Support Center, what an exciting year it's been!

This year CASA of Central Texas participated in the launch of Collaborative Family Engagement (CFE), an initiative focused on finding and engaging committed adults who are willing to wholeheartedly support children long after CASA and CPS involvement ends. In addition, Community-Based Care was initiated in Comal and Guadalupe counties with the intention of meeting individual and unique needs of children, youth, and families from a community based-approach.

CASA of Central Texas also rolled out a new training curriculum this year. Developed by National CASA, the curriculum equips volunteers with relevant information and ultimately makes them better informed advocates. It was a robust year of Continuing Education training in which volunteers learned about a variety of topics such as preventing child sexual abuse, applying behavior analysis to children, preparing for mediation, and communicating as a CASA.

For the first time ever, tickets for CASA's annual dinner and auction sold out! CASABlanca was a tremendously fun-filled event that raised a generous amount for children, thanks to many gracious CASA supporters. With this fundraising success, CASA was able to train more volunteers who were then able to directly impact the trajectory of a child's journey through the foster care system. Children's stories have changed because they had a CASA voice speaking on their behalf.

Of course, another very notable event this year was the groundbreaking of the Training & Support Center in San Marcos! Though it was a dream for a very long time, CASA finally hosted a groundbreaking ceremony in January 2019. After serving the county for 30 years, CASA is now able to plant permanent roots. Not to mention, CASA will help a greater number of children once construction is completed next summer 2020.

Stay tuned for the all of the exciting developments that will take place in the coming year. Please join us in celebrating 35 years of serving children! Let's change more children's stories!

Norma Castilla-Blackwell

603

children served by

256

volunteers

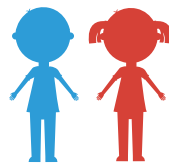
We envision a world where every child thrives in a safe, stable, and loving home.

CASA of Central Texas advocates for abused and neglected children in the courts, in schools, and in the child welfare system by training and supporting community volunteers.

Children's stories were changed this year!

Age of Children Served

0 - 5 = 31%
 6 - 12 = 43%
 13 - 17 = 22%
 18 + = 4%



Race/Ethnicity

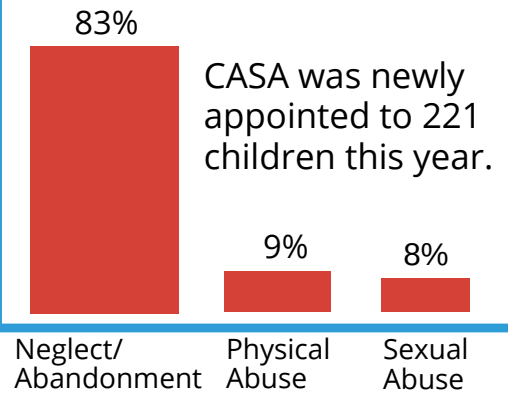
Hispanic = 54%
 Caucasian = 35%
 African American = 3%
 Biracial/Multi-Racial = 7%
 Other/Not Specified = 1%

53 children received specialized services:
 Collaborative Family Engagement (CFE) = 20
 Permanency Care Assistance (PCA) = 33

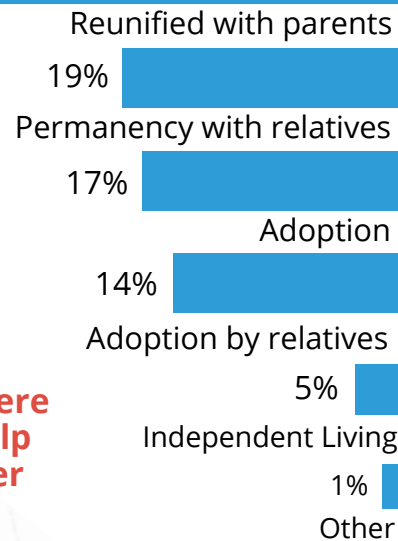
603 children had a CASA volunteer
613 children still need a volunteer

261 children's cases were closed with the help of a CASA volunteer

Reason for Removal



Case Outcomes



410 children in CPS care,
246 children served by CASA



414 children in CPS care,
267 children served by CASA



241 children in CPS care,
73 children served by CASA



151 children in CPS care,
17 children served by CASA

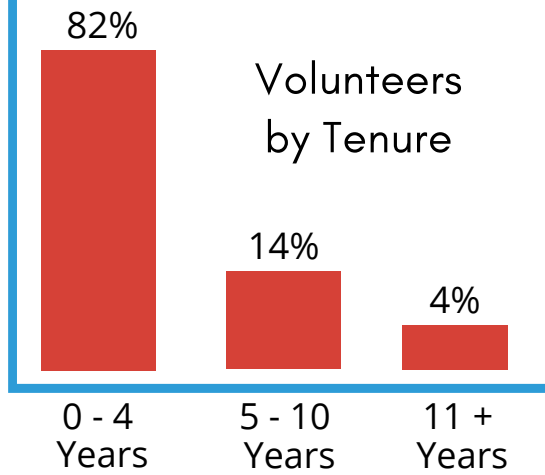
Eight-year-old Robin loves to draw. Kittens, rainbows, flowers – the brighter the colors, the better the picture. But mostly she draws pictures of her family, because all Robin wants is to go back home. Robin's parents are struggling with addiction. After a few painful years of watching her parents spiral downward and lose the ability to care for her, Robin is spending the holidays in foster care. But Robin has a CASA volunteer advocating for her best interests while her parents get the help they need so she can safely return home. A CASA volunteer takes the time to get to know Robin. To know her family. To identify what's possible and what she needs to heal.



In 2019

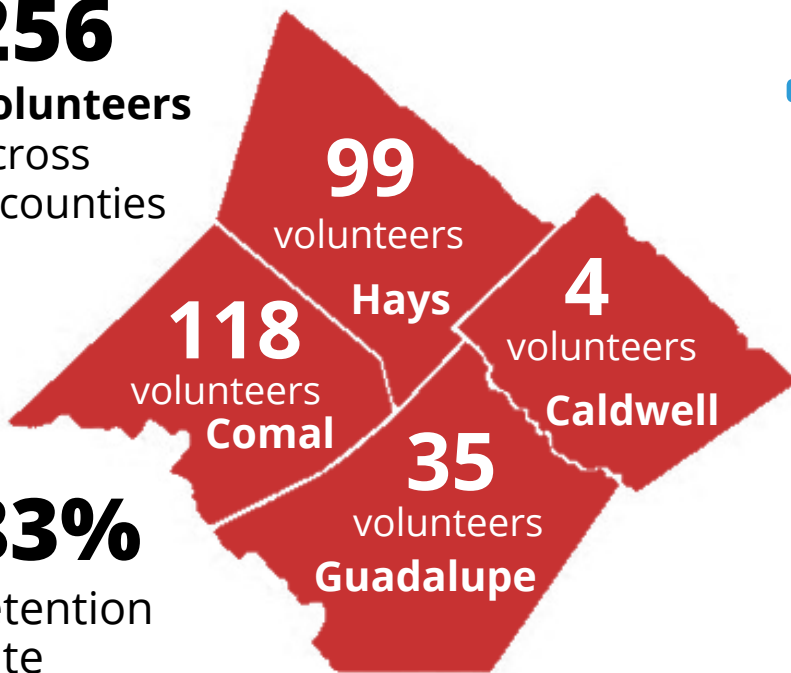
65 new advocates

pledged to change a child's story!



256 volunteers

across 4 counties



83% retention rate



Volunteer Miles Reported: 96,861
Estimated: 193,723
Value: \$105,579
 Based upon IRS standard mileage rate of \$0.545 per mile.



Volunteer Hours Reported: 9,635
Estimated: 19,270
Value: \$483,677
 Based upon Independent Sector which values volunteer time at \$25.10 per hour for Texas

Advocate Age

- 21 - 29 = 8%
- 30 - 39 = 6%
- 40 - 49 = 15%
- 50 - 59 = 20%
- 60 + = 50%

Advocate Race/Ethnicity

- Hispanic = 12%
- African American = 6%
- Caucasian = 78%
- Biracial/Multi-Racial = <1%
- Other/Not Specified = 4%



20%



80%

CASA provides a voice for Robin and other children like her. We believe every child facing an uncertain future deserves to heal and thrive.

You can make a meaningful and lasting impact with a gift to CASA of Central Texas. We are working to make sure every child in our community who has experienced abuse or neglect has a caring adult who will be there for them during this tough time, no matter what. Together, we can change a child's story.



These extraordinary volunteers selflessly dedicated their time to changing children's stories!

5 Years

Kim Boland
Doris Davila
Sandy Durke-Brimhall
Patti Ebrom
Susan Hankins
Ray Jacobson
Taylor Jones
Barbara Kovalski
Michael Kovalski
Ren Liner
Samantha Mundine
Rebecca Oekerman
Kathie Patterson
Larry Patterson
Kristi Perkins
Elizabeth Polk
Bruce Quenstedt
Yvonne Quenstedt
Dana Ritchie
Dorothea Walker
Ken Ward
Jeannie Williams

6 - 10 Years

Gary Aalen
Theresa Aimone
Elisabet Barker

John Barthel
Kathryn Berck
Jane Bowen
Bob Caldwell
Earl Dittman
Sue Dittman
Mary Eisenberg
Elette Estrada
Jane Freestone
Tammy Gorman
Robbie Hawkins
Janice Hooper
Peggy Jones
Carolyn Liner
Ruth Martin-Cain
Angelica Martinez
Sara McCaffrey
Rita Morieras
Jennifer Morrison
Melissa Murphy
Melanie Musgraves
Songa Ploeger
Diane Purdy
Tom Purdy
Melinda Rapp
Calvin Rodriguez
Sonya Rodriguez

Kathleen Schindler
Tracy Simmons
Sheila Sims
Ray Spencer
Mikki Tharp
Joe Timmins
Shay Timmins
Ralph Townsend
Bob Williams
LaVonja Horne-Williams
Wade Wilson
Colette Wollenberg

11 - 15 Years

Bruce Drobeck
Gloria Harlin
Tracy McGinty
Sally McWithey
Sharon Skrocki

Arthur Taylor
Rose Tempfer

16 - 20 Years

Charles Ellis
Lynnette Lombardo
Traudi McDonald
Dale Stevens-Gandy

21 + Years

Rosa Hernandez

This year CASA is spotlighting one special advocate, Paulina de la Fuente, for the unwavering commitment and dedication she's shown to the children on her first case. Like most new advocates, Paulina dove heart first into her volunteer role. Unlike most, she graciously accepted a case to single-handedly serve five children between the ages of seven and seventeen. The children were placed in CPS care after their mother made the older children accomplices in her drug use. She also medically neglected her child with severe physical disability. As their advocate, Paulina communicated with five different placements for all the children as well as therapists and teachers. She also was present and testified at a 4-day trial.

But her commitment to the children extended beyond the courtroom. She exposed the children to things they had never seen before – plays, books, honest conversations about future goals and planning, and sibling visits they wouldn't have had without her. Though the children changed placements multiple times, Paulina tried her hardest to keep all of the children present in each other's lives. She even drove over 500 miles to gather all of the children together for a special dinner.

She concedes, "as heavy as it felt for me in certain moments, the children were going through much more than I could imagine. To me, being a CASA is about being the consistent face, presence, and advocate that will stand by them through every change in placement, caseworker, and throughout each hearing. In order to do that well, I believe we have to deny ourselves and our own personal opinions and frustrations and hurt. Because all that matters is that we stay focused on the goal: advocating for the best interest of these foster children. So that being said, I would tell every person considering becoming a CASA that every drive, every email, and every phone call is worth the opportunity to make an actual difference in a child's life."

Paulina's supervisor at CASA upholds that her activism truly made a difference in the lives of these five children. Her supervisor said it was "refreshing" to watch Paulina in action. "She brings to the role a great degree of professionalism, patience, and ability to problem solve. She was a calming influence on the children and parents of her case... She thoughtfully expressed her opinions and position." Not to mention, her supervisor believes Paulina has a genuine heart for being an advocate and understands that along with her advocacy come legal requirements and policies to follow. By doing so, she ensures other CASAs can be recruited which means more children can be assigned a CASA.

Since she was sworn in, Paulina has acted as a bit of a recruiter of CASA volunteers. Thus far, she's managed to successfully recruit two of her friends and she is working on more. While she is to be commended for surpassing all expectations, Paulina commends the children she has served for the resilience they exhibited throughout impossible circumstances. Her selfless activism undoubtedly changed their stories, but they changed hers as well.

Paulina is changing children's stories!!



2018 Fiscal Report

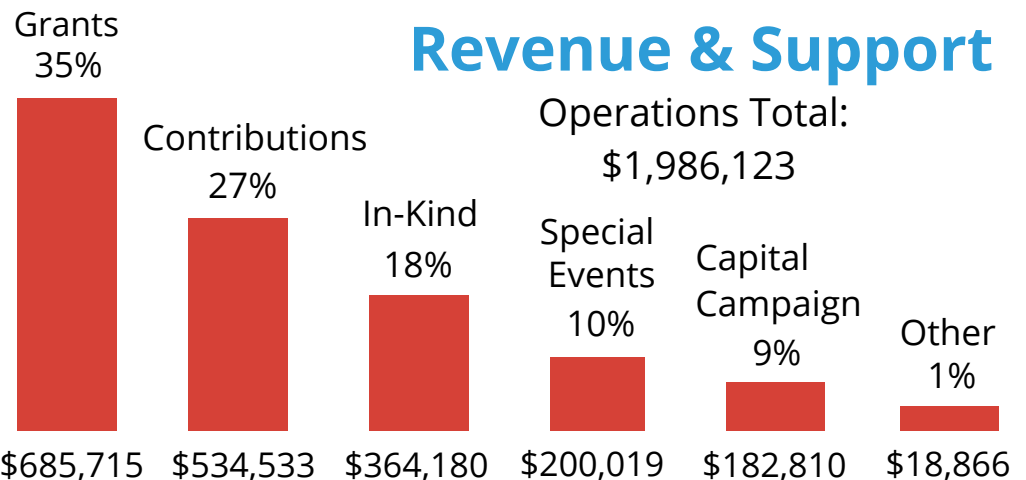
(year ending 6.30.19)

We'd like to extend a kind thank you to all of our supporters. **CASA's work is possible because of people like you!**

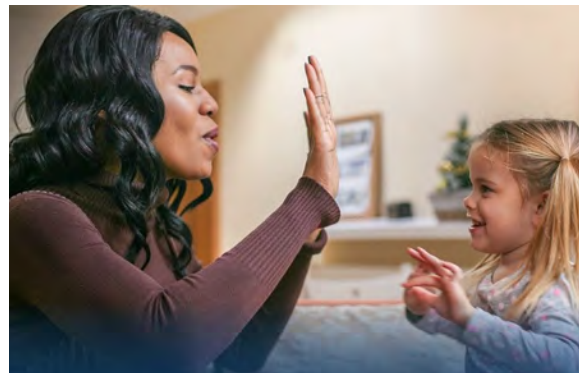
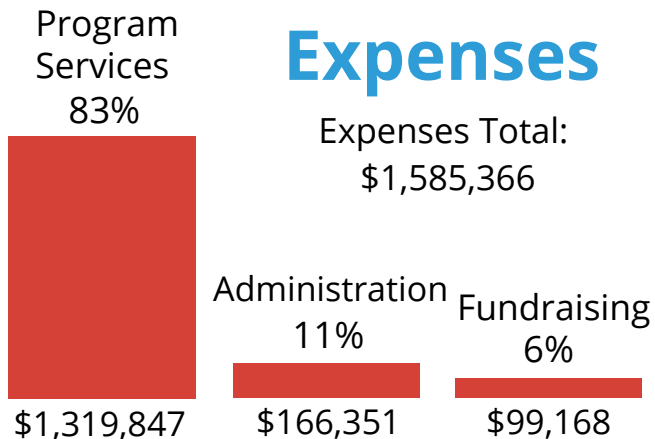
Unrestricted/Operations	\$1,643,505 (65%)
Temporarily Restricted/Capital Campaign	\$904,592 (35%)
Permanently Restricted/Endowment	\$0
Current Liabilities	\$100
Total Liabilities & Net Assets	\$2,548,197



Revenue & Support



Expenses



2018 - 2019 Donors

(7.1.18 - 6.30.19)

Our donors made it possible to advocate for:

50 + Children

Kronkosky Charitable Foundation

25 - 49 Children for a Year

The Meadows Foundation

13 - 24 Children for a Year

Christus Health

McKenna Foundation

Dennis Metzler & Suzanne Holloway

Najim Family Foundation

United Way of Comal County

5 - 12 Children for a Year

Capital Area Housing Finance Corp.

Carl C Anderson Sr. & Marie Jo Anderson

GVTC Foundation, Inc.

In-N-Out Burger Foundation

Lola Wright Foundation

San Marcos Lions Club

Texas Pioneer Foundation

Tomblin Family Foundation

Valero Energy Foundation

2 - 4 Children for a Year

Mary Bethancourt

CEMEX

Corridor Title

Downtown Rotary Club of New Braunfels

Exelon

Belinda & Ron Frisk

Guadalupe County United Way

Hill Country Tech Guys

Jill & Jack Kean

Tracy & Frank Lent

New Braunfels Herald-Zeitung

Robin & David Pfeifer

St. Luke's Lutheran Health Ministries

Texas Bar Foundation

Topfer Family Foundation

Union Pacific Foundation

Patty A Walker

Walmart Stores, Inc.

1 - 2 Children for a Year

J.L. Barlow

Gail Bayeta

Norma & Chris Blackwell

The Honorable & Mrs. Bruce Boyer

Broadway Bank - New Braunfels

Jennifer and Jared Broderick

Buda United Methodist Church

Buda/Kyle Real Estate, LLC

Kristi & Barry Bynum

Sylvia & Robert Camareno

Ruth Chambers

The Honorable & Mrs. Albert Cobb

Cynthia & George Collie

Community Bible Church Bulverde

Nancy Deckard

Kathleen Dial

Dripping Springs Community Foundation

EOG Resources, Inc.

Nancy Estrada

Farmer's Insurance

Freiheit

Gennaro's Trattoria

JoAnne Germer

Grande Community Chest

Greater Texas Federal Credit Union

Guadalupe Brewing Company

Randall Hansen

Michelle & Jeff Hargis

Hays County Sheriff's Office

Hill Country Rally for Kids

Laura Infante

KGMS Golf LLC

Kyle United Methodist Church

Becky & Gene Lake

Mariposa Apartment Homes

Kate & Ken Marx

McCraw Oil/Kwik Chek Company Inc.

Millennium Medi Spa

Moeller & Associates

Jennifer Moore

Mary & John Owen

P.E.C. United Charities, Inc.

Sharon & Frank Pereira

Kristi Perkins

Perry Homes

Kathy Bearden-Porter & Campbell Porter

Prosperity Bank
Melinda & Gene Rapp
Rio Plaza
Mayra Rivera
Rotary Club of Seguin
San Marcos Bluebonnet Lions Club
Diane Sanders-Davis
Nancy & Louis Scantland
Jeannette and Bill Sheridan
Stars & Stripes Drive-In Theatre
Robert Sudela
Sherwood Surveying
United Way of Hays County
Unlock the PPO
Paula Vacek
Robert Williams
Wing Society
Colette & Roger Wollenberg

1 - 2 Children for 3 - 6 Months

Airforce Turbine Service Ltd.
Athlete Guild, LLC
Brooke Barker
Inger Barker
Bear Creek Ranch of Comal County
Bill Biggadike & Associates
Michael Britt
Mary & Frederick Budworth
Eleanor B. Crook
Canyon Lake Noon Lions
Natalie & Steven Carnes
Children's Dental Ark
Jessica Clemons
Jana Clift-Williams
Custom Packaging Products
Carola Davis
Sue & Earl Dittman
Bridget Dowd McPhillips
Donna & Robert Eccleston
Ernesto's Jewelry
Fiesta Lanes
First Christian Church
First Lockhart National Bank
First Presbyterian Church
Judy & Brian Fleming
Flintrock Falls at the Hills Country Club
Fraternal Order of Eagles
Fuse Architecture Studio
Garden Ridge Lions Charities Inc.
Garden Ridge Women's Club
Guadalupe River Duplex

Beth & Karl Hittle
Hochheim Prairie Insurance
Horton Draperies of Texas, Inc.
J&R Gymnastics
Mary Gail & Ray Jacobson
Felicia & Eric James
Debbie Jenkins
Jim's Formal Wear
Karen & Grant John
The Honorable & Mrs. David Junkin
Justin Meadows State Farm Insurance
Gretchen Kaufmann
Mike Keyser
Emily Hutchison & David Kneuper
Jessica Limbo
Lynnette Lombardo
Barbara & John Manthey
Helen McLaurin
Miller & Miller Insurance Company
Chloe & John Navarrette
New Braunfels Breakfast Lions Club
New Braunfels Presbyterian Church
Mark Poag
Property Professionals, Inc.
Elaine & Jeff Quinn
Robert Ragsdale
Red Stag Home Mercantile
The Honorable & Mrs. Jack Robison
Susie & Eddie Russell
Schertz Bank & Trust
Tricia & Mike Schneider
Texas Lehigh Cement Company
The Kyle Law Firm
Total Wine
Unity Church of Wimberley
UW - Greater Austin
Vaaler Creek Golf Club
Natalie & Steven Vanderbur
Stephanie Wagers
Denise Damron
Patricia & Michael Wenk
Claudia & Paul Mark Woods
Joyce Yannuzzi

Thank you to all of our donors for supporting our mission and vision. Notify the CASA office at 830.626.2272 for misspelled names or missing names. Please accept our apologies in advance!