



# FY 2020-2021 Impact Report



**CASA**

Court Appointed Special Advocates  
FOR CHILDREN

OF SANTA CRUZ COUNTY

“[Give me] the kid that needs the most help”—  
Advocate Paul, pg 9

---

TABLE OF CONTENTS

- 01 Letter from Leadership
- 02 Changing a Child's Story
- 04 Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion
- 05 CASA by the Numbers
- 06 Juvenile Justice Program
- 08 Infants and Toddlers
- 10 Financials
- 11 With Thanks
- 18 Community Partners
- 19 Events

---

OUR VISION

That all children are nurtured in the hearts and homes of safe and loving families.

OUR MISSION

CASA of Santa Cruz County advocates for children, providing court appointed volunteers so each child in the dependency court system feels cared for and connected with the people, families, and resources they need to heal and flourish into adulthood.

Dear Friend,

The 2020-2021 financial year brought a lot of change to our community and that in turn offered us many opportunities to grow as individuals and as an agency. Our community's generosity, kindness, and desire to support each other helped us all face the challenges and grow together. Thank you for being part of this community and for supporting CASA and the youth and families of Santa Cruz County.

CASA responded to the racial justice mandate by looking inward at ourselves, our practices, our policies, and by coming together to learn. We continue this work and are committed to our lifelong journey of learning and becoming better allies. As we firmly believe that all children should remain with their birth families if at all possible, we also celebrated state and federal renewed commitments to provide more resources for our families so that children can thrive in their care.

During this year, we re-started our Juvenile Justice Pilot Project and began providing Advocates to youth who are on probation. As the financial year came to a close we were positioned with the rest of California to re-open and the CASA house is once again welcoming Advocates, their youth, and our community supporters.

Our youth, their families, and our Advocates showed tremendous resiliency throughout this past year. It is our privilege and pleasure to support our Advocates who stand with a child who has experienced abuse or neglect so that they feel cared for and connected to the people, family, and resources that they need to thrive into adulthood.

With respect and gratitude,



Lynne Petrovic  
Executive Director



Andrea Carlos Willey  
Board President

# Changing a Child's Story



Rainbow, 2021, Marker on Printer Paper

Child neglect is more likely in families that are experiencing an overload of stress. The weight of poverty can especially overload parents' abilities to provide supportive relationships and basic needs for their children. This was the case with Tammy\*, a 21-year-old single mother of four children, who found herself homeless and without a vehicle.

Tammy's family was living in a homeless shelter when her four young children, all under the age of five, entered the Dependency Court System in May 2019. When the children were matched with CASAs, Tammy knew exactly what a CASA was; she herself had one as a youth in foster care. At first, the children remained together in the shelter with Tammy. However, when her boyfriend was incarcerated a few months later, Tammy was left on her own, feeling completely overwhelmed and unable to meet the needs of her four young children and, unfortunately, were removed from her care due to neglect.

The two younger siblings went to live with their paternal grandmother while the two elder children were placed with their paternal aunt, Mary\*. Mary, a single mother, is also the legal guardian of her two younger brothers. Despite having her hands full with three children, Mary knew that she had love to spare and asked that her niece and nephew should live with her. Mary is determined to break the multi-generational cycle of foster care that her family had fallen into and provide the two siblings with a stable and loving home with family.

Another consistent and caring presence in these kids' lives has been Advocates and married couple Torrey and Mark. They have not only teamed together to advocate for the children's best interests in court and school; they have also become very trusted adults in these kids' lives. Once a week for over two and a half years, they have helped Mary by picking the kids up from school and taking them out for the afternoon. One of the places they visit is the CASA house where they do homework, play games, or draw pictures, such as this rainbow. While the kids miss their mother and two younger siblings, they have shown incredible resilience and after two and half years in the system, Mary happily adopted them in October 2021.

Thank you Mary, Mark, and Torrey for showing us all the transformative power that love and dedication can make in children's lives.

\*Fictitious name

## 5 Key Actions of a CASA

COURT APPOINTED SPECIAL ADVOCATES HELP CHILDREN NAVIGATE THE FOSTER CARE SYSTEM:



### ADVOCATE

Speak up for the best interest of a child



### SUPPORT

Provide a stable and caring relationship



### INVESTIGATE

Gather important information



### REPORT

Organize and present details



### RECOMMEND

Offer ideas that will improve the situation

THREE KEY OUTCOMES

# Safety

# A Forever Home

# Well-Being

# Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

Unfortunately, children from ethnic minorities are overrepresented in the child welfare system. CASA has committed to working against the effects of this racial disproportionality and incorporating DEI principles into every layer of our organization. By doing this work internally, we are augmenting our ability to serve the diverse communities that make up Santa Cruz County.

To begin this journey, we hired consultants to help us assess our past and current relationship with DEI principles, giving us the framework, goals, and encouragement needed to move forward. The Board and Staff both started their own DEI committees to examine themselves, identify issues, and develop solutions.

We believe that the equitable sharing of power outside of our organization must first begin within. By creating staff-led committees with decision-making authority and purposefully inviting all staff members into policy and work-culture discussions, staff voices will be heard in the formation of CASA's future.

Ensuring that those voices reflect the populations we serve, we decided to pay each staff member a livable wage for our county. The ability to work at CASA must not be reserved only for those who have the means and resources to live and work in the county. To further reflect our community, we created a new paid intern position specifically designed for young adults who have lived in the child welfare system. This position will help the intern to grow professionally and will bring a very important voice to the staff at CASA. Moreover, every new hire from the 20-21 fiscal year has been bilingual and our new Outreach Manager, Clarita Cortes, has emphasized appearances on Spanish-language media to better engage with the Hispanic community. Research has shown that a Hispanic or Latino adolescent having a Hispanic or Latino mentor can result in a more positive ethnic identity and improve academic outcomes.

There is still work to be done. To integrate DEI principles into a long-running organization is to swim against a strong current and it will take sustained effort to make progress. Much of this year has been spent setting the stage for that continual work by getting our staff and Board to be more familiar with DEI principles and organized to pursue them. But now, with that foundation, the goal of ending racial disproportionality in the dependency system is easier to imagine. We hope to soon live up to our goal of being led by the people we serve.

## CASA by the Numbers

NO. CHILDREN SERVED

208

ACTIVE CASA VOLUNTEERS

177

OTHER VOLUNTEERS

42

TOTAL VOLUNTEER HOURS

7824

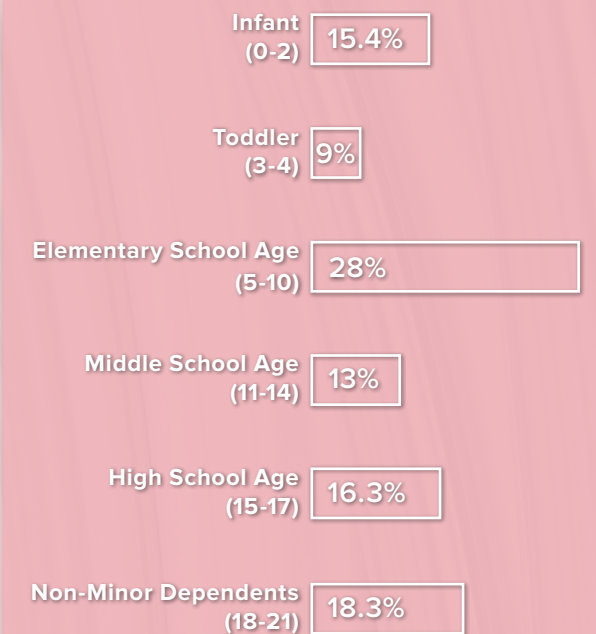
IN-KIND VALUE

\$223,296.96

### Ethnic/Racial Breakdown

- **35%** of Santa Cruz County is Hispanic/Latino
- **51%** of CASA of Santa Cruz children served were Hispanic/Latino
- **17%** of CASA Advocates were Hispanic/Latino

### AGES OF CHILDREN SERVED



# The Need: Juvenile Justice



**While many children internalize their reactions to Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs), some kids display more outward expressions. And a small portion does so to a degree that warrants law enforcement’s intervention. These kids have experienced many of the same traumas as their peers in the Dependency System, but in their cases, the Juvenile Justice System was the first to become involved. CASA has a new opportunity to broaden our support and help effect meaningful change in the lives of an even greater number of our community’s most vulnerable children.**

California CASA has partnered with the University of Michigan and selected CASA of Santa Cruz, among three other counties, to implement a pilot program to study the effectiveness of advocacy for children in the Juvenile Justice court system. Much like with foster youth, specially trained and paired CASA Advocates began supporting children in the Juvenile Justice System, providing mentorship, helping the youth attend school, and/or obtain a job. These Advocates also help the youth comply with the terms of their probation, completing mandated community service, and strategizing the payment of restitution—a significant economic burden on an already struggling youth or youth’s family.

While it is still too early to report any data, anecdotal evidence hints at positive outcomes similar to those found with youth in the Dependency System and meaningful change in these kids’ lives has already occurred. Many more Santa Cruz County children in the Juvenile Justice system are in need of support and stability and when the pilot program concludes in December 2022, CASA of Santa Cruz County will be ready and at the forefront of what may well become a national movement.

## Juvenile Justice Case Study

Jackson\* experienced things no child ever should. When the Dependency Court intervened, he was adopted, but the healing process is long and often winding. In a not all uncommon expression of trauma, Jackson lit a fire and was arrested and charged with arson. His adoptive mother didn’t want him in her house anymore and Jackson was alone to navigate the labyrinthian Juvenile Justice System on his own. Until he met Paul.

Long-time Advocate Paul has always asked to be paired with the “kid that needs the most help,” so Jackson was a perfect fit. While initially shy, his humor always slipped into conversation. Now they’re inseparable. Paul taught Jackson how to drive a manual transmission and once he got his learner’s permit, Jackson began to drive Paul to his favorite restaurant for chicken fettuccini alfredo. Unless, of course, it was the third Thursday of the month. That day is reserved for haircuts.

Now the 17-year-old Jackson is in a stable foster home. He works a full-time job, opening the business at 6am on the weekends. In January 2022, when he graduates from high school—early and with all A’s—Jackson plans to pursue a trade career and join a union. Paul will be there every step of the way.

\*Fictitious name



# Juvenile Justice by the Numbers

- **67.5%** of youth have at least one diagnosable mental health disorder<sup>1</sup>
- **70%** have experienced a traumatic event<sup>2</sup>
- **30%** have a diagnosed learning disability<sup>3</sup>
- **48%** function below their academic grade level<sup>4</sup>

## Children and Youth In the Santa Cruz County Juvenile Justice System

- **138** on probation or in diversion services
- **80%** are male
- **101** are wards of the court
- **13-17** average age range
- **15** daily average in Juvenile Hall
- **9** in Short-Term Residential Therapeutic Homes for children that need intensive emotional and psychological care

# The Need: Infants and Toddlers



**Due to the dual stresses of poverty and the pandemic, the number of babies and toddlers entering dependency court has increased. Therefore, the need for CASAs who can step in to support such a young child has never been greater.**

This support looks very different than with a school-age or teenage youth, since visits with infants and toddlers under the age of 3 must be within the presence of their caregiver or parents. Advocates instead spend time with those adults in the child's life and gets to know them and support them as they work together to ensure the child's needs are being met.

In many cases a baby will be placed with an extended family member, oftentimes a grandparent. These family members face unique challenges and can often times be overwhelmed as they might not be prepared with the necessary resources to care for an infant and the official requirements of becoming a resource (foster) family. This is where an Advocate can step in and help; securing items they may need such as car seat, stroller, crib, or diapers or helping enroll in daycare, preschool, or other programs.

The pandemic has presented challenges for our Advocates supporting families as COVID restrictions meant a reduction to face-to-face visits. Unlike with older youth who can FaceTime with their Advocates, this does not always work well with a non-verbal one- or two-year-old. Instead, check-ins frequently happened over text with the caregiver and Advocates would drop off supplies as needed. Advocates continued to provide amazing advocacy and support for our community's youth and their families.

## Infant Case Study

After participating in the first Zoom training session offered, Stacey Blasing became an Advocate in June of 2020. She was soon matched with a 17-month-old toddler. Adhering to COVID restrictions, Stacey reached out by text or phone to all the adults in the child's life—the resource family, the birth parents, the social worker, multiple therapists, day care providers—to gather information to assess the child's needs and to advocate for needed resources. She held a Zoom call every other week with the resource family and was able to see the toddler, play peek-a-boo, and ask him questions about his toys, what he was eating, and his interests.

Stacey met the child's father, Matt\*, during a Child Family Team Meeting over Zoom. Matt was given a 30-day trial custody of his son, which he successfully completed. Stacey started having Zoom calls with Matt and supporting him with his transition to full custody. Stacey was able to get to know the needs of the family to help the child thrive in his development, advocating for therapy and making sure he was enrolled in preschool. When the child got sick over one weekend and Matt didn't know where to go for help, he reached out to Stacey who quickly found the information he was looking for and reassured a worried father. Stacey was able to build a relationship of trust with Matt and support him and the toddler through this time of transition. And, remarkably, was able to accomplish all this a virtually over phone and Zoom.

\*Fictitious name



ACCORDING TO CHILDREN'S ATTORNEYS AND SOCIAL WORKERS, CHILDREN AND YOUTH WITH A CASA VOLUNTEER ARE MORE LIKELY TO:



Receive needed services in a timely manner



Be enrolled in an appropriate educational setting



Participate in extracurricular activities



Have long-term connections to siblings, relatives or other support people



Be on track to graduate high school on time



Enroll in post-secondary education

# Financial Summary

## Statement of Financials

FY 2020-2021 & FY 2019-2020

REVENUES	FY 2020-2021	FY 2019-2020
Individuals	\$570,014.98	\$363,306.34
Foundations	\$42,500	\$84,000
Government	\$619,630.86	\$470,090.91
Corporate and Group Giving	\$71,002.90	\$156,075.67
Event Revenue	\$187,915.69	\$295,816.30
Miscellaneous Income	\$2,450.00	\$0
<b>Total Revenue:</b>	<b>\$1,493,514.43</b>	<b>\$1,369,289.22</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>		
Program	\$1,267,653.66	\$1,090,434.00
Fundraising	\$140,676.67	\$108,085.00
Administrative	\$130,890.72	\$110,806.00
<b>Total Expenses:</b>	<b>\$1,539,221.05</b>	<b>\$1,309,325.00</b>

# 82¢

of every dollar donated goes toward the advocacy of the children we serve.

# With Thanks,

CASA of Santa Cruz County is grateful to the following individuals, businesses, foundations, and government agencies whose contributions of \$100 or more during the 2020-2021 Financial Year made our work possible.

- |                                       |  |
|---------------------------------------|--|
| Anonymous Donors                      | Jackie Becker                          |
| Edie and Jim Abendschan               | Michelle Beckstrom and Greg Gaon       |
| Dale and Carol Achabal                | Ted Benhari                            |
| Bill and Mari Albanese                | Susan and John Benich                  |
| Barbara and Ron Albright              | Bruce Bennett                          |
| Alfaro Family Vineyards               | Constance Bennett                      |
| Charles Allen                         | Richard and Made Berg                  |
| Laura Allen                           | Mary and Rudy Bergthold                |
| Ryan Allen                            | Bruce Berwald                          |
| Mary Alsip                            | Cheri Bianchini                        |
| Barbara Alston                        | Bicycle Trip                           |
| Daniel Alvarez and Marie Hamilton     | Biggam, Christensen, and Minsloff, LLP |
| Martha Andersen                       | Linda Bixby                            |
| Leslie and Richard Andrews            | Mary and Harry Blanchard               |
| Annieglass                            | Karen Blasing                          |
| Apple                                 | Stacey Blasing and Alan Spearot        |
| Susan Apy                             | BNGF Hunkel Charitable Gift Fund       |
| Mary Fran Archer                      | Deborah Bodine                         |
| Douglas Ardley and Nancy Krueger      | Judy Boemer                            |
| Julia Armstrong-Zwart and Frank Zwart | Cathy and Larry Bolton                 |
| Deborah Arnold                        | Bontadelli, Inc.                       |
| Monica Arroyo                         | Susan and Robert Bosso                 |
| Cecilia Avila-Gallo                   | Branciforte Auto Repair                |
| Zachary Bachmeier                     | Jesse and Ziggy Bregman                |
| Ruthanne Baker-Mander                 | Lillian Brenwasser                     |
| Larry Banducci and Consuelo Espana    | Todd A. Bria                           |
| Kathleen and Edward Banks             | Bright Funds Foundation                |
| Ida Marie Banquerigo                  | Bright Horizon Fund                    |
| Bargetto Winery                       | Danielle Brown                         |
| Martin and Barbara Bargetto           | Vivian and Michael Brown               |
| Margaret and Steve Baron              | Rossana Bruni and Bruce Eisendorf      |
| James and Sheila Barry                | Janet Bruno                            |
| Bartlett Trust                        | Robin and Philip Buckwalter            |
| Patricia and William Barton           | Bunch Family Giving Fund               |
| David M. Bates                        | Jack and Lori Burkett                  |
| Katie and Phil Bates                  | John and Linda Burroughs               |
| Donnie and Lisa Battle                | Aaron Burstein                         |
| Bay Federal Credit Union              | Ann Butler                             |
| Tory and Richard Beale                | Colleen and Robert Butterfield         |
| Beauregard Vineyards                  | Sharon and Edward Bystran              |

## Board of Directors

FY2020-2021

- Andrea Willy, *President*  
 Sesario Escoto, *Vice President*  
 Phuong Mayer, *Treasurer*  
 Heather Henricks, *Secretary*  
 Chris Sheehy, *Immediate Past President*  
 Leroy Elkin  
 Matt Gianelli  
 Janis Ost  
 Shaz Roth  
 Anna Rubalcava  
 Esther Sylvan  
 Jenni Veitch-Olson  
 Linda Bixby: End of Term March 2, 2021  
 Nancy Gordon: April 12, 2021

## Staff\*

- Lynne Petrovic, *Executive Director*  
 Clint Bonds, *Communications & Grant Coordinator*  
 Jessica Chu, *Advocate Supervisor & Advocate Waitlist Manager*  
 Jimmy Cook, *Program Director*  
 Clarita Cortes, *Outreach & Recruitment Manager*  
 Magi Diego, *Development & Communications Director*  
 Yosie Gonzalez, *Advocate Supervisor & Court Liaison*  
 Roxy Greenspan, *Advocate Supervisor & Early Childhood Specialist*  
 Megan Grewohl, *Advocate Supervisor & Transition Age Youth Specialist*  
 Ana Guzman, *Program Coordinator*  
 Victoria Herkomer, *Advocate Supervisor & Project Lead*  
 James Holman, *Administrative Assistant*  
 Jenny Hundemer, *Trainer*  
 Michele Keenan, *Events Coordinator*  
 Alma Rocha, *Advocate Supervisor & Education Liaison*  
 Puiyee Tse, *Finance Manager*

\*As of 6/30/2021

## Interns

- |                |                        |
|----------------|------------------------|
| Alexis Eproson | Gabrielle Poremba      |
| Kelsey Hopkins | Jackelin Rodriguez     |
|                | Raquel Magadan-Sanchez |

CASA is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization (# 77-0305354) and all donations are tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law.



# With Thanks, Continued

C&N Tractor  
 Cakes with Care  
 Norma Calderon  
 Laura Caldwell  
 CALICO Center  
 California Giant Berry Farms  
 California Office for Victims of Crime  
 Claire Campodonico and Keith Paulson  
 Beverly Capwell  
 Freddie Carino  
 Carol A. Olson Charitable Fund  
 Caroline's Non-Profit Thrift Shop  
 Anne and Tom Carr  
 Dan Carrillo  
 Patrick and Carla Carstens  
 Castagnola Deli and Café  
 Fred Castillo  
 Annie and Michael Castro  
 Paul and Heidi Cavagnolo  
 Meredith Chace  
 Diana and Matt Chapman  
 Julia Chiapella and Eric Zigman  
 Luvina Childress  
 Margene Chmyz  
 Ceil Cirillo  
 Agnes Chien and Howard Nelson  
 City of Capitola  
 City of Santa Cruz  
 City of Watsonville  
 May and Mike Clark  
 Michael and Barbara Clark  
 Clear Mask  
 Susan and Kenneth Coale  
 Coffey Fire Protection, Inc.  
 Richard and Wendy Coffey  
 Sondra and Terry Cohelan  
 Bud and Rebecca Colligan  
 Doron Comerchero  
 Community Foundation Santa Cruz County  
 Congregational Church of Soquel  
 Sorcha Strnad Conneely  
 Jimmy Cook and Lucero Robles  
 Margaret Cook  
 Diane and Don Cooley  
 Richard Cooper  
 Lyly Corlett  
 Corralitos Market and Sausage Co.

Michele Correa  
 Cosmi-Spanoche Charitable Fund  
 Margy Cottle  
 County of Santa Cruz  
 Harry Cozad  
 CPT Group  
 Diana Cunningham  
 Cupertino Electric  
 Cody Curran  
 Deborah Cypert and Bill Mackin  
 Alain Dargelas  
 Sumit DasGupta  
 John and Diane David  
 Doug Davis and Laura Dowling  
 Aart de Geus  
 Kristina de la Lama  
 Robert and Diana Deacon  
 Mary Dean and Mark Linder  
 Dennis DeMille  
 Dermatology Surgical and Medical Group  
 Maryellen and Lawrence Dick  
 Steve Dilbeck and Carolyn DeBoer  
 Lisa Dilles and Jack Dilles  
 Matthew Dini and Michael Ann Leannarda-Dini  
 Joelene Ditano  
 Paul Donehue  
 Driscoll's Charitable Giving  
 Cynthia Druley and Famy Diener  
 Regina Drysdale  
 Emily and Lee Duffus  
 Annamarie and Lon Dugger  
 Terry and Mark Eastman  
 Eve Eden  
 Mark Edington  
 Edward Newman Family Charitable Fund  
 Hon. Leonard Edwards and Margaret Edwards  
 Heather and Paul Egli  
 Judy Elder  
 Leroy Elkin and Linda Bottarini  
 Judy Kennedy Elliott  
 Emerging Jedi Fund  
 James Engelman  
 Philip Ernstrom  
 Isaac Escoto  
 Kristina Escoto  
 Sesario Escoto and Eva Acosta

Ace Estess  
 Graham Etchells  
 Zoe Evans Reinsch  
 Judy Everett  
 Facebook  
 Meghan Fague  
 Katie Fairbairn  
 Bridget Fairhurst  
 Richard and Merilee Ferdinand  
 Ellen Ferguson  
 Shannon Fidiem  
 Dianne and John Field  
 First Dollar Foundation  
 Mike Flagg and Judy Cooper  
 Suzanne Flaherty-Budka and Daniel Budka  
 Destiny Flood  
 Joel Anne and Mahlon Foote  
 Les Forster and Mary Gaukel  
 Lisa Foster  
 Jenni Fox and Paul Gould  
 Frances Henninger Williams Charitable Fund  
 Mike Friedrich  
 Liesl Fry  
 Carol Fuller  
 Mike Fyfe  
 Nicole Gaitan  
 Hon. John Gallagher  
 Adam Gallo  
 Rebecca Garcia  
 Tara George  
 Barb and Jim Gianelli  
 Matt and Lyza Gianelli  
 Greta Gibson  
 Cristy Gieg  
 Barbie Gomez  
 Vince Gomez  
 Enrique Gonzales  
 Ron Goodman  
 Google  
 Lynn Gordon and Dennis Midthun  
 Margaret Gordon  
 Nancy and Jack Gordon  
 Sheila and Dean Gottehrer  
 Deborah Gould  
 Susan Goulding Lawson  
 Graniterock

Ariel Gray  
 Grace Greenbach  
 Gregg Living Trust  
 Ethal and Ralph Griffin  
 Joan and Mark Griffith  
 Grocery Outlet  
 Brandt Grotte  
 Hon. Denine Guy and Berkley Brannon  
 Ken Haber  
 Todd Hager  
 Ashley and Bob Halderman  
 Michelle J Halligan  
 John Hamstra and Laurie Rivin  
 Tim and Lupe Hammill  
 Ed Hancock  
 William and Neva Hansen  
 Carl and Robin Hardin  
 Dan and Marina Harkins  
 Susan Harkins  
 Amy and David Harrington  
 Trina Harte  
 Sandy and Nick Hartman  
 Kristine Hawkins  
 Lynn and Ron Hawkinson  
 Linn Hayes  
 Healthy Child International Foundation  
 Amy and Mike Hemmert  
 Heather Henricks  
 Lidia Hernandez  
 Jeannie Herrick  
 Hildinger Charitable Fund  
 Tabetha Hinman  
 Kevin Hiroshima  
 Graham Hitchcock  
 Chris and Greg Hoberg  
 Eileen Hodson and Steve Kennedy  
 Taylor Hogan  
 Don and Sharon Hordness  
 Cheri Huber  
 Jo Ann Hughes  
 Chris Hundemer  
 Kathy and Russ Hundemer

Wendy and Lowell Hurst  
 Marilyn Hyde  
 Veronica Iniguez  
 Intel Foundation  
 Linda and Ronald Israel  
 Gayle Ivanovich  
 Deborah and James Jacobson  
 Wendy Jacoby  
 Jo Ann Janes  
 Meg Janes and Steve Bontadelli  
 Jean and Ed Kelly Foundation  
 Susan Jessen  
 Dale Johnson and Isebill Gruhn  
 Deborah Jones  
 Helen Jones  
 JR Interpreting, Inc.  
 Judicial Council of California  
 Kaiser Permanente  
 Claire Kalia  
 Jeff Kane  
 Lawrence Kaplan and Fran Lowenhardt  
 Kate Nolan Design  
 Katz-Lapides Family Fund  
 Diane and Shah Kazemi  
 Michelle Keenan  
 Patrice and Bob Keet  
 Charmaine Kelly  
 Ken and Susan Cassman Charitable Fund  
 Eric Kennedy  
 Janet L. Kennedy  
 Susan Kerr and Melody Randel  
 Trisha and Brandon Kett  
 Ted Kirkiles  
 Carol and Stuart Kitayama  
 Arleen Kluger  
 Patty Kolar  
 Alison Koo  
 Karen Korba  
 Kathryn Kranen  
 Kris Sidman-Gale and Jacob Sidman Youth Development Fund  
 Elena Laborde-Bishop and Sam Bishop

Peggy Lacey  
 Catherine and Paul Lachance  
 Lakeside Organic Garden, LLC  
 Marian Langdon  
 Barbara Lansdowne  
 Leola Lapides and Bob Katz  
 Jane Larson  
 Melanie and Thomas Larson  
 Kelley Lauritzen  
 Phillip Lee and Sarah Camp  
 John Lehr  
 Tom Lehrer  
 Lynda Leigh  
 Lenore and Howard Klein Foundation  
 Margaret Leonard and Clare Sheils  
 Florence and Keith Lesar  
 Carolyn and Robert Levering  
 Gail Levine and Emily Wughalter  
 Marcella Ley  
 Jeremy Lezin  
 Terrie Light  
 Nancy and Rabbi Rick Litvak  
 Patty Lockett  
 Vince and Joyce LoFranco  
 Jeff Logston and Sara Broadbent  
 Garrett Long  
 Barbara Lorimer  
 Nancy Loshkajian  
 Lawrence Ludgus  
 Caroline Mabalot  
 Nasreen Mahmud  
 Stefanie Malone  
 Larry Maloney  
 Richard Maloof  
 Lorelei Mangan  
 Lynn Marcocchio  
 Paula Marcus and Aryeh Nanus  
 Margaret A. Gibson Fund  
 Cindy Margolin  
 Patsy and George Marinelli  
 Lisa Marinovich  
 David Martin







## With Thanks, Continued

Megan and John Martinelli  
 Cynthia and William Mathews  
 Marilyn and Jerry Maurer  
 Phuong and Brian Mayer  
 Hon. Richard McAdams and Claire McAdams  
 Elizabeth McAshan Carbine  
 Sandralee and Cassie McCabe  
 Alice McCarley  
 Loree McCawley and Raymond Schmidt  
 Elizabeth McClure  
 Ann McCoid  
 Juli McDermott  
 Colleen McGill  
 Martha McGinnis  
 Mary McGranahan  
 Tammie McKenzie  
 Elaine McKiernan  
 Ginger C. McKinnon  
 Julissa McKinnon  
 Michael McKinnon  
 Roberta McKinnon  
 Alli McLain  
 Chris McMahan  
 Bruce and Mary McPherson  
 Kathleen Meade  
 Mehl's Colonial Chapel  
 Kathy Meidl  
 Kathi and Mike Melville  
 Anahi Mendoza  
 Russell and Jackie Menk  
 David Mercier and Jessica Cassman  
 Cynthia and Teall Messer  
 Michelle and Jeff Messersmith  
 Michael and Marsha Kelley Family Trust  
 Sara Mikles  
 Kathleen Molloy  
 Monterey Peninsula Foundation  
 KT Moore  
 Jonathan Mosney

The Mu Foundation  
 Marsha Muir  
 Susan and Grant Murphy  
 Barbara Murray  
 Mark Nance  
 Burt and Marlene Nanus  
 Naturipe Berry Growers  
 Josette Nauenberg  
 Kelly and Maria Nesheim  
 Netflix  
 New Appellation  
 Newman's Own Foundation  
 NHS, Inc.  
 Martina Nicholson  
 Ann and Steve Niemann  
 Sylvia Nieto  
 Heidi Nilsen  
 Ly Nishino  
 Joyce Nordquist  
 Morgan Oani  
 Anne Lynn Oliver  
 Anne Olson  
 Carol Olson  
 Omega Nu of Santa Cruz  
 Ellen Ortiz  
 Joe and Gayle Ortiz  
 Joan Osborne  
 Janis Ost  
 Martina and Will O'Sullivan  
 Earleen Overend and Wayne Palmer  
 Ow Family Properties  
 Pacific Coffee Roasting Company  
 Pacific Gas and Electric Company  
 Anandi Paganini  
 Ari Parker  
 Jocelyn Parker  
 Pasatiempo Golf Club  
 Grace Patino  
 Shelly and Larry Pearson

Gail Pellerin  
 Jenny Perez  
 Josh Peters  
 Kirk and Pat Petrovic  
 Catherine and Karl Philipovitch  
 Linda Philips  
 Howard and Shirley Pickle  
 Jane Weed Pomerantz  
 Sara Pope and Ana Pope-Cullen  
 Thomas Preston  
 Katherine Priebe  
 Donna and Gary Prochazka  
 Daniel and Susan Quijano  
 Rachapudi Fund  
 Alexandra Ramadan  
 Georgia Randle  
 Emily Ransone  
 Cheryl Rashid  
 Corinda Ray and Craig Rowell  
 Patricia and Rowland Rebele  
 Cynthia and Burt Rees  
 Herbert Reiter  
 J. Miles and Rosanne Reiter  
 Lidia Resendes  
 Richard and Virginia Strock Family Fund  
 Robert Ridder  
 Liz and Mark Riehl  
 Diane Rivas  
 Marlec Rivas  
 Marlene Robinson  
 Rocky and Judy Franich Fund  
 Joy and Elio Rodoni  
 Susann Rogberg  
 Eugene Rogers  
 Millou Rose  
 Jeff Rosell  
 Roseman Berke Family Charitable Fund  
 Tobi Rosen  
 Shaz Roth

William Rothenberg  
 Dieter Rothmeier  
 Anna Rubalcava and Douglas Dietrich  
 The Ruby Charitable Fund  
 Carolyn Rudolph  
 S. Martinelli and Company  
 David Salazar and Maryanne Ellis  
 Jennifer and Delphina Sanchez  
 Greg Sanders  
 Edward Sanderson  
 Pamela Santacroce  
 Santa Cruz Community Credit Union  
 Santa Cruz County Bank  
 Santa Cruz Volunteer Center  
 Lois and Barry Santero  
 Ann Satterthwaite  
 Michael and Amy Savage  
 Frank and Carol Saveria  
 Mary Anne Sawi  
 Jeanne and Stephen Schapp  
 James and Christa Scheer  
 Louis Scheffer  
 Kris Schlenker  
 Hon. Timothy Schmal  
 Norman Schwartz and Mary Ellen Sullivan  
 Scruggs, Spini, and Fulton  
 Fran and Tom Scully  
 Laurie and Mark Scurich  
 Roger and Janet Seehafer  
 Mark Segal  
 Mary Selby and Anne Selby Guerrero  
 Karen Semingson  
 Aska Serdarevic  
 Renee Shaeffer  
 Sharanam Foundation  
 Mary Shartle and Harry Smeenck  
 Chris and Maya Sheehy  
 Nancy and Ray Sherrod  
 Shirlen Fund  
 Craig Shirley  
 June Shiver  
 Silver Mountain Vineyards  
 Rebecca Silver  
 Michelle Simon  
 Linda Simpliciano  
 Bob Smeenck  
 Kimberly Smeenck  
 Joy Elizabeth Smith  
 Lori Kate Smith  
 Cindy Smith-Brockman  
 Galina Sokolov

Solari Mazry Family Fund  
 Mary Solari  
 Sonny's 1st Co. Inc.  
 Dr. David and Mary South  
 Southern Glazer's Wine and Spirits  
 Ruth and John Souza  
 Todd and Kelly Souza  
 Sarah Spalding  
 Douglas Spitzer  
 James Spoto  
 Joel and Laurie Spray  
 St. Andrew Presbyterian Church  
 Judy Stabile  
 Marc Stauffacher  
 Cathy Stefanki and Don Iglesias  
 Sara Steffen  
 Hon. Samuel Stevens and Paty Stevens  
 Jeanne Stewart  
 Heather Stiles  
 McCall Stone  
 Marta and Ben Strock  
 Sue Struck  
 Succulent Gardens  
 Lee Summers  
 Sunrise Rotary Club of Santa Cruz  
 Sunwest Construction  
 Angela Surkis  
 Neal Swanson and Kathy Swanson, MD  
 Claire Swetland  
 Esther Sylvan  
 Marianne Taflinger  
 Alice Talbot and Dan Wirls  
 Ruth Talbot  
 Scott Tall and Christy Halderman Tall  
 Jeff and Adele Talmadge  
 Portia Tanaka  
 Tom Tatum and Linden McNeilly  
 Kent Thompson M.D. and Jan Fincher  
 Nathaniel Thompson  
 Wendy Thompson  
 Pat Thwing  
 Robin Tiner  
 Fred and Jan Tomlinson  
 Hoa Tran  
 Bruce Tremayne  
 Trinity Presbyterian Church  
 Patty Tse  
 Puiyee Tse  
 Kathleen and James Tucker  
 Diane Turner  
 Terry and Norman Turner

Loretta Turnipseed  
 Joan Uhlig  
 Timothy Ulen  
 United Way of Metropolitan Dallas  
 United Way of Santa Cruz County  
 Valencia Creek Farm  
 Elizabeth Van Wagenen  
 Jenni Veitch-Olson and Robert Olson  
 Corrie Verbraken  
 Kathleen Vincent  
 Joane Volpe  
 Amelia Walker and Daniel Jacobs  
 Mary Jo Walker and Kevin Collins  
 Susan Wandruff  
 Ann Wasserman  
 Watsonville Cyclery  
 Rachel Wedeen and Debbie Harless  
 Dawn Wells and Nicholas Macy  
 Ma'lis Wendt  
 Gretchen Werner and Mark Block  
 John Wescoat  
 Ken and Sonia Westphal  
 Dee and Arthur Weybright  
 Nancy Whaley  
 Erin White  
 Leo White  
 Karen Wichelmann  
 Carol Wilhelm  
 Jennifer Wilkinson  
 Jan Willis  
 Andrea and Bruce Willy  
 Linda Wilshusen  
 Vicky and Wally Wilson  
 Windy Oaks Estate Vineyard  
 Jon and Jill Winston  
 Melanie Kett Wirtanen  
 Susan and Jonathan Wittwer  
 Richard Wohlstadter  
 Jean Wolff  
 Women's Club of San Lorenzo Valley  
 The Anne Wyant Family  
 Mary Yoon  
 Lesley Youdall  
 Anne and Bob Young  
 James and Anne Young  
 Joanne and Tom Young  
 Ysselstein Gifting Fund  
 Janice and John Zappa  
 Donna Ziel  
 Judy and Dick Zscheile  
 Renee Zuffanelli

# With Thanks,

CASA volunteers come from all walks of life and are truly some of our community's most impressive adults. We are honored to have such an amazing group of **volunteer Advocates** who have stepped up to serve the community in such a committed fashion. And our **Friends of CASA** are a dedicated team of volunteers, many of whom are former Advocates! They help tremendously with events, the **CASA Children's Fund**, and help educate the community on our work.

## Volunteer Advocates

Susan Adelman  
Sarah Amador  
Monica Ambriz  
Tanya Arnold  
Prateek Arora  
Guinevere Ashley  
Roxanne Aspesi Areias  
Daniel Atler  
Maria Bahena  
Tracy Baker  
Susan Barisone  
Mitchell Barlas  
Dulce Barrera  
Rachel Beauregard  
Jeana Beech  
Amanda Blakeman  
Stacey Blasing  
Gary Bloom  
Jill Borba  
Ana Borrayo  
William Brigham  
Marisol Briones  
Peter Brown  
Amber Burke  
Mona Butler  
Emily Chambers  
Tanya Champagne  
Erica Chapin  
Laura Chiavola-Larson  
Nancy Claspill-Navarro  
Amy Connolly  
Stacey Cooper  
Emily Crandall  
Amelia Cutten  
Suzie Dailey  
Valeria Daki  
John David  
Kristen Davis

Teresa Delfino  
Crystal Diaz  
Magi Diego  
Lisa Dilles  
Elena Dobb  
Mark Ebaugh  
Torrey Ebaugh  
Patricia Emmons  
James Engelman  
Gabriele Estill  
Ellen Ferguson  
Suzanne Feutz  
Doug Fischer  
Marisa Fischer  
Kevin Flowers  
Les Forster  
Bonnie Friedenbach  
Liliana Galvan  
Miranda Ganci  
Mary Gaukel Forster  
Alicia Gaytan  
Michael Geluardi  
Karen Gill  
Lani Giovanetti  
Patricia Golditch  
Heidi Gomez  
Peter Goodman  
Emma Gordon  
Brenda Guzman  
Laurie Hartsfield  
Marsha Heidt  
Rosalie Hershberger  
Teri Hessel  
Michelle Hodsdon  
Cheri Hung  
Mel Hunt  
Wendy Jacoby  
Jazmin Jauregui  
Larry Johnson

Robert Johnson  
Maya Kaspi  
Janet Kass  
Lisa Kaufman  
Eric Kennedy  
Janet Kennedy  
Peggy Kenny  
Becky King  
Mary Koehring  
Nate Koretz  
Joe Lavelle  
Donna Le Fever  
Uriel Leon  
Devon Linneman  
Jennifer Lopopolo  
Michael Loreda  
Barbara Lorimer  
Mary MacLellan  
Madeline Mains  
Alexander Malaspinas  
Caroline Mann  
Lynn Marcus-Wyner  
Cindy Margolin  
Alicia Marquez  
Connie Maschan  
Julianne May  
Kerry McDonald  
Patrick McDonald  
Peter McGinn  
Tim McGirk  
Tammie McKenzie  
Corey McVeigh  
Rita Medina-Bahena  
Hadi Mehdi  
Mike Melville  
Maria Mendoza  
Rebecca Meredith  
Cindy Messer  
Hannah Mixter



Johanna Morris  
Kimberly Mygatt  
Brandon Napoli  
Jenny Nevarez  
Diane O'Carroll  
Una O'Connell  
Dalia Ochoa Navarro  
Rebecca Oesterle  
Anne Olson  
Elizabeth Osborne  
William Parro  
Nancy Peters  
Lilie Pham  
Brenda Picone  
Ashley Ramirez  
Nicole Ramirez  
Michele Redmon  
William Rentz  
Maureen Ricketts  
Joani Rieger  
Mary Anne Robb  
Jackelin Rodriguez  
Laurie Romero  
Mette Rubin  
Linda Rugg  
Ray Ruiz  
Julia Ryan  
Kammy Ryckman  
Savanna Sandusky  
Dawn Shoemaker  
Yevgeniya "Jane" Shtalenkova  
Laurie Shultz

Brianna Silva  
Guillermina Silva  
Erika Smart  
J. Elizabeth Smith  
Ruth Smith  
Melanie Sobel  
Robert Spisak  
Prentice Steffen  
Patricia Steinfurth  
Michael Stevens  
Christi Suchil  
Alice Talbot  
Franco Tandoi  
Rebecca Tas  
Shelly Terra  
Vanessa Tomasello  
Gina Vaggioli  
Mary Lou Vaiz  
Brenda Vasquez  
Anthony Villano  
Melanie Walters  
Susan Walton  
Larry Willis  
Gail Wingert  
Linda Wolbers  
Melissa Wolf  
Casie Wright  
Anné Young  
Michelle Zavarella

## Friends of CASA

Tricia Baker

Mary Bergthold  
John David  
Mary Dean  
Cynthia Druley  
Bonnie Farrar-Dunbar  
Jenni Fox  
Margaret Gordon  
Ashley Halderman  
Wendy Hurst  
Meg Janes  
Laurel Jarnagan  
Dale Johnson  
Peggy Anne Lacey  
Melanie Larson  
Florence Lesar  
Larry Maloney  
Patsy Marinelli  
Marilyn Maurer  
Loree McCawley  
Teall Messer  
Sue Murphy  
Sara Pope  
Cynthia Rees  
Liz Riehl  
Mary Shartle  
Linda Simpliciano  
Bob Smeenk  
Esther Sylvan  
Portia Tanaka  
Kent Thompson  
Nancy Whaley  
Anne Young

COMMUNITY PARTNERS

# The California Giant Foundation



The California Giant Foundation, established by the founders of California Giant Berry Farms, is a wonderful community partner, sponsoring our events and donating to and providing awareness of our programs. Run by a volunteer committee made up of employees, events take place at California Giant headquarters. The annual Skirt Steak BBQ has become a community-wide tradition and one of the largest fundraising events put on by the Foundation. The pandemic did not stop their community fundraising efforts. They created an online Spreading Smiles fundraising campaign and hosted COVID safe drive-thru hotdog BBQ. We are so grateful for the volunteers and all they do for our community. And those berries sure are delicious!



EVENTS



# For the Love of Children Luncheon

For the Love of Children is an annual event hosted by the Friends of CASA. This event is normally a luncheon, where the community can come together to learn more about CASA and raise money for the CASA Children's Fund. In 2021, we held the event virtually for the first time on February 10, 2021. We had a virtual house tour by Lynne, had an update from Judge Timothy Schmal, heard from Advocates, youth, and a family that we serve.

# Imagine! 2020

Imagine! was held for the first and hopefully last time 100% virtually in September of 2020. We had a wine social hour via breakout rooms, heard from Lynne, and then had Rod join us for the live auction. All the silent and live auction bidding was held online and thanks to our community, we raised more than we had expected, with little overhead.



EVENTS, CONTINUED

# Training

This fiscal year was unusual in that for the first time all of our trainings were held online. We were so impressed by the community of volunteers who stepped forward during the pandemic to help support our foster youth and their families. Our trainer, Jenny Hundemer, has become a virtual instructor extraordinaire, creating an interactive and informative environment for our volunteers to learn and form bond.



# Walk for CASA

On May 15, 2020, CASA came together for our first in-person hybrid event, our first annual Walk for CASA. We had dozens of participants fundraising and walking in four groups walking in different parts of the county. Team Friends of CASA, Team CASA Board and Staff, and Team CASA Advocates met at Elkhorn Slough. The Girlz Squad Team met at the Seacliff stairs. The Team UCSC Kappa Alpha Thetas met up near UCSC and Team The Mamas met at Wilder Ranch! So grateful for all the community support of our youth and showing up and representing CASA. We raised almost \$38,000 and got to spend time together as a community once again.



# Volunteer Appreciation Picnic

CASA celebrated our volunteer Advocates, Board Members, and Friends of CASA at a picnic June 12 at Harvey West Park. Many of us met face to face for the first time in months or ever! It was great to celebrate our volunteers, make new connections and enjoy tacos together!





Non-Profit Org.  
US Postage Paid  
Watsonville, CA  
Permit No. 73

Return Service Requested



The Mary & Richard Solari House

Phone Number: (831) 761-2956

[www.CASAofsantacruz.org](http://www.CASAofsantacruz.org)



@CASAScruz



@CASAofsantacruz



@CASAScruz

CASA of Santa Cruz is a member of the National CASA/GAL Association and the California CASA Association.

This publication was supported by funding awarded by the Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) Victim Assistance Formula Grant Program (2018-V2-GX-0029) through the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES).

Concept + Design by StudioTM | [www.studiotm.net](http://www.studiotm.net) | @studiotm\_design