

A Child Needs You

FY2018 Annual Report

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Dear CASA Family,

Thank you for your gifts of time and resources to Oklahoma County's most vulnerable children last year. In FY2018, we set the stage for upcoming growth, creating an organizational vision of every child thriving in a safe, loving forever home. Our Board of Directors adopted a new strategic plan that focuses on growing quality advocacy services to 1500 children in foster care in Oklahoma County by July 2021. We established priorities centered on the creation of a well-qualified diverse Board of Directors focused on fund development and strategic vision, enhanced resource development strategies, enhancing our organizational culture to retain high performing staff and volunteers, and broaden community awareness of CASA.

In March 2018, CASA of Oklahoma County conducted an audit of our organizational services with Praesidium, Inc. – an abuse prevention company working with organizations serving youth and vulnerable populations. These audits are conducted to ensure the highest child-safe serving practices are employed in all facets of an organization's work with children. This audit reflects our efforts to ensure that our own organization is as safe as we can be in our work with children.

This past year we had 239 tremendous individuals volunteering with CASA to serve 675 foster children. Heroic advocacy efforts by our CASA volunteers meant that 32% of these children found safe, permanent forever homes.

Your support resulted in CASA serving 28% of children in foster care in Oklahoma County this past year. Children with a CASA advocate experience a safe, permanent home six months sooner, stay on track educationally, and have higher levels of hope.

We have an aggressive growth goal over the next three years; however, with key partners like you, I know we will be successful in ensuring more foster children receive an advocate – a voice that ensures their needs are met during this traumatic time.

As one child recently served by CASA stated: "to give a child a CASA is to give her hope, to give her hope is to give her the world!" Thank you for giving the world to 675 children last year.

Many thanks,

Jennie Hill, MSW
Executive Director



Around the Community

1. Newly elected Mayor of Oklahoma City David Holt met with Executive Director Jennie Hill to discuss foster care in Oklahoma County. We look forward to collaborating with him to help turn the tide on abuse and neglect in our community.

2. An Evening to Remember was a hit yet again! Volunteers and supporters spent time with CASA staff celebrating our mission and raising awareness for our cause.

3. Remington Park featured CASA again this year in their Extreme Racing exotic animal races. Our zebra won us a \$1000 donation!

4. CASA staff Tony, Maddie, Kim, and Nikki medalled in the Masquerade 5K held in honor of National Reunification Month.



Jennie meets with new OKC Mayor David Holt



Volunteer Emma with Kim at Evening to Remember



CASA's Zebra won the race at Remington Park!



Our runners medalled at the Masquerade 5K

Serving Oklahoma County's foster children in 2018

Anna Acebo
Ashleigh Adams
Christine Adams
Michael Altshuler
Stephanie Andres
Bridgette Arata
Amber Austin
Michael Banning
Amy Barnhill
Christian Behney
Laci Behney
William Bendau
Carol Berry
Catherine BeuLyn
Barbara Bingham
Cindy Birdwell
Lori Blumenthal
Candace Bradway
Carol Brogan
Tamra Buchanan
Mary Buehler
Jane Burdick
Erin Burke
Bob Burro
Diana Burton
Jana Busey
Emma Butler
Will Calvo
Megan Cannon
Donna Carpenter
Judy Cash-Balzer
Brianna Cassel
Joshua Cassel
Jayne Chaffin
Megan Christensen
Leah Clark
Tamara Clifford
Gregory Clyde
Dixie Coffey
Shandi Coker
Penny Colton
Terree Connett Cassens
Kristie Cooper
Doris Craddock
Kimberly Crain
Roger Crane Jr.
Mike Davenport
Celine Davis
Jennifer Davis
Melva Davis

Chandler Dawson
Doye DeBolt
Roberta DeBolt
Rebecca Deckman
Hannah Dennis
Stephanie Derby
Chris Dobie
Gina Dougherty
Michele Doughty
Rena Dudley
Jessica Duncan
Jonette Dunlap
James Durocher
Merrick Eagleton
Beverly Egan
Ashley Engle
Kimberly Ernst
Sarah Fayssoux
Kim Fitzgerald
Mary Fitzpatrick
Carol Fletcher
Gary Fletcher
Denise Flori
Raena Ford
April Frazier
Shannon Friedman
Mindy Fuzzell
Ricardo Galindo
Connie Gibson
Lorena Gibson
Sharhonda Givens
Candice Goforth
Jeff Grant
JaneAnn Greene
Stephanie Griffith
Kristin Grimland
Angie Grimmatt
Whitney Guild
Richard Guyer
Nancy Gwin
Amy Gwyn
Chris Haile
Jeremy Hall-Weyrick
Dinky Hammam
Dana Hammett
Nicholas Harness
Jeff Harp
Melanie Harr-Hughes
Tanya Hartfield
Wendy Henderson

Dana Hill
Emily Hill
Braden Hisey
Cindy Holman
Christina Horton
Wendy House
Charlotte Hunter
John Hurd
Jessica Hutchinson
Anita Ibison
Debbie Jackson
Jeff James
Savannah Jenkins
Cathy Johnson
Karen Johnson
Claudia Kaestner
Angela Kanaly
Whitley Kendrick
Sharon Lair
Kalen Lake
Pam Lane
Summer Larkins
Diana Lee
Joshua Lee
Toni Lee
Erin Lemmerman
Miranda Lenocker
Cailynn Leone
Ava Linden
Donald Lindsay
Denise Lingo
Mark Livingston
Wendy Long
Dena Lovett
Kristen Lowder
Tommye Lucy
Donna Maddox
Stefanie Madison
Madison Malget
Andrea Malherbe
Latasha Maskerines
Robert Maul
Katy Maxwell
Sara McAfee
Sharon McBride
Celeata McCleary
Sue McCollom
Tina McCormack
Kora McGee
Stormi McKay

Lisa McKinzie
LeeAnna McNally
Nicholas Mesigh
William Milam
Cathy Miller
Michele Miller-Hayes
Carrie Moore
Julia Murphy
Paula Murphy
Brenda Nazari-Robati
Leah Nellis
Sandra Nettleton
Larry Newman
Donna Orrell
Revae Patterson
Tiffany Perez
Wendy Perkins
Gary Pfeiffer
Laura Pfeiffer
Gloria Pollard
Nancy Potter
John Rahhal
Nazim Rahim
Lovette Rausch
Charlie Ray
Larry Ray
Mona Reed
Andrew Regan
Dana Reindl
Judy Reynolds
Sheila Rhoades
Tom Robertson
Robyn Rose
Stephen Ross
Diane Rouse
Suzanne Rowe-Coonce
Cindi Sanchez
Maria Sargent
Thunder Sargent
Tyler Saunders
Ron Scharton
Ashley Schovanec
Pam Schriewer
Tammy Schuler
Ben Scott
Mary Selid
Melody Senn
David Settles
Cathy Seward
Marilyn Shipman

Judy Shuart
Nora Sinkankas
Angela Smith
Glenda Smith
Sherri Sneed
Heather Stack
Tami Stamps
Tracy Starks
Linda Steen
Joni Stewart
Valerie Stewart
Nancy Storey
John Stow
Heather Stranger
Kira Strickland-Jaramillo
Charlene Strong
Jennafyer Sullivan
Janie Sylvester
Cecilia Taft
Barbara Thomas
Mary Tidholm
Pamela Tinsley
Bayleygh Triplett
Viki Tucker
Brandi Tumilson
Jared Tumilson
Patrick Turner
Noreen Valadez
Kimberly Van Wormer
Itzel Verduzco
Kathryn Walker
Debbie Wallace
Richard Wallace
True Wallace
Nidia Warner
Alex White
Aubree Williams
Barbara Williams
Sandra Williams
Sierra Williams
Cecil Willis
Kaye Wilson
Taylor Wilson
Christine Wirsich
Joshua Wolfe
LaDonna Wolfes
Marize Wong
Kelly Wright
Will Xu
Alice Young
Michael Young
Lana Youngblood

Volunteer Spotlight

Tasha Alexander is an example of the child advocate who never quits, no matter what has happened in the case. Two years ago, she accepted assignment to a case with two children – Andy and Cara. The children are now on their sixth placement and second DHS worker. Tasha has been consistent throughout – she has been a guiding light of hope for two very special children.



Tasha Alexander

“They’re my little best friends,” Tasha says, “It didn’t take more than a few visits before they quickly warmed up to me!”

Adopted by her grandparents at a young age, Tasha has a lifetime of perspective on the foster care system. And truly, children have become her life’s work. She has been a preschool teacher, worked at a youth shelter, and now serves at an autism clinic. In 2017, her heart for disadvantaged youth brought her to CASA.

I just felt like giving back to my community. I wanted to do more beyond my work-life. Immediately, CASA felt like the right fit.

When I first came onto the case, Andy and Cara were split up for what seemed like no reason. So my first mission was to advocate to have them placed together. They missed each other so much and would often call me to tell me they wanted to visit one another. It was heartbreaking.

Eventually they were placed together in a foster home, but the struggles weren’t over. The home was remarkably unfit for the children. Not only were the foster parents unwilling to care for the specific needs of the African American children’s skin and hair, they were also unwilling to learn from me when I offered help. They went so far as to insist that Cara, who was only seven, should be old enough to maintain her own hair and hygiene. By the time the problem had begun to concern others beside myself, Cara’s hair was so brittle and her skin so irritated that her hair was falling out of her scalp. I was able to advocate for the children to be moved – and just weeks later it was ordered. The foster home was investigated and determined to be unfit.

Both kids have their struggles in school. But I’ll never forget the time I got the call that Andy was throwing chairs.

Andy is a great kid who has been resilient throughout a number of moves. He and his sister love each other very much. But sometimes big changes can trigger some behavioral issues. At school, Andy’s educational plan called for providing him with some separate space when he felt he needed it. This wasn’t being done consistently, but on that day, Andy was having a strong meltdown reaction. I called the school and explained the situation and need. We talked it through and the school came to an understanding and made the accommodations Andy needed. He called me a short time later completely thrilled – “You fixed it for me!” he beamed. Now that we’re past that, we’re working on getting his grades up!

I’ve developed an “I’ll fix it” attitude as a CASA volunteer. By working closely with everyone on the case, I’ve seen my advocacy have a profound impact. When Andy wasn’t getting the individualized educational attention ordered by the courts, I called and explained the need and situation and got it fixed. When Cara wasn’t getting the allergy shots she needed because her medical records hadn’t been transferred in the move, I got it fixed. When behavior problems crop up and the kids don’t know where to turn, I know that a compassionate phone call can ease their nerves and get to the heart of the issue.

I know I’ve been the most consistent person on this case. And I’ve been the only person all along the way fighting specifically for these children’s best interests. We’re working toward a permanent family placement now, which will hopefully happen sometime in the spring. I’m committed to serving these kiddos – my little friends – and seeing their case through. It’s because of donors like you that I have the support of CASA behind me every step of the way.

CASA volunteers are affecting change all over Oklahoma County – all made possible by generous gifts of support from the community.

Thoughts from Our Volunteers

What impact has volunteering with CASA had on you?



Learning to speak up for the children has taught me to speak up for myself. I am more confident in dealing with others. I am more patient with my students and their needs. Cindi Sanchez



This case has taken me through so many emotions and has taught me so much! I have fought long and hard to effectively advocate for my CASA kids, and to see them benefit from those efforts warms my heart, I'm happy I am able to be a light in their life. Tasha Alexander



10 years as an AF First Sergeant we emphasized helping others and making a difference. CASA personally reminds me of how far we have to go. Jeff James

What impact have you had as a CASA volunteer?



I have only had one case which has endured for four years. To date there have been three different DHS caseworkers on this case, and I have been the sole adult who has been watching out for my CASA kid. Braden Hisey



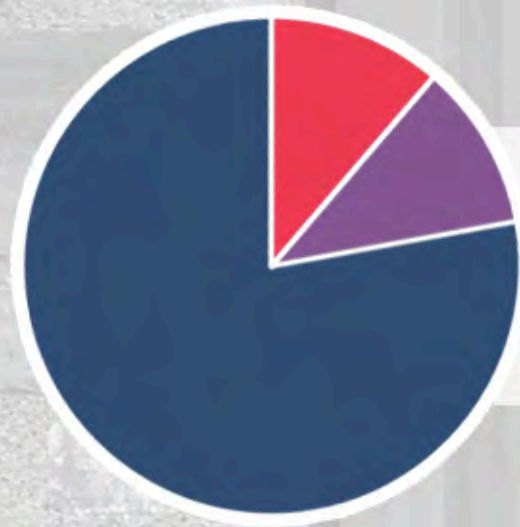
In a time where there is so much negative happening in the world, I know I'm at least doing my small part. Whether that be seeing a child consistently or by reporting something I think is significant, no action is too small when considering the fate of a child. Emma Butler



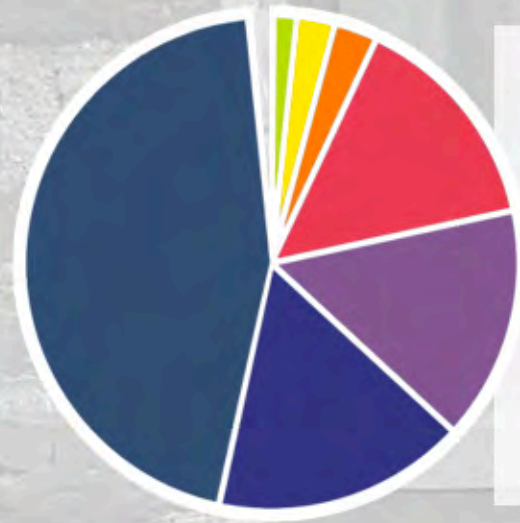
Stephanie Griffith

New volunteer Stephanie Griffith came to CASA through her stepmother Joni Stewart who is on the board of directors. Stephanie and her husband Chris have been donors to CASA for years, but Stephanie always felt she wanted to do more and become an advocate. In the transition to becoming an empty nester, Stephanie came to CASA to get involved with the community and utilize her skills for area foster youth. She has a degree in secondary education and previously taught at OU. On her first case Stephanie sees herself as a sleuth, an investigator and communicator between the foster family, attorney, DHS and the inpatient center where the biological mother received treatment. She said that being a CASA is even more rewarding than she thought it would be. Thank you, Stephanie, for being part of our team!

Financial Report



Functional Expenses		\$1,356,777
Program		\$1,056,803
Administrative		\$153,021
Fundraising*		\$146,953



Revenue		\$1,157,310
Grants		\$540,952
Foundation Support		\$191,986
Individual Contributions		\$177,387
Special Event Sponsorship		\$169,518
Corporate Contributions		\$32,745
Noncash Contributions		\$28,932
Investment Income		\$17,556
Sale of Assets		-\$1,766

*CASA of Oklahoma County, Inc. has been the gracious beneficiary of Halliburton's Energy for Children Sporting Clay Shoot for nearly two decades. Expenses associated with the event are included in our fundraising category.

Donor Spotlights

Donors Steve and Heidi Herburger are both involved in CASA – in very different ways!

Heidi joined CASA's Board of Directors in 2018, having been recruited by friend Jennifer Dunn. In her service as CASA's Board Secretary, Dunn knew Heidi would be a perfect match for the organization.

Steve recalls Dunn inviting them to CASA's An Evening to Remember fundraiser: "I had been thinking about how to get involved – how to help kids in need in our county," Steve said, "Jennifer invited us to An Evening to Remember, and as I heard more about the mission and time required, I knew it was feasible for me."

Steve and Heidi own 2 Fellas and a Big Vehicle Moving Company. The business has been in operation since 2000. Both Steve and Heidi work full time, but they say that when you find something you're truly passionate about – like CASA – it becomes easier and easier to make time to be invested.

"I own a business, and rarely does it interfere too much with my volunteering," Steve said.

Steve currently serves on a case with two brothers who are elementary school aged. In a little over a month serving on the case he has visited the children a total of five times. They're currently in separate placements, but Steve is hopeful about their prospects for permanency in a potential adoptive home. While some focus on big picture problems with the foster care system, Steve said his mindset is more narrowed – "I focus on the immediate best interest of these boys. I'm there for them – what's best for them."

"They're so little," said Heidi as tears welled in her eyes, "The system is so overburdened. The problem is so often out of sight and out of mind. We have to grow CASA's staff. We have to advocate for more kids." 🧡



Thank you to the Arnall Family Foundation for their tremendous partnership in FY18. CASA has launched a rebranding and marketing effort which has garnered us over 600 prospective volunteers!

"The Arnall Family Foundation seeks to make lasting, transformative improvements to the systems and programs in Oklahoma County," says a representative from the Arnall Foundation. "We believe every child in foster care should have a CASA volunteer advocating for their best interests."



FY2018 Donors

\$10,000+

Arnall Family Foundation
Albers Family Affiliated Fund
The Anschutz Foundation
James Bennett
Anonymous
Kappa Alpha Theta
Kosberg Charitable Foundation Trust
The McGee Foundation, Inc.
SandRidge Operating Co.
Wells Fargo Advisors
Wilshire Charitable Foundation

\$5,000-9,999

BK Equipment LLC
Philip Boyle Foundation
Cresap Family Foundation
Venessa and David Donchin
Edmond Women's Club
Pam and Richard Lane
M2W Energy Services
Katie and Tony Say
Sharp Oilfield Services

\$2,500-4,999

Anonymous
Greg Brown
Caterpillar Oil & Gas
Jennifer and George Chrysant
EOG Resources, Inc.
Fairmont Santrol
Carol and Mike Johnson
Ivan Jones
MHC
Sumeeta and Sumit Nanda
Phillips 66 Company
Sandford Oil Company Inc
Brian Stewart
Ticket To Dream Foundation
US Synthetic
Warren Cat

\$1,000-2,499

Allied-Horizontal Wireline Services
Anonymous
AT&T Employee Giving Campaign
Christie and Tim Baker
BancFirst
Samantha L. Bentson
Blue Cross Blue Shield Of Oklahoma
Monica Bower
Centek Group
Clearwater Enterprises
Penny and Derrek Colton
Cudd Energy Services
Toby Dixon
Downhole Chemical Solutions, LLC
Joe and Sonya Easley
First National Bank of Oklahoma
Fossil Creek Energy Corporation
General Plastics & Composites LP
Global Gaming RP LLC
Goodin Family Foundation
Steve Hiatt
Wendy and Ethan House
Brad Humphries
Jolene Ingram
Koch Communications LLC
LeAnn and Paul Lienhard

Manley Brothers Of Indiana Inc.
Jean and Dave McLaughlin
O'Connor Family Foundation
Oil States Elastomer Technology Center
Oilfield Technical Services
Oklahoma County Bar Auxiliary
Oklahoma County Bar Foundation
Josh O'Neill
Orcutt Mechanical Contractors
Phillip Owens
Thad Parsons
Beth Barbero Portman
Quintana Energy Services
Monty Roberts
Georgia Robinson
Ossie Rushing
Ed and Jody Sanchez
Kristie Sandy
Johnna and Brad Schick
Select Energy Services
Simmons Foundation
Sharon Smeltzer and Stacy Scheffler
Jeremiah Smith
Ivy and Stephen Snider
Ben Stocker
Stracke Family Fund

Marnie and Clayton Taylor
Texas Pride Fuels, Ltd.
Paul Tilley
Titan Lansing Transloading, LLC
Tri-Lift Services
Steve Trotter
Chris Turner
James Turner
Unimin Corporation
University Silkscreen
US Insurance Group LLC
US Silica
Mike Wagner
Dallas Watson
Jan and Eric Williams
Jeff and Kim Wilmes
Kellie and Scott Witt
Johnny Zuniga



**We make a living by what we get,
but we make a life by what we give.**
Winston Churchill

\$500-999

Anderson Family Revocable Trust
Kathy and Rick Ault
Jane G. or Jon C. Axton Trusts
Laura and Lou Barlow
Jackie and Jerry Bendorf
Carrie and Joe Blakey
Amy and David Cottrell
The Crown Room at VZD's
Lawrence & Ronna Davis Family Foundation
Expressions Home Gallery
Foundation Management Inc.
Ann Garrett
Green Insurance Associates

Gumerson Blake
Halliburton
Dinky Hammam
Cheryl Herling and James Moore
Bette Jo and Frank Hill
Stephanie John
Carol Joullian
Susie and Brad Kemp
Carol and Mark Lester
Heather and Mark Livingston
The Magnolia Charitable Foundation
Carrie and David Moore

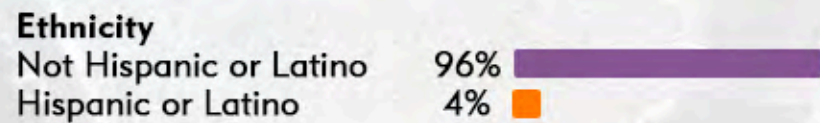
Morrison Family Joint Living Trust
Lee Ann and John Nordin
The Oil Tree
Bradley Parson
Penner Foundation
Quail Creek Bank
Sonny and Cindi Sanchez
William Scott
Skinny Boys ED LLC
The Small Group, LLC
Soup Soup
Erin and Jeff Zanotti

FY 2018 Volunteer Stats

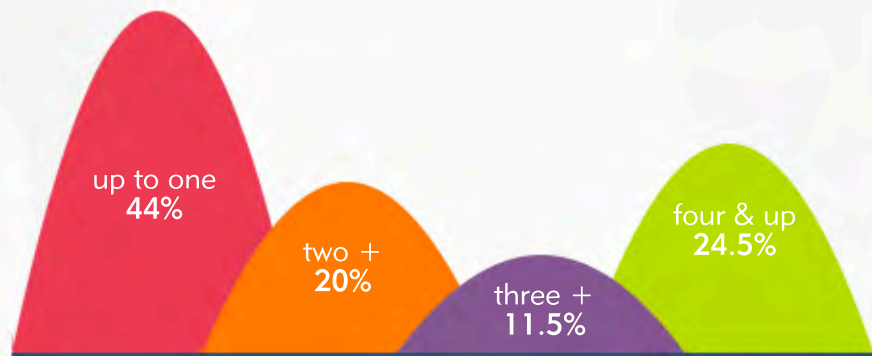
239
Volunteers


20%
male

80%
female



Volunteer Tenure in Years




11,704
hours served


98,636
miles driven

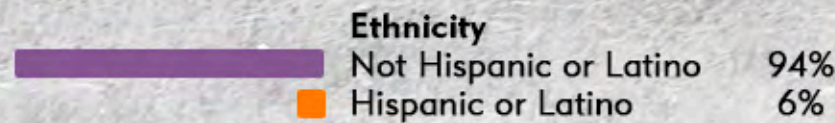
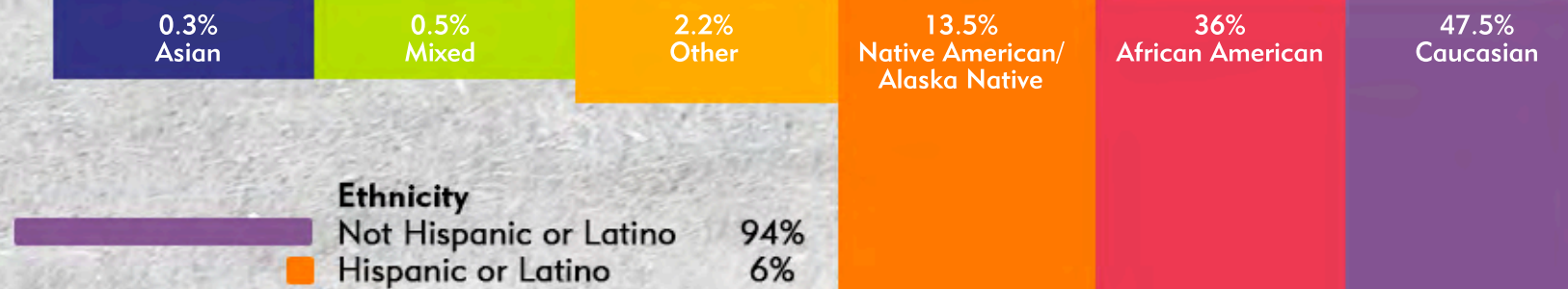
CASA celebrated 216 case closures:
Adoption 48% Reunification 44%
Guardianship 8%

FY 2018 Child Stats

49%
male

51%
female

675
Children
served



CASA served 309 sibling groups of children

45% of children served were age 5 and under

85% were age 12 and under

- One year of volunteer advocacy for a foster child cost \$2,029
- We saw a 39% increase in safe, permanent homes found for youth served by CASA over our FY17 outcomes

Staff & Board

CASA Staff

Jennie Hill, Executive Director
Joy Short, Executive Assistant
Ron Scharton, Director of Operations
BC Phillips, Director of Communications
Kim Vanbebber, Program Director
Kathy North, Director of Recruitment
Nichole Dewberry, Director of Training

Camila Galeano, Recruitment Specialist
Ja'Kee Rivers, Training Specialist
Ross Martin, Program Assistant

Advocacy Team Leaders
Shamekka Marion-Johns
Nikki Kinsler

Advocacy Supervisors
Lola Hall Madison Ivy
Michelle Johnson Maddie McNeil
Lauren Norcom Kerry Stark

2017-2018 Board of Directors

Tim Baker, President Jessica Ramirez, Secretary
Joni Stewart, Vice President Katie Say, Governance Chair
Stacy Scheffler, Treasurer

Jennifer Arlan Mike Johnson
Rick Ault James Bennett
Jack Morgan Lori Blumenthal
Sumeeta Nanda, M.D. Jennifer Chrysant
Becky Roten Raymond Dallas
Ivy Snider Jennifer Dunn
Ann Garrett

OUR VISION

We envision a future where every child thrives in a safe and loving forever home.



Thank you for your support!

