



Lift up a child's voice. A child's life.™

## Statistics about abused and neglected children in Tennessee:

There are slightly less than 8,000 children in foster care.

There are less than 4,000 foster families willing to provide homes for foster children.

The opioid epidemic in TN has caused a significant increase in the number of children entering the system and having parental rights terminated. TN has the 2nd highest rate of opioid prescriptions in the nation.

According to date from 2014, there are currently 864 children permanently residing in foster care where parental rights have been terminated. These children remain in foster care until they turn 18, unless they are adopted.

Children over 8 years of age who are available for adoption have a 20% chance of being adopted and most face 10 more years in the foster care system before aging out.

A child represented by a CASA Volunteer Advocate is more likely to:

- Find a safe, permanent home.
- Will receive more needed services while in the court system.
- Will spend less time in foster care.
- Will do better in school.
- Not be bounced from home to home.

## Letter from the Executive Director

2018 was an amazing year for CASA Nashville and I want to take this opportunity to share that success with you, since *our success is your success*.

As I reflect over this past year, I'm reminded of the value and power of collective energy. CASA has experienced increased momentum and growth due to the collective efforts of many people. Thanks to the support of hundreds of generous donors, our Board of Directors, and the incredible dedication and selflessness of more than 180 Volunteer Advocates, CASA was able to provide 334 children with a CASA Volunteer Advocate last fiscal year. These 334 young lives were changed forever because of CASA—and that happened *because of your support. Thank you.*



This past spring, CASA held its largest Red Shoe Party to date with over 320 attendees, thanks to our fantastic chairs! Then, that very same week, we received exciting news that we had been awarded a large state grant that would allow us to hire two new Advocate Supervisors, that would, in turn, enable us to serve more children! Amazing!

With the new staff additions, we were also able to promote one of our Advocate Supervisors to a newly created role: Adolescent Advocacy Specialist. This new role was created due to the number of older children coming into foster care and going straight into residential youth facilities; many located hours outside of Nashville. Previously, CASA was not able to serve these children due to the burden it would put on volunteers to travel so far from Nashville. Now, the Adolescent Advocacy Specialist will be able to provide this much needed advocacy until they can return to a foster care home in the Nashville area.

Over the last several years, we've seen as many as 800 children per year in foster care pass through the Davidson County Juvenile Court. We are also seeing young people coming into care with very complex trauma due to the opioid crisis, the lack of affordable housing for families, and the lack of access to affordable health care. The rapid growth of Nashville creates an even bigger burden for our child welfare system.

This also includes a dwindling number of available foster care homes. The Department of Children's Service is in desperate need of loving, caring homes to help support our children while we work to find them safe, permanent homes. You can help DCS find safe homes for children by encouraging your faith community, workplace or neighborhood to promote foster care and adoption, or even consider becoming a foster parent yourself. Let us know if you're interested and we'll point you in the right direction.

There is no doubt in my mind that by working together we can surround and support our community's most vulnerable youth and let them know that we see them, we love them, and that we will rise to meet the challenge of finding them a safe and permanent home. Because that's what every child deserves.

Thank you for all you do for CASA Nashville. And remember, without YOU there would be no CASA.

Gratefully,  
Julieanna Huddle  
Executive Director





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# 2017-2018 Financials

## 2018 REVENUE

%	Revenue
55%	Development
31%	Special Events
4%	United Way & Designations
10%	Contracts & Fees



## 2018 EXPENSE

%	Expense
71%	Salaries
5%	Professional Fees
11%	Special Events
3%	Supplies
2%	Communication
3%	Occupancy
5%	All Other

<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$546,610.00</b>
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>\$649,857.00</b>
	<b>\$(103,247.00)</b>

## 2017 – 2018 Key Points

1. Number of children served – 334
2. Number of active volunteers – 183
3. Number of volunteers trained this year – 35
4. Percentage of Casa recommendations accepted by the Courts – 98%
5. Percentage of children that remained in a Safe Home six months after placement – 100%

In the last several years, CASA has seen as many as 800 children in foster care pass through the Davidson County Juvenile Court. With the growth of Nashville on the rise, we do not see that number lowering any time soon. These children are our community's most vulnerable youth. They have been abused, neglected, and abandoned. CASA provides much needed professionally trained and dedicated Volunteer Advocates to ensure that these children have a voice.