



CASA of Oklahoma County, Inc.  
**ANNUAL REPORT**  
— Fiscal Year 2020 —



## CASA Staff During the Fiscal Year

Jennie Hill, **Executive Director**  
Joy Short, **Executive Assistant**  
Kimberly Vanbebber, **Program Director**  
Ron Scharton, **Director of Operations**  
BC Phillips, **Director of Communications**  
Nichole Dewberry, **Director of Training**  
Kathy North, **Director of Recruitment**  
Charlie Ludden, **Development Manager**  
Nikki Kinsler, **Team Lead**  
Shamekka Marion-Johns, **Team Lead**  
Camila Galeano, **Recruitment Specialist**  
Ja'Kee Rivers, **Training Specialist**  
Ross Martin, **Program Assistant**

### Advocacy Supervisors

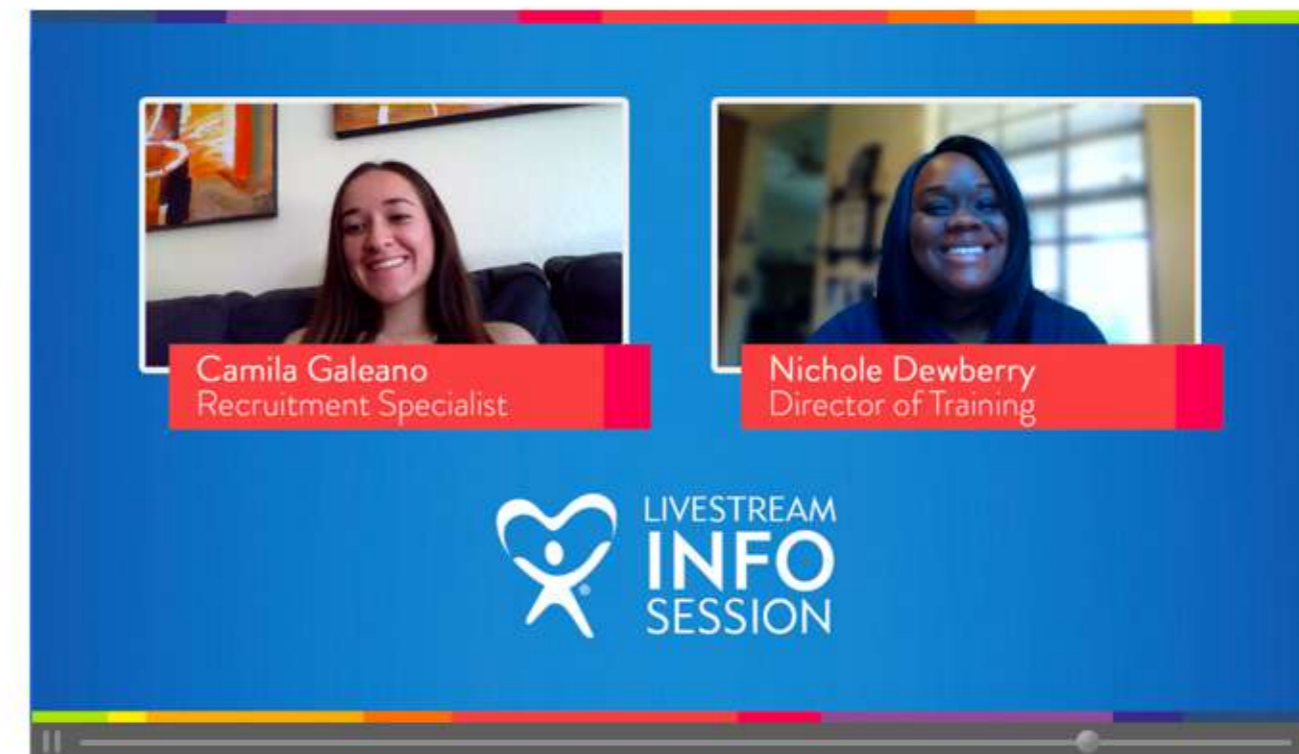
Margaret Butler  
Mickael Carlisle  
Shannon Friedman  
Madison Ivy  
Michelle Johnson  
Lauren Norcom  
Marisa Quisenberry  
Kerry Stark  
Kathryn Toahty

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Jennifer Chrysant	Candice Milard	Tammy Streeter
Cody Cooper	Shontai Mouton	

- 1 A letter from our Interim Executive Director
- 2 Consistency Throughout Crises
- 3 Volunteer List
- 4 Tasha's Consistent Voice
- 5 Year-end wrap-up
- 6 Service stats
- 7 Donor Spotlight / Financials
- 8 Donor list



Despite the pandemic, CASA staff pioneered ways to adapt and overcome





## A YEAR NO ONE COULD EXPECT

If you had told me in July 2019, at the beginning of our Fiscal Year, that the world would be facing a pandemic just a few months later, I wouldn't believe you. If you told me that by the end of the Fiscal Year I would be stepping into the role of Interim Executive Director, that would come as a shock also! I would never believe that we would have months of adapting to work-from-home or that CASA volunteers, known for their consistent in-person visits, would be using teleconferencing software to see their kiddos. But despite the obstacles, the economic uncertainties, and tests of will: CASA's staff and volunteers persisted.

CASA of Oklahoma County had a lot to celebrate this year, though! Most notably, our organization moved into its own new building. For the first time since our program's inception, we are headquartered offsite the Juvenile Justice Center's premises. The building, graciously leased rent-free through the Blumenthal Foundation, provides for the growth and expansion of our program. We now have ample spaces for small or large meetings, a state-of-the-art training space, work and technology spaces for volunteers, dedicated storage rooms for confidential files, and perhaps most exciting of all – a break room! We're so thankful to the Blumenthals, Board Member James Bennett, and all the other donors who made this historic move possible.

We've also continued to achieve great outcomes for the foster children in our community this year. Our 289 volunteers served 652 children on 300 cases. Recruitment and training have continued as well, though under a drastically different set of circumstances. I'm so proud of the whole CASAofOKCO team for their flexibility, adaptability, and growth during this time.

We have a lot of work ahead of us, though. Due to the pandemic and in the interest of public health, we were forced to cancel our two major fundraisers, Game On with CASA and Energy for Children. The funding impact of these cancellations will not go unnoticed. Like many nonprofits around the nation, we'll be rebuilding our operating funds due to the brunt of the pandemic's economic impact.

But we're committed and determined to continue advocating, breaking cycles, and changing lives across our county. With your support, we will grow to serve every child who needs a court appointed special advocate to speak up for their best interests. A child needs you! Contact me if you'd like to get involved!

Kim Vanbebber  
Executive Director



# Consistency Throughout Crises



Volunteer Juan Jimenez is the CASA advocate for an 11-year-old boy. Juan finds creative ways to stay engaged with his youth through video chat. In April, Juan learned that his child was interested in magic tricks. Juan encouraged him to practice his skills. Juan then coordinated a time where the boy put on a full magic show during a video chat visit!

On Jessica Hunt's case, the family is in trial reunification and was released from a residential rehab program the third week of March into a family-friendly sober living apartment. The family does not have access to a computer or a car, and during one of Jessica's calls to check in on the girls, they mentioned that they weren't able to get their weekly packets from their school.

Jessica started picking up the packets each week and leaving them on the porch so the girls don't get behind in school. She's such a super hero for these kiddos and their family!



A health care professional during the day, and CASA volunteer in her spare time, volunteer Cristina Pozadas is on the front lines of our community's response to crises. Once visits had to go virtual, Cristina was quick to reach out to foster mom and set up a FaceTime schedule with the 3 little girls on her case. They love to FaceTime her and show them around the house and their new toys.

Cristina still does a great job at her CASA duties during this time, including working through the system to help achieve permanency for these girls. She and the DHS worker have a great relationship, too! Because of her advocacy, three little girls have a lot of hope for a bright future ahead!



# Volunteers serving Oklahoma County's foster youth this year

Kristina Acree  
Jenna Adkins  
Bronwyn Agnew  
Judith Akin  
Chance Alexander  
Tasha Alexander  
Joseph Allen  
Liliana Alvizu  
Ashtyn Anders  
Debbie Ashford  
Amber Austin  
David Barnes  
Amy Barnhill  
Heather Bartoli  
Cindy Becker  
Sandy Bement  
William Bendau  
Barbara Bingham  
Lori Blumenthal  
Alexander Bonano-Cruz  
Addison Book  
Montana Borth  
Candace Bradway  
Misty Breed  
Carol Brogan  
Karla Brooks  
Jessica Brower  
Pamela Brown  
William Brown  
Ashleigh Buchanan  
Andrea Buckley  
Mary Buehler  
Diana Burton  
Emma Butler  
Daniela Calderon  
Elizabeth Caldwell  
Will Calvo  
Rachael Campo  
Cynthia Cantrell  
Donna Carpenter  
Matthew Carroll  
Spence Carson  
Victoria Cash  
Tessa Clinton  
James Cobb  
Morgan Cobb  
Ruth Cochrum  
Travis Cochrum  
Shandi Coker

Jesse Colbert  
Kent Collins  
Penny Colton  
Kistna Conely  
Julia Converse  
Shelby Cooper  
Brittany Copeland  
Katherine Courtney  
Kimberly Crain  
JoDahl Creech  
Angela Daniel  
Nicole Daniels  
Kimberly Dawson  
Doye DeBolt  
Robert DeBolt  
Hannah Dennis  
Chris Dobie  
Jeremy Dugas  
Lindsey Duncan  
Jonette Dunlap  
James Durocher  
Merrick Eagleton  
Beverly Egan  
Erin Enderson  
Kimberly Ernst  
Sarah Fayssoux  
Cloyd Fisher  
Ashley Fivekiller  
Carol Fletcher  
Gary Fletcher  
Denise Flori  
April Frazier  
Elizabeth Freeman  
Allison Furlong  
Laura Futrell  
Ricardo Galindo  
Sabrina Garcia  
Naomi Gashu  
Ivan Gentry  
Connie Gibson  
Kristin Gilbert  
Andrea Gonzalez  
Rebecca Graninger  
Miranda Grant  
Yvonne Green  
Stephanie Griffith  
Eric Gunning  
Nancy Gwin  
Amy Gwyn

Jeremy Hall-Weyrick  
Dinky Hammam  
Warren Hammer  
Michaela Hansen  
Rebecca Hargrove-Santos  
Helen Harmon  
Monique Harmon  
Clarice Harris  
Tanya Hartfield  
Amy Heath  
Megan Henderson  
Wendy Henderson  
James Henry  
Steve Herburger  
Carolyn Higganbotham  
Dana Hill  
Makenzie Hill  
Amanda Hillyard  
Kathleen Himmler  
Crystal Hines  
Braden Hisey  
Randall Hiyane  
Jamie Holliman  
Cynthia Holman  
Jennifer Holmes  
Jasmine House  
Wendy House  
Elizabeth Houston  
Gene Hughes  
Judy Hughey  
Jessica Hunt  
Brittany Hunt-Jassey  
Charlotte Hunter  
Jessica Hutchinson  
Tia James  
Juan Jimenez  
Cathy Johnson  
Karen Johnson  
Lynn Jones  
Angie Kanaly  
Jennifer Karn  
Leslie Katwaru  
Kendall Keefe  
Carol Kelly  
Kristen Kendrick  
Kimberly Kennedy  
Rhonda Kerbo  
Yolanda Kernes

John Knapp  
Joseph Kopacz  
Kristina Kopacz  
Monica Kraft  
Vickie Lacy  
Sharon Lair  
Pam Lane  
Johanna Lange  
Al Ledbetter  
Miranda Lenocker  
Cailynn Leone  
Keith Lindsay  
Denise Lingo  
Rosalia Lira  
Mark Livingston  
Jennifer Livingstone  
Tara Long  
Nina Looper  
Dena Lovett  
Tommye Lucy  
Cassandra Ludens  
Donna Maddox  
Madison Malget  
Andrea Malherbe  
Rosana Marshall  
Deborah Mash  
Bob Maul  
Katy Maxwell  
Sara McAfee  
Sharon McBride  
Jackie McClure  
Sue McCollom  
Tina McCormack  
Lesla McDonald  
Stormi McKay  
Jennifer McKee  
Carolynn McKenny  
Lisa McKinzie  
Jeff McMillon  
Gina Meadows  
David Melton  
Nick Mesigh  
Diane Mickelson  
Tiffany Middleton  
Hailey Miles  
Cathy Miller  
Keith Mitchell  
Carrie Moore

Marcella Moss  
Megan Mueggenborg  
Paula Murphy  
Tekoa Nantze  
Stephanie Neil  
Larry Newman  
Victoria O'Kain  
James Orsi  
Raquel Pachicano  
Michelle Parkhill  
Jennifer Paton  
Sammi Payne  
Steven Payne  
Becky Payton  
Laila Pfau  
Gary Pfeiffer  
Laura Pfeiffer  
Amber Pinnick  
Shanna Pope  
Cristina Pozadas  
Kay Pratt  
Ted Prince II  
Rachel Ragsdale  
John Rahhal  
Nazim Rahim  
Susan Raupe  
Loretta Rausch  
Rebecca Rechy  
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Sarah Reininger  
Beth Reser  
Judy Reynolds  
Bailee Richards  
Ann Rooney  
Robyn Rose  
Katie Rountree  
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Cindi Sanchez  
Shalonda Sanders  
Lauryn Schooler  
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Pam Schriewer  
Tammy Schuler  
Steven Schwegal  
Ben Scott  
Patrick Searcey  
Mary Selid  
David Settles

Carenza Shields  
Marilyn Shipman  
Atticus Shires  
Judy Shuart  
Alexa Smart  
Deloriane Smith  
Megan Snodgrass  
Celia Solomon  
Carrie Sowers  
Tracy Starks  
Teresa Stephenson  
Lee Anne Stone  
Heather Stranger  
Kale Streeter  
Charlene Strong  
Barbara Swisher  
Janie Sylvester  
David Syring  
Cecilia Taft  
Stacy Tarpley  
Carolyn Thompson  
Rachel Tibbetts  
Mary Tidholm  
Lisa Tierney  
Pamela Tinsley  
Jodi Turek  
Uwe Turek  
Noreen Valadez  
Isaias Vega  
Katherine Vernon  
Kathryn Walker  
Debbie Wallace  
Richard Wallace  
True Wallace  
Jonathan Washburn  
Robert Whittaker  
Aubree Williams  
Barbara Williams  
Shirley Williams  
Alecisia Windfield  
Patti Wommer  
Jane Woods  
Will Xu  
Michael Young  
Lana Youngblood  
Jennifer Younger  
Lauren Yslas



# Consistency is Crucial

Two years ago, we highlighted CASA volunteer Tasha Alexander in our Light of Hope winter fundraising appeal. Tasha is an example of the child advocate who never quits, no matter what has happened in the case. Three years ago, she accepted assignment to a case with two children – Andy and Cara. When we told you their story, the children were on their sixth placement and second DHS worker. Tasha has been consistent throughout – she has been a Light of Hope for two very special children.

Tasha had to advocate for the children to be moved from a foster home that was not caring for their hair and hygiene needs. When Cara wasn't getting the allergy shots she needed because her medical records hadn't been transferred in a move, Tasha made sure it was fixed. Tasha was there to talk Andy through a tantrum that had him throwing chairs across a classroom. It turned out the school had not been providing him the accommodations required for his individualized needs. Once Tasha was able to navigate it, the school made the arrangements and Andy's behavioral outbursts went away.



In telling the story of her volunteer journey, Tasha was hopeful:

“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.”

Unfortunately, that potential permanent family placement didn't work out. And neither did the next trial adoption placement. But Tasha stayed consistent on the case.

In November of 2019, Andy and Cara moved to a temporary placement and were doing well in the home. When the foster parent had to leave the state for the Christmas holidays, she requested respite care, and the kids landed with a family for what was supposed to be a temporary stay. Tasha, consistent as always, watched as the family began to take shape:

“The foster family took them for respite, then was able to keep them. They bought them all kinds of stuff for Christmas, and set up rooms with new beds and furnishings just for them. They loved those kids instantly.”

Everyone hit it off so well, they ended up requesting to be Andy and Cara's permanent placement. In February 2020, they told DHS they wished to adopt both siblings. The children were afraid to speak up about their wishes to most people on the case because they didn't want to hurt their biological family's feelings. However, the children confided in Tasha that they definitely wanted to be adopted by the foster parents!

The children needed a relationship with their older sister, but the sister was not prepared to parent her siblings effectively.

Tasha led the charge, insisting that Andy and Cara wanted to be adopted by their foster parents, but maintain a relationship with their biological sister. She pushed hard for her opinion that the foster parents be given more support and consideration than they had received. The permanency worker agreed and the children's therapist reported the same thing. Eventually, the adoption workers agreed to help facilitate the adoption.

On June 6th of 2020, Andy and Cara were adopted after 10 years, 5 months, and 22 days in DHS custody, with all of their workers and their biological sister there for the celebration!





# Another year serving the community!



Our "Streetcar Tour" was a public awareness success



Staff coordinated outfits to celebrate a Blue Christmas



We ran into Civil Rights icon Ayanna Najuma at an Info Session



OnCue partnered with CASA for a refillable benefit cup



We had 96 new CASA volunteers swear in this year



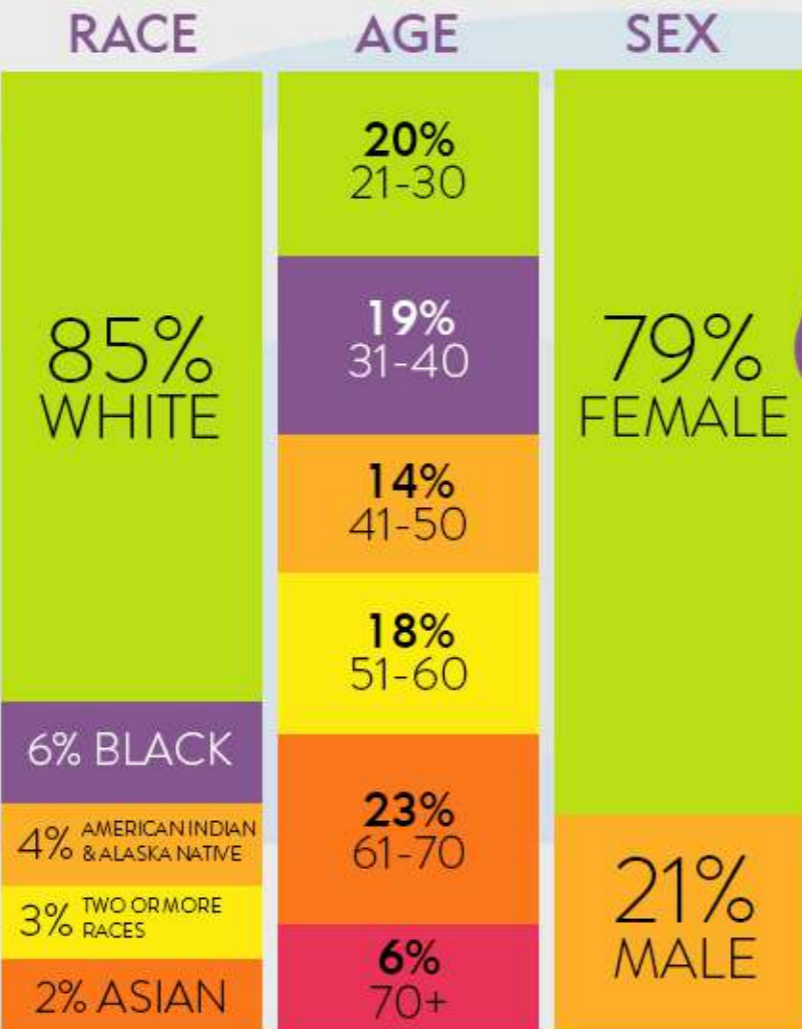
# Service Stats

CASAs made 34,427 total contacts on their cases - and 9% of volunteers speak more than one language!

CASA volunteers made 3,157 recommendations for children's best interests in FY2020!

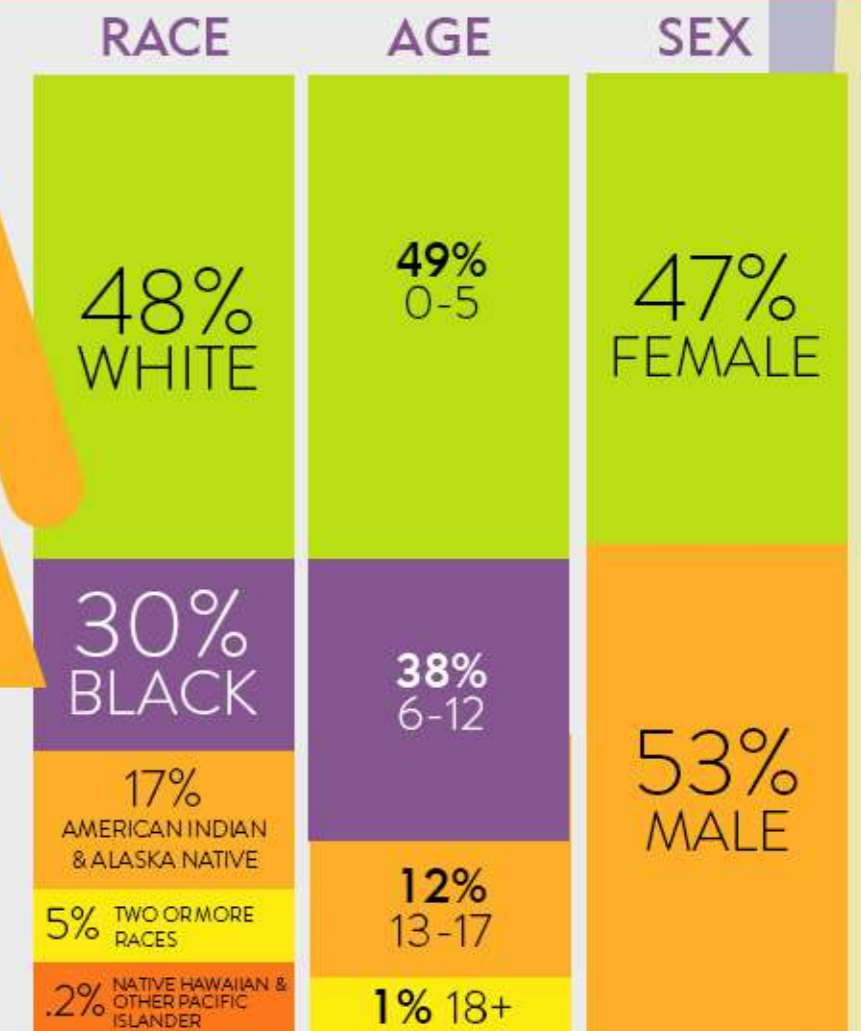
Volunteers drove 136,620 miles and spent 11,266 hours serving on their cases.

## 289 CASA Volunteers



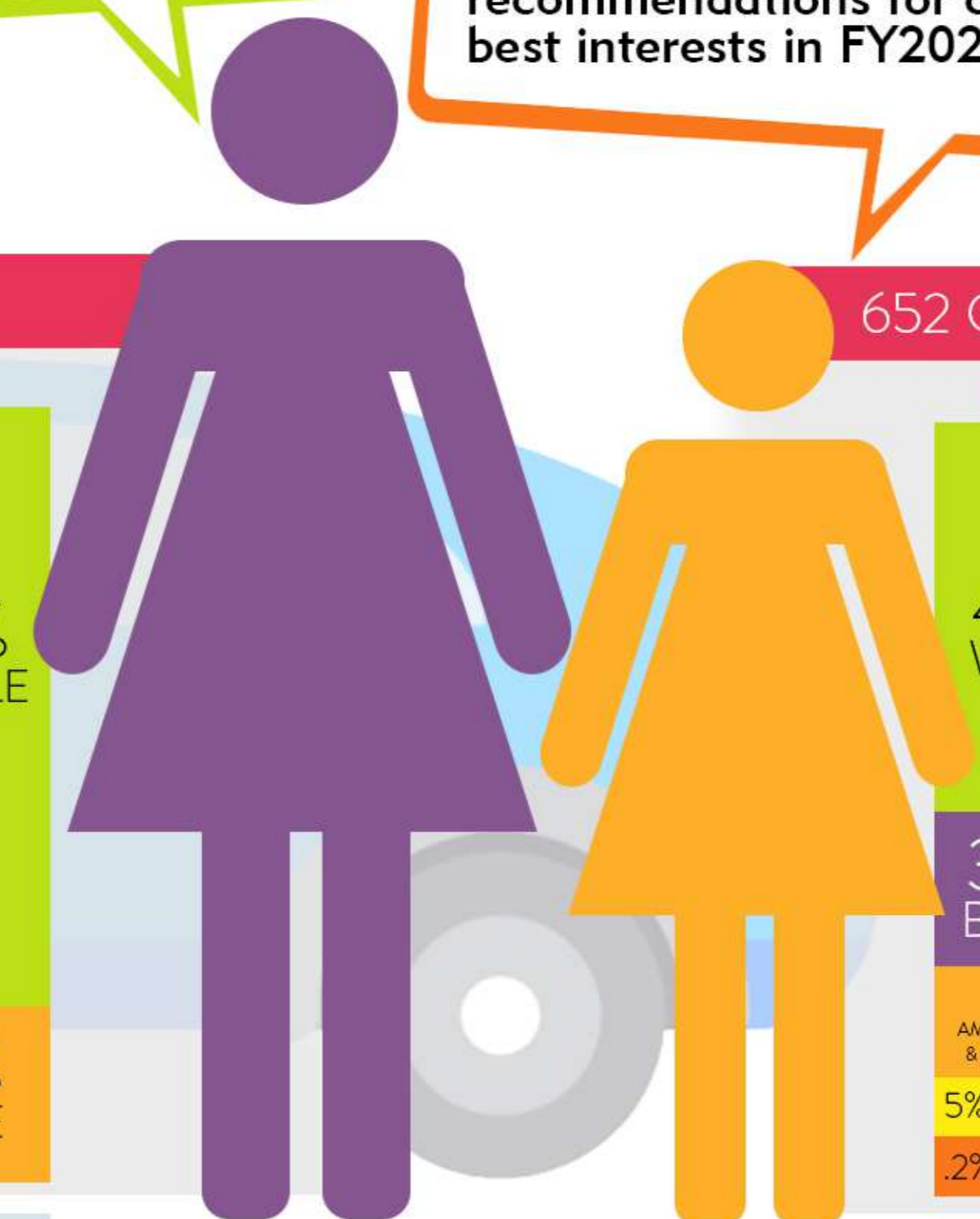
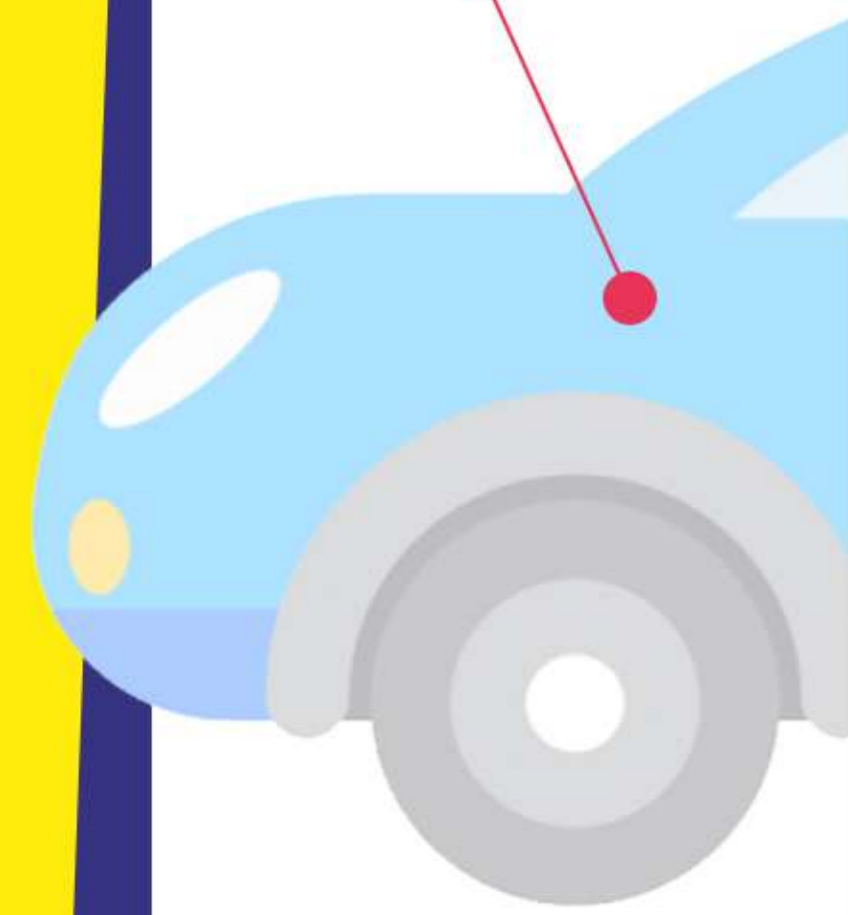
6% OF VOLUNTEERS ARE HISPANIC/LATINO

## 652 CHILDREN SERVED



2% OF KIDS SERVED ARE HISPANIC/LATINO

Totals may not equal 100% due to rounding.





# Donor Spotlight

For more than 25 years Thetas have stood with CASA to impact the lives of foster children. As an organization of women committed to spreading the widest influence for good, we have contributed millions of dollars over the years to local and National CASA programs as well as countless volunteer hours. It has been an amazing 25+ years, but our work is not done. Locally, our Oklahoma City Kappa Alpha Theta Alumnae Chapter has donated over \$65,000 dollars since 2016.

At their Grand Convention 2016, Kappa Alpha Theta announced its commitment to giving National CASA \$1 million over the following three years. With these funds, CASA will be able to develop a performance measurement system and provide volunteers with resources on how to best support foster youth. Thetas can support this cause by making donations to Theta Foundation for this \$1 million initiative or by supporting college and alumnae chapter philanthropy events.

Theta is honored to partner with an incredible organization like CASA that is so necessary to our community. Children are the promise for our future. Every child deserves an advocate to make certain they are cared for and protected. We are grateful to CASA for providing this support to foster children.



Kappa Alpha Theta Alumnae of OKC for presented CASA with a gift of \$15,000! Pictured in the photo, from the left: Amy Cottrell; Karen Raupe Hanstein; Charlie Knight, Oklahoma City Kappa Alpha Theta Alumnae Chapter President; Kim Vanbebber, CASA Interim E.D.; LeAnn Lienhard, past president; Jayne Clarke; Charlie Ludden, CASA Development Manager

# FY 2020 Financials





# Our Generous Donors

\$10,000+

Albers Family Affiliated Fund  
American Fidelity Foundation  
Arnall Family Foundation  
Cox Charities Foundation  
E.L. and Thelma Gaylord Foundation  
Gardner Tanenbaum Group  
James Bennett  
Kim and Suzette Hatfield  
Kirkpatrick Family Fund  
Lisa Owens Family Fund  
Lori and Jeff Blumenthal  
Oklahoma City Community Foundation  
Saranne and Livingston Kosberg  
Sarkeys Foundation  
The McGee Foundation, Inc.  
The Small Group, LLC  
Wells Fargo Foundation  
Wilshire Charitable Foundation

\$5,000-\$9,999

Jennifer and George Chrysant  
Communities Foundation Of Oklahoma  
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Cresap Family Foundation  
Katie and Tony Say  
Pam and Richard Lane  
The Harris Foundation  
Wells Fargo Advisors

\$2,500-4,999

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Jed Clarke  
Joni and Mike Stewart  
Lee Anne Stone  
Michael Collins  
NALS of Oklahoma  
Oklahoma CASA Association, Inc.  
OnCue Marketing, LLC  
Pontotoc Sands Company, LLC  
Tammy and Kale Streeter  
Venessa and David Donchin  
XTO Energy

\$1,000-2,499

Amy and Jimmie Hobbs  
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Ashley Baldwin  
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Barth and Linda Bracken Fund  
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Blue Cross Blue Shield Of Oklahoma  
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Gay and Ed Kirby  
Goodin Family Foundation  
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Jennifer Dunn  
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Jolene Ingram  
Judy Wolf  
Justin LeVasseur  
Kelly and Howard Hinton  
Kendall Pacey  
Knight Energy Services  
Koch Communications, LLC  
Kristen Rogstad  
Lani Stone  
LPL Financial  
Mark Mengers

Mary and John Tidholm  
McLaughlin Family Foundation  
Meghan and Dan Bruner  
Nomac Drilling  
O'Connor Family Foundation  
Oilfield Technical Services  
Oklahoma County  
Oklahoma County Bar Auxiliary  
Oklahoma County Bar Foundation  
Pat and Fred Schonwald, Jr. Gift Fund  
Pat and John Swaim  
Paul Tilley  
Penner Foundation  
Phillip Owens  
Phillips Murrah  
Rainbolt Family Foundation  
Ronna and Lawrence Davis Family Foundation  
Roy Howard  
Samantha Bentson  
Sharon Smeltzer and Stacy Scheffler  
St. Luke's United Methodist Church  
Steve Mason Jr.  
Steve Trotter  
Susan and Edward Harroz  
TCM Interests LLC  
Thad Parsons  
The Magnolia Charitable Foundation  
Tres Management Inc.  
Trevor Anderson  
Vicki Weaver-Payne and David Payne  
West Family Foundation

\$500-999

American Fidelity Assurance Company  
Ann Garrett  
Bickford Family Gift Fund  
Bohanon Dentistry  
Brett Kopetsky  
Carrie and Joe Blakey  
Cathie and Jim Trepagnier  
Charities Aid Foundation of America

Cindi and Sonny Sanchez  
Cody Cooper  
Coree Stevenson  
CycleBar Classen Curve  
Eric Denny  
Heather and Mark Livingston  
Heidi and Steve Herburger  
James Turner

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Katherine Maxwell  
Kellie and Scott Witt  
Kelly Henley  
Kendra Scott  
Laura and Lou Barlow  
Linda Blumenthal

Lloyd and Glenda Eisenhower Charitable Fund  
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Paul Brown  
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