

CASA OF COLLIN COUNTY



EVERY CHILD HAS
A CHANCE — IT'S YOU.

2016 Annual Report



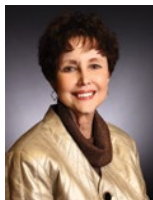
from **our leadership**

Every day I am inspired by the dedication and compassion of our CASA Volunteer Advocates and their commitment to making sure that no child's voice goes unheard. These volunteers and our passionate staff give their time and their hearts to serve the most vulnerable members of our community—abused and neglected children. We also sincerely appreciate the dedication and commitment of the board of directors, individuals, foundations, corporations and community groups who support our work.

Our mission is to advocate for the best interests of every abused and neglected child in Collin County through the services of specially selected and trained community volunteers from diverse cultural and ethnic backgrounds. Our vision is that all children will have a life-long connection with caring adults, a permanent home and a safe and nurturing environment where they can thrive. To achieve this important goal, we need to continue to increase awareness of our programs and opportunities for individuals, corporations and our community to invest in the children we serve.

We are pleased to provide you with our 2016 Annual Report, full of numbers and statistics that represent our accomplishments for the year and hopefully provide a glimpse into the life changing work being done every day to improve the life of an abused or neglected child. Your investment in CASA is an investment in the future of a child. Thank you for everything you have done to support CASA's mission and for recognizing our obligation to make a better life for these vulnerable children.

Best regards,



A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Susan Etheridge".

Susan Etheridge
Executive Director



A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Deborah Krocheski".

Deborah Krocheski
CASA of Collin County
Board President

from an advocate

Roger, who has advocated for 13 children, believes that the stability and connection Advocates provide is what children in foster care need most. He sees his role at CASA as helping ensure children don't get lost in an overburdened system and that their individual and special needs are met. "The kids I see are traumatized...abused, neglected and abandoned. They will see multiple CPS workers, different judges, attorneys and foster parents. What they need most is a regular guy or gal by their side to just be there for them. Someone they know and can trust that is there just to look out after their best interest." Roger visited one of his CASA children, Michael, in a Residential Treatment Center in South Texas twice a month for 18 months. He was the only adult willing to go with him when Michael required oral surgery due to 17 cavities caused by lack of dental care. Roger fought 18 months to get him out of the treatment center and into a loving and permanent home. Without Roger's persistence, Michael would have languished in foster care until he "aged out" of the system at the age of 18.

- Roger, CASA Volunteer Advocate

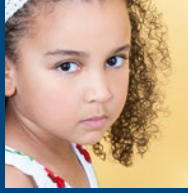
what is **CASA**?

When a child enters the child welfare system in Collin County because his or her home is no longer safe, a judge appoints a CASA Volunteer Advocate as guardian ad litem, to advocate for the best interest of the child in court and other settings.

CASA volunteers are a diverse, passionate and committed group of people whose role is crucial in creating positive impact in the lives of children by helping move them out of foster care and into safe and happy homes. Our volunteers are often the only stable adult in the child's life and commit the time to get to know the children, ensuring they are safe and their needs are being met while in foster care. Judges rely on their unbiased testimony to help them make the best decision for the child.

the need

In Texas, **4** children
a week die from child
abuse or neglect.



Over
47,300
children are in DFPS legal
custody.

In 2016 in Collin County there were
4,383
reports of child abuse reported and nearly
1,200
children were confirmed as victims.



My best CASA story? "The day I stood in court and watched my CASA kiddos adopted into a loving family. After 18 months in care these two adorable children, who had suffered severe neglect were healthy and giggling with their new brother and sister. The oldest ran over to me and hugged my neck. He didn't let go for several minutes. He looked me in the eye and told me he loved me. I will never forget that moment when it became crystal clear why I choose to be a CASA."

Jan, Volunteer Advocate

our impact



In 2016, **262** dedicated
Volunteer Advocates:

SERVED 510
children who had been removed
from unsafe homes and placed
in foster care.

HELPED find a permanent and loving
home for **199** children.



DONATED over
50,000
hours of service,
saving tax payers over
\$5 million.

CASA of Collin County is the
largest CASA program in Texas

serving **100%** of children.



Our Volunteers come from all walks of life but all share a passion for children. Volunteers must be 21 years or older and pass a background check. Our volunteers spend between 15-20 hours a month investigating every aspect of the child's life in order to provide the judge with an unbiased and well informed recommendation for a permanent and safe placement for the child. They attend eight to ten court hearings per year and visit with each child a minimum of two times a month. CASA Volunteers logged over 11,994 miles in 2016 traveling at their personal expense to visit the CASA children.

our **child advocacy program**

In 2016...

Less than **1%** of children served by CASA re-entered the child welfare system.

Collin County District Court Judges agreed with CASA's recommendations in **over 98% of cases.**

92 new volunteers completed **30 hours of training** and were sworn in by a District Court Judge.

CASA served 100% of children in foster care in Collin County.

Since 1991 CASA has served over **10,000** children.

84% of funds raised were spent on program services.

We provided school supplies to over **225 children** and **350 children** received gifts during the holiday season.

Research shows that children **with a CASA** receive more services, move through the system more quickly, do better in school and are significantly less likely to re-enter the foster care system than a child **without a CASA.**

EVERY CHILD HAS A CHANCE — IT'S YOU.

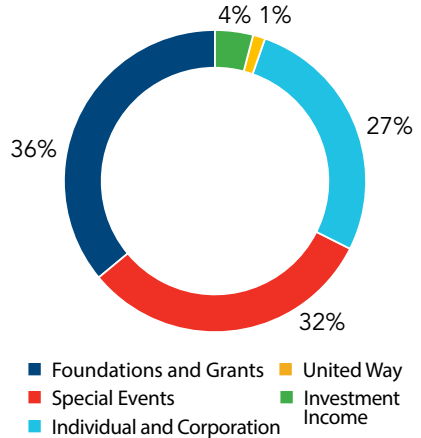
our financials

We are grateful to our Community Partners who make our work possible.

revenue

Foundations and Grants	\$542,975
Special Events	\$476,088
Individual and Corp	\$407,308
United Way	\$19,688
Investment Income	\$61,316

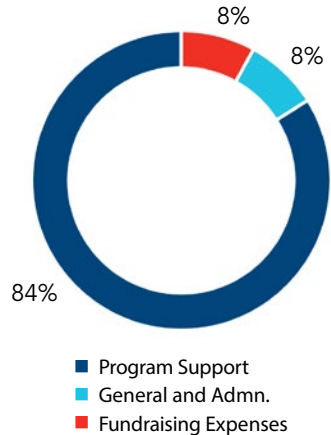
Total Revenue \$1,507,375



expenses

Program Support	\$892,016
General and Admn.	\$81,013
Fundraising Expenses	\$90,979

Total \$1,064,008



It costs just **\$2,086** to serve an abused child for an entire year, less than what it costs for a child to remain in foster care for a month.

our donors



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The Medical Center of Plano
The Shops at Willow Bend
Bart and Cheri Thomas
Carla Thompson
Torchmark Corporation
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mission statement

CASA of Collin County promotes and protects the best interests of children who have been abused or neglected by training volunteer advocates to improve the child's quality of life and serve as their voice within the court system to ensure they are placed in a safe, permanent and loving home.



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McKinney, Texas 75069
972-529-2272
www.casaofcollincounty.org



In order to make better use of our financial resources this report has been created in a digital format. Funds saved will provide advocacy for two additional children in the foster care system for one year.