



2025 ANNUAL REPORT



CASA

Court Appointed Special Advocates
FOR CHILDREN

DENTON COUNTY

A LETTER FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

You may know the butterfly effect is the theory that the flapping of the insect's wings on one side of the world could eventually create a hurricane somewhere else. While that may be a bit overstated, it is true that small movements can make a difference in large systems.

When a caring volunteer steps into the life of a child affected by abuse and neglect, for example, we call it **The CASA Effect**. Small actions by a volunteer can and do add up to change in the lives of children every day.

Over time, results come: help for the family, increased well-being for children, and passing grades in school.

Another fact is that many species of butterflies are endangered, their numbers steadily declining since the 1990s. CASA volunteers have also declined; we have lost 100 of these precious difference-makers since 2019. Meanwhile, the number of children from our community affected by abuse and neglect grew by 64 children just last year.

You, or someone you know, could be part of the CASA effect. The gift of your time can add up to a real change in a child's life and improve your community.



**Go online today
and sign up!**



Handwritten signature of Debbie Jensen in white ink.

Debbie Jensen
Executive Director



OUR MISSION

The mission of CASA of Denton County, Inc. is to advocate for the best interests of children who have experienced abuse and neglect. Our trained and supported community volunteers build a strong, consistent relationship with each child and their family, promote community resources, and make informed recommendations to the court.

OUR VALUES

Responsible use of resources to maximize our positive impact on the child welfare system.

Independent & educated recommendations, true to our understanding of each child's best interest, that prioritize children's safety and preserve connections to their families when possible.

Honorable & respectful involvement in the child welfare system, with the courts and all parties.

Empowering the community through strong screening, training, supervision, and support of volunteers.

OUR VISION

A safe, secure future for every child so they can reach their full potential.

2025 BY THE NUMBERS



642

Children served



42

New Advocates
trained



294

Children served
from new cases



21,068

Volunteer hours of
service to children



202

Volunteer
Advocates on cases



1,586

Hearings attended

CHILDREN'S OUTCOMES



49%

Reunification

9%

Adopted by or placed
with a non-relative

22%

Adopted by or placed
with a relative

3%

Other

15%

Case closed by the
court

2%

Aged out of foster
care

2025 VOLUNTEERS

10+ YEARS

Lori Powell
Angela Byers
Carol Cole
Darlene Covich
Holly Hill
Elizabeth Tobias
Adrienne McCrady
Charles Gross
Kathryn Reichard
Michael Fitzsimmons

5+ YEARS

Clinton Page
Courtney Page
Dana Hamous
Jill Coulter
Kristi Stroebel
Larry Kestila
Laura Miller
Laura Starzer
Marilyn Popek
Paul Rando
Steven Moomau
Tammy Boock-Holst
Terri Gonzalez
Jennifer Cox
Rachel Yeatts
Brittain Watson
David Winkler
Elizabeth Fleming
Kelli Harpool
Lacey Holland
Lee Murphy
Liam Walsh
Linda Hayward
Steve Marshall
Amanda McGough
Angie Fitzsimmons
Carol Chambers

Charles Thetford
Daniel Echaves
John Alday
John Parkhurst
Judy Fogarty
Justin Toumberlin
Kathleen Martinez Gallegos
Laura Walters
Lynn Dalleske
Richard Boyer
Robin Napier-Adv
Sharon Mathes
Susan Rodocker
Tammy Worthey
Amy Whisenhunt
Angela Kimes
Bruce Schultes
Caitlin Gavina
Camilla Norder
Catherine Tripp
James Goetz
Jessica Fisher-Hathey
Kerri Hunt
Linda Vrazel
Lori Kestila
Risha Edwards
Teri Weber

3+ YEARS

Ed Sholty
Eddie Ragsdale
Jeff Popple
Jeffrey Underwood
Kemarie Black
Kimberly Hughes
Lisa Rogenes
Maria Finamore Maneiro
Mary Dunlevy
Mary Sholty
Michelle Marost

Paula Sotelo
Rebecca Dunn
Ruby Mohan
Shari Borth
Renee Rawlings
Sheri Littrell
Stacey Giles
Stacy Lewis
Steven Groover
Bobby Oliver
Cheryl Lancaster
Christy Bridgewater-Feehery
Daniel Lusty II
Danielle Vance
Deanne Moore Haus
Annet Warzwick
Emily Bussey
Francis Mesina
Glenda Redd
Helen Ulakovic
Irene Boynton
Jacqueline Sumpter-C de Baca
Karamjit Virk
Kathleen Everhart
Kavitha Chandran
Laura Bong
Laura Park
Lauri Johnston
Laurie Pearson
Mami Noguchi
Paula Cartwright
Robert C de Baca
Robert Ivory
Rossana Boyd
Sarah Beth Green
Shanna Baldree
Todd Dipilla
Todd Romig

2 YEARS

Abbie Schlatter
Abigail Heausler
Alice Samsky
Amy Lombardi
Angela Bailey
Bailey Thompson
Caeley Melmed
Charlene Dierks
Christopher Richardson
Courtney Smith
Dana Shay
Daniel Park
David Corliss
Deborah Vallejo
Debra Hetland
Douglas Maher
Elizabeth Njenga
Gregory Newton
Jennifer Palmer
Susie Brown
Karen Hendrix
Kathy Ogburn
Keri Ladner
Kimberly Kerner
Krista Henry
Kristi Smyers
Kristina Head
Kristina Knowles
Leslie Cusick Fernandes
Lezlee Duty
Lucecita Diego Lazcano
Mimosa Bernard
Minh Smith
Mohammad Yawar Shahzad
Paola Gomez
Robert Smith
Sarah Doyle
Shauna Bhattacharya
Sherry Garvin
Steve Holzwarth
Becky Puckett
Susan Warriner
Taylor Davis
Teamera Ware
Tonia Visalli
Troy Dale

Uzma Shahzad
Wendy Walker
William Reaves
Zoe Rivera

1 YEAR

Adriana Arrieta-Faulkner
Adriana LaCour
Elise Hall
Alexys Button
Anjolyn Parrott
Ayesha Khan
Brett Pollard
Catherine Demers
Debra Warrington
Elizabeth Byars
Elizabeth Donald
Grace Mckeown
Heather Irizarry
Jacob Ciotti
Jacquelyn Kushnir
Jennifer Murphy
Jill Brown
Paige Gray
Krista Sterzenbach
Leanne Johnston

Luis Martinez
Madison Lindsey
Margaret Burke
Margaret Strowe
Maria Melissa Cuaycong
Marie Fry
Marteel Hopper
Mary Shuler
Megan Murobayashi
Michael Winge
Nicole Jesse
Mike Hamilton
Rachel Anderson
Rhonda Alday
Rhonda Lukie
Richard Alexander
Richard Doucette
Shannon Mejia
Sha-ree Lewis
Taryn Dunn
Timothy Jeske
Udoka Omenukor
Wendy Chance
Diane Wormley
Yvette Slaine
Zarina Athar



FINANCIALS

OUR FUNDING



39%

State & federal grants

8%

Local governments

31%

Special events

7%

Individuals

11%

Foundations & United Way

4%

Misc. income

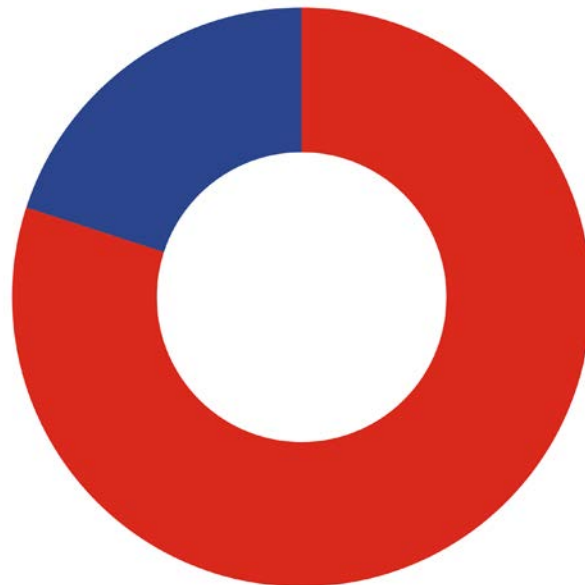
EXPENSE OVERVIEW

80%

Program expenses

20%

Administrative & fundraising expenses



Numbers based on 2024 audited financials.

MEET OUR PEOPLE

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President

Debra Furst

Vice President

Rick Cain

Treasurer

Pete McCleskey

Secretary

Kayla Walding

At Large:

Shante Akafia

Jason Burlie

Frank Dixon

Tinika Draper

Andrew Evans

Deb Finley

Cheri Irwin

Kesha Jackson

Brandon Martino

Carri Moody

Kirsten Pasha

Sharalyn Payne

Lauren Romero

Jack Sawko

Mitch Sizelove

STAFF

Executive Director

Debbie Jensen

Program Director

Pattie Huestis

Development Director

Michelle Rocha

Operations Director

Teresa Brown

Sam Belson-Sickler

Ashley Brannon

Savannah Carper

Mary Cartright

Ed Coffey

Meme Collins-Tabuena

Mary Eure

Lucy Fernandez

Bethany Hartung

Jeannine Jaramillo

Brandy Jonak

Robyne Maffia

Ashlee Muhlberger

Beth Potter

Celeste Salsman

Wednesday Turbeville

Keri Willerton

Lara Willner

Ryan Wofford



**VOLUNTEER
TODAY!**

PHONE
(940) 243-2272

WEBSITE
WWW.CASADENTON.ORG

OFFICE
**614 N. BELL AVE.
DENTON, TX 767209**



Partner Agency

