

Funds Distribution Report

Recipient Organization:
Family Law CASA

Address:
810 Third Ave, #700
Seattle, WA 98104

Contact:
(206) 748-9700
<http://www.familylawcasa.org>

Organization's General Goals:
Court appointed special advocates (CASA) are volunteers who serve as a voice for children in court cases. When a judge or commissioner is seriously worried about the safety or well-being of a child, they appoint a CASA to gather information for the court about that child's circumstances.

Date of Award:	Level:
2019 Q4	\$2,501 to \$5,000

Specific Use for This Award:
For more information, please read the attached report from Family Law CASA.

8802 27th Ave NE
Tulalip, WA 98271
TulalipCares.org

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2020 DONOR IMPACT REPORT



DEAR FRIENDS OF FAMILY LAW CASA,

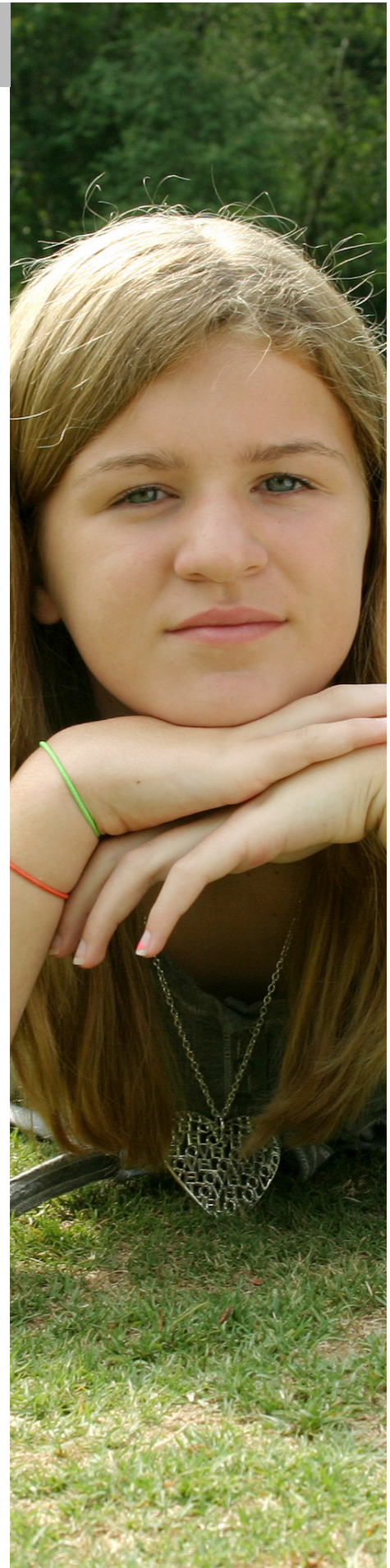
At the close of CASA's fiscal year, the team is reflecting on all of our accomplishments and we want to thank YOU for being a part of the program's success! With your encouragement and financial support, we continue to carry out CASA's charge to change the lives of children in need in King County by helping them to grow into healthy, productive adults and stopping the cycle of abuse and neglect.

This past year we had an Executive Director transition and, after a thoughtful search process involving staff and board, we were excited to bring Deidre on board in January. With her previous experience as an Executive Director focused on youth and expertise in working with donors and boards, she is already proving to be an outstanding asset to the organization.

When the world stopped in March due to the pandemic, our team adjusted to working remotely and we are very proud of how we innovated to continue delivering our program despite the shelter in place orders. While the courts were closed, our advocates continued to diligently work on their investigations and report writing by conducting interviews via video conferencing and phone. Our program team also created and conducted an entirely virtual new advocate training in June bringing 26 new volunteers into our ranks – truly inspiring.

Our development team pivoted to a virtual breakfast to replace our planned Annual Breakfast and it was a great success because of you, our committed supporters. Thank you for your much-needed generosity during these turbulent times.

We are excited to share this report showing the positive impact you helped make for CASA kids. Your dollars created new possibilities for hundreds of children and ensured they ended up in the best home environment. Together we advocated for 264 children, submitted 163 reports to the court, trained 54 new volunteers and much more.



As we look ahead to this coming year, we are excited to share our plans which include:

- **Completing 100+ cases assigned by the courts giving children a voice in court and ensuring that they have a brighter and safer future.**
- **With your help, our goal is to raise close to \$700,000 to continue providing this crucial, free program and move towards long-term sustainability.**
- **Implementing a diversity, equity and inclusion plan for board and staff so we have a clear path forward for our entire team.**
- **Growing and diversifying our board of directors to continue offering the best possible leadership for CASA.**
- **Undertaking an office relocation in the spring of 2021 to South King County in order to substantially decrease expenses and be nearer the majority of the children we serve.**
- **Ensuring Family Law CASA is a great place to work, especially for our incredible volunteers.**

We are honored to continue partnering with you as we strive to protect hundreds of kids this coming year. We continue to lay the groundwork for this lean but strong organization that can continue serving CASA children for many years to come. Thank you for being on this journey with us!

With Much Appreciation,



**Sherri Anderson
President, Board of Directors**

With Much Appreciation,



**Deidre McCormack Martin
Executive Director**



The Highlights

You helped keep local children safe.

Here are the results for July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2020.



You helped **264** children in King County, giving them a voice in court and a safe custody plan. You made it possible to work on **184** cases affecting **384** households.



Your support resulted in **163** comprehensive written reports to the court; litigated **56** trials; contributed **52** mediations; and helped staff and volunteers appear at **283** additional court hearings.



You gave us the opportunity to appear before **8** Judges and **6** Commissioners in King County Superior Court in Seattle and Kent, providing them with comprehensive accounts of each CASA child helping to bring clarity and insight to confusing and complex custody cases.



Your generosity supported **159** volunteer advocates as they worked to keep CASA kids safe. **12,720** hours were donated by our volunteer advocates to support cases assigned to Family Law CASA in King County Superior Court.



Our CASA children had **13** Family Law volunteer attorneys donating over **124** hours at the savings of **\$31,000** to Family Law CASA and the King County Courts.

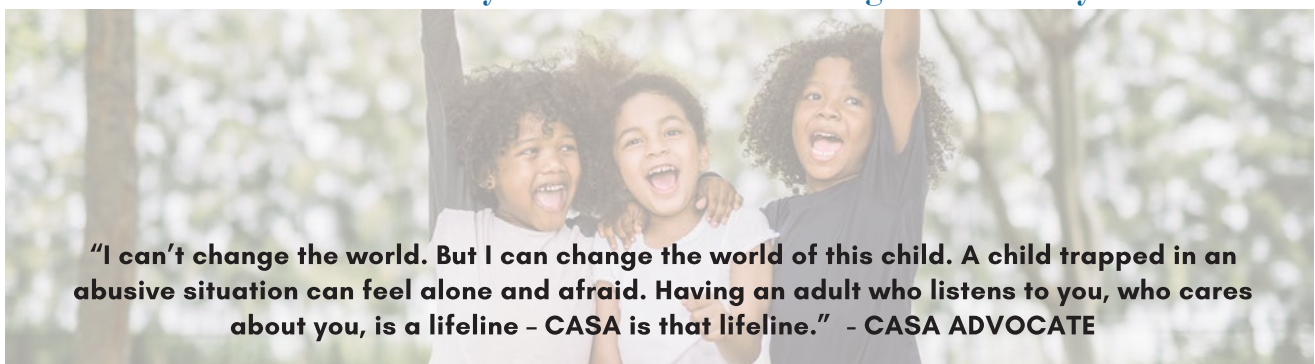


Because of you, CASA reports and recommendations helped **34%** of families settle cases out of court avoiding additional trauma and saving the courts substantial time and resources.



With your help we were able to work virtually with our advocates, CASA families and the courts during COVID-19 to help keep children safe.

In operation since 2002 and helping over 2,600 at-risk children the outlook for Family law CASA looks strong and healthy.



"I can't change the world. But I can change the world of this child. A child trapped in an abusive situation can feel alone and afraid. Having an adult who listens to you, who cares about you, is a lifeline - CASA is that lifeline." - CASA ADVOCATE

Thanks to you Family Law CASA is a free service serving only low to moderate income families and children appointed by the Family Law section of King County Superior Court.

What a CASA case looks like

1 Family Law case begins

A member of the family files paperwork with the court to establish a parenting plan. When a Judge or Commissioner becomes seriously concerned about a child's safety and well-being, and the family has no resources or services available, they assign Family Law CASA. The cases given to Family Law CASA involve significant safety concerns - physical & sexual abuse, domestic violence, neglect, drug and alcohol abuse, criminal activity and untreated mental illness.



2

Family Law CASA receives the case

Family Law CASA staff reviews every case assigned by the court. Staff determine the most appropriate volunteer advocate to assign to a case. Each volunteer advocate is assigned an Advocate Supervisor to oversee the case. Family Law CASA is appointed to 10 new families each month.

3

Volunteer advocate assigned

Volunteer advocates receive 21 hours of initial training before they are assigned a case. Volunteer advocates also participate in ongoing continuing education. Volunteer advocate reviews court materials which can be 100+ pages of court documents and has a case planning meeting with their Advocacy Supervisor.

Can take volunteer 5+ hours



4

Volunteer advocate gathers information

Volunteer advocate schedules in-person interviews, home tours and meets with the child. The volunteer also gathers medical, therapy, school and police records about the family. Volunteer advocate will interview medical professionals, school staff and others close to the family as part of their information gathering process.

Can take volunteer 55+ hours

5

Volunteer advocate writes report to court

Volunteer advocate summarizes all information gathered and writes 35-page report with guidance from a CASA Advocate Supervisor and the Program Attorney. These reports provide detailed information about best options to keep each child safe. Volunteer advocates remain on case until it closes so they continue to gather information about the family.

Can take volunteer 30+ hours



6

Trial or Mediation occurs

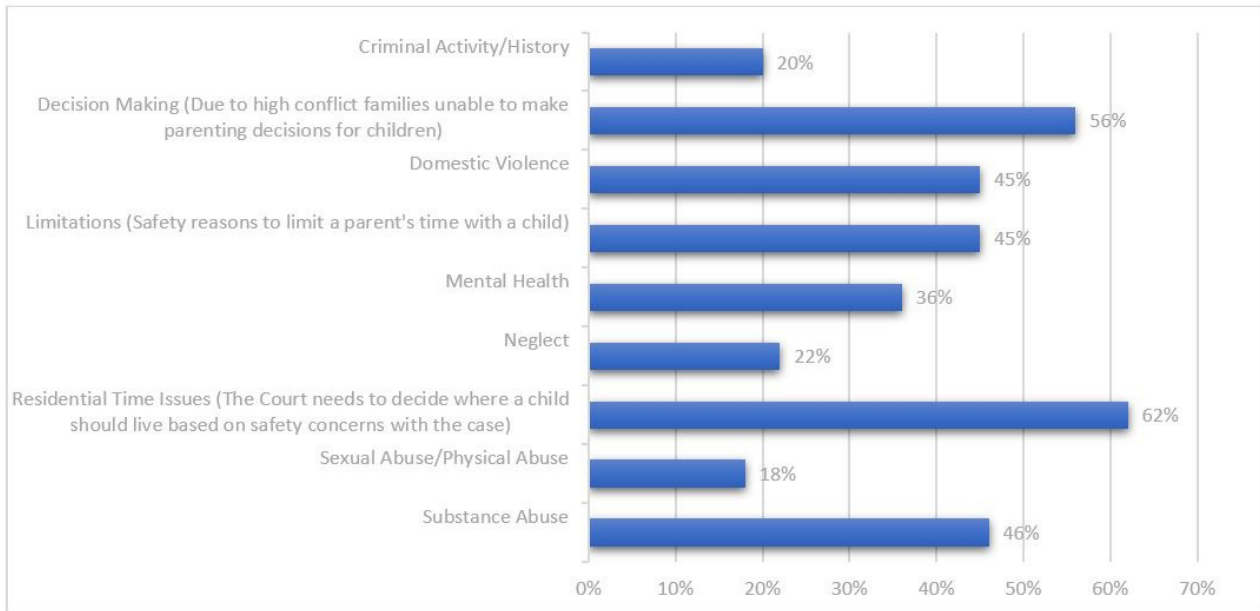
The Family Law case will end with either the family agreeing to a parenting plan (mediation) or the case will go to trial and a judge will decide the parenting plan for the family. The volunteer advocate's report provides critical information to the court to ensure the child's safety. If the case goes to trial, volunteer advocates testify in court with the support of the Family Law CASA Program attorney. When a case closes Family Law CASA is dismissed from the case and the volunteer advocate is done with the case. As a result of the 100+ hours of volunteer work, the child has received a voice in court and has a safe plan to ensure a better future.

Can take volunteer 20+ hours



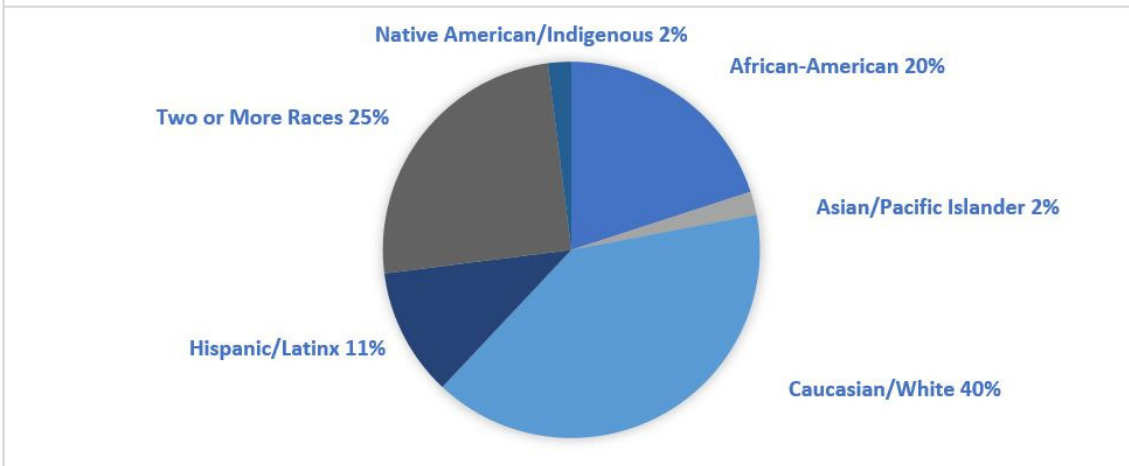
RISK FACTORS OF CASES (FY20)

100% of CASA cases involve one or more risk factors for childhood trauma. Our CASA teams ensure the true needs and risks of children are known and incorporated in high-conflict custody cases so parenting plans comprise the safest and most nurturing environments for CASA children.



RACIAL DEMOGRAPHICS OF CASES (FY20)

Family Law CASA serves a culturally diverse population and does not discriminate against or emphasize any particular heritage or cultural group. The children we serve range in ages from 0 to 18. Nearly half of the children are 6 years old or younger, which means many have not had the opportunity to be screened for specific needs or services by a school or teacher. By serving these populations, Family Law CASA is essential for children who “fall through the cracks” of Family Court.

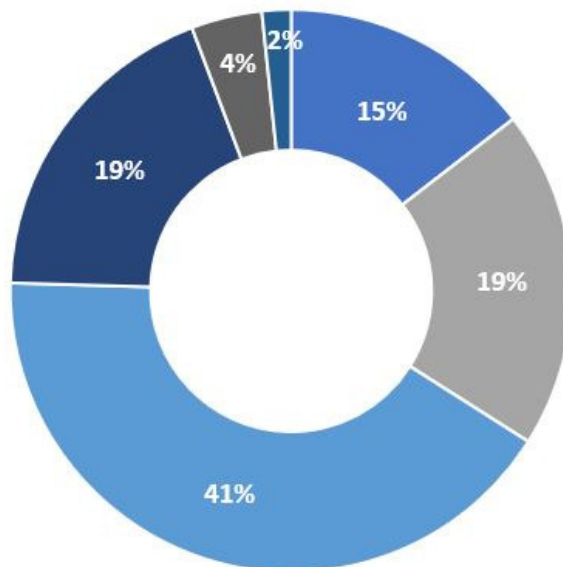


BY THE NUMBERS – YOUR INVESTMENT IN FAMILY LAW CASA

Resources from our donors support the at-risk children we serve in King County. We work to implement our mission in the most efficient and effective manner possible, maintaining a lean but strong program.

REVENUE

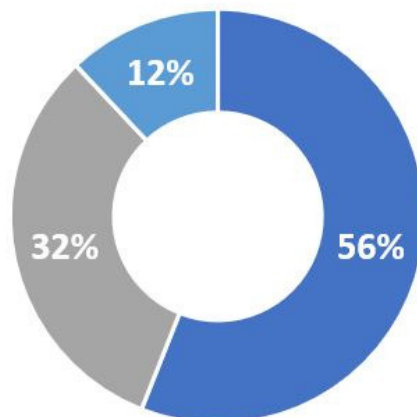
\$732,988



- Individuals
\$106,491
- Foundation Grants
\$142,700
- Event Income
\$303,890
- Corporate Sponsors
\$137,775
- Corporate Matching
\$29,886
- Investment Income/Other
\$12,246

EXPENSES

\$1,135,177



- Program
\$640,788
- Development
\$358,226
- Management and General
\$136,163

The Board approved a deficit budget for FY20 to fund and sustain capacity increase from 90 to 120 cases per year. This deficit was covered by a draw from the Special Gift reserves.



Round of Applause!

Thank you, community partners. You give local at-risk children a chance for a safe and healthy future.

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Seattle Police Foundation
Sound Community Bank
Supporting Strategies, South Seattle
Tableau Software Matching Fund
The Clarius Group
Tulalip Tribes
UBS Employer Match
US Bank Foundation Matching Program
US Charitable Gift Trust – Mockingbird Fund
Washington State Bar Association
Washington State Combined Fund Drive
Wells Fargo
Windermere Foundation
Wyman Youth Trust**

“It only takes one small moment, one person’s small act of selfless kindness, to give our children the possibility to grow beyond their circumstances.” – Volunteer Attorney for CASA

Thanks to our sponsors, 100% of event contributions from individual donors directly benefited our CASA children in fiscal year 2020.

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“What an important service Family Law CASA is providing for our community’s children.”
-CASA Parent

2020 Annual Breakfast Sponsors

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**Thank you for supporting Family Law
CASA's mission - advocating for children in
high-risk custody cases, so they have the
best chance for a safer, more secure home
life, significantly reducing the
risk of abuse and neglect.**



Five Easy Ways to Support CASA Kids Now



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Seattle, WA
98104**



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your Estate Planning**



**Make a gift of stock: Contact
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familylawcasa.org](mailto:development@familylawcasa.org) for
transfer instructions**

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Virtual Training for
New Advocates
September 25th and 26th

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