



2020 - 2021 IMPACT REPORT



CASA

Court Appointed Special Advocates
FOR CHILDREN

PASSAIC COUNTY



A REFLECTION

Where we are now and what's next

Globally, 2020 and 2021 will forever be associated with buzzwords like "social distancing" and "Zoom." But in our neck of the woods at 415 Hamburg Turnpike in Wayne, those years also represent two other words: "resilience" and "innovation."

Though we were tested in both our personal and professional capacities, we adapted and grew in ways we never could have imagined.

Our inspiration and drive came from the countless ways that our volunteers, community partners, court and child welfare staff and donors stepped up to ensure that already vulnerable youth were not further victimized by the gaps in service created by the pandemic.

In 2019, Passaic County CASA celebrated a huge milestone: we were able to provide an advocate to every child in need. In the early days of the pandemic, however, we were concerned about being able to sustain the number and quality of volunteers for such a traditionally in-person role in the new virtual world. We knew it would take more volunteers and staff, expanded office space, and increased sustainable financial contributions.

Through the pandemic, we stayed focused on these goals and achieved them throughout the year. We trained and swore in 43 new CASA volunteers, and continued to keep eyes on our children through a creative mix of visit formats. We received an amazing honor when we were awarded the NJ Safe Babies Court Team grant through ZERO TO THREE in September of 2020. Launching an entirely brand new program in the height of the pandemic may have been considered overly ambitious by some. Our staff, however, jumped at the opportunity to bring this evidence-backed support to families in Passaic, Essex and Hudson counties.

In the spring of 2021, we worked collaboratively with our landlord to begin an office expansion project, which will make room for the new New Jersey Safe Babies Court Team staff, and allow for enhanced programming for all our children and youth.





TABLE OF CONTENTS

4	Our Programs
6	What is a CASA?
8	Impact by the Numbers
10	Our Volunteers
12	Neighborhood Assistance Program
14	New Jersey Safe Babies Court Team
16	Our Supporters
20	Financial Report
21	Staff and Board
22	Corporate Sponsors
23	Outreach

Meanwhile, amazing volunteers celebrated children's birthdays, donated tablets, collected school supplies, and spent quality time advocating for children while remaining safe. They participated in virtual court hearings, school meetings, home visits, and adoption celebrations. With generous contributions from our donors and community partners, we were able to be innovative in how we supported the individual needs of children and families.

Although the world was not easy for anyone over the last year, you—our community of support—have never lost sight of our children.

I hope you enjoy this look back at this amazing year made possible by you. Thank you for your dedication and support in 2020-2021 and continued partnership as we look into the future.



Erica Fischer-Kaslander

ERICA FISCHER-KASLANDER
Executive Director



OUR PROGRAMS

COURT APPOINTED SPECIAL ADVOCATES

Established in 2007, Passaic County CASA recruits, screens, trains, and supervises volunteer advocates from the local community who champion the best interests of children in the child welfare system. These advocates focus on the individual needs of each child and advocate for those interests throughout the legal and child welfare process.

NEIGHBORHOOD ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Passaic County CASA's Neighborhood Assistance Program (NAP) was launched in 2020 as a response to COVID-19 and the needs of vulnerable children and families in our area. By helping families with necessities like diapers, wipes, and formula, our goal is to reduce infant/toddler health risks, reduce the risk of child abuse, and minimize the impact of the pandemic on babies and young children.

NEW JERSEY SAFE BABIES COURT TEAM

In 2020, Passaic County CASA was chosen to be the host organization for a new Safe Babies Court Team (SBCT) Initiative in New Jersey. Launching in Passaic, Hudson, and Essex counties, the New Jersey Safe Babies Court Team (NJSBCT) provides evidence-based and hands-on support to children age 0-3 and their families in the court system. NJSBCT works to improve outcomes for very young children in foster care, or at risk for removal, and their families. The team is focused on minimizing trauma and its impact on early development by improving collaboration between the judicial and child welfare systems, working together to support young children and their families.

WE CHAMPION THE WELLBEING OF CHILDREN AND THEIR FAMILIES.

Whether in foster care, in homes, or in the community, our programs tackle child welfare on all its fronts. We are committed to ensuring that children and their families have what they need to live safe and happy lives.



NEW JERSEY SAFE BABIES COURT TEAM

Provides evidence-based and hands-on support to children age 0-3 and their families in the court system.

NEIGHBORHOOD ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Lessens the economic burden of basic childhood necessities for struggling local families engaged with the child welfare system.

COURT APPOINTED SPECIAL ADVOCATES

Ensures children in foster care are heard in the system, receive appropriate services, and have a dedicated volunteer advocate they can count on.

WHAT IS A CASA?

A CASA, or Court Appointed Special Advocate, is a volunteer who is trained to work with children in their local communities who have been removed from their homes because of abuse, neglect or abandonment. CASA volunteers are appointed to a child's case by a family court judge in order to ensure that the child remains a priority in an overburdened child welfare system, and that the judge maintains an accurate understanding of the child and his/her case.

CASAs get to know the child while also gathering information from the child's family, teachers, doctors, therapists, caregivers, and anyone else involved in the child's life. This is done in order to make independent and informed recommendations that help the judge decide what is in the best interest of the child.



[Being a CASA] is a way I could contribute to a better life for a child in foster care, while at the same time, give my own life more purpose and meaning."

DANA CHAPMAN
CASA - 3 years



During the pandemic, the CASA role became even more important with so many children confined at home due to loss of in-person schooling, and many families dealing with financial struggles."

ALEXANDRA
RIVAS-SMITH
CASA - 2 years



It is absolutely heart-wrenching to see a child living without a voice, having their fate tossed around like a baseball. CASAs can be that voice; we can speak on behalf of these children and help them find their permanent home."

LISA INGERSOLL
CASA - 6 years

PROFILES IN SERVICE



JOHN GONSALVES

When John became a CASA, he brought his warmth and easy-going style to the role. John has been a lifeline to CASA youth and their families since April of 2019. Currently serving as an advocate to three children, each of those children, because of John, now has had the appropriate evaluations done and their educational needs met. John provides a consistent adult role model in the lives of these children, ensuring they reach safe and permanent homes as quickly as possible.



NOEMI MENENDEZ

Noemi Menendez is a retired Special Education teacher who brings deep knowledge and understanding to the role of CASA. Noemi trained as a brand-new CASA in the height of the pandemic, and is currently serving on her second case. Noemi has quickly found her groove as an advocate and works on her cases with ease. As a bilingual Spanish/English speaking CASA, Noemi is able to effectively advocate for Hispanic families.

"As a CASA, my goal is to ensure that children under my care receive everything they need and deserve. I want to make a difference in CASA children's lives, put them on the right path, and help to ease the pain of being separated from their families."

-- Noemi Menendez

IMPACT BY THE NUMBERS

July 2020 - June 2021



298 CHILDREN SERVED

COURT HEARINGS ATTENDED : 690

MILES DRIVEN VISITING CHILDREN: 33,545

COURT RECOMMENDATIONS MADE: 2,119

% OF COURT RECOMMENDATIONS
ACCEPTED BY THE JUDGE : 94%

CHILDREN WHO REACHED PERMANENCY
(CASES CLOSED) : 72

HOURS OF TRAINING AND CONTINUING
EDUCATION COMPLETED: 2,912

SPECIAL NEEDS OF CASA CHILDREN

36%

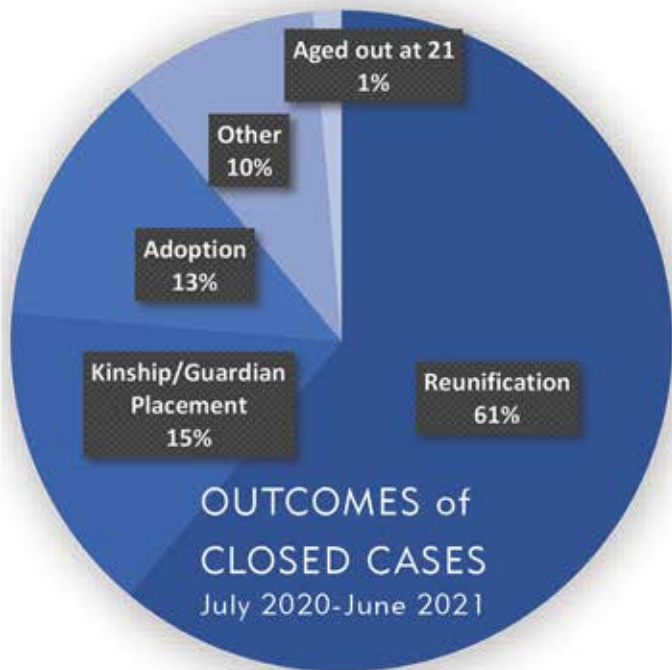
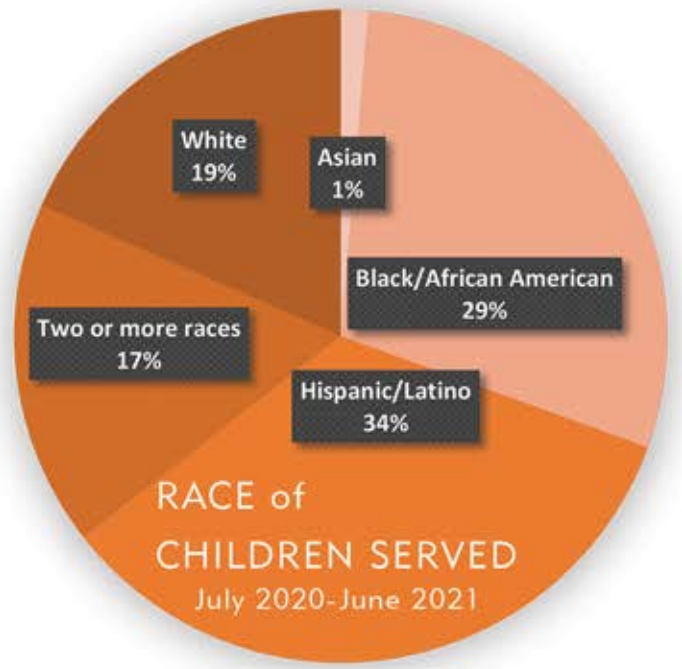
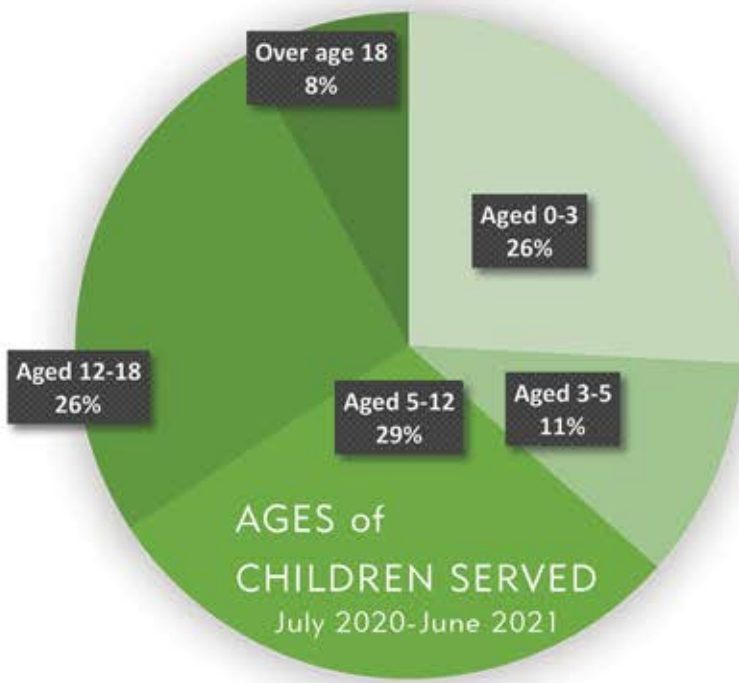
PERCENTAGE OF
CHILDREN WHOSE
CASES REMAIN OPEN
FOR MORE THAN TWO
YEARS

51%

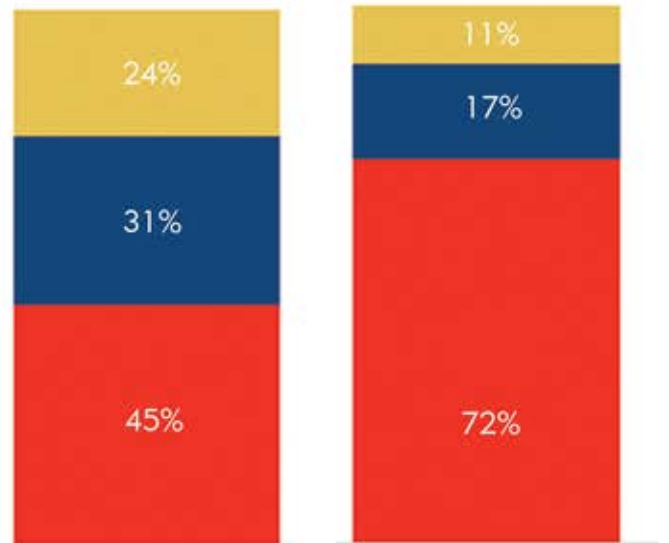
PERCENTAGE OF
CHILDREN SERVED
WHOSE PARENTS
STRUGGLE WITH
SUBSTANCE ABUSE

32%

PERCENTAGE OF
SCHOOL-AGE
CHILDREN SERVED
WHO HAVE AN
INDIVIDUALIZED
EDUCATION PLAN (IEP)



HOW CHILD VISITS CHANGED



July 2020

June 2021





OUR VOLUNTEERS 2020 - 2021

Lyxis Abreu
 Dale Ambrogio
 Rachel Anevski
 Kamala Anupindi
 Liliana Baumzweig
 Suzanne Bellofatto
 Leonard Blaifeder
 Marion Brady
 Lisa Broniak
 Sharon Brown
 Carol Brudner
 Carolyn Buck-Kaminsky
 Kathleen Bulgreen
 Jocelyne Buller
 Cherisa Burk
 Torrence Burrowes
 Graciela Calvache-Wion
 JoAnne Carbone
 Janet Cassidy
 Sheryl Centrelli
 Dana Chapman
 Vanessa Chavez
 Debbie Cohen
 Courtney Como
 Mary Coppolecchia
 Donna Corcoran
 Allison Crofoot
 Tremayne Cunningham
 Lexie Dejewski
 Carmen DelValle
 Lucia Demchenko
 Anjum Desai
 Ana Diaz
 Patricia Dickman
 Anita DiGiulio
 Debra DiLaura-Donza

Kristen DiVita
 John Driesse
 Candace Eardley
 Janet Elder
 Ma Carmela Enriquez
 Lori Fasulo
 James FitzPatrick
 Tonya Flores
 Nathally Florio
 Sellenne Galvez Hernandez
 Karen Genuardi
 Elaine George
 John Gonsalves
 Marylin Gonzalez
 Tracie Gonzalez
 Wanda Griffin
 Penny Grounard
 Donna Hamway
 Cecelia Henderson
 Catherine Hicklin
 Richard Hoffmann
 Lisa Ingersoll
 Ronique Johnson
 Bernard Josefsberg
 Christine Kamper
 Karen Kaspirowicz-Craner
 Dianne Kelly
 Sheree Kelly
 Merry Kennedy
 Asia Kersey
 Julia Killoran
 Virginia Kostisin
 Patricia Kraft

Lorene Leentjes
 Mary Claire Lewis
 Randi London
 Keisha Maldonado
 Al Marcus
 Denise Martinez
 Stefanie Martinez-Pyper
 Lora Mattar
 Danae Maxwell
 Julie McGraw
 Thomas McKim
 Shakia Mckinney
 John Mc Nerney
 Tiffany Mendoza
 Noemi Menendez
 Karen Menzel
 April Messina
 Jessica Mickley
 Ligia Mixco
 Lucille Molan
 Gabrielle Montalvo
 Ana Montiel
 Joann Murphy
 Catherine Murray
 Ingrid Nagy
 Susan Napolitano
 Joyce Neuss
 Andrea Nieves
 Nicole O'Connell

OUR VOLUNTEERS
2020 - 2021

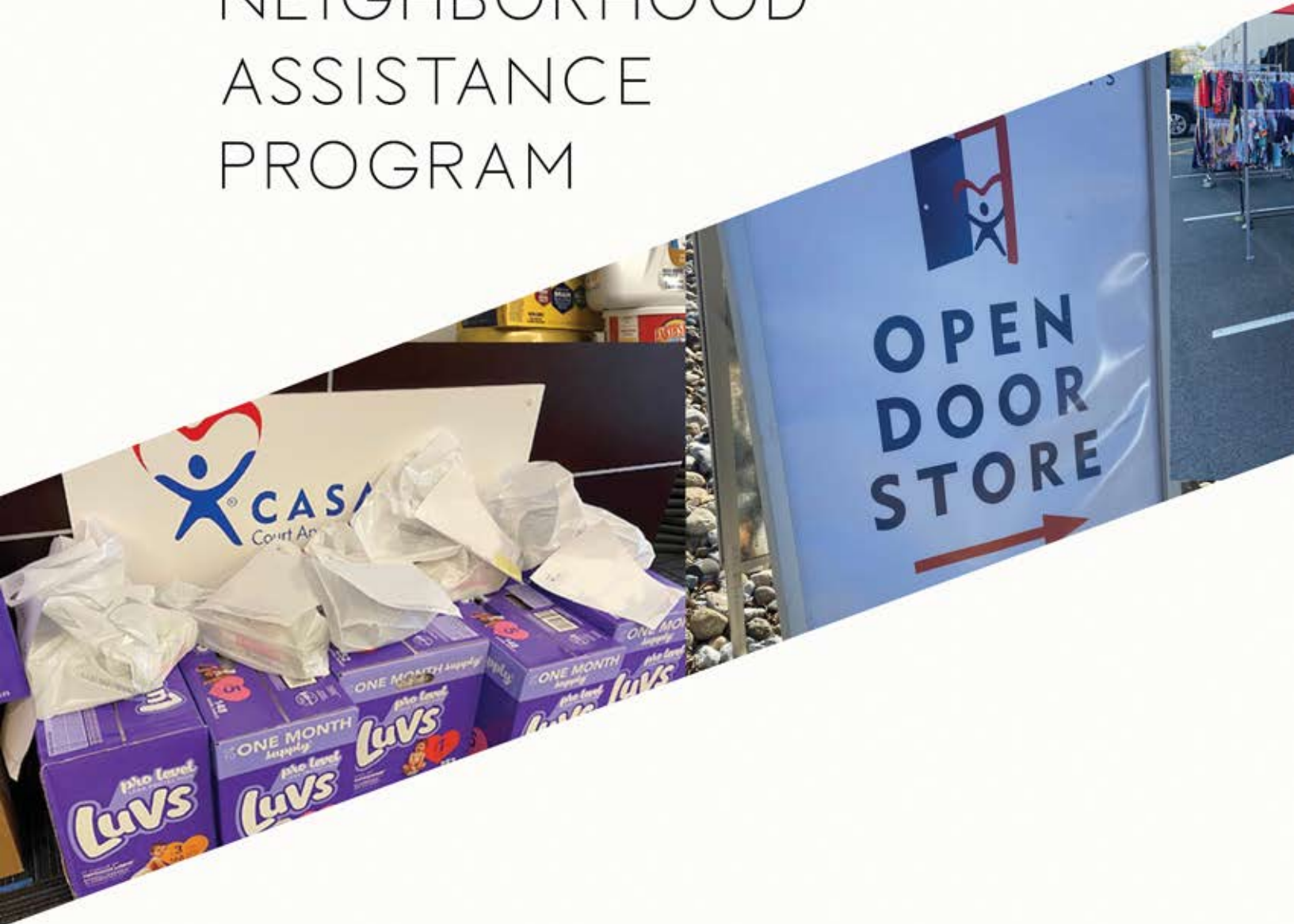


Patricia Orlando
Anise Palomba
Audrey Paterson
Jenny Paul
Reid Paul
Roslyn Pauldo
Mary Peragine
Laurie Phipps
Elizabeth Picciotto
Patricia Pignatello
Michelle Pugliese
Alice Quinn
Jamie Rahman
Nellie Riether
Julie Ritsema
Alexandra Rivas Smith
Shatika Robinson
Maureen Rodriguez
Richard Rolek
Elisa Romero
Pamela Saunders
Joyce Savastano
Robert Scarry

Michelle Schaefer
Sandra Schler
Tricia Schreiber
James Segarra
Tina Shark
Virginia Shea
Janet Shutte
Anna Skowronska
Jessica Slider
Jody Smith
Cynthia Sobelman
Beth Speizer
Desislava Stefanova
John Sterople
Lisa Tafro
Robyn Tanis
Christina Tell
Karen Theodore

Elisea Torijano
Felisa Van Liew
Linda VanLenten
Daniela Velez
Margaret Waitts
Michelle Wanat
Donna Ward
Laura Warne
Theresa Waters
O'Nelly Weling
Kelly Wenz
Susan White
Tracey Wingo
Karla Zaldivar

NEIGHBORHOOD ASSISTANCE PROGRAM



Born out of the critical shortages of basic essentials at the beginning of the pandemic, the Neighborhood Assistance Program, fondly known as NAP, was created to serve children and their families in the child welfare system in Passaic County. For these vulnerable families, NAP became a lifeline of support by helping families obtain diapers, wipes, and formula. Our goal remains to reduce the risk of child abuse, trauma, and health risks for infants and toddlers, as well as lessen the long-term impact of the pandemic on children.



3

outdoor, socially distant pop-up shops

2,100

clients served

600

cases of diapers distributed

300

backpacks distributed

200

babies received formula

In addition, clothing was provided to children both in emergency situations and through quarterly "Open Door Store" Pop Up Shops.

In August and September, our annual School Supply Drive allowed us to distribute much-needed supplies to children in foster care. Throughout the year, NAP fulfilled dozens of individual child-specific requests to support the normalcy of each youth served by the CASA program. Requests included things such as laptops, sneakers, sports equipment, car seats, strollers, duffle bags, winter coats, toiletries, and funding for extracurricular activities.

“ The diaper assistance program has been very helpful in helping families that are struggling due to the pandemic ”

MARITZA JOLLY, Division of Child Protection and Permanency



NEW JERSEY SAFE BABIES COURT TEAM



www.njsafebabies.org

The first three years in a child’s life are critical. They shape how a child will grow and develop, and help to determine whether that child will thrive. We believe that all children in New Jersey deserve a safe, loving home, which is even more essential in those early years. Our new program, New Jersey Safe Babies Court Team (NJSBCT) is helping to make that a reality!

In September 2020, Passaic County CASA was selected as the host organization for the implementation of the New Jersey Safe Babies Court Team project in Passaic, Hudson and Essex counties. With the funding support of ZERO TO THREE and the Turrell Fund, the New Jersey Safe Babies Court Team is officially up and running.

New Jersey SBCT uses an approach that involves a full-time neutral professional, the Community Coordinator, who uplifts parents’ voices and collaborates with the other professionals on the Family Team to wrap families in evidence-based support. Passaic County CASA has mobilized organizations and concerned individuals from across sectors— human service, government, faith-based, philanthropic, education, and healthcare —to work together to improve the lives of infants, toddlers and their families.

Our three Community Coordinators, Gino Arevalo, Tashedah Green, and Davetta Ford, as well as State Coordinator Sarah During, all come to the work with a passion for partnering, life experience, and knowledge about the resources in the communities they serve.



State Leadership Team Members

Evan Delgado, Vice President of Programs, Turrell Fund
Erica Fischer-Kaslander, M.A., Executive Director, Passaic County CASA
Grace Longeway, Director, Strategic Partnerships
Michelle Schaefer, Quality Improvement Manager
Sarah Cane-During, J.D., State Director, NJ Safe Babies Court Team
Marla Higginbotham, Advisor, Essex County Site
Beverly Savage, Advisor, Hudson County Site

“ It has been an honor to financially and strategically partner with Passaic County CASA and the Safe Babies Court Team to serve children, parents, and families.”

- EVAN DELGADO,
Turrell Fund

NJSBCT State Advisory Group

- Carmen Diaz-Petti, Assistant Commissioner, Department of Children and Families
- Dave Ellis, Executive Director, Office of Resilience, Department of Children and Families
- Joanne Dietrich, Assistant Director, Family Practice Division, Admin. Office of the Courts
- Robert Tracy, Trial Court Administrator, Passaic Vicinage, Admin. Office of the Courts
- Dr. Gerard Costa, Director, Center for Autism and Early Childhood Mental Health, Montclair State University
- Beverly Lynn, CEO, Programs for Parents
- Melissa Litwin, Early Childhood Director, Henry and Marilyn Taub Foundation
- Mark Dinglasan, Exective Director, CUMAC
- Keri Logosso-Misurell, Director, Greater Newark Health Care Coalition
- Mary Coogan, VP, Advocates for Children of New Jersey
- Curtland Fields, President & CEO, Turrell Fund
- Corinne LeBaron, CEO, Embrella (formerly Foster and Adoptive Family Services)





“Over time we became fans and supporters of CASA because we understood on a personal level just how alone a child is when he or she enters into the court system. No matter how many adults may be involved in the case, none of them is exclusively focused on the interests of the child—except for the CASA.”

REGGIE RIVERS
Former NFL running back, Denver Broncos

OUR SUPPORTERS

\$50,000 +
State of New Jersey, Legislative funding
Columbia Bank Foundation
Community Block Development Grant
National CASA/GAL
NJ Office of Public Safety, Victims Assistance Grant
Turrell Foundation
ZERO TO THREE

\$10,000 - \$49,999
ADP Foundation
Francis L. and Edwin L. Cummings Foundation
Pamela and Craig Goldman
The STRO Companies
Henry and Marilyn Taub Foundation
James Veale

\$5,000 - \$9,999
Aileen Carper
Janice Erzmoneit
James and Monica FitzPatrick
Andrea Nieves
Northern NJ Community Foundation
The Law Offices of Kelly Berton Rocco
Margaret Waitts

\$1,000 - \$4,999
Jonathan and Lynne Aber
Charles and Olga Alfieri
Donna Ward and Greg Amato
Linda Antonucci
Bloomingdale's
Boy Scout Bear Den Pack 108
Sharon Brown
Peter Cetta
Devon Drew
Fawn & Foster
Janet and Joseph Higgins
John Kaslander
Keller Williams Prosperity Realty Group
Peter Lefkowitz
Macy's
Valerie and Manny Morano
Joyce Neuss
Gene and Carmen Pagnozzi
Janet Lee Saunders
Scura, Wigfield, Heyer, Stevens & Cammarota, LLP
John and Virginia Shea
The Sherwin Williams Foundation
Soroptimist Int'l of Passaic County
Rena Tolsma
Van Vlissingen Foundation
Visions Federal Credit Union
Robert Postma and Janet Whalen
Susan White
Windsor Learning Center



\$500 - \$999

Nancy and Joseph Barbary
 Jay Bayersdorfer
 Kenneth Bogert
 Bogue Systems
 Corradino & Papa, LLC
 James Castellanos
 The Denver Foundation
 Laurie Gross and Anita Dreichler
 Gena Duffner
 William and Mary Ennis
 Evans Architects
 Martin and Marian Golan
 Miguelina Happle
 Richard and Barbara Hoffmann
 Law Offices of Lindsay Janel
 Lorene Leentjes
 Michael Mahoney
 Gregory Mann
 Joann Murphy
 Christopher Nanda
 Laura Nanda
 Passaic County Education Assoc.
 Pequannock Valley Rotary Club
 Joseph Royce, Jr.
 Tricia and Howard Schreiber
 Paulette Snyder
 Ann Sundius

\$250 - \$499

Adirondack Tree Specialists
 Kamala Anupindi
 Diane Aurigemma
 Bill Barlow
 Linda Sue Barmore

\$250 - \$499 (cont'd.)

Marion Brady
 Torrence and Maeonis Burrowes
 Butter & Velvet Home Design
 Joanne and Charles Carbone
 Arun Chalgeri
 Laurie and Paul Cherry
 Pamela Dunn
 Patricia Dwyer
 June Fisher-Markowitz
 Antonio and Sabrina Gagliostro
 Stuart and Jan Gavzy
 Dianne Green
 Penny Grounard
 Catherine Helms
 Cecelia Henderson
 Catherine Hicklin
 John B. Houston Funeral Home
 Jaime Hukkanen
 Carol Huston
 Lisa and Ben Ingersoll
 Stephanie Janeczko
 Bernard Josefsberg
 Carolyn Kaminsky
 Monika Kamp
 Annette and Gerry Kelly
 Dianne Kelly
 Donna Klein
 Greg Kudish

\$250 - \$499 (cont'd.)

Johnson Lam
 Elizabeth Lenas
 Jerome Liebrand
 William and Carol
 Lindsay
 Randi London
 Stefanie Martinez-Pyper
 The McEwen Family
 Foundation
 Michael and Daniela
 Morano
 Mountain View Caterers
 Susan Nuzzolo
 Joseph Ragusa
 Diane Reinke
 Renters Legal Liability
 Julie and Fred Ritsema
 Morris and Rose
 Rochman Foundation
 Donna and Mark Rosen
 Family Foundation
 Diane Seltzer
 Star-Square Association
 Lisa Tafro
 Nancy Theodorou
 The Village School
 Karen Walker
 Theresa Waters
 Christine Zimmer



THANK YOU TO

21 Salon, Woodcliff Lake
4Imprint
AAA Northern New Jersey
The Aber Family
Mona Lisa Adamo
Athleta Willowbrook Mall
Martha Baquero
Nancy Barbary
Caitlin Barrera-Uriarte
Debra Bedoe
Kelly Berton-Rocco
Bethany Church
Bloomingdale's
Blue Foundry Bank
Bobst North America
Marion Brady
Brookfield
Properties/Willowbrook Mall
Graciela Calvache-Wior
Jenny Campos
Aileen Carper
Cartridge World, Wayne NJ
Vipsana Cavero
Cedar Cliff United Methodist
Church
The Cetta Family
Tanya and CJ Chirico
Yeon Hua Chung
Cohen's Fashion Optical
Tim Cooper
Christina Coz
D'Alessandro, Inc.
Nicolas & Christopher
DeGroot
Susan Deile
The Dhabalia Family
Pat Dickman
Diyana Dimitrova
DM Graphic Center

Melissa Dogum
Anita Dreichler and Laurie Gross
Mary Dykes
Electric Symphony Orchestra
Tena Elman
Janice Erzmoneit
Ashley Estrada
Sharifa Extavoor
Sienna Falco
Pam and Ron Ferriola
Karen Fischer
Tonya Flores
Joyce Freeswick
Sabrina Gagliostro
Sophia Gambuti
Karen and Joseph Genuardi
Nicole Gerace
Girl Scout Troop 60697
Girl Scout Troop 95213
Girl Scout Troop 95401
Girl Scout Troop 96927
Glenwild Garden Center
Suzanne Goldensohn
Craig Goldman
Michelle Grambone
Diana Grieco
Andrea Grunau
Habitat ReStore
Hawthorne Daisy Girl Scout
Troop 97968
Mark Henry
Richard and Barbara Hoffmann
Nancy Hook
Jodi Hudspeth
Illuminations Club of FSGN
Janet Ingram
Integrus Financial
Investors Bank
Lindsay Janel

OUR IN-KIND SUPPORTERS

The Jewish Community Center of
Paramus - Congregation Beth
Tikvah

Lorena Jimenez

Junior Women's Club of River
Edge

Ariana Kalaj

John Kaslander

Gabrielle Keeler

Carolyn Kerwin

Safwan Khan

Konnekt Global USA

Amy Kopleton

The Kos Family

Virginia Kostisin

LaCorte Landscapes

Maria Langert

Peter Lefkowitz

John Lindemulder

Kathy and Don MacDonald

Macy's

Mad4kidz, Eisenhower Middle
School

The Maglietta Family

Kristen Mallet

The Marte Family

John and Shirley Mattoli

Danae and Skylar Maxwell

JoAnn McCauley

McElrone Sales Inc.

Julie McGraw

Jon "Ferris" Meredith

Janine Mieh-Cruz

Linda Minnich

MOMS Club of Wayne, NJ

Ingrid Nagy

Andrea Nieves

Bonnie Norclinger

North Jersey Guitar & Music
Center

Nicole Novak

Chris Obertlik

Katie O'Brian

Order of the Eastern Star,
Mountain View Chapter #205

ParkStreet Academy

PASCO Soccer Club

Harnish Patel

Paterson Rotary Club

Jenny and Reid Paul

Andrea Perez

Skylar Perrius

Madeline Perruzzi

Laurie Phipps

Deidre Pirchio

Maryann Pocock

Angela Portanova

Positano Restaurant

PS2 Athletics

Signs by Red Sparrows

River Edge Troop 7827

Bill and Lisa Roberts

Kathy Russo

Saint Paraskevi Philoptochos
Church

Marion Salerno

Santander Bank

Janet Lee Saunders

Pamela Saunders

Kitty Sausa

Joyce Savastano

Tricia Schreiber

Megan Sereno

Cindy Setooden

Tina Shark

Noor Shater

John and Virginia Shea

Elizabeth Shick

Mary Siebold

Alex Smith

Larissa Sokoloff

Suzanne Souto

St. Mary's Youth Ministry,
Pompton Lakes

Andrea Stalker

Robin Stein Abramson

Ann Sundius

Janet Sweetman

Louisa Tambone

Deborah Templeton

The Evangelical Lutheran
Church of Our Savior

The Gap

The Imprint Source, Inc.

The Junkin Irishmen

The Village School

Margaret Topczij

Lisa and Phillip Tracy

Andrea Urdaneta

Veltri Family

The Honorable Christopher
Vergano and Mrs. Doreen
Vergano

Margaret Waitts

Wayne Hills High School
Football Team

Wayne Presbyterian Church
Wayne Scouts Pack 108 and
Troop 107

Wayne Valley High School
Boys Soccer Team

Wayne Valley High School
Girls Soccer Team

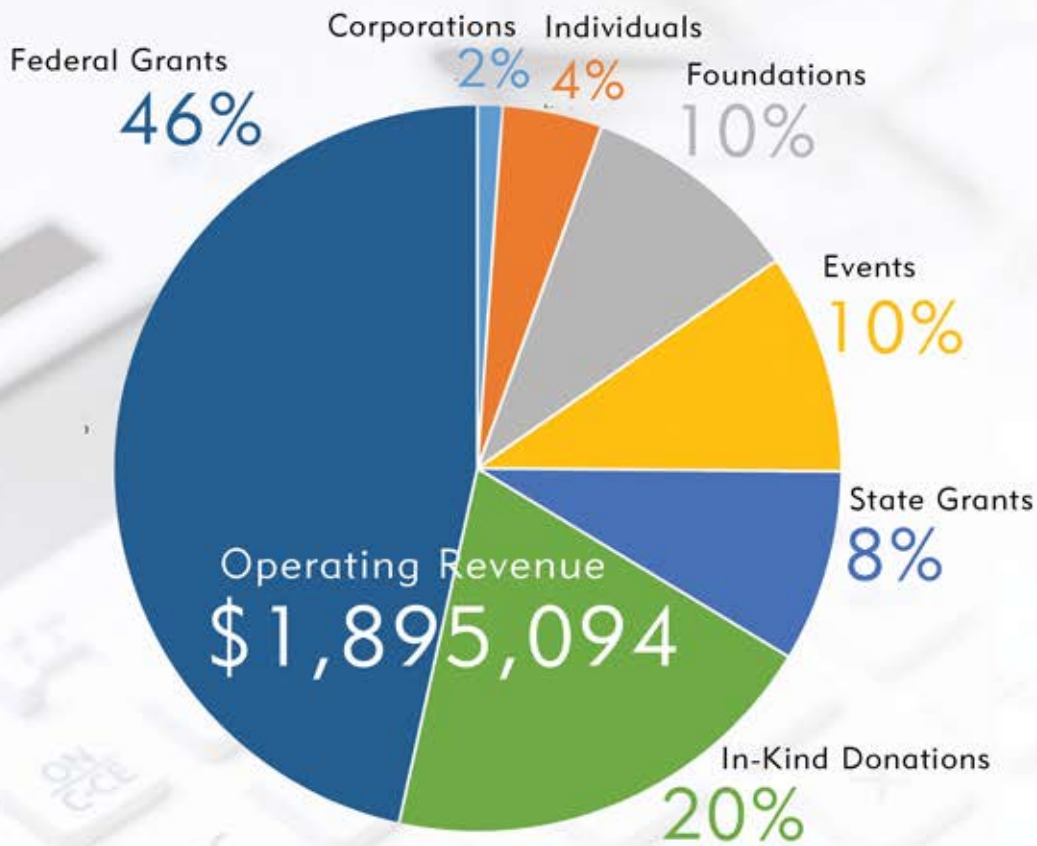
West Ridgewood Dental
Professionals

Seema Wu

Jill Zangrilli

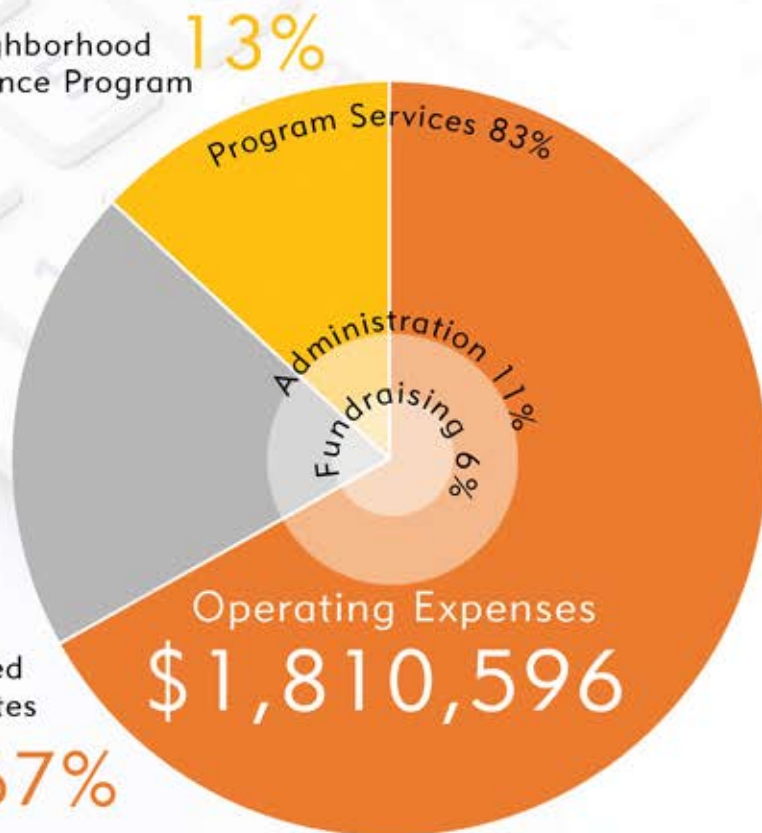
Zizzo's Auto Service

FINANCIALS



New Jersey Safe Babies Court Team
20%

Court Appointed Special Advocates
67%





STAFF

Gino Arévalo, Community Coordinator, Essex County
Sarah Cane-During, State Coordinator, NJ Safe Babies Court Team
Courtney Como, Director of Donor and Community Relations
Carol Costello, Advocacy Supervisor
Gina Cetta, Program Director
Janice Erzmonait, Chief Financial and Administrative Officer
Erica Fischer-Kaslander, Executive Director
Davetta Ford, Community Coordinator, Passaic County
Marian Golan, Advocacy Supervisor
Tashedah Green, Community Coordinator, Hudson County
Rich Hoffmann, Data Analyst
Muriel Leconte, Advocacy Supervisor
Grace Longeway, Director, Strategic Partnerships
Keisha Maldonado, Data Analyst
Edward Marable, Jr., Advocacy Supervisor
Tiffany Mendoza, Bilingual Advocacy Supervisor
Jessica Mickley, Director of Training and Outreach
Laura Nanda, Child Visitation Specialist/Distance Placement Liaison
Jill Rebeor, Advocacy Supervisor
Julie Ritsema, Administrative Assistant
Pamela Saunders, Office and Financial Coordinator
Michelle Schaefer, Director of Strategy and Impact
Laura Warne, Communications Coordinator

BOARD

Aileen Martinez Carper,
President

Ann Sundius,
Vice President

Lindsay Janel,
Secretary

John Lindemulder,
Treasurer

Jamie Dykes,
President Emeritus

Nancy Barbary

Jodi Hudspeth

Kelly Berton Rocco

Christian Sees

Jonathan E. Aber,
Gala Chairperson

CORPORATE SPONSORS

Passaic County CASA would like to recognize the following exceptional companies for their ongoing support. Just like the children who count on their CASAs to be there, we rely on the generosity of corporate leaders to support us in championing children. These companies have answered this call, and we could not be more grateful for their dedication.



bloomingdale's



Law Offices of
Lindsay R. Janel, LLC
attorney at law in pompton lakes, new jersey



OUTREACH

With in-person events mostly on hold in 2020 and 2021, Passaic County CASA filled its outreach calendar with virtual events including 20 volunteer information sessions and many professional trainings. CASA staff focused on virtual presentations about trauma and Adverse Childhood Experiences for child welfare service providers and local school districts to help them prepare for the fallout from the COVID-19 pandemic.

Throughout the year, social media followers also enjoyed a new series titled "Coffee with CASA." Armed with a cup of coffee, staff chatted with supporters through Facebook Live and Instagram Live, and then gave viewers behind-the-scenes tours of the CASA office.

With more than 50% of children in foster care coming from Spanish-speaking families who require a bilingual CASA, Spanish-English bilingual volunteers became a priority need among new volunteers. The Communications staff coordinated with current bilingual CASA volunteers to develop a bilingual volunteer recruitment campaign, which included a new "¿Qué es CASA?" webpage and targeted Spanish-language Facebook and Instagram advertising.



