CASA

Court Appointed Special Advocates

FOR CHILDREN

DENTON COUNTY

# ANNUAL REPORT 2019

*Janie McLeod, Emeritus Board Member, and her husband, Cliff, CASA supporters since 1997.*

# OUR CHILDREN

**615**

of our community's children were served by a trained, caring Advocate

- 55% boys
- 45% girls
- 48% ages 0-5
- 24% tweens & teens

## TYPES OF ABUSE* SUFFERED?

- 81% victims of neglect
- 14% victims of physical abuse
- 5% victims of sexual abuse

*Most cases involve more than 1 type of abuse.

## HOW LONG IN FOSTER CARE?

- 38% - 12 months or less
- 26% - 13-18 months
- 22% - 18 months-2 years
- 14% - more than 2 years

## HOW DID THEY FIND A SAFE, STABLE HOME?

- 37% of children returned to their home
- 51% adopted by relative or new family
- 2% aged out of the system
- 10% of cases closed through dismissal or nonsuit

# OUR VOLUNTEERS

**241** community folks served on at least one case

**90** new volunteers joined the CASA family

## WHAT DID THEY DO?

They gave **25,633** hours of service (that's 42 hrs. for EVERY child)

They did **1,600** hours of in-service training

They drove **284,786** miles (more than 11x around the earth!)

## WHO ARE THEY?

13% of volunteers were under age 40

40% were 60 and over

70% had a bachelor's degree or higher ed.

77% were female

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Melinda Galler, President
Kyle Blalock, Vice President
Frank Scheer, Treasurer
Mary Harris, Secretary
Jean Campbell, Emeritus Member
Janie McLeod, Emeritus Member
Sam Awesome
Dixie Berry
Rhonda Cain
Susan Chance
Shakila Farmer
Carla Flowers
Brandon Martino
Lee Ramsey
Nika Reinecke
Kay Schroeder
Pat Sherman
Cathy Ueckert

# SERVING OUR COMMUNITY

## CHILDREN CAME FROM

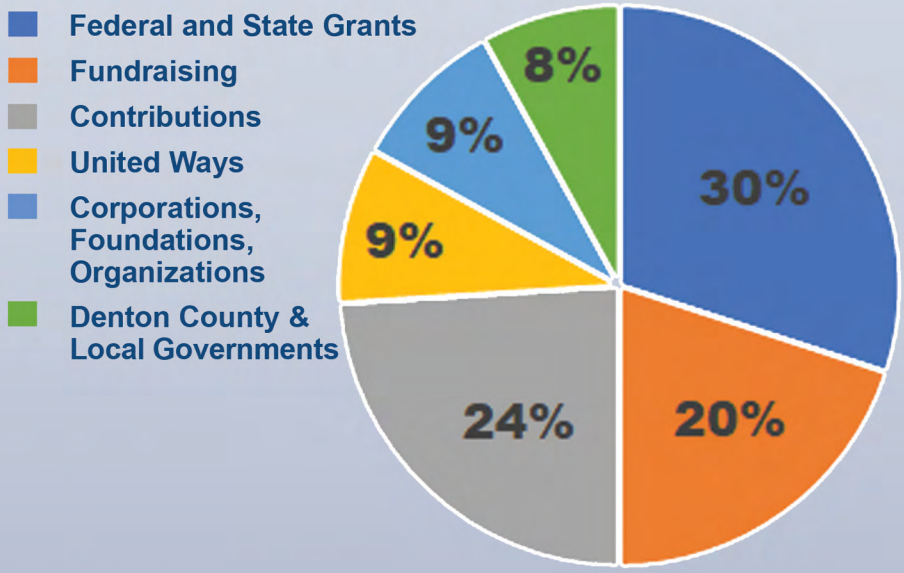
Argyle • Aubrey • Carrollton • Dallas • Denton
Flower Mound • Frisco • Justin • Krum • Lake Dallas
Lewisville • Little Elm • Pilot Point • Ponder • Roanoke
Sanger • The Colony

## ADVOCATES CAME FROM

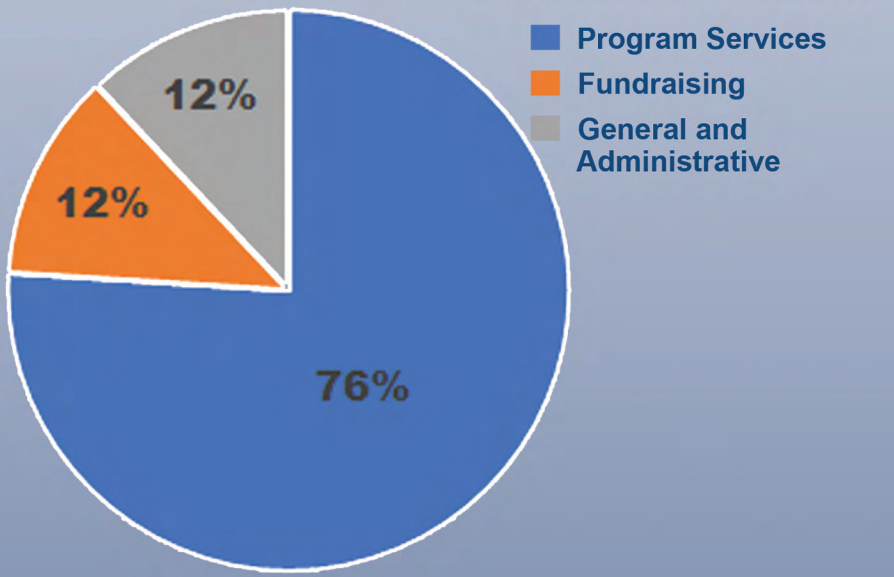
Argyle • Aubrey • Bartonville • Benbrook • Carrollton
Coppell • Corinth • Crossroads • Dallas • Decatur
Denton • Double Oak • Fairview • Flower Mound
Fort Worth • Frisco • Hickory Creek • Highland Village
Houston • Irving • Krum • Lake Dallas • Lantana
Lewisville • Little Elm • Northlake • Oak Point • Pilot
Point • Plano • Ponder • Roanoke • Sanger
Savannah • Shady Shores • Southlake • The Colony
Trophy Club • Wichita Falls

# COMMUNITY IMPACT

## Where Our Funding Comes From




## How We Use Our Resources



# GIVING BILLY A CHANCE

Billy seemed like a child without a chance in life. His tiny body was exposed to illegal drugs even before birth, and he never went to school. Once he turned 6 and his baby sister Cindy was born, the little family moved around frequently, and his parents fought. One night at the motel room where they were staying, Billy shielded his baby sister from the flying broken glass, and then picked up the phone to call motel security to report his mother was being hurt. A police officer came to help, and Child Protective Services was called.

But things got worse before they got better as Billy and Cindy were placed in different foster homes. Billy worried about his mother and baby sister all the time.

## BILLY (CONTINUED)

Their CASA Advocate, Angela, went to work making sure that nobody forgot that the kids needed to be together, and never separated again. Soon a home was found for the two of them, and Angela and Billy continued to visit frequently to get to know each other.

Billy was enrolled in Kindergarten, despite being older and taller than the other kids, and he thought that meant something was wrong with him. He got angry sometimes and acted out. He needed therapy to talk about his feelings.

Angela made it her purpose to be sure Billy saw himself as she saw him, and to give him hope for a positive future. Billy and Cindy were not able to return to their biological parents. This made Billy sad and worried.

When COVID-19 hit, Angela and Billy talked weekly over Zoom and Facetime. He learned to read while staying home, so Angela bought a huge stack of books for him and dropped them off on the porch.

Billy began to overcome his challenges. He read books every day. Cindy became a sweet, active toddler. Billy told Angela he wanted them to be adopted.

Billy started at the top of his class in second grade. He said, “I never knew that I was smart!” Billy and Cindy were adopted by a family that includes older siblings who dote on them.

Angela, their CASA Advocate, never gave up fighting for them. She was there beside Billy and Cindy, bringing hope for their future.