

Jasper County CASA

# 2024 Impact Report





# Because of You

Welcome to Jasper County CASA's first Annual Impact Report! We have so much we want to share with you – our volunteers, donors, and supporters!

January 2024 marked a milestone for Jasper County CASA, the 5-year anniversary of advocating for children in foster care in Jasper County. **FIVE YEARS!!** We are beyond thankful for everyone who supported our mission. Because of YOU, since 2019, we have advocated for 551 of the most vulnerable children in our area.

Because of YOU, children that were living in cars and sleeping in a cage have a CASA volunteer by their side. Children who were being sexually abused have support while they get the services they so desperately need. Because of YOU, these children and many others have been positively impacted by the commitment of a CASA.

And because of YOU, we will achieve our goal of an advocate for every child in foster care in Jasper County. We know the impact a CASA has on a child. CASAs inspire children to DREAM BIG for a better future. This is why it is a priority to recruit and train more volunteers in 2025 and beyond.

With your support, we can ensure every child is seen, heard, and supported on their journey through foster care. *One stable relationship with one supportive adult can help a child heal the past and build a healthier future.*

Thank you for your dedication and generosity. Thank you for believing in the mission of CASA and impacting the lives of our CASA kids. *Together, we are making a difference, **one child at a time!***

*Debi Koelkebeck*

Executive Director  
Jasper County CASA



# 2024 Impact



**120**

Volunteers



**301**

CASA Children



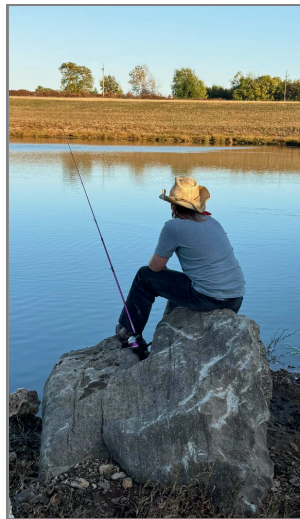
**5,000+**

Volunteer Hours



**55,000+**

Miles Logged by  
Staff & Volunteers



In 2024, **86 CASA children** found a permanent home.



**48**

Reunifications



**21**

Adoptions



**13**

Permanent  
Guardianships



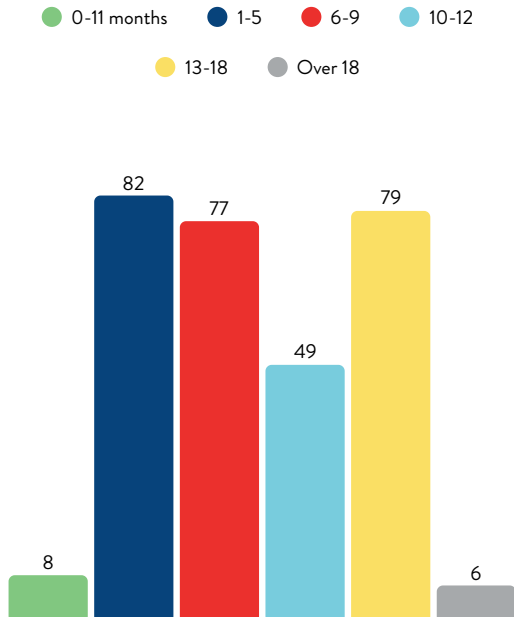
**4**

Transitions to  
Independence

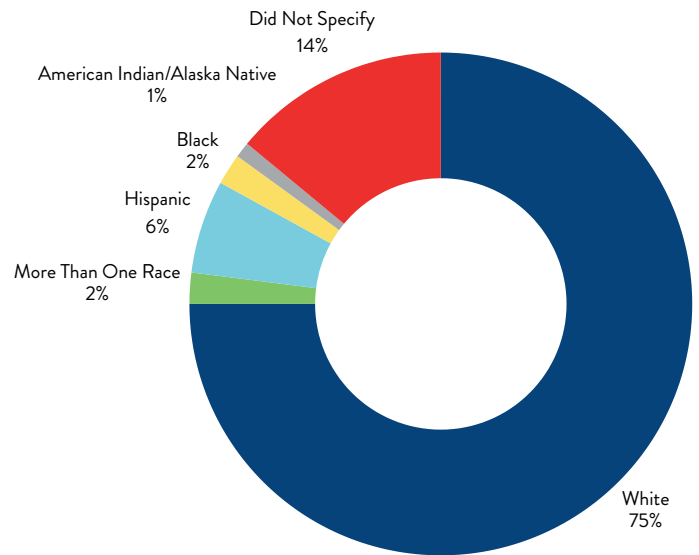
*"I like talking to my CASA. She's there for me and she tries to give me good advice when I want it. I like having her as another person I can talk to. And she takes me a lot of places when she doesn't even have to."*  
-J.B., 12 years old

# 2024 Children Served

### Children Served by Age



### Children Served by Race



On average, Jasper County children are in foster care for **25.6 months**



and experience **4 foster homes.**



### 2,000+ Visits

Volunteers met with CASA children



### Activities for Kids

Art, Music, Dance, Yoga, Fitness, Outlaws Baseball, Costume Tea Party



### Activities for Teens

Cooking Classes, Spa Night, Movie Night, Teensgiving



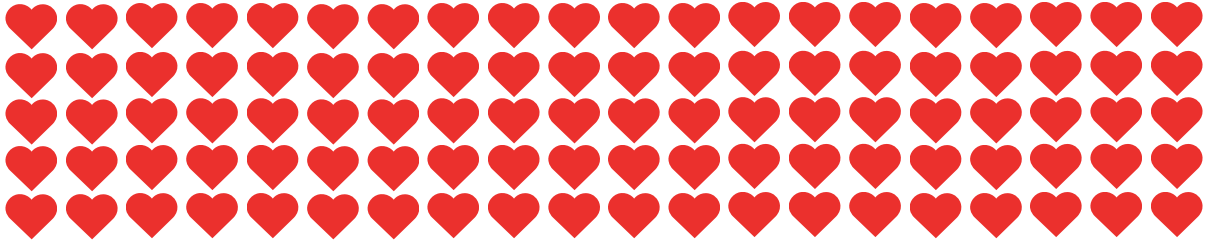
### CASA Parties

Easter, Back to School, Fall Farm Night, Christmas



# Bridge the Gap

**Help us serve every child in foster care in Jasper County.**



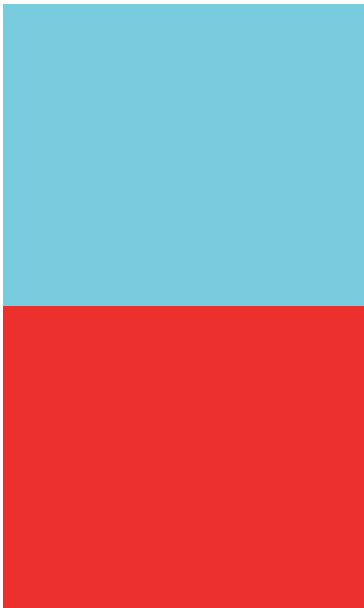
**More than 100 children are still waiting for a CASA.**

Our goal is to provide a volunteer advocate for every child in foster care.

If you or someone you know has a heart for children and would like to learn more about becoming a CASA, please contact us! There are children waiting for an advocate.

We welcome guests to visit the CASA house to learn more about our mission.  
Contact Kelly Gier at [kelly@jascocasa.org](mailto:kelly@jascocasa.org) or call 417-680-3250.





## Volunteer Snapshot

**Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASAs)** are volunteers. They speak up for children and teens who have experienced abuse and neglect and are in foster care. CASAs are consistent, caring adults.

### Responsibilities of a CASA:

- Complete 30 hours of initial training
- Once appointed to a child or sibling group, visit the CASA child at least twice a month at the child's foster home, school, the CASA house, or in the community
- Gather information from individuals such as biological family members, foster parents, educators, therapists, and case workers
- Write court reports, attend hearings, and make fact-based recommendations to the juvenile court about the child's best interest
- Complete 12 hours of continuing education each year

**No volunteer experience compares to being a CASA.**



**800+**

**Volunteer Training Hours  
Completed in 2024**



**50+**

**Training Classes  
Offered by CASA in 2024**

*"Having a CASA is nice because it gives kids a voice. They go to court for us and say what we want.  
If we don't have a CASA it would feel like we don't have a voice."*

**-E.R., 15 years old**

## Active CASA Volunteers

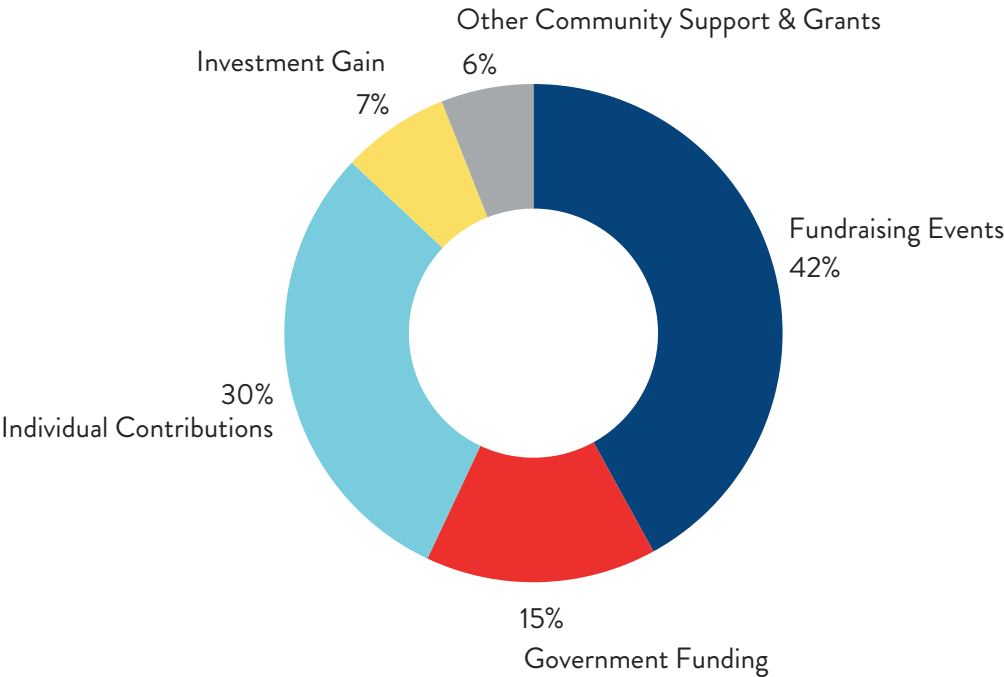
Wael Abdelhafez  
Barbie Adamson\*  
Michelle Allgood\*  
Nancy Beckwith\*  
Wilma Belliss  
Cathleen Blades  
Stacy Braman  
Vickey Brandal  
CeCe Brown  
Cathy Campbell  
Elizabeth Carter\*  
Melissa Caruthers  
Jody Chance\*  
Summer Cole  
Chelsea Comer  
Dana Cook  
Phyllis Cox  
Bradley Crane  
Donna Cummins  
Phyllis Dolence  
Riley Dozal  
Kathryn Eckerson  
Dayan Edwards\*  
Elaine Edwards  
Susan Egger  
Cheri Emde  
Jane Ewing  
Patty Fields  
Debra Fort  
Ericka Freeborn  
Kaycia Frieden  
Melissa George  
Kelly Gier  
Abigail Giesey  
Connie Gillock  
Connie Godwin\*

Kathleen Gremaud  
Mikhial Gunderman  
Hailey Harper  
Jill Hartgrave  
Kally Hatcher  
Teresa Henry  
Janice Hicks  
Julie Hines  
Miranda Houston  
Greg Howard  
Kent Huff  
Marlee Jacobs  
Andy Johnson  
Angie Johnson\*  
Robyn Kaempfe  
Tom Kazmierski  
Jana Kidd  
Siobhan Kirkpatrick  
Alyssa Klugh  
Lori Lanier  
Lana LaSalle  
Elizabeth Lawver  
Jessica Loggains  
Jana Long  
Joe Lyon\*  
Cheryl Marsh  
Brittney Mattes  
Cortney Mayberry\*  
Stefanie McMillan  
Tami Menke\*  
Adrienne Mitchell\*  
Skylar Myers  
Courtney Newman  
Crystal Overfelt  
Ashlee Pahlow  
Curtis Penland

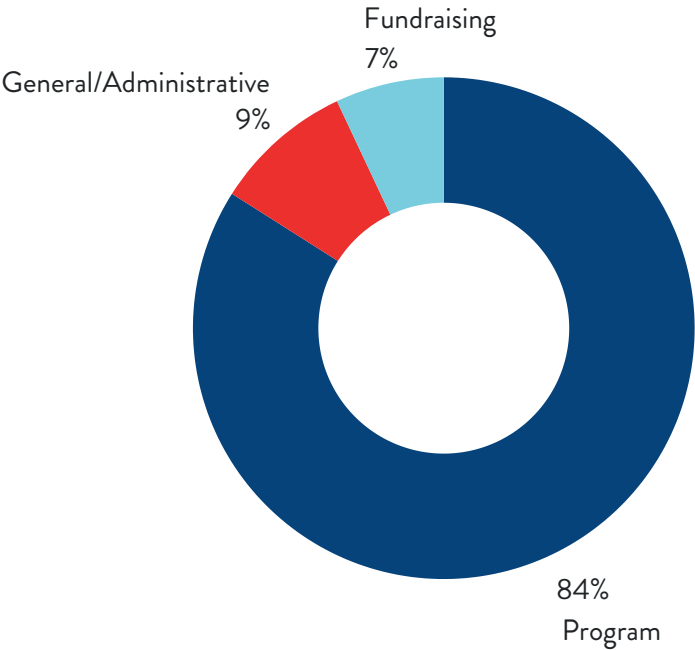
Noah Pinjuv  
Amanda Powell  
Sheila Prather  
Amy Rand  
Tiffany Rea  
Catherine Robinson  
Linda Rockers  
Gil Salgado  
Kimberle Satterlee  
Tina Schnelle  
Rhonda Scoggin  
Lisa Sewell  
Marie Sexton  
Stacy Sloan  
Janice Smith\*  
Sally Smith  
Margaret Snyder\*  
Curtis Spieker  
Teddy Steen  
Matthew Stuckey  
Tammy Swab\*  
Angie Thomure  
Anne Tindall  
Rick Utter\*  
Sue Utter\*  
Latasha Vick  
A.J. Visconti  
Erin Wampler  
Alexa Warden  
Kathy Watson  
Cassie Welch  
Tom Wells  
Lynn Wright  
Wendy Wright

**\*5+ years of service as a CASA volunteer**

## 2024 Revenue Sources



## 2024 Operating Expenses





## Staff



**Debi Koelkebeck**  
Executive Director



**Becky Burns**  
Assistant Executive  
Director



**Kelly Gier**  
Development Director



**Ericka Freeborn**  
Program Director



**Skylar Myers**  
Advocate Supervisor



**Bradley Crane**  
Advocate Supervisor



**Robin Jones**  
Advocate Supervisor



**Lisa Sewell**  
Development Assistant

## Board of Directors

**Jeremy Drinkwitz, President**  
Mercy Hospital Joplin, CEO

**Suzanne Hall, Past President**  
Leggett & Platt, Asst. Treasurer

**Louise Secker, Vice President**  
Keller Williams Realty, Inc.

**Aston Stovern, Secretary**  
Cardinal Scale, Corporate Treasurer

**Andy Perigo, Co-Treasurer**  
Mid-Missouri Bank, President

**Alison Malinowski Sunday, Co-Treasurer**  
Lafayette House, Retired CEO

**Kristie Crossland**  
Community Volunteer

**Mike Gray**  
Forvis Mazars, Partner

**Matthew Harding**  
Joplin Schools, Assistant Superintendent

**John Hoffmann**  
KSN-KODE TV, General Manager

**Aimee Maningas**  
Maningas Cosmetic Surgery, Practice Manager

**Vicky Mieseler**  
Ozark Center, Chief Administrative Officer

**Clive Veri**  
Commerce Bank, Regional President



**IT'S MORE THAN  
VOLUNTEERING.**



## **Jasper County CASA**



417-680-3250



2421 E. 20th Street, Joplin, MO 64804



[jascocasa.org](http://jascocasa.org)



JasCo CASA