



# Serve Every Child | California

CALIFORNIA CASA

2018/19 IMPACT REPORT

## Our Vision

That one day every foster child in California will have access to the transformative service and support of a CASA volunteer.

## Our Mission

California Court Appointed Special Advocate Association ensures that children and youth in the foster care system have both a voice and the services they need for a stable future.

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## Our Values

EMPATHY DEDICATION COLLABORATION JUSTICE  
EXPERTISE RESOURCEFULNESS INCLUSIVENESS  
INTEGRITY OPTIMISM GRATITUDE

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### THE CALIFORNIA CASA WAY

We connect all of California's 44 local CASA programs through statewide meetings, training sessions, and online communication networks. We raise awareness of the need for Court Appointed Special Advocates across our state and provide support, advice, resources, and oversight to maintain high-quality programs that serve children's best interests. We advocate for legislation that benefits children in foster care and the CASA volunteers who work on their behalf.

“Do not go where the path may lead, go instead where there is no path and leave a trail.”

– Ralph Waldo Emerson



Dear Friends,

It’s hard to imagine anyone intentionally hurting an innocent child. But it happens every single day, in every community up and down the state of California. Children are physically or emotionally abused, neglected, or abandoned by those they trust the most: their parents or caregivers. When a child is removed by a social worker and enters the foster care system because their home is no longer safe, the child’s world turns upside down. But if they are lucky, a judge appoints an incredibly special volunteer to help them: a Court Appointed Special Advocate, or CASA. The gifts they freely offer these children are time, devotion, caring, mentorship, trust, and powerful advocacy that can profoundly change a life. They are creating new trails for these children, trails that will hopefully lead to a better future.

CASA volunteers in California are ordinary men and women who do extraordinary work. They are recruited, screened, and highly trained by professionals at one of the 44 local CASA programs in our state network. They advocate for a child’s best interests in court, in schools, and in the community. As sworn officers of the court, CASA volunteers are assigned to help one child or a sibling group at a time, focusing on the individualized advocacy and attention that is so desperately needed. CASAs are the “eyes and ears” for the judges, beacons of hope for children, and often the only stable, consistent presence in these boys’ and girls’ lives.

There is a crisis in our state. California has more children in foster care than anywhere else in the U.S.—83,000 of them—and they are suffering. California CASA proudly oversees our network of 44 local programs, which today serve 14,150 children through the volunteer activities of 8,790 CASAs. But we must do even better than serving just 17% of our children. It is our vision that within a decade, every child in California who needs a CASA will have one.

This report shares the impact we have had in Fiscal Year 2018-2019, as we move forward on a trajectory of dramatic growth and expansion. We have been able to accomplish a great deal in a short time, but we have so much more to do.

We are deeply grateful to every individual, foundation, corporation, and government agency whose generosity has helped us reach new heights over the past year. With your help, we know that our ambitious *Serve Every Child/California* vision will become a reality.

With thanks,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'James Hatter', written in a cursive style.

James Hatter  
*Board Chair, FY2018-2019*


A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sharon', written in a cursive style.

Sharon M. Lawrence, Esq.  
*Chief Executive Officer*



“Children are one-third  
of our population and  
100% of our future.”

– Select Panel for the Promotion of Child Health, 1981

A woman with long dark hair and a black top is smiling in the background. In the foreground, two young girls are smiling. The girl on the left has curly brown hair and is wearing a purple tank top. The girl on the right has curly brown hair and is wearing a dark top. The background is dark, making the subjects stand out.

A BEACON OF HOPE  
FOR A FOSTER CHILD

# Why CASA Matters

The total lifetime economic burden associated with child abuse and neglect in the United States was approximately \$124 billion in 2008. This rivals the cost of other high-profile public health problems, such as stroke and type 2 diabetes.\*

\* according to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

# 5 Key Actions of a CASA

COURT APPOINTED SPECIAL  
ADVOCATES HELP CHILDREN NAVIGATE  
THE FOSTER CARE SYSTEM:



## ADVOCATE

Speak up for the best  
interest of a child



## SUPPORT

Provide a stable and  
caring relationship



## INVESTIGATE

Gather important information




## REPORT

Organize and present details



## RECOMMEND

Offer ideas that will improve  
the situation

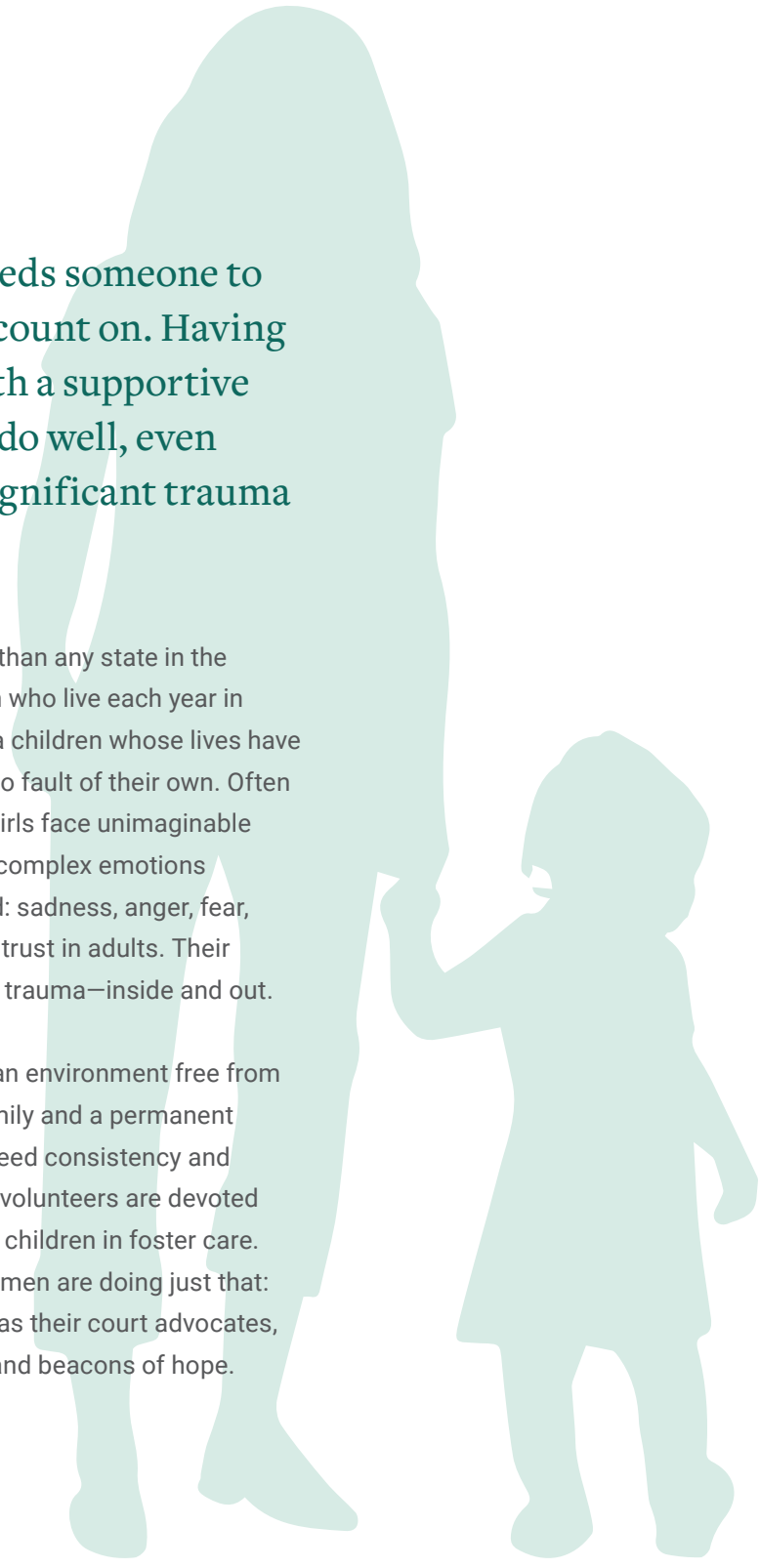


THREE KEY OUTCOMES

Safety

A Forever  
Home

Well-Being

A light teal silhouette of an adult figure on the left and a smaller child figure on the right, holding hands. The adult figure is taller and has long hair, while the child figure is shorter and has a round head.

**A child in foster care needs someone to look up to, someone to count on. Having a stable relationship with a supportive adult can help children do well, even when they have faced significant trauma and hardship.**

California has more foster children than any state in the nation—12% of the 690,548 children who live each year in foster care. That’s 83,000 California children whose lives have been turned upside down through no fault of their own. Often from an early age, these boys and girls face unimaginable trauma and are forced to deal with complex emotions that should not be part of childhood: sadness, anger, fear, hopelessness, grief. They have lost trust in adults. Their hearts ache. They bear the scars of trauma—inside and out.

All children have the right to live in an environment free from abuse and neglect. They need a family and a permanent place to call home. To thrive, they need consistency and connectedness in their lives. CASA volunteers are devoted to making those things possible for children in foster care. Today, 8,790 California men and women are doing just that: helping foster children one-on-one as their court advocates, mentors, role models, champions, and beacons of hope.

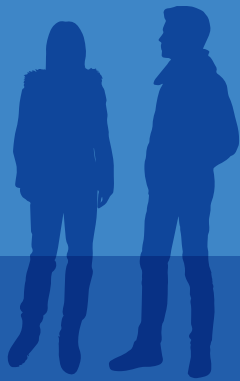
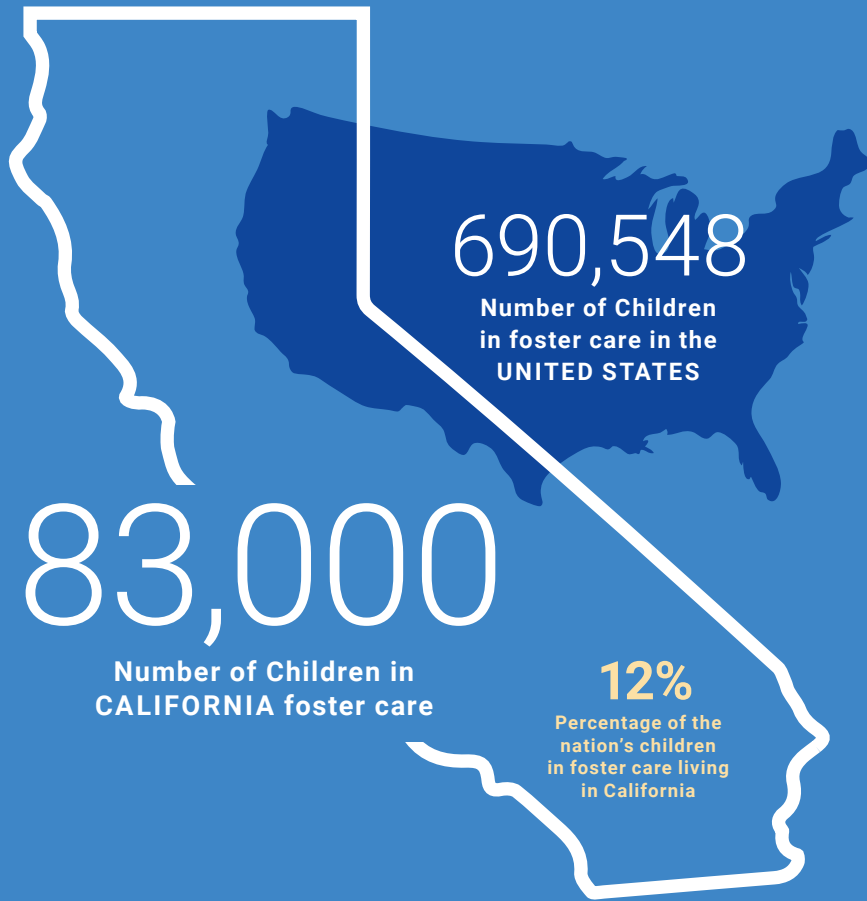


OUR CHILDREN /  
OUR STATE


# The Need

Nationally, about  
1 in 7 children  
experienced abuse  
and neglect in the  
past year.\*

\* according to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention



24,255 or 29% of  
California's foster care population  
are aged 14+



Among older youth exiting  
foster care system in California,  
65% age out without being  
reunited with their families or  
connected with another family\*

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50% graduate **HIGH SCHOOL**

40% experience **HOMELESSNESS** within  
18 months after leaving the system

28% receive **PUBLIC ASSISTANCE**  
by age 21

40% are **UNEMPLOYED** by age 24

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\*according to kidsdata.org (Lucile Packard Foundation for Children's Health)

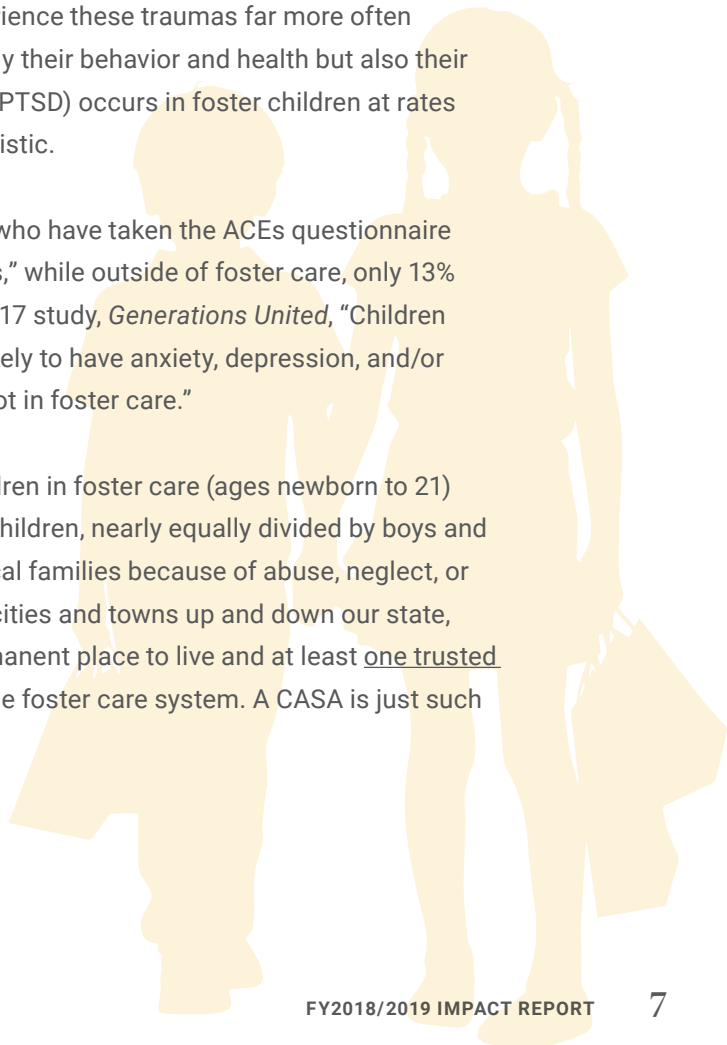
## Foster Children Most Vulnerable to Adverse Childhood Experiences

Dr. Nadine Burke Harris is an American pediatrician who was named as the state's first-ever Surgeon General in 2019 by California Governor Gavin Newsom. She has dedicated much of her career to spreading the word to fellow doctors and the public about the dangers of toxic stress to children, championing a multidisciplinary approach to these problems.

Childhood adversity literally gets under a child's skin, changing brains and bodies. It not only affects brain development, it can alter children's hormonal systems, immune systems, and even their DNA. This can cause behavioral problems, learning difficulties, and physical health issues. Exposure to ACEs (the acronym for Adverse Childhood Experiences) includes abuse, neglect, domestic violence, and parental mental illness and substance abuse. Foster children experience these traumas far more often than other children, and it can shape not only their behavior and health but also their worldview. Post-traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) occurs in foster children at rates equal to returning war veterans—a grim statistic.

51% of children in the child welfare system who have taken the ACEs questionnaire have had four or more “adverse experiences,” while outside of foster care, only 13% of children had the same. According to a 2017 study, *Generations United*, “Children in foster care are at least five times more likely to have anxiety, depression, and/or behavioral/health problems than children not in foster care.”

California has more abused, neglected children in foster care (ages newborn to 21) than any state in the nation. These 83,000 children, nearly equally divided by boys and girls, have been removed from their biological families because of abuse, neglect, or abandonment. They live in large and small cities and towns up and down our state, and are united by their need for a safe, permanent place to live and at least one trusted adult to help them navigate the trauma of the foster care system. A CASA is just such a trusted adult in the life of a foster child.



# The Solution

In 2018, children with a  
CASA volunteer found  
a permanent home two  
months faster than those  
without a CASA volunteer.\*

\* according to the National CASA/GAL Association

ACCORDING TO CHILDREN'S  
ATTORNEYS AND SOCIAL  
WORKERS, CHILDREN AND YOUTH  
WITH A CASA VOLUNTEER ARE  
MORE LIKELY TO:



Receive needed services  
in a timely manner



Be enrolled in an appropriate  
educational setting



Participate in extracurricular activities



Have long-term connections  
to siblings, relatives, or other  
support people



Be on track to graduate  
high school on time



Enroll in post-secondary education



CHILDREN IN FOSTER CARE SERVED  
BY THE CALIFORNIA CASA NETWORK

14,150

ACTIVE CASA VOLUNTEERS STATEWIDE

8,790

TOTAL HOURS CONTRIBUTED  
BY CASA VOLUNTEERS

574,482

TOTAL VALUE OF SERVICE HOURS  
BY CASAS IN ONE YEAR

\$17,205,735\*

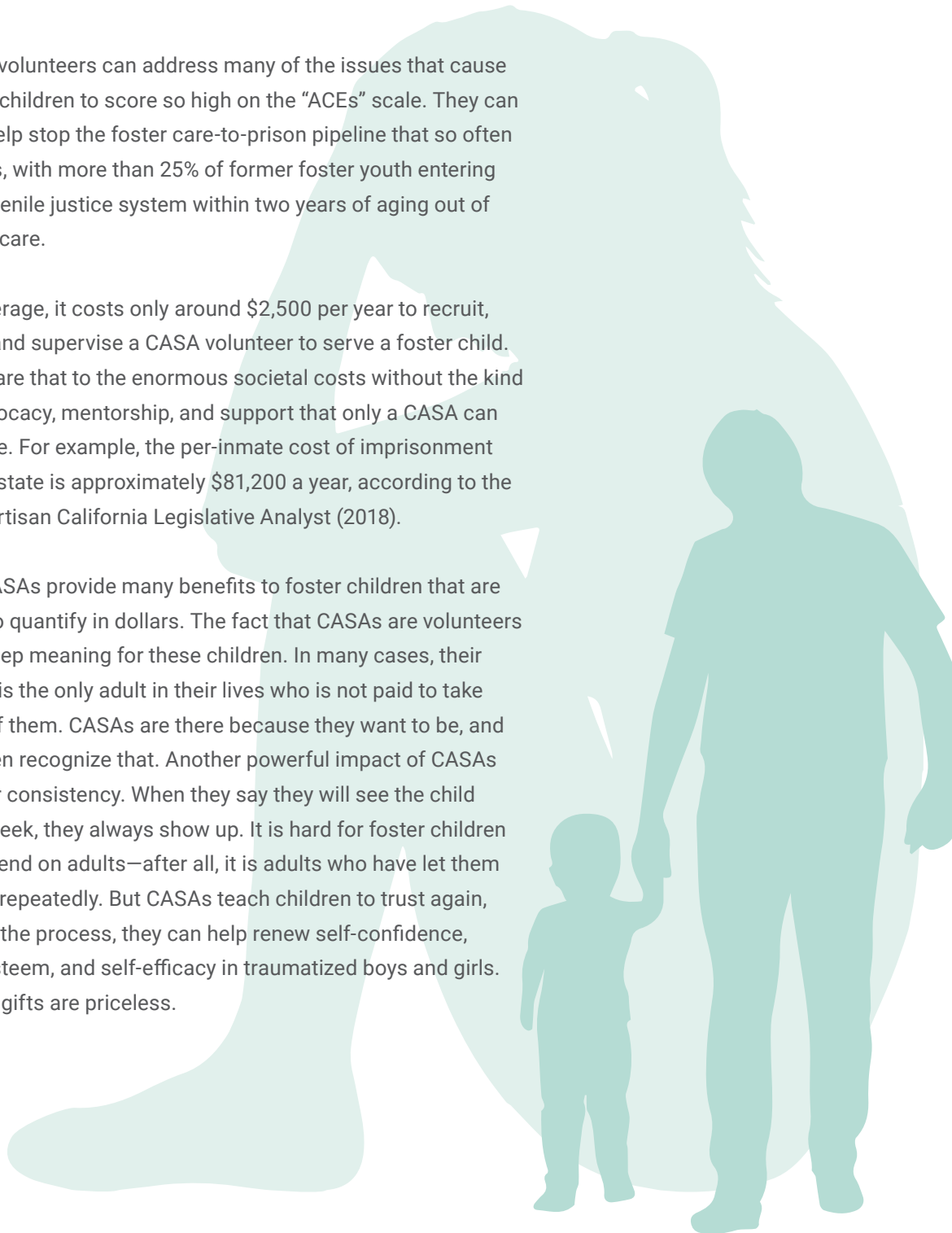
\* independent sector rate for the state of California of \$29.95/hour

## CASA Volunteers: A powerful, cost-efficient solution.

CASA volunteers can address many of the issues that cause foster children to score so high on the “ACEs” scale. They can also help stop the foster care-to-prison pipeline that so often occurs, with more than 25% of former foster youth entering the juvenile justice system within two years of aging out of foster care.

On average, it costs only around \$2,500 per year to recruit, train, and supervise a CASA volunteer to serve a foster child. Compare that to the enormous societal costs without the kind of advocacy, mentorship, and support that only a CASA can provide. For example, the per-inmate cost of imprisonment in our state is approximately \$81,200 a year, according to the nonpartisan California Legislative Analyst (2018).

But CASAs provide many benefits to foster children that are hard to quantify in dollars. The fact that CASAs are volunteers has deep meaning for these children. In many cases, their CASA is the only adult in their lives who is not paid to take care of them. CASAs are there because they want to be, and children recognize that. Another powerful impact of CASAs is their consistency. When they say they will see the child next week, they always show up. It is hard for foster children to depend on adults—after all, it is adults who have let them down, repeatedly. But CASAs teach children to trust again, and in the process, they can help renew self-confidence, self-esteem, and self-efficacy in traumatized boys and girls. These gifts are priceless.





# The California CASA Network

## Alameda County CASA

CHILDREN IN FOSTER CARE: 1,775  
CHILDREN SERVED: 347

## CASA of Amador and Calaveras County

CHILDREN IN FOSTER CARE: 210  
CHILDREN SERVED: 97

## CASA of Butte and Glenn, Shasta & Tehama Counties

CHILDREN IN FOSTER CARE: 1,718  
CHILDREN SERVED: 186

## CASA of Contra Costa County

CHILDREN IN FOSTER CARE: 1,354  
CHILDREN SERVED: 210

## CASA of Del Norte

CHILDREN IN FOSTER CARE: 105  
CHILDREN SERVED: 68

## CASA of Eastern Sierra, Inyo, and Mono Counties

CHILDREN IN FOSTER CARE: 29  
CHILDREN SERVED: 26

## CASA of El Dorado County

CHILDREN IN FOSTER CARE: 396  
CHILDREN SERVED: 313

## CASA of Fresno & Madera Counties

CHILDREN IN FOSTER CARE: 3,729  
CHILDREN SERVED: 306

## Humboldt CASA

CHILDREN IN FOSTER CARE: 608  
CHILDREN SERVED: 140

## CASA of Imperial County

CHILDREN IN FOSTER CARE: 750  
CHILDREN SERVED: 466

## CASA of Kern County

CHILDREN IN FOSTER CARE: 2,461  
CHILDREN SERVED: 380

## CASA of Kings County

CHILDREN IN FOSTER CARE: 550  
CHILDREN SERVED: 38

## Lassen County CASA

CHILDREN IN FOSTER CARE: 79  
CHILDREN SERVED: 76

## CASA of Los Angeles

CHILDREN IN FOSTER CARE: 29,921  
CHILDREN SERVED: 1,264

## Marin CASA

CHILDREN IN FOSTER CARE: 113  
CHILDREN SERVED: 82

## CASA of Mariposa County

CHILDREN IN FOSTER CARE: 32  
CHILDREN SERVED: 29

## CASA of Mendocino and Lake Counties

CHILDREN IN FOSTER CARE: 555  
CHILDREN SERVED: 80

## CASA of Merced County

CHILDREN IN FOSTER CARE: 706  
CHILDREN SERVED: 159

## Modoc County CASA

CHILDREN IN FOSTER CARE: 35  
CHILDREN SERVED: 23

## CASA of Monterey County

CHILDREN IN FOSTER CARE: 564  
CHILDREN SERVED: 206

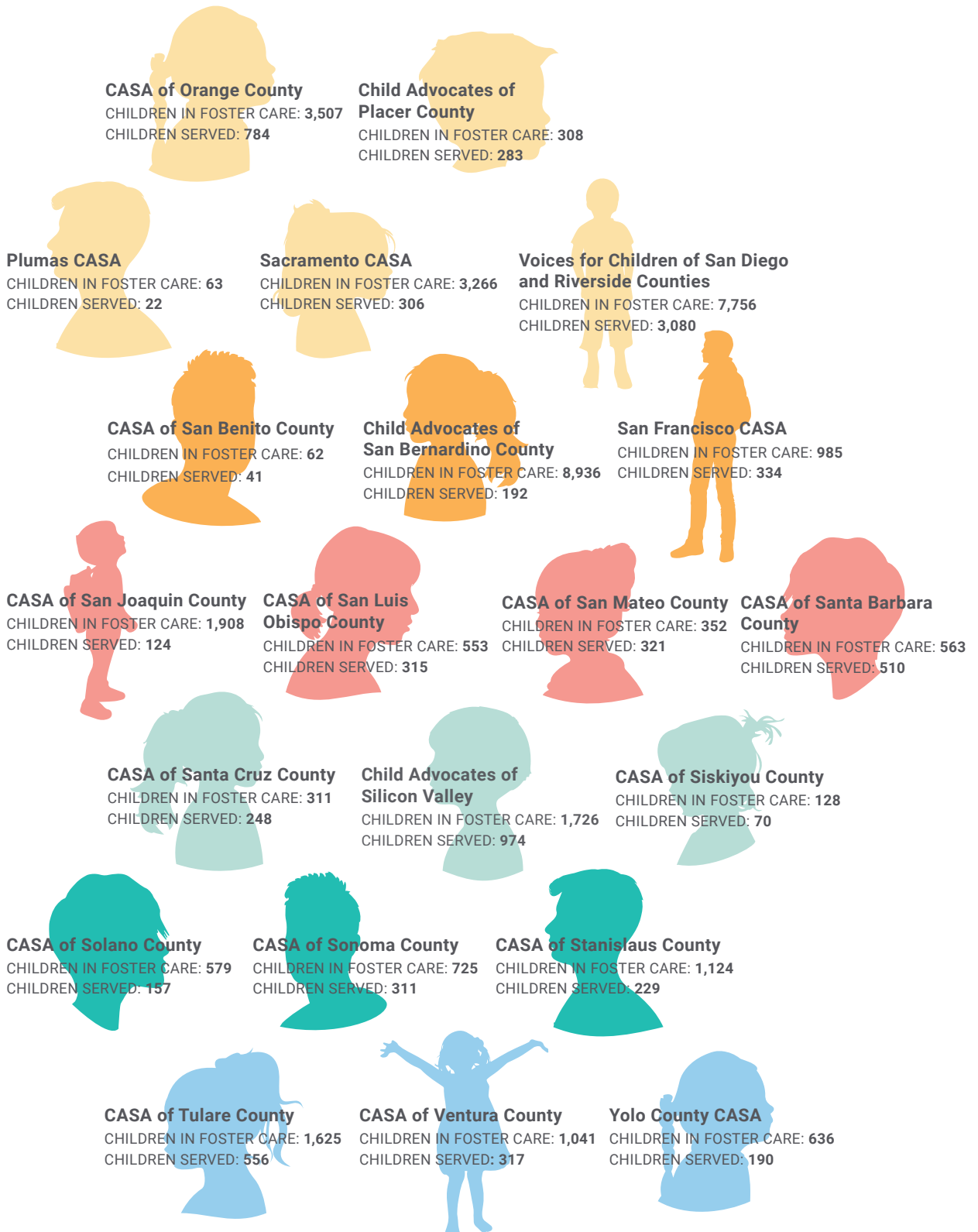
## Napa CASA, A Voice for Children

CHILDREN IN FOSTER CARE: 197  
CHILDREN SERVED: 183

## CASA of Nevada County

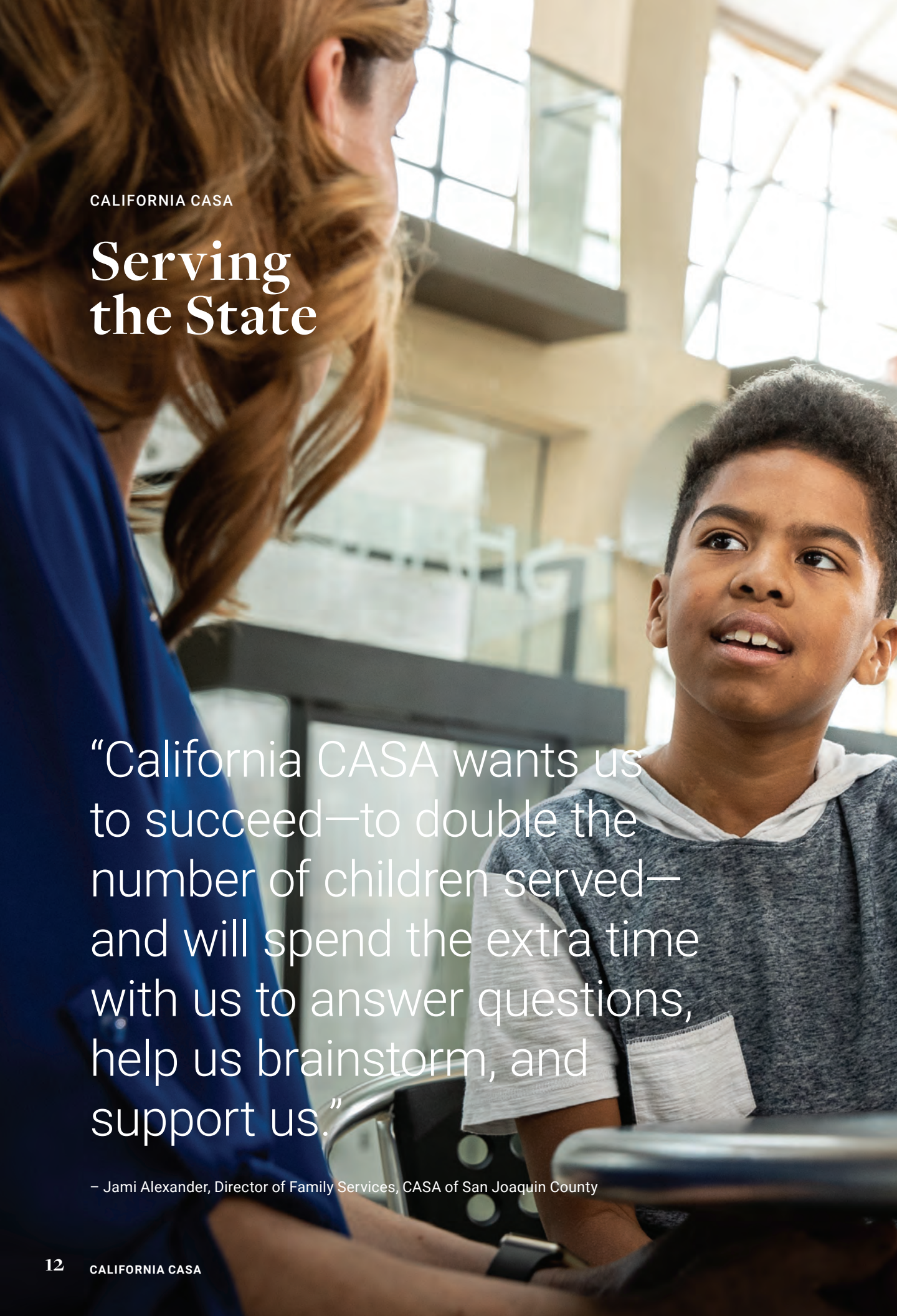
CHILDREN IN FOSTER CARE: 109  
CHILDREN SERVED: 105

# Our goal: To Serve Every Child



\* Number of children and non-minor dependents in a foster care placement in 2018. Data source: CWS/CMS 2018Q4

\* Number of children in foster care served from July 1, 2018 – June 30, 2019. Data self-reported by local CASA programs.



CALIFORNIA CASA

# Serving the State

“California CASA wants us to succeed—to double the number of children served—and will spend the extra time with us to answer questions, help us brainstorm, and support us.”

– Jami Alexander, Director of Family Services, CASA of San Joaquin County



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1,637

HOURS OF CUSTOMIZED  
TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

1,095

PARTIPANTS IN CALIFORNIA CASA  
WEBINARS & IN-PERSON TRAINING

136

LEGAL COUNSEL HOURS PROVIDED  
BY CALIFORNIA CASA ATTORNEYS

LOCAL CASA PROGRAMS IN  
CALIFORNIA'S NETWORK

44

PERCENTAGE OF CHILDREN IN FOSTER  
CARE LIVING IN THE 51 COUNTIES SERVED  
BY CASA PROGRAMS

99%

STAFF MEMBERS EMPLOYED BY LOCAL  
CASA PROGRAMS STATEWIDE

444

TOTAL ANNUAL REVENUE OF ALL LOCAL  
CASA PROGRAMS STATEWIDE

\$41,477,603

California CASA provides a wide range of services that strengthen CASA service, quality, and impact. Through our leadership and partnerships with community members, judges, and lawmakers, the CASA network continues to grow.

#### **TRAINING**

We serve local CASA programs through technical assistance, training opportunities, materials, and resources to address the educational, health, employment, and other needs of youth in foster care.

#### **ADVOCACY**

We serve communities by providing leadership at the state level, communicating the CASA perspective, and advocating for best practices in child welfare policy.

#### **SUPPORT**


We serve children in foster care statewide by identifying funding and partnership opportunities to increase recruitment and training of CASA volunteers.

#### **CONNECTION**

We serve CASA volunteers and employees by facilitating opportunities for networking and sharing of best practices. We are stronger together.

#### **AWARENESS**

We serve the CASA cause by amplifying the voice of local CASA programs through investments in marketing and communication, community collaborations, and public engagements.

A woman with her hair in a bun, wearing a black sleeveless top, is seen from the back, gesturing with her right hand towards a group of people seated in front of her. The background is a bright, blurred indoor setting, likely a training room or conference hall. The text is overlaid on the right side of the image.

“California CASA offers wonderful webinars and trainings that help our program better serve youth in foster care. In addition, they support us with outreach/marketing tools.”

– Lori Keyser-Boswell, Program Director, CASA of Siskiyou County

SERVING THE STATE

# Training

Across the geographically vast state of California, CASA programs serve highly diverse populations and face unique community challenges. California CASA believes the best way to sustain a strong and thriving network is through opportunities for professional development and training.

Each year, we welcome CASA Executive Directors to a multi-day “boot camp” where they get refreshers on everything from dependency law to fundraising to human resources and financial management. Leading a local CASA program requires expertise, administrative acumen, dedication, and compassion. At California CASA, we know that facilitating teamwork and networking produces successful individual CASA organizations and benefits the state as a whole.

In addition, California CASA presents monthly webinars and in-person trainings with expert lecturers and relevant child-welfare specialists. Local CASA programs and their volunteers can join in live, or consult training materials online at their convenience through the California CASA website.

**DURING THE PAST YEAR, THE FOLLOWING TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES WERE OFFERED:**

- Nonprofit Essentials: Roles & Responsibilities of Effective Nonprofit Boards
- Foster Youth Deserve Quality Parenting: How CASAs Can Help
- Dependency Legislation: Updates on New Laws
- Child and Adolescent Development Research and Brain Science, and Quality Parenting
- Everything You Wanted to Know About Child Welfare Services and Case Management Services but Were Afraid to Ask!
- Reproductive and Sexual Health Care Rights for Youth in Juvenile Dependency
- Board Governance for CASA Programs
- Fundraising Workshop for Northern California CASA Programs
- Fundraising Workshop for Southern California CASA Programs
- CASAs for Youth in Juvenile Justice




The dictionary definition of the verb “to advocate” is “to publicly support or suggest an idea, development, or way of doing something.” California CASA is honored to be the active voice of our network, advocating at the state level. We listen to the needs of children in foster care, expressed each day by CASA volunteers and staff out in the field, and we speak up in favor of legislation and policies that support a child’s journey through the foster care system to a safe and permanent home.

In 2018, California CASA sponsored Senate Bill 925 which entitles every youth with a CASA to have them present as part of their Child and Family Team (CFT) meetings. The powerful work of State Senator Jim Beall (CA-15) was instrumental in getting this important legislation passed and we are so grateful for all he continues to do on behalf of California’s children. Other Assembly and Senate bills supported by California CASA that recently passed include: AB2083, AB2247, AB2448, SB1083, and SB1391. Our legislative specialists regularly produce and distribute fact sheets on new laws; these are available through the California CASA website.

California CASA gives support to local CASA programs based on the specific needs of each region and our shared mission of recruiting more CASA volunteers for youth in the dependency system. In FY2018-2019, we secured \$4,000,000 in Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) funds for the network and increased the grant amount to \$5,625,000 for FY2019-2020. Every local program is now funded by VOCA. In addition, we facilitated Judicial Council funding of \$2,213,000 for local programs and boosted the amount by \$500,000 to \$2,713,000 for FY2019-2020.

Beyond funding, California CASA also provides the network with legal counsel as well as technical assistance on program management, marketing, fundraising, human resources, and financial management.

A close-up photograph of two young girls with dark, curly hair, smiling warmly at the camera. They are wearing light-colored, patterned clothing. The background is softly blurred.

“Navigating government funding is daunting for a local program and California CASA has done an excellent job securing new funding from the state and clarifying requirements to ensure we can comply in a consistent manner.”

– Renee Espinoza, Executive Director, San Francisco CASA

SERVING THE STATE

# Advocacy & Support



“California CASA has provided multiple forums to connect with other programs. The Executive Director trainings, meetings, and listservs facilitate connections so that individual programs can share information and support and learn from one another, all for the benefit of the children who need and receive our services.”

– Nkia D. Richardson, Executive Director, CASA of San Mateo

SERVING THE STATE

# Connection

California CASA knows the importance of providing opportunities for convergence, connection, and collaboration to bind our network together. Local CASA programs in our state range from small teams to multi-office programs, located in diverse places, from large cities to rural communities with miles of geography in between. We aim to truly be there for every member of our network, offering encouragement, advice, and compassion, and creating systems to trade stories and support.

Each year, California CASA sponsors a day-long conference for Executive Directors with inspirational, informative presentations related to CASA, foster children, and the courts. With the support of the Judicial Council, we offer a chance for all Executive Directors to see each other in person, exchange ideas, and learn new strategies. During FY2018-2019, we also organized well-attended regional meetings in the Bay Area, far north, central, and southern regions. At all these meetings, local CASA leaders and team members have a chance to exchange best practices, share experiences, and explore ways to support more children throughout California.

There are 700 miles separating the northern- and southern-most boundaries of California, and for CASA leaders to come together in person can be challenging. Therefore, California CASA also offers ways to connect virtually. We manage subject-based email listservs where CASA employees can pose questions to their counterparts in other programs and get immediate feedback and assistance. Our staff members are always available for phone or email consultation on a variety of subjects. We also meet with them, in person, as needed. And through our website, local CASA programs can upload and download training materials, administrative forms, marketing tools, and legislative reports so the entire network can stay informed and work together.

California CASA amplifies the collective voice of all 44 of our state's local CASA programs in order to raise awareness about the needs of abused, neglected children. Along with the stories of trauma that often follow a child on their journey through the dependency system, there are moments of hope, such as when that child puts their trust in a CASA volunteer for the first time...and is not disappointed.

There are also tales of success—when a child feels safe, does better in school, or finds a forever family through reunification or adoption. These are the stories that inspire us the most. It's important to open our eyes to the pain these children face, but it's equally important to remember that there are generous, dedicated, committed individuals ready to help. California CASA aims to tell the whole story and give a voice to our network, so local CASA programs can focus on recruiting and training more volunteers to be the voices of children in foster care.

We communicate to a variety of important stakeholders, each with their own role to play in helping our cause. We create print, digital, email, and social media campaigns to introduce the public to our organization, recruit CASA volunteers, and increase donations to local programs. Each month, we provide thoughtfully designed social media content to our 44 network programs for use on their own digital channels. We also publish and distribute reports and training materials for CASA employees and volunteers.

In Sacramento, California CASA regularly updates legislators and makes recommendations on bills and legislation based on real-time needs voiced by our local CASA programs. We keep the conversation going with our network, their Boards of Directors, the media, our donors, the public at large, and in communities up and down the state of California.

A young girl with braids is smiling and talking to another person. The background is a soft, out-of-focus green field.

“Voices for Children is grateful for our partnership with the California CASA Association. We look forward to working with them in the coming years as we continue to serve foster children in San Diego and Riverside Counties.”

– Kelly Capen Douglas, President & CEO, Voices for Children

SERVING THE STATE

# Awareness

# CASAs Give Hope to Juvenile Justice Youth

With a visionary investment in July 2018 from an advised fund of the Silicon Valley Community Foundation, California CASA embarked on a landmark pilot project: *CASAs for Youth in the Juvenile Justice System*. We know from years of experience with dependent children that most kids in the Juvenile Justice system have suffered the same kinds of childhood trauma as those in dependency. We hope that this multi-year pilot will establish that justice-involved youth can also thrive with the individual attention, support, and advocacy that only a CASA can provide.

Each year, some 30,000 children are in the California Juvenile Justice system. These young men and women are, in many ways, no different from those in the general foster care population, except that they made mistakes, sometimes under very difficult life circumstances, and were caught. Many justice-involved youths come from dysfunctional families, have struggled in school or dropped out, or have a family history of poverty, substance abuse, or violence. Just as with foster children, justice-involved youth need a consistent, dependable adult in their lives to help them navigate the court system and take the steps necessary to improve their lives.



VENTURA

SANTA CRUZ

MONTEREY

SAN MATEO

In 2015, the California legislature recognized the needs of Juvenile Justice youth and enacted laws so that CASAs may offer advocacy and support to this population, as they do for dependency youth. CASA intervention and support can completely change the trajectory of these young men and women, who otherwise might end up trapped in the costly and harsh criminal justice system. (In California, citizens pay \$81,200 a year for every inmate in prison.)

California CASA's innovative and ground-breaking pilot project began in early 2019, with four CASA programs selected to participate: Monterey, Santa Cruz, San Mateo, and Ventura Counties. The project is led by The Honorable Carol Isackson (ret.), California CASA's Senior Policy Advisor, who is working with the CASA program professionals, CEO Sharon Lawrence, and court, probation, legal, and law enforcement personnel in the four counties.

Rigorous data collection and evaluation are crucial to the integrity of the research, which is being directed by the eminent Joseph Ryan, Ph.D., who leads the University of Michigan School of Social Work's Child and Adolescent Data Lab. Dr. Ryan and his team have designed the pilot to measure three outcomes of juvenile justice youth who are on probation: self-efficacy, school attendance, and compliance with probation conditions. Eighty youth will be randomly selected for CASA assignment, along with a matched control group that will not have CASAs. Probation and the CASA programs will collect data about both groups to compare outcomes.

Judge Isackson worked with Dr. Fran Chadwick of CSU San Marcos to design a curriculum for the initial two-day training, held in Oakland in June 2019. The training was planned to help pilot participants, as well as other local CASA program staff, gain a better understanding of the role CASAs can play for justice-involved youth.

The pilot will conclude in 2021 with an evaluation report and a final convening of all participants. If successful, the resulting Juvenile Justice protocol and training will be rolled out to the entire California CASA network. Ultimately, our goal is twofold: to empirically demonstrate the value of CASAs to youth in the juvenile justice system, and to ensure that future volunteers are able to help thousands more youth who need their advocacy. We hope that CASAs will play a significant role in helping these young men and women to achieve successful adult lives and move beyond the circumstances that brought them into the Juvenile Justice system in the first place.



# Financial Summary

FISCAL YEAR 2018-2019

This year, California CASA has seen substantial fiscal growth and stabilization. Thanks to prudent management and the generous support of individual and institutional donors, the Balance Sheet grew from \$394,220 in FY2017-2018 to \$1,151,212 in FY2018-2019. Revenue grew 91% due to significant funds for the Juvenile Justice Pilot Project, major VOCA support from the state’s Office of Emergency Services, and unrestricted operating funds from many donors. This growth is part of a planned strategy by the Board and staff to ultimately “Serve Every Child” in California foster care who needs a CASA. Our independent audited financial statements were prepared by R.J. Ricciardi, Inc. Certified Public Accountants, San Rafael, California. California CASA’s complete financial documentation is available at [www.californiacasa.org](http://www.californiacasa.org); or contact us at [staff@californiacasa.org](mailto:staff@californiacasa.org) to request our most recent audit or IRS 990.

## Statement of Audited Financials

FY2018-2019 & FY2017-2018

REVENUES	FY2018–2019	FY2017–2018
Individuals	\$851,251	\$268,931
Foundations	\$430,969	\$441,182
Government	\$179,825	\$62,034
Corporate Giving	\$10,000	\$0
Contributed Goods & Services	\$3,736	\$986
Interest/Other Revenue	\$8,053	\$5,627
<b>Total Revenue:</b>	<b>\$1,483,834</b>	<b>\$778,760</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>		
Program Expenses	\$858,858	\$594,882
Management & General	\$93,855	\$97,238
Fundraising	\$176,194	\$84,625
<b>Total Expenses:</b>	<b>\$1,128,907</b>	<b>\$776,745</b>
<b>Change in Net Assets:</b>	<b>\$354,927</b>	<b>\$2,015</b>
<b>Net Assets at Beginning of Year:</b>	<b>\$123,222</b>	<b>\$121,207</b>
<b>Net Assets at Year End:</b>	<b>\$478,149</b>	<b>\$123,222</b>

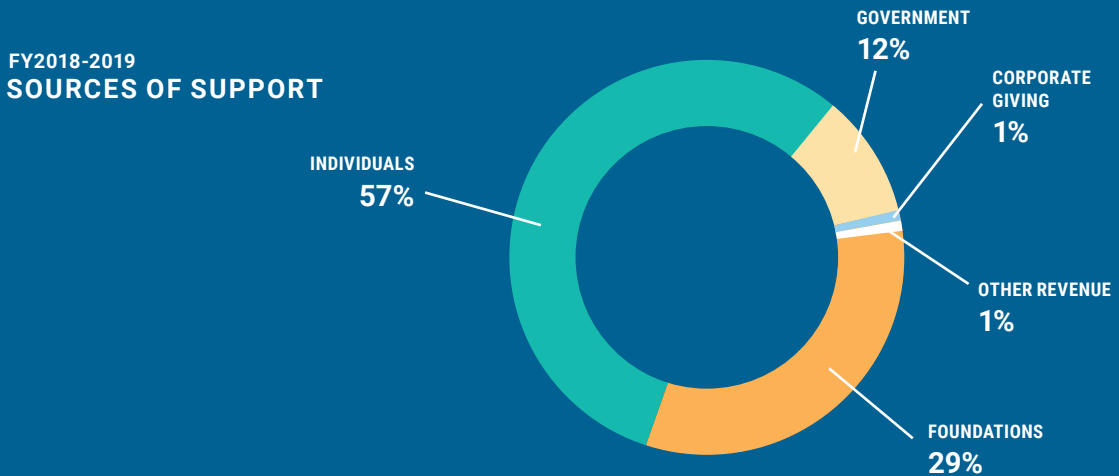
## Statement of Financial Position

FY2018-2019 & FY2017-2018

ASSETS	FY2018–2019	FY2017–2018
Current Assets	\$1,151,212	\$394,220
Other Assets	\$0	\$0
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>\$1,151,212</b>	<b>\$394,220</b>
<b>LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS</b>		
Current Liabilities	\$673,063	\$270,998
Unrestricted Net Assets	\$478,149	\$123,222
<b>Total Liabilities &amp; Net Assets</b>	<b>\$1,151,212</b>	<b>\$394,220</b>

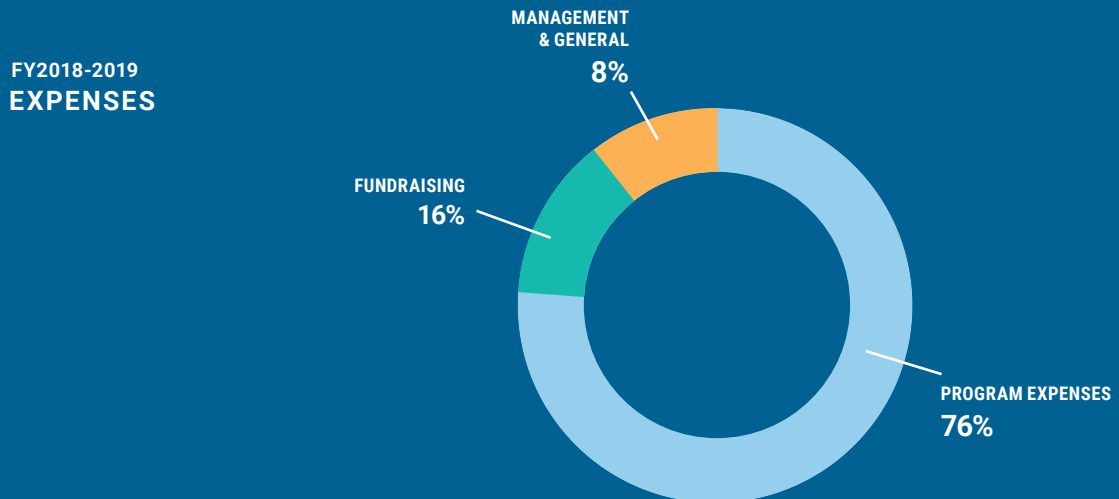
# Contributed Income

A private, nonprofit organization (tax ID #68-0163010), California CASA is supported by many individuals, foundations, corporations, and government grants. Under the leadership of the Board of Directors, CEO Sharon Lawrence, and Chief Philanthropy Officer Anne Farrell, contributed income increased from \$778,760 in FY2017-2018 to \$1,483,834 in FY2018-2019. The Board and staff have undertaken concerted efforts to expand income from all sources as part of our ten-year “Serve Every Child/California” vision.



# Expenses

76% of expenses go directly to programs impacting the lives of California’s foster children through support of the CASA network in California. As a labor-intensive operation, personnel comprise a large part of expenses, most of it focused on delivering training, support, and counsel to the 44 local programs. Financial management was overseen by the Board Treasurers, first Adam Wallace and then Kevin Gardner, and Chief Financial Officer Joan Reilly.



# With Thanks

The California CASA Association is grateful to the individuals, foundations, companies, and government agencies that support our work each year. Their generosity sustains our operations, provides the basis for our growth, and allows us to better serve our network of 44 local CASA programs statewide. Most important: our donors are making possible an ambitious long-term vision that one day, every foster child in California will have access to a CASA volunteer.

## Stellar Supporters

Silicon Valley Community Foundation, Advised Fund  
Anonymous (2)  
California Governor's Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES)  
The Walter S. Johnson Foundation  
Our Little Light Foundation

## Champions

Judicial Council of California  
Anonymous  
National CASA/GAL Association  
Lily Lai Foundation  
Zellerbach Family Foundation  
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Chevron Matching Employee Funds  
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Bill Wickersham  
Priscilla Toigo  
Robert Krinsky  
Network for Good

We have listed donors who made cumulative contributions of \$100+ between July 1, 2018 and November 15, 2019; however, we are grateful to everyone who has made an investment in California CASA, at whatever level. Thank you for your support! In this honor roll, we have made every effort to ensure accuracy. If you find an error or omission, please accept our apologies; for corrections, contact us at [giving@californiacasa.org](mailto:giving@californiacasa.org).

## Board of Directors

### FY2018-2019

James Hatter, *Chair*

Shelley Brown, *Vice Chair*

Kevin Gardner, *Treasurer*

Adam Wallace, C.P.A., *Treasurer*  
(Through January 2019)

Jan-Yu Weng, *Secretary*

Nancy Banning Doyle

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Tracy Fauver

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Kim Moore

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Kim Moore

Allyson Pfeifer

The Honorable Arnold Rosenfield (ret.)

Robert Smith

Lisa Spinali

Jan-Yu Weng

AS OF 11/15/2019

## Staff

### FY2018-2019

Sharon M. Lawrence, Esq.  
*Chief Executive Officer*

Joan Reilly, MBA  
*Chief Financial Officer*

Anne Farrell  
*Chief Philanthropy Officer*

Karen Finan  
*Program Director*

The Honorable Carol Isackson (ret.)  
*Senior Policy Advisor*

Holley Moore, MA  
*Philanthropy and Grants Director*

Jessica Ballenger  
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Janel Brown  
*Marketing and Program Manager*

Deborah Jarmon-Johnson  
*Administrative Assistant*

Lily Colby, Esq.  
*Policy and Program Coordinator*  
(Through November 2019)

Colleen McGauley  
*Juvenile Justice Pilot Program Manager*  
(Through August 2019)

### CONSULTING ATTORNEYS

Allison Cruz, Esq.

Georgina Dews, Esq.

Matt Dente, Esq.

AS OF 11/15/2019

California CASA Association is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization (IRS Tax I.D. #68-0163010) and all donations are tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law.

# Get Involved.



California CASA is working hard throughout the state so that one day we can serve every child in our foster care system who needs a CASA. **Together, we can achieve this goal.**

Financial contributions to California CASA ensure local programs get the necessary training and support to recruit CASA volunteers and match them with abused and neglected children in need as well as provide a voice for those children at the state legislature and beyond.

## HERE ARE WAYS YOU CAN HELP MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN THE LIFE OF A CHILD

- Make a direct donation, a stock transfer, a gift through your employer's matching gift program, or an estate gift
- Encourage others to support California CASA with charitable donations
- Become a CASA Volunteer—find your local program on our website
- Join our online social media network on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram
- Spread the word about CASA to your colleagues, friends, and family



# Our Network Of CASA Programs

COUNTY SERVED

ALAMEDA  
AMADOR  
BUTTE  
CALAVERAS  
CONTRA COSTA  
DEL NORTE  
EL DORADO  
FRESNO  
GLENN  
HUMBOLDT  
IMPERIAL COUNTY  
INYO  
KERN  
KINGS  
LAKE  
LASSEN  
LOS ANGELES  
MADERA  
MARIN  
MARIPOSA  
MENDOCINO  
MERCED  
MODOC  
MONO  
MONTEREY  
NAPA  
NEVADA  
ORANGE  
PLACER  
PLUMAS  
RIVERSIDE  
SACRAMENTO  
SAN BENITO  
SAN BERNARDINO  
SAN DIEGO  
SAN FRANCISCO  
SAN JOAQUIN  
SAN LUIS OBISPO  
SAN MATEO  
SANTA BARBARA  
SANTA CLARA  
SANTA CRUZ  
SHASTA  
SISKIYOU  
SOLANO  
SONOMA  
STANISLAUS  
TEHAMA  
TULARE  
VENTURA  
YOLO

NAME OF LOCAL CASA PROGRAM

Alameda County CASA  
CASA of Amador and Calaveras County  
CASA of Butte and Glenn Counties  
CASA of Amador and Calaveras County  
CASA of Contra Costa  
CASA of Del Norte  
CASA of El Dorado County  
CASA of Fresno and Madera Counties  
CASA of Butte and Glenn Counties  
Humboldt CASA  
CASA of Imperial County  
CASA of Eastern Sierra, Inyo and Mono Counties  
CASA of Kern County  
CASA of Kings County  
CASA of Mendocino and Lake Counties  
Lassen County CASA  
CASA of Los Angeles  
CASA of Fresno and Madera Counties  
Marin CASA  
CASA of Mariposa County  
CASA of Mendocino and Lake Counties  
CASA of Merced County  
Modoc County CASA  
CASA of Eastern Sierra, Inyo and Mono Counties  
CASA of Monterey County  
Napa CASA, A Voice for Children  
CASA of Nevada County  
CASA of Orange County  
Child Advocates of Placer County  
Plumas CASA  
Voices for Children  
Sacramento CASA  
CASA of San Benito County  
Child Advocates of San Bernardino County  
Voices for Children  
San Francisco CASA  
CASA of San Joaquin County  
CASA of San Luis Obispo County  
CASA of San Mateo County  
CASA of Santa Barbara County  
Child Advocates of Silicon Valley  
CASA of Santa Cruz County  
CASA of Shasta and Tehama Counties  
CASA of Siskiyou County  
CASA of Solano County  
CASA of Sonoma County  
CASA of Stanislaus County  
CASA of Shasta and Tehama Counties  
CASA of Tulare County  
CASA of Ventura County  
Yolo County CASA

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California CASA is a member of the National CASA/GAL Association

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