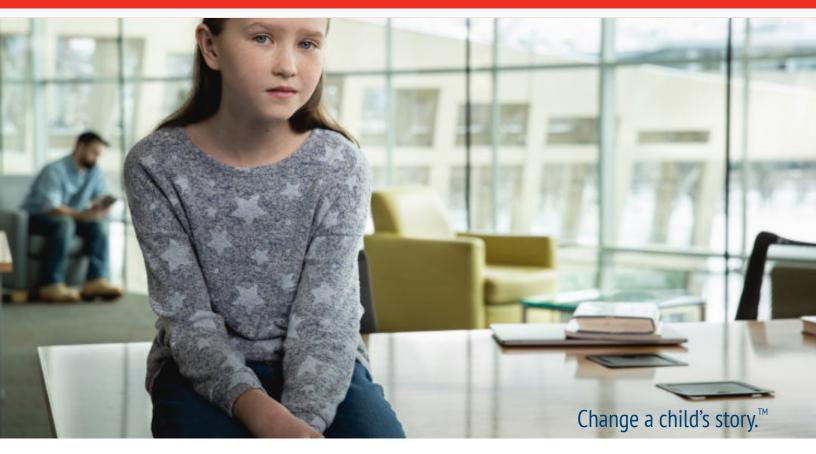


# 2018-2019 ANNUAL REPORT



### **Nationwide**

Over 415,000 children are in the foster care system. Less than half are placed with a family member or relative to care for them while in foster care.

On average, 64 youth age out of foster care every day and find themselves with no support at age 18.

50% of all youth that age out of foster care become homeless.

75% of youth that age out of foster care suffer from post-traumatic stress disorder, less than 3% will earn a degree in college or vocational school, and 2/3 of young women will be pregnant by their 21st birthday.

### **Across 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.

Less than 50% of foster children are placed with a relative and either participate in a group setting or stay with a foster parent.

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.

## **CASA'S Impact:**

CASA Nashville served 334 youth in fiscal year 2018-2019 with 150 volunteers.

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 while in custody.



# Letter from the Executive Director

This year CASA Nashville will celebrate 35 years of serving our community's most vulnerable youth. This milestone would not have been possible without you and so many other caring individuals like you along the way.

In looking back through archived documents and newspaper clippings of the agency's 35-year history, it's clear to see that the work of CASA is just as critical now as it was in 1984. Only now, CASA is doing its work on a much larger scale. In 1984 we started with just 11 Volunteer Advocates serving just 15 children. Today, we have more than 165 Volunteer Advocates providing services to more than 300 children in state custody. Our community, and these precious children, need CASA now more than ever.



As pleasant as it is to reflect on past accomplishments, we are even more excited to be looking at the future of CASA. You are likely to see more of us this year—we are launching a major public relations and marketing campaign in celebration of our anniversary to raise awareness about CASA. Please comment on our Facebook, Instagram or Twitter pages when you see us in the media!

We are thrilled to announce that we will be launching our first breakfast fundraiser this fall, "Breakfast with Champions", where we will recognize our Volunteer Advocates who have reached significant milestones in service. We hope that you will consider joining us in recognizing and supporting our Volunteer Advocates at this inaugural event! Details to come.

CASA will also conduct its second annual Advocacy Training Summit in November, where our Volunteer Advocates can avail themselves of an entire day of training and team building. The first year's event was a tremendous success, with over 100 people attending.

And finally, we will close out our 35th Anniversary year with a bang at our 80's themed 35th Birthday party on Saturday, April 25th. Look for a save the date card in your mailbox this fall.

Whew! That's a lot! But we're all very, very excited to turn up the volume here at CASA and get the word out about the amazing work our volunteers, staff, and board have been doing to take CASA to the next level. I'm truly looking forward to celebrating, honoring, and reconnecting with those who have made CASA Nashville possible.

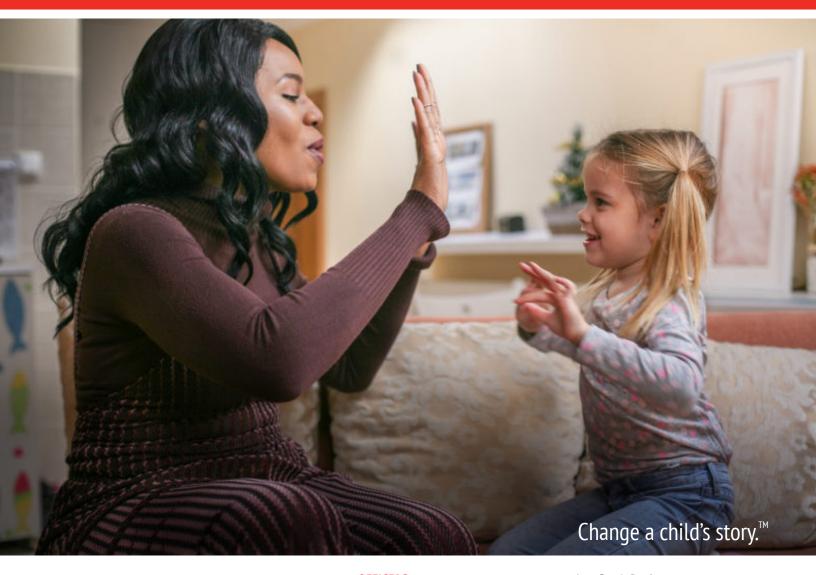
But before any of this begins, I wanted to take this opportunity to thank you for your support. We're only here because of you, and our successes are your successes. Thank you for the love, the investment and the support. Here's to 35 more years!

Gratefully,

Hulieanna Huddle
Executive Director







We are grateful to our 2018-2019 **Board of Directors** for their leadership:

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# 2018-2019 Volunteer Advocates

# We are grateful to our volunteer advocates for their time and dedication:

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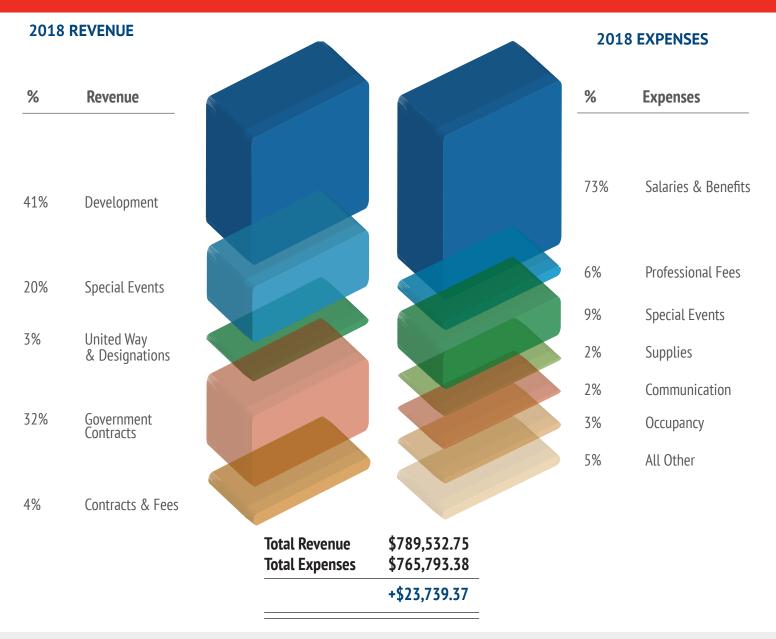
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# 2018-2019 Financials



# 2018 - 2019 Key Points

- 1. Number of children served 334
- 2. Number of active volunteer advocates 150
- 3. Number of volunteer advocates trained this year 48
- 4. Percentage of CASA recommendations accepted by the Courts 96%
- 5. Percentage of children that remained in a Safe Home six months after placement 98%

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.