OUR MISSION: CASA is a child’s voice in dependency court, providing advocacy, stability, and hope to children who have been abused, neglected, or abandoned.
YEAR IN REVIEW: 2016 - 2017

Statement of Activities
July 1, 2016 - June 30, 2017

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Revenue</th>
<th>Expenditure</th>
<th>Reserve Use</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Gross Revenue</td>
<td>$911,089*</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Expenses</td>
<td>$1,053,688</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Planned use of Reserves</td>
<td>$142,599</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*audited financial available upon request

Your Support Makes a Difference
We count on the continued support of our generous donors, foundations and corporations to be the backbone of our successful program.

84 cents of every dollar donated goes to services that directly support the advocacy of foster children in Santa Cruz County.

Financials

Percentage of CASA High School Seniors who completed their high school requirements (compared to less than 50% of all foster youth nationwide)

82%

Volunteer Information
Volunteer hours ..........21,958
Inkind Value ...........$605,821

Total Children Served 283
Active CASA Volunteers 264

Outcomes

Ages of Children Served

205
226
254
283

EVERY YEAR we increase the number of children we serve.

Ethnicity of Children Served

52% Caucasian
38% Asian American
2% African American
1% Bi-Racial
5% Latino
2% American Indian/Other

27* 43 77 37
0-2 3-5 6-12 13-17 18-21

*compared with 0 children served last year

Gross Revenue $911,089*
As members of CASA’s first graduating class of Advocates in 1992, and as current supporters, this amazing group has been with CASA since its inception. They took different paths to CASA – Cynthia and Anne were educators, and wanted to use the skills they acquired over the years. They saw “a wonderful opportunity to continue to serve children, but in a different capacity.” Dale was new to the community, and wanted to meet like-minded people. June heard Judge Black speak at her Rotary Club, and was moved to join the cause. Each of them took a case, and several of them are still in contact with their now-adult, former CASA children.

Each has a unique perspective on CASA’s development over the past 25 years. Dale said, “There’s been such a change in how Social Workers and Advocates work together. Now, it’s a really strong and supportive team.” They all remember CASA’s first tiny office on Water Street. “The Executive Director’s office was so small, you couldn’t close the door!” They marvel at what a gift the CASA house is to the community, and to CASA’s children. They said, “It’s really inspiring to see how CASA has grown.”

Twenty-five years after coming to CASA, each is still very involved with the organization, as supporters and donors. They said, “CASA is unique to the community. It’s very clear what the mission is.” As donors to CASA, they all felt that “our donations are changing children’s lives.”

Dale, Cynthia, June and Anne are committed to continuing to support CASA’s future. Anne said, “It took a long time to educate the community about what CASA does. Now everyone knows what a wonderful organization it is.” And they all agreed that “the best people in the community are involved with CASA.”
Karen, a fourth-generation Watsonville resident and a RN at Watsonville Community Hospital, has seen first-hand how many families desperately need the resources that will help them and, as Karen said, “get that one step ahead, so they can keep moving forward.” After going through Advocate training, Karen initially thought she would choose to work with a pre-teen girl. But when she read 4-year old “Tony’s” file, she knew he was for her.

Tony was still at home with his mom (a case known as Family Maintenance), but Karen quickly realized she needed to communicate clearly with mom about her role as Tony’s CASA. “Initially, mom thought I was there to provide her time off or daycare. I explained that I was there, first and foremost, to make sure Tony’s needs were being met.” Karen watched the interaction between Tony and his mom. “Once I was able to understand Tony and his mom’s dynamics, I could help connect mom to helpful resources.”

When Tony’s mom relapsed with her substance abuse recovery, Tony was placed with a foster family. Karen stayed with him throughout this process. “Tony had a hard time with all the changes,” Karen said. “While keeping him as my number one priority, it was clear that if I didn’t also support mom in what she needed, she couldn’t provide Tony with what he needed.” Karen connected the family with the appropriate mental health services, and helped enroll him with a former daycare center that offered him safety and familiarity in an everchanging world. She also helped Tony branch out with social activities like Itty-Bitty soccer and basketball camps.

Karen said, “One thing I learned in my CASA training was that how I raised my children may have been right for me, but it doesn’t mean that it’s right for everyone. Everyone has a different style for raising their children, but everyone’s end goal is the same. We just have different ways of getting there. We want our children to be healthy, well-adjusted and happy.”

When asked what her dreams are for Tony now that he’s home with his mom, Karen said, “I want Tony to thrive. He has his mother’s heart – a heart of gold – and I want him to have a life with a mother who is nurturing. I want Tony to learn, engage, and have a full and happy life.”
Karina, now 18, first entered the dependency care system when she was three years old, and has been in and out of the system ever since. She is there because of a family history of substance abuse, and because she and her brother were neglected. At 15, she was again removed from her home, and has gone from multiple foster homes and group homes to a residential treatment facility, all the while battling to find a healthier way to live. “I felt like there was some magical solution out there that I couldn’t find.”

Karina was hoping to get a young Advocate, “someone who could better understand what I was feeling.” She was matched with Caitie, age 24, who Karina said is “awesome.” She said, “I love that she chose me, and that she volunteers to spend time with me.” Karina speaks highly of her therapist, and respects the hard decisions that Social Workers have to make. “Now that I’m older, I really appreciate the team of people around me.”

Karina is now working three part-time jobs, and, with Caitie’s guidance through the enrollment process, is going to Cabrillo College. She received a scholarship from CASA to help defray some of the costs associated with her education. Karina is living with a family, and continues to receive support as part of AB12 (Extended Foster Care), which allows her to stay in the system until age 21. She also volunteers every Friday in her little brother’s classroom, something she has done for three years. “Everybody wants me to be fixed,” Karina said. “I think it’s more that I need to heal. So that’s what I’m doing – not to please anyone else, but just for me.”

“Everybody wants me to be fixed. I think it’s more that I need to heal. So that’s what I’m doing – not to please anyone else, but just for me.”
Natty, one of CASA’s youngest Advocates at age 25, fills one of CASA’s greatest needs as a positive male role model for boys. In October of 2015, Natty was matched with 7-year-old “Hector,” who had been in foster care for two years. “I remember the first couple of times we met, Hector wanted to hang out at his home, so that’s what we did,” said Natty. “As he got more comfortable with me, we branched out.”

Natty could see that Hector was still deeply troubled by the turmoil in his birth family, and would act out with his foster family. Hector’s foster family was committed to Hector and his sister, and Natty spent time with the father, offering encouragement and working together to help Hector adjust. Hector was behind in school, and Natty and the foster parents collaborated as part of a school support team. Natty was an integral part of that team, and attended meetings at Hector’s school to ensure he was getting the academic support he needed. Natty’s close relationship with Hector enabled him to write strong court reports, and be a voice for Hector at court hearings.

Natty and Hector’s foster parents worked with Hector to become physically healthier. “Hector struggled with food choices, and wasn’t getting the exercise he needed,” said Natty. “So we played a lot of soccer, I got him interested in basketball, and now he chooses to be outside and active.” Natty said it was a great day when Hector told him, “Instead of eating chips, I’m gonna start eating bananas. Much healthier!”

Mostly, Natty became Hector’s friend. “These kids just need someone who actively wants to be their friend – just because,” Natty said. “I’ve had so much given to me in my life that our CASA kids don’t have. I’m happy I can provide that friendship to Hector. And I’ll be with him until the end. He’s my buddy – I’ll never leave him hanging.”

“Hector struggled with food choices, and wasn’t getting the exercise he needed. So we played a lot of soccer, I got him interested in basketball, and now he chooses to be outside and active.”
These gifts have **changed children’s lives**.

**CASA of Santa Cruz County** is grateful to the following individuals, businesses, foundations and government agencies whose contributions from July 1, 2016 through June 30, 2017 made our work possible.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Contribution Range</th>
<th>Donor Advised Fund at the Silicon Valley Community Foundation</th>
<th>County of Santa Cruz</th>
<th>Bright Horizon Fund at Fidelity Charitable</th>
<th>Lynne and Dan Alper Fund</th>
<th>Anonymous</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$100,000 +</td>
<td>Chris and Greg Hoberg</td>
<td></td>
<td>Anonymous</td>
<td>Lynne and Dan Alper Fund</td>
<td>Anonymous</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Lisa and Jeff Kirk</td>
<td></td>
<td>Anonymous</td>
<td>Lynne and Dan Alper Fund</td>
<td>Anonymous</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Jan Lange</td>
<td></td>
<td>Anonymous</td>
<td>Lynne and Dan Alper Fund</td>
<td>Anonymous</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Stephen Martinealli</td>
<td></td>
<td>Anonymous</td>
<td>Lynne and Dan Alper Fund</td>
<td>Anonymous</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Pajaro Valley Association of Realtors</td>
<td></td>
<td>Anonymous</td>
<td>Lynne and Dan Alper Fund</td>
<td>Anonymous</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Rowland and Patricia Rebele</td>
<td></td>
<td>Anonymous</td>
<td>Lynne and Dan Alper Fund</td>
<td>Anonymous</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Rotary Club of Watsonville</td>
<td></td>
<td>Anonymous</td>
<td>Lynne and Dan Alper Fund</td>
<td>Anonymous</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Santa Cruz County Bank</td>
<td></td>
<td>Anonymous</td>
<td>Lynne and Dan Alper Fund</td>
<td>Anonymous</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Frank and Carol Saveria</td>
<td></td>
<td>Anonymous</td>
<td>Lynne and Dan Alper Fund</td>
<td>Anonymous</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Sharanam Foundation</td>
<td></td>
<td>Anonymous</td>
<td>Lynne and Dan Alper Fund</td>
<td>Anonymous</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Peggy Banks Volkmann</td>
<td></td>
<td>Anonymous</td>
<td>Lynne and Dan Alper Fund</td>
<td>Anonymous</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Ken and Sonia Westphal</td>
<td></td>
<td>Anonymous</td>
<td>Lynne and Dan Alper Fund</td>
<td>Anonymous</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Randy Wolf</td>
<td></td>
<td>Anonymous</td>
<td>Lynne and Dan Alper Fund</td>
<td>Anonymous</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$50,000 - $99,000</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Anonymous</td>
<td>Lynne and Dan Alper Fund</td>
<td>Anonymous</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$30,000 - $49,999</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Anonymous</td>
<td>Lynne and Dan Alper Fund</td>
<td>Anonymous</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$10,000 - $29,999</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Anonymous</td>
<td>Lynne and Dan Alper Fund</td>
<td>Anonymous</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$5,000 - $9,999</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Anonymous</td>
<td>Lynne and Dan Alper Fund</td>
<td>Anonymous</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$2,500 - $4,999</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Anonymous</td>
<td>Lynne and Dan Alper Fund</td>
<td>Anonymous</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

*A Donor Advised Fund at Community Foundation Santa Cruz County*
Eileen Hodson and Steve Kennedy
Wendy and Lowell Hurst
Carolyn and Fred Irvine
Ken and Susan Cassman Charitable Fund at Fidelity Charitable
Barbara Lee
Margaret Leonard and Clare Sheils
Florence and Keith Lesar
Nicholas Macy
Claire and Hon. Richard McAdams
David Mercier and Jessica Cassman
Cynthia and Teall Messer
Michelle and Jeff Messersmith
Daria Mick
Jamie Murray
Joan Osborne
Joy and Elio Rodoni
Rotary Club of Freedom
Carolyn and Rudy Rudolph
James and Judy Russell
Miguel Saldana
Sonny’s 1st Co. Inc
Trinity Presbyterian Church
Janet Wagley
Nancy Whaley
Leo White
Frances Henniger Williams Charitable Fund Judy and Dick Zscheile

$250 - $499
Advanced West
Valerie Arno
Janet Bell, M.D.
Ted Benhari
Law Offices of Nathan Benjamin
Bruce Berwald
BFF Boutique
BFP Fire Protection
Anna and Brian Bibighaus
Jodi Blackburn
Susan and Robert Bosso
Kay and Jerry Bowden
JMF Brown
Vivian and Michael Brown
Agnes Chien
Citro Salon
Jonathan Collins
Kathleen Condon
Hon. Rebecca Connolly
Marcy Cottle
Toni Crossen and Cathy Curtis
Dacia Cruz
John David
Tanya Decell
Robert and Kay Denike
Christopher Dietz
Ann and John Dizikes
Mark and Mari Donnelly
Hon. John and Peg Gallagher
Gretchen Gauss
Steffen Gauss
Nancy Gregg
Grifaw Fund
Todd Hager
Amy and David Harrington
Alice Harvey
Beth Hooley
Paul and Sheri Howe
Greg and Lynn Howerton
Karen Isaacson
Kristen Jacobsen
Lawrence Kaplan and Fran Lowenhardt
Mary Kashmar and David Stewart
Laura Keeley-Saldana
Judy Kennedy
Steve Kennedy
Trisha and Brandon Kett
Ted Kirkiles
Gerald Kondo
David and Mary Anne Kramer-Urner
Nina and Michael Laddon
Steven Lange
Gail Levine
LICA Local Indep. Charities of America
Lighthouse Bank
Vince and Joyce LoFranco
Patsy and George Marinielli
Elenita Mathew
Marilyn and Jerry Maurer
Jacqueline and William McDow
Hila and Jack Michaelsen
Ruth and Werner Mueller
Fracie Newfield
Robin and Armiik Nijor
Earleen Overend and Wayne Palmer
Rebecca Prtridge
Jack and Vickie Pettker
Liz and Mark Riehl
Bunny Stillman-Rodoni and Mario Rodoni
Darryl Rudolph
Sacks Family Fund
Lois and Barry Santero
Mary Anne Sawi
Fran and Tom Scully
Autsin Sherwood
Kris Sidman-Gale & Jacob Sidman Youth Development Fund
Hon. Stephen Siegel
John and Karen Skillcorn
Ruth and John Souza
Leanne and Roger Sugimoto
Angela Surkis
Neal and Kathy Swanson, MD
Jeanne Toulouse Korn
Marla Van Cleave
Mary Wells
Lance and Abby Wexler
Mindy and Boone White
Gary Whizin and Alicia Garcia
George Carter Wilson
Jean Wolff
Anne and Bob Young
Jeff Zorn

$100 - $249
Johnny Acfalle
Dale and Carol Achabal
Karen Ackland and Larry Korbus
Laurie Aiello
Barbara and Ron Albright
Joanne and Richard Allen
David and Sharon Allhouse
Alper Family Philanthropic Fund
Spike Alper
Frank Anderson and Jennifer Harris-Anderson
Kit Anderton
Leslie and Richard Andrews
Julia Armstrong-Zwart and Frank Zwart
Tricia Baker
Ed Banks
Sharon Banks
Martin and Barbara Bargetto
Patricia and William Barton
Tory and Richard Beale
Jean and Michael Beebe
Merike and Jon Beecher
Katherine Beiers
Jill and Thomas Benton
Clayton and Mary Bermudez
Fred and Betty Bialek
Biggam, Christensen & Misloff
Pattie Blade
Mike and Janine Blaeser
Christine Bloom
Bolton Hill Company, Inc.
Cathy Bonino
Rita Bottoms
Venetia Bradfield
Branchforte Auto Repair
Lillian Brenwasser
Bright Funds Foundation
Roberta Bristol
David Brody
William Brooks
Joel Brown and Family and Eileen Brown
Raydie and Gary Buckley
Bunch Family Giving Fund
Lisa and Carl Cadenasso
Camp Unalayee Association
Fabiola Carlos
Cassidy’s Pizza
Pedro Castro and Stephanie Barnes-Castro
Joanne Chamberlin
Shelly Chambers
Roy and Mark Chambers-Bray
Ronnette Chandler
Cynthia Chase
Jessica Chavez
John and Barbara Chilton
Emily and Bruce Chorba
Ceil Cirillo
City of Capitola
City of Watsonville
Joanne Clever
Curt and Carolyn Coleman
John and Rebecca Colligan
Cosmi-Spanoche Charitable Fund at Fidelity Charitable
Hon. Christopher and Marda Cottle
Faye Crosby
Cathy Curtis

*A Donor Advised Fund at Community Foundation Santa Cruz County
These gifts have **changed children’s lives**

*For all donors including $1-99, see the online annual report*
CASA LEGACY SOCIETY MEMBERS

We would like to extend a very special thank you to the following generous individuals who have designated CASA in a bequest or as a beneficiary of their estate:

Anne Lynn
Patti and Bryan Martin
Kelly Mathews
Sean Mathis
Kari McGee
Janet Meidl
Shirley and George Mooers
Jennifer Munter
Victoria Nahrnsen
Daniel and Ellen Nielsen
North Coast Acupuncture Center
Philip Oakes
Oasis Hair and Skin Care
Pacific Voices
Anandi Paganini
PEO Chapter PH
Beverley and Bob Petersen
Phyllis Pilgrim
Jennifer Price
Steven Ramirez
Paul and Linda Rasmussen
Barbara Riesz
Wendy Rosenstein, M.D.
Jim Rumble
Janet and Phillip Rupp
Brigitta Ryle
Elaine Sanjuan
Santa Cruz County
Santa Cruz Montessori School
SBDC at Cabrillo College
Spencer Schatz
Anthony and Donna Scuvotti

Dave and Kay Bartlett
Janet Bels
Susan and Kenneth Coale
Joan Cook (realized)
Darryl Dill (realized)
Cynthia Druley
Wilma M. Gawthrop
Margaret Gordon
Amy and David Harrington
Dale Johnson and Isebill Gruhn
Leola Lapides and Bob Katz

Lynda Leigh
Cindy Margolin
Teall and Cynthia Messer
Adam Richter Charitable Trust (realized)
Karen Semingson
Nancy and Ray Sherrod
June Smith
Kent Thompson
Lonnie Truax and Ian MacGregor
Anne and Bob Young

Have you already included CASA in your will or made another legacy gift? Please let us know so we may thank you for your thoughtfulness and your belief in our future. Your visibility encourages others to step forward.
CASA volunteers are everyday people from all walks of life. We are looking for people who are dependable, caring, and ready to commit a few hours a week to serve a child or youth who has been abused, neglected, or abandoned.

CASA volunteers must pass a background check, participate in a 35-hour training course, and agree to stay with their child until the case is closed (1½ years, on average). Volunteers are thoroughly trained and well supported by professional staff as they advocate for their child.

For many children in foster care, their CASA volunteer will be the one consistent adult presence in their lives.

For many volunteers, CASA is a life-changing experience.

Sign up to learn more at www.casaofsantacruz.org/volunteer
As CASA celebrates its 25th anniversary, volunteers speak up for more children than ever before. Our work brings volunteers, partners, donors and leaders together in collaboration to advocate for vulnerable children. CASA continues to gather strength and move forward.

**Since our beginning in 1991**

- **1992**: 15 children served
  - CASA has grown in **impact and changes more children's lives** – serving over 2100 children
- **1992**: 11 Advocates trained
- **2016**: 283 children served
  - CASA has grown in **strength and numbers** as we trained more than 1600 Advocates
- **2016**: 87 Advocates trained; 264 Advocates donated 21,958 hours of service
- **2012**: Began matching Advocates/Mentors with youth age 18-21 - 8 served
- **2016**: Served 37 youth age 18-21
- **2015**: Launched program to serve infants and toddlers – served 0
- **2016**: Served 27 infants and toddlers
- **2006**: Joined Education Village Collaborative
- **2013**: CASA partnered in launch of Foster Ed
- **2016**: 82% of CASA youth graduated from high school
- **2010**: 70 child/Advocate visits (CASA house opened)
- **2016**: 932 child/Advocate visits
- **1992**: 2 staff with a budget of $33,050 provided by the Friends of CASA
- **2016**: 12.2 staff with a budget of $1,022,218 provided by a community of donors, businesses, foundations, events and city and county governments

CASA's program grew to serve **all children and youth** from birth to age 21
CASA expanded services to **address the educational needs** of the children we serve
CASA realized its dream of a “**Casa for CASA**” where children and Advocates could spend time in a safe and fun environment
The community supports CASA and provides the resources to realize our dream to provide an **Advocate to every child who needs one**

CASA – Court Appointed Special Advocates of Santa Cruz County

T: 831.761.2956  F: 831.761.2913
Non-profit Tax ID # 77-0305354

www.casaofsantacruz.org  www.facebook.com/CASAScruz
www.twitter.com/CASAScruz

### 2017-2018 Board of Directors

David Fulton, President  
Teall Messer, Vice President  
Phuong Mayer, Treasurer  
Janis Oat, Secretary  
Mary Shartle, Immediate Past President  
Mary Alsip  
Leroy Elkin  
Sesario Escoto  
Margaret Gordon  
Nancy Gordon  
Francisco Ponce  
Esther Sylvan  
Jenni Veitch-Olson

### 2017-2018 Friends of CASA

John David, Chair  
Kent Thompson, Co-Chair  
Wendy Hurst, Secretary  
Nancy Whaley, Immediate Past Chair  
Laurie Aiello  
Tricia Baker  
Dave and Kay Bartlett  
Mary Bergthold  
Sue Garder  
Claudine Colbett  
Mary Dean  
Diane Deaver  
Kay Denike  
Juliet Eulensen-Wallace  
Jenni Fox  
Jennifer Gardner  
Ron Goodman  
Ashley Halderman  
Sandy and Nick Hartman  
Lynn Hawkinson

Cheryl Henriksen  
Meg Janes  
Dale Johnson  
Peggy Lacey  
Melanie Larson  
Florence Lesar  
Patsy Marinelli  
Marlyn Maurer  
Claire McAdams  
Loree McCawley  
Jackie McDow  
Sue Murphy  
Candy Newell  
Joan Osborne  
Cynthia Rees  
Liz Riehl  
Mary Shartle  
Linda Simpliciano  
Portia Tanaka  
Anne Young

813 Freedom Blvd., Watsonville, CA 95076