

2007 ANNUAL REPORT

NATIONAL COURT APPOINTED SPECIAL ADVOCATE ASSOCIATION



A FAMILY REUNITED



LETTER FROM THE CEO AND THE PRESIDENT OF NATIONAL CASA

What do children who have been removed from their families want? They want to go home. In this report, you'll meet a family whose desire to be together was greater than the challenges that separated them.

Melissa Vigil grew up in Albuquerque, NM in a stable home with loving parents and sisters. But starting at an early age, Melissa made some bad choices, including using drugs. For nearly 15 years, her life became her parents' worst nightmare. During this time, she had four children.

Two years ago, the family's situation came to the attention of Albuquerque's child protective services. Melissa's children were placed in the care of a relative and in a group home.

Losing custody of her children was a wake-up call for Melissa. She committed to doing whatever it took to get her children back. She checked into a drug treatment program and, upon her release, strictly followed a court-ordered reunification plan. On her road to recovery, Melissa did not miss a step.

How did she manage to turn her life around and successfully reunite her family, seemingly against all odds? Melissa will tell you that she was supported by a community that includes CASA volunteers Jean and John Whiteside, who were appointed to Melissa's case in April 2006.

Jean and John worked overtime to ensure that the family would succeed. During her years of bad choices, Melissa's actions had caused her family to lose faith in her. Jean and John, determined to re-establish the family's ties, set meetings between Melissa and her family and slowly helped to bring the family together. Today, the children not only have their siblings and their mother back, they also have an extended family that includes their grandparents, aunts and cousins.



In 2007, more than 59,000 CASA and guardian ad litem (GAL) volunteers represented the best interests of 243,000 children—reuniting them with their families when possible or working to secure another safe, permanent home. National CASA supports state and local CASA and GAL programs to recruit, train and supervise volunteers like Jean and John and ultimately ensure positive outcomes for abused and neglected children.

National CASA celebrated two milestones in 2007: The

King County Dependency CASA Program—the first CASA program—marked the 30th anniversary of its founding by Seattle judge David Soukup. In the fall of 2007, a CASA volunteer accepted the case of the 2 millionth child.

We have many accomplishments to celebrate. We also have a great deal of work ahead of us before every abused and neglected child benefits from the caring efforts of a CASA volunteer. As a supporter of National CASA, you are part of a movement that is helping to provide every child a safe, permanent home and hope for the future. Thank you for your partnership, trust and continued support.

Handwritten signature of Michael S. Piraino in black ink.

Michael S. Piraino
Chief Executive Officer

Handwritten signature of Mimi Feller in black ink.

Mimi Feller
Board President



Melissa



Melissa Vigil made many bad choices in her life, including abusing drugs. But when she was confronted with losing her children, Melissa made the right decision.



Melissa Vigil (with roses) and her four children (left to right): Angela, Charmaine, Joseph and Marilena

Melissa entered drug treatment and subsequently followed recovery and parenting plans, never missing a step. In her efforts she was supported by a community that included long-time CASA volunteers Jean and John Whiteside, who ensured that the family had what it needed to succeed. Jean and John marshaled the support of Melissa's parents and sister, bringing her extended family together again to strengthen the fledgling family.

Melissa's strength and dedication to becoming a good mother and reuniting her family impressed everyone who knew her, including child protective services, which presented her with a dozen roses in court the day she officially regained custody of her children.

dedication



OVERVIEW

The National CASA Association, together with its state and local members, supports and promotes court-appointed volunteer advocacy for abused and neglected children so that they can thrive in safe, permanent homes.

Today, there are more than half a million children living in foster care. Unable to live safely at home due to some form of parental abuse or neglect, they are at risk of languishing in inappropriate group or foster homes, their futures dependent on the overburdened legal system.

That is where the CASA or guardian ad litem (GAL) volunteer comes in. Appointed by the court, CASA and GAL volunteers work diligently to first determine what is in the best interest of the child and then ensure that positive outcomes are achieved. The volunteer stays with each case until the child is placed in a safe, permanent home.

It is estimated that children who suffer abuse and neglect are 38% more likely to become violent criminals as adults. A major factor in avoiding bad outcomes for an abused child is the presence of a concerned adult in that child's life. In 2007, more than 59,000 CASA volunteers served as a caring adult in the lives of more than 243,000 children.

The National CASA Association is an organization of 954 local and state member program offices in 49 states. Though known by many different names, including Guardian ad Litem (GAL), Child Advocates and Voices for Children, all programs share the mission of placing caring adult advocates in the lives of abused and neglected children.

National CASA, headquartered in Seattle, WA, functions as a resource to support and increase the capacities of local programs. We provide staff with training and assistance in areas including program development; volunteer recruitment and training; program best practices; quality assurance; and resource development. National CASA also engages in public policy and makes grants that foster program quality and growth, enabling state and local programs to better meet the needs of abused children.

CASA Network Services

In 2007, 243,295 abused and neglected children had a CASA or GAL volunteer advancing their best interests. CASA programs across the country recruited, trained, supervised and supported a total of 59,717 volunteers to carry out this important work.

National CASA Services

The following numbers help to quantify the services provided by National CASA to our member programs nationwide in 2007.

| | |
|--|-------------|
| Local programs' requests for technical assistance completed by phone/email | 38,980 |
| Technical assistance publications/documents distributed | 11,401 |
| In-person technical assistance or on-site consultations (in addition to trainings) | 68 |
| Number of grants awarded to local and state CASA programs | 368 |
| Dollar amount of grants disbursed to local and state CASA programs | \$7,743,943 |
| Training sessions sponsored or presented | 158 |
| Persons trained | 5,661 |
| Number of visitor sessions on casanet.org and nationalcasa.org websites | 2,131,593 |

Children's photographs in National CASA publications are normally not from actual dependency cases. The story and photos in this report are published with the permission of Melissa Vigil and her family.

Everything that my mom has done for us just to have a normal life was really hard. She had to go through a lot of classes and do a lot of work. But all of it was worth it because now we are back with our mom and back together instead of being in different homes. I think we gave her the courage to do it because we really did want to come home. And we encouraged her—thanking her every time she did good—and that made her do even better.

—Marilena, 14



COURAGE



PROVIDING OUTSTANDING SERVICE TO CASA PROGRAMS

The National CASA Association provides technical assistance, consultation and training to 954 state and local CASA and GAL program offices throughout the country. In 2007, National CASA staff members responded to more than 38,000 requests for support from state organizations and local programs. Program services team members provided support on a wide range of subjects, including volunteer and program management; board development and capacity building; inclusion and cultural awareness; and resource development.

While we provide many of our services via telephone and email, members of our program services team routinely make on-site visits throughout the country. In fact, more than half of our team resides "in the field" to make those in-person contacts with our programs possible. In 2007, state organizations and local programs from each of the 49 states with CASA programs, as well as the District of Columbia, received a visit from a National CASA staff member or participated in a training sponsored by National CASA.

Striving for Excellence

Measuring compliance with national standards enhances the quality of services delivered by state organizations and local programs. National CASA and member organizations worked together to promote program excellence through the following initiatives in 2007:

- ❖ State organizations and local programs participated in a self-assessment process that measured their compliance with National CASA standards. At the end of 2007, nearly 100% of our local programs had achieved compliance, as had 75% of our state organizations.*
- ❖ National CASA developed a revised self-assessment tool that will measure compliance with the *Standards for Local CASA/GAL Programs*.
- ❖ National CASA secured a committed, competent corps of external reviewers to read and score the self-assessment submissions.

*The others are taking specified steps to achieve compliance.

Training Staff and Volunteers for Success

National CASA made possible a record number of training opportunities for our member program staff and volunteers in 2007. Included were more than 150 in-person trainings delivered to over 5,600 participants. Of significant note was the release of our much-anticipated revision of *the National CASA Association Volunteer Training Curriculum*. The new curriculum has received rave reviews from CASA programs and volunteers across the country.

In addition, National CASA:

- ❖ Revised the *Facilitator Training Manual*, which is used to teach facilitators throughout the CASA network proven techniques for training volunteers within their communities. In 2007, National CASA delivered eight facilitator training events.
- ❖ Developed and distributed a *Tribal Program Toolkit* as an additional resource for CASA program staff and volunteers serving children in tribal courts.
- ❖ Offered two *Strategic Volunteer Retention* trainings, delivered nine *Knowing Who You Are* cultural identity trainings and developed eight *Moving Forward for Children* training modules with an emphasis on building program capacity.
- ❖ Offered a monthly "webinar" series on various topics of interest and developed a "Training Corner" on CASAnet.org.



Thank you, National CASA, for giving me the opportunity to attend the Knowing Who You Are cultural identity training. It drove home the point that in addition to safety, permanency, consistency of care and the well-being of the child, knowing who the child is and what experiences are a part of her life can help her to negotiate the hurdles she will encounter.

Marshall Porter
CASA Volunteer
National CASA Association Board Member



National CASA has been a great resource for our program. We've benefited from the annual training conference, the website and the webinars. Also, the National CASA staff assigned to our program—including our regional specialist and grant manager—have always been accessible and provided me with speedy, accurate responses to my questions.

*Wanda Diderich
Program Director
CASA of Rock County
Janesville, WI*

Leveling the Playing Field

Children of color are not only disproportionately represented in child welfare and foster care systems around the country, they experience disparate outcomes. For example, African-American children remain in the child welfare system longer, are less likely to be adopted and are at higher risk of suffering the effects of long-term foster care. These impacts include poorer educational outcomes, juvenile delinquency and dependence on the welfare system as adults.

Through our Volunteer Diversity Strategy, National CASA strives to serve more children of color and to recruit, train and activate volunteers of color in numbers proportionate to the numbers of children served. Working toward these goals in 2007, we delivered support to five urban CASA programs. We provided them with on-site consultation in the areas of community development and outreach, expertise in increasing public awareness and \$200,000 in grant funding for their outreach efforts.

Supporting Tribal Court CASA Programs

In 2007, National CASA increased services to programs working in tribal courts. We now have a staff team that provides programmatic and resource development consultation to our 15 tribal CASA programs, many of which are fully operational and some of which are in the development or redevelopment phase. In the past year, we made on-site visits to each of these programs and developed a better understanding of their operations and the type of support that would be most beneficial. We created a new staff position, tribal sustainability specialist, to provide technical assistance, training and consultation to tribal CASA programs in resource development, financial sustainability and capacity building. In addition, we held a two-day in-person training session for representatives from each program, supported monthly conference calls for program staff and provided more than \$400,000 in funding to these programs.



CASA volunteer John Whiteside with Joseph



SHAPING PUBLIC POLICY FOR CHILDREN

In addition to supporting a network of 954 program offices, the National CASA Association advocates for abused and neglected children on the national level by working with elected officials and government agencies and partnering with other national child welfare organizations.

Throughout 2007, the US House of Representatives Ways and Means Subcommittee on Income Security and Family Support, chaired by Congressman Jim McDermott (WA-7th), conducted hearings focused on the child welfare system and its capacity to ensure safety for children and resources for families in crisis. In July, Congressman Dennis Cardoza (CA-18th) appeared before the subcommittee at a hearing focused on children who age out of the foster care system. During his testimony, he said, "I am currently working on legislation to ensure that every child has a Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA). In the course of the last 30 years, CASA has grown to a network of more than 59,000 volunteers that serve 243,000 abused and neglected children through 950-plus local program offices nationwide. However, despite these impressive numbers, more needs to be done. We must do everything possible to ensure that every child has a CASA volunteer."

Congressman Cardoza introduced the CASA for Every Child Act of 2007 (HR 3283) on August 1. The legislation would provide funding to states for CASA volunteer advocacy for children.

Supporting Children of Color

National data reveals there is no difference between races in the occurrence of abuse or neglect; yet a disproportionately high number of children of color are removed from their homes and placed in foster care, where they remain for longer periods of time.

In the first measure ever addressing overrepresentation in the child welfare system, Senator Joseph Biden (DE) proposed a new funding authorization for CASA programs. The measure would expand the recruitment of volunteers "particularly to serve populations of children



Sen. Joseph Biden speaking about his bill to combat violent crime at a press briefing in October. Joining him were law enforcement officers from Delaware. The legislation includes measures for child abuse prevention and intervention in order to break the cycle of violence.

who are significantly over-represented in foster care." The provision is included in major crime legislation (S 2237) that Senator Biden introduced in late October. If approved, the bill could help increase diversity within the CASA program network, develop program capacity and readiness for greater inclusion, ensure services provided are culturally appropriate and expand court-appointed advocacy to more children of color.



Increasing Federal Funding for CASA Programs

Federal funding for CASA programs for fiscal year 2008 was finalized in December, in the amount of \$13.1 million. The funding supports National CASA's cooperative agreement with the US Department of Justice's Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention to provide technical assistance, consultation and training to the more than 950 program offices throughout the country. Funds also support the grants program for state organizations and local CASA programs to increase volunteer advocacy for children. This is the first increase in federal funding in six years.

When former foster youth Alexis Owens testified before the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science and Related Agencies, she described how a CASA volunteer was instrumental in helping her to succeed in school:

"I know I am who I am because someone cared enough to give of herself the way no one else could. That person, my CASA volunteer, helped me to heal, forgive and move on to achieve my greatest dreams—to be a wife and a mother and a lawyer to help those who cannot help themselves."



Jean and John think about us a lot—
because they care.

—Charmaine, 16



CASA volunteers Jean and John Whiteside were part of a community that supported the family's reunification.

ADVOCATE





INCREASING AWARENESS OF OUR CAUSE FOR CHILDREN

The year 2007 proved to be particularly productive for the National CASA Association's efforts to raise awareness of volunteer advocacy for abused and neglected children and to recruit needed volunteers and supporters for local CASA and GAL programs. A combination of national television, national print advertising and national and local public relations put a volunteer advocacy call to action in front of more than 60 million individuals. The resulting awareness helped programs recruit more than 18,000 new CASA volunteers in 2007, a 20% increase in new volunteers over the prior year.

CBS Runs Network TV Campaign for National CASA

National CASA continued to benefit from the support of the CBS television network, which has made our cause one of their selected CBS Cares charities. In 2007, CBS television and William Petersen, star of the CBS prime-time drama *CSI*, joined to produce an extraordinary outreach event for National CASA. *CSI* typically attracts 16 million viewers to each episode.



Through its CBS Cares charity, the television network donated a *CSI* prop and aired public service announcements to raise funds for and awareness of National CASA.

CSI generously donated a prop from the TV show, which National CASA auctioned via a specially developed page on eBay. William Petersen supported this auction with a televised public service announcement (PSA) that aired twice in September, including during *CSI*'s 2007 season premiere, which attracted more than 22 million viewers worldwide. As a result, more than 300,000 *CSI* fans visited the National CASA auction page on eBay. This page provided educational information about CASA volunteer advocacy and directed eBay site visitors to visit National CASA's website for more information. Petersen's PSA continues to air on CBS, and *CSI* supported National CASA with a second PSA, featuring *CSI* co-star Jorja Fox, which ran during Fox's last appearance on *CSI*.

Stacey Adams, vice president at CBS, had this to say about the TV network's support for National CASA: "All of us at CBS are so thrilled to be working with such a wonderful cause...William Petersen was very pleased upon hearing the results produced by his PSA and the eBay auction. Raising awareness of your organization is so satisfying for us. Thank you for the opportunity to help children."

Art Project Celebrates Talented Foster Youth

In collaboration with 10 San Francisco Bay Area CASA programs, National CASA hosted an educational art workshop to provide local foster youth who are aspiring artists an opportunity to develop their artistic skills. "Every child is bursting with potential," said Derek Peake, former program director of California CASA. "This workshop helps each artist realize their potential and develop skills needed to be successful."

In the daylong workshop, entitled *Who Am I? Not What You See*, eight youth ages 12 to 19 worked with nationally acclaimed Bay Area artist Yuyi Morales. By the end of the day, each had created a piece of art featuring hinged doors painted outside and inside to demonstrate both how youth in foster care are perceived by others and how they see themselves.

This innovative art project was covered by 91 national and local newspapers with a total combined circulation of more than 2.1 million.



National CASA Appears in Diverse Media Outlets

National CASA achieved significant success in placing CASA volunteer and donor recruitment messages in national and regional media in 2007. Here are just a few of the highlights:

- ❖ In an appearance on the Fox network's *Morning Show with Mike and Juliet*, Judge Glenda Hatchett encouraged more than 565,000 viewers to volunteer for or support their local CASA program.
- ❖ At a press conference called jointly by Indiana's governor and Supreme Court chief justice, Indiana Retired Teachers Association (IRTA) and Indiana State CASA announced on October 3 a partnership making the CASA program the statewide volunteer focus for IRTA in 2008. The announcement was reported in the *Indianapolis Star*, plus 28 other newspapers statewide and three Indianapolis TV stations.
- ❖ The "Back Talk" section of *Black Enterprise* magazine, which has a circulation of more than half a million readers, featured Judge Glenda Hatchett, the CASA mission and the National CASA website.
- ❖ Univision's popular variety show *Sábado Gigante* featured interviews with CASA volunteers. During the interviews, the volunteers described

the need for more bilingual volunteers. The National CASA website appeared onscreen twice during the segment, with additional mentions from *Sábado Gigante* host Don Francisco urging the community to get involved. *Sábado Gigante* is Univision's longest running and most popular program. This segment reached more than 3.2 million viewers.

- ❖ A full-page volunteer recruitment ad appeared in the November edition of *Essence* magazine. The ad, valued at \$69,000, reached more than 2 million readers.



Sábado Gigante host Don Francisco discussed the need for more bilingual volunteers with Miami GAL volunteer Minna Betancourt.





YOUR SUPPORT HELPS CHILDREN THRIVE IN SAFE, PERMANENT HOMES

In 2007, donors responded enthusiastically to National CASA's goal of providing a CASA volunteer for every child who needs one. Individuals, foundations and corporations supported our development efforts through financial gifts and contributions of goods and services. More than 90% of all funds were directly applied toward program costs, with less than 10% dedicated to administrative and fundraising expenses.

Jewelers for Children Total Contributions Top \$4 Million



"I think that one of the greatest things that you can do in life is bring a smile to a child. Whether that be through lifesaving, cutting-edge medical technology...or providing them with a stable, loving home, you can't ask for more." David Rocha, executive director of Jewelers for Children, pictured with National CASA CEO Michael Piraino.

Jewelers for Children (JFC)—the industry organization of jewelry retailers, manufacturers, watch companies and trade associations—was the leading private supporter of National CASA in 2007. The majority

of JFC's \$1 million gift funded supervision and training of volunteers who provided direct advocacy services to more than 1,000 children through 76 CASA programs. The remainder supported recruitment efforts with the production and distribution of two new public service announcements.

Since 2003, JFC has awarded National CASA more than \$4.3 million to help change the lives of abused and neglected children.

Individual Donors Respond to Need

Individual giving was strong, with a successful spring fundraising appeal propelled by a new match campaign. Donations made by individuals via the internet increased over the previous year, reflecting national trends of increased online giving to nonprofits. We continue to build our newly launched planned giving program, securing gifts to support the mission of National CASA in the years to come.

On behalf of the children we serve, thank you for supporting our efforts.

Corporate Partnerships Provide Funds and Increase Awareness

National CASA partnered with Fred Meyer/Littman Jewelers on the promotion of the CASA Diamond Heart pendant, partial proceeds from which benefited National CASA. Plans to expand this partnership in 2008 are underway. Support from organizations including Newmont, the Coca-Cola Company, CBS Cares, the Dave Thomas Foundation for Adoption, All-State Legal, the Office Depot Foundation, Wendy's, Organic Bouquet, Casey Family Programs and ChoicePoint helped strengthen and expand the CASA network.

At the local level, the Office Depot Foundation donated more than 15,000 "back-to-school" backpacks to CASA programs around the country in 2007. Continued relationships with organizations including Hewitt Associates, Outback Steakhouse, Target and C&S Wholesale Grocers yielded financial support and new volunteers for many CASA programs.

Kappa Alpha Theta Investment Strengthens CASA Network

National CASA's longstanding relationship with the Kappa Alpha Theta Foundation continues to thrive. In 2007, fraternity chapters provided financial and volunteer support to CASA programs around the country. Kappa Alpha Theta's investment in the CASA network has provided invaluable support to both National CASA and local and state CASA programs for nearly 20 years.

Government Funding Provides Continuing Support

Longstanding congressional and federal support of National CASA's mission continued in 2007, with significant funding from the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) and the Office for Victims of Crime (OVC). Funds from OJJDP support National CASA's technical assistance and training activities—including our national conference—and provide competitive grants to local and state CASA programs. OVC supports training and consultation to develop tribal CASA programs.



Marilena and Joseph at the Albuquerque Biopark


togetherness



DONORS AND SUPPORTERS

The National CASA Association is grateful to the following individuals whose contributions from January 1 through December 31, 2007 helped make our work possible.

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Charmaine

If I could have one wish, it would be to never lose my brother and sisters and mom again. It's not fun living in different houses. It's better being with your family. Even if you have hard times and you fight, it's better being with your family.

—Charmaine, 16



Drawing is one of Charmaine's favorite pastimes.

Kids should always believe in their parents—even the little tiny bit of belief that you give to your parents is the little bit that pulls them up and helps them make it through.

—Charmaine



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National CASA gratefully acknowledges all of the corporations and foundations that made generous gifts to support our work in fiscal year 2007.

2007 marks the fourth year of National CASA's partnership with Jewelers for Children (JFC). JFC's unwavering commitment and support of the work we do has profoundly changed the lives of thousands of abused and neglected children in the foster care system. Since 2003, National CASA has received \$4.3 million from JFC.

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| Calvert Social Investment Foundation | FiberLine | I Do Foundation |
| C&S Wholesale Grocers, Inc. | Fidelity Charitable Gift Fund | International Society of Barristers |
| Capital One | Finocorp, Inc. | Irwin Union Bank |
| Casey Family Programs | Fred Meyer/Littman Jewelers | James and Gayle McKenna Family Foundation |
| CBS Corporation – CBS Cares | Goldman, Sachs and Company | Jewelers for Children |
| CNA Foundation – Matching Gift Program | Goodman LLP | JustGive.org |
| The Coca-Cola Company | Greater Kansas City Community | Kappa Alpha Theta Foundation |
| | H&R Block Workplace Giving Program | Key Investment Services Inc. |
| | | Kickoff Productions Inc. |
| | | Marsh Fischmann & Breyfogle LLP |
| | | The McGinn Group |
| | | The McWilliams/Piraino Family Foundation |
| | | Microsoft Giving Campaign |
| | | The Morrison Foerster Foundation |
| | | NBC Universal Television Network for Good |
| | | Newmont Corporation |
| | | Nunnally Charitable Trust |
| | | Obama 2010 Inc. |
| | | Office Depot Foundation |
| | | Oracle Matching Gift Program |
| | | Organic Bouquet, Inc. |
| | | People of Purpose |
| | | Perkins Coie |
| | | Philadelphia Area Combined Federal Campaign |



Plaintiffs represented by the law firm Stewart, Estes and Donnell PLC donated \$140,000 in unclaimed money from a class-action lawsuit to the Nashville/Davidson County CASA program and the National CASA Association. The firm's partners are pictured here with CASA program executive director Jane Andrews (center) and National CASA CEO Michael Piraino (far left).

MARILENA



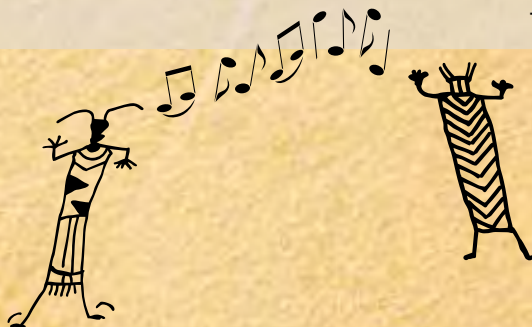
I'm teaching my sister how to skateboard. She wants to learn because I know how.

—Marilena, 14



My sisters like to go into their bedroom and sing and dance to CDs. I like to laugh at them because it's funny.

—Joseph, 10



ANGELA

Marilena is teaching me how to skateboard...but it's my board.

—Angela, 12



DONORS AND SUPPORTERS (CONTINUED)

Publicis Dialog
The Rasmuson Foundation Matching Gift Program
The Richard & Lois M. Worthington Foundation
RR Donnelley & Sons
San Francisco CASA Program
Shen Gallery
Silver Crest Farms, Inc.
The Stahl Family Charitable Foundation
Stewart, Estes and Donnell PLC
Sunoco, Inc.
Sylvester Turner Campaign Fund
Temkin Wielga & Hardt LLP
Town & Country Foods, Inc.
The Turk Family Foundation of the
Jewish Community Foundation
United Airlines Philanthropy Workplace Giving
United Way of King County
United Way of New York City
Wendy's International Foundation
Yum! Brands Foundation, Inc. Matching Gift Program

In honor of

In honor of Ella Abrams – Kris Gonzales
In honor of Amy, Cindy and Tracey – Cynthia Mullennix
In honor of Ann Marie and Scott – Darlene Robertson
In honor of Sally Auguston – Loriann Bettencourt
In honor of Bette Baer and Harriet Schwartz – Michael Baer
In honor of David and Joanne Baer – Michael Baer
In honor of Chelsea Baingo, Alonzo Collins, Rick Davidson,
Kristin Degener, Sara Flickwir, Cheryl Goddard,
Eloise Gomez, Mike Medina, Jim Rodriguez, Mike Schlitt,
Arthur Shapiro, Brandy Slater, Mark Walker,
Chad Zimmerman – Joseph Foley
In honor of Pamela Ball – Tom Ball
In honor of "Ball Don't Lie" – Karissa Chen
In honor of Britt Banks – Shane and Carol Swindle
In honor of Gorgie and Gene Bigham – Jennifer Schelly
In honor of Biller-Kehlmann Family – Anne Price
In honor of Renne Bilson – Michael Moorehead,
Pam Van Zandt, Lucille Webb
In honor of Joe and Denice Bocock – Robin Gilbert
In honor of Ken and Deb Boice – Carl and Evelyn Boice

In honor of Patricia Bowman – Donna Bratton
In honor of Al and Joane Brune – Meghan Hemenway
In honor of Monica Burmeister – June Cramer
In honor of Kim Busker, Stephanie Evans, Ron Butterfield,
Mick Conlin, Andrew Crowe, Merid Eshete,
James S. Haahr, Tyler Haahr, John Hagy, Kendall Harsch,
Troy Larson, Dave Leedom, Bob Nelson, Eric Miller,
Troy Moore, Grant Rogers, Trent Sorbe, Ian Stromberg,
Debbie Thompson and Brenda VanHolland –
Bradley C. Hanson
In honor of Mary Casale – Katherine P. Casale
In honor of Warren Catlett – Norman and Mary Blue Catlett
In honor of Sue Choate – Sherri Bangert
In honor of Nadja Christian – Morgan P. Appel
In honor of Beth Connors – Kimberlie Shea
In honor of Ben Cooper – Caren L. Easterling
In honor of Bill Corwin – Sally Wilson Erny,
Michelle Marie Finet, M. Carmela Welte
In honor of Susan Crane – Susan Goldstein
In honor of James and Sherri Culver, Dennis and
Karen Johnson – Erin O'Brien
In honor of Tracy Cuvin – Kathleen M. Kraus
In honor of Terry and Buddy Dillman – Erin Light
In honor of Sofia Dufflar – Michelle Marie Finet
In honor of the Endsley Family – Meagan W. Sisk
In honor of Jorja Fox – Mika A. Epstein
In honor of Emily Gatsos – Stephen Gatsos
In honor of GB, Rosetta, Susie, Tab, Stephanie, Tisha,
Chris and Jessica – Allison D. Venable
In honor of Michael Ginn – Sucherman Consulting Group
In honor of Amy, Arnold and Paul Gomez – Gordon L. Pine,
Art and Linda Staubit
In honor of Mikalah Gordon – Kickoff Productions, Inc.
In honor of Grace, Ashley and Sara – Pamela G. McBride
In honor of Dan and Jennie Griffin and Family
– Diane and Douglas Price
In honor of Susan Guthrie – Diane Bryant
In honor of Harrison and Tyler – Michael and Alexis Jenio
In honor of Michael and Eileen Heaton – Bill and
Carla Swedisch
In honor of Tracy Henderson – Tori H. Lambert
In honor of Jason Higgins – Judy Dunning

In honor of Michele Hilland – Rick Bisceglie
In honor of Peter Hirschberg – Cabe Franklin
In honor of Brenda Honeyman, Craig and
Susan Honeyman, Gretchen and Aaron Clark
and Doug and Jane Rude – Joyce and Ron Honeyman
In honor of Joyce and Ron Honeyman – Gretchen and
Aaron Clark, Judith Harrison and JoLynne McGee,
Geraldine Roberts
In honor of Andrew Howe – Vickie Turley
In honor of Sonny and Mary Anna Hutchison – Ed and
Erin Finklea
In honor of Dennis Johnson – Sarah Shields
In honor of Marla Jones – Todd M. Beaubien
In honor of Cindy Judy – Linda Hinds
In honor of Jennifer Kangas and Matt and Karen Kangas
– Karen Kangas
In honor of Mary Jane Karp – Andrew Snee
In honor of Adam Karuza – Fiberline
In honor of Kathi Kennedy – Dylan Snopkowski
In honor of Stacie Keyser – Ann and Lee Littlewood
In honor of Drew King – Nathaniel Briscoe
In honor of Evan Koslow and Sara Rubin – Ellen Hollander
and Larry Urbach
In honor of Elyse Kremins – Karen Crawford
In honor of Cheryl Kutchinski – Janet S. Gilbert
In honor of Carol John Lane – Diana Gruenler
In honor of Brian W. LaRose – Kathryn B. LaRose
In honor of Lola LeBlanc – Gretchen Konrady
In honor of the Lees – Barron H. Henderson
In honor of Joseph Mercedes Llanillo – Jonathan Tupy
In honor of Cindy Loustalot – Kathryn Ford
In honor of Laura MacPherson and John Davis –
Barbara MacPherson
In honor of Karl and Melissa Mahaffey –
Lindsey M. Mahaffey
In honor of the Marek and Kester Families – Karen Marek
In honor of Gary Mather and Christina Co-Weeks –
Carol and Mark Herman
In honor of Lynn Mayer – William A. Potoglou
In honor of Dina Merrell – Kelli R. Bailey
In honor of Carol and Carol Meyertons – Eric B. Meyertons
In honor of Kim Miller – Margaret Stahlfield

appreciation

In honor of Bill Montalto – Mark Light
In honor of Heidi Moore – Jackie Mortenson
In honor of Angela Mullan – Wayne R. Spivey
In honor of Mrs. Mary Jo Murphy – Vicki L. Watts
In honor of the Murphy Family – Megan Laibovitz
In honor of National CASA Staff – Bill Corwin and Jennifer Rosner
In honor of Brent and Amy Nebecker – Charles and Joann Rasmussen
In honor of Becky and Gene Needham – Alicia High
In honor of Fred and Joan Nieman – Marla L. Pine
In honor of Suzie O'Hair – Jennifer B. O'Hair
In honor of Bill and Sandy Olsen – Nicole Collette
In honor of Pamela Palmeri – Russell and Kristen Schachter
In honor of Kip Pearce – Ellen Van Wees
In honor of Jason Pollack and Monica Holmberg – Rosalie and Larry White
In honor of Dale and Sue Riggins – Jennifer Schrader
In honor of Dee Rinne – Kirk and Susan Rinne
In honor of Michele Ritchey – Julie M. Ritchey
In honor of Ruth Scheuer – Marylyn and Eliot Scheuer
In honor of Bev Showers – Deb A. Hansen
In honor of Edwin and Loretta Sisung – Bonnie L. Broadwater
In honor of Dani Smith – Sharon Wolf
In honor of Robert M. Smith – Zach and Deborah Smith
In honor of Teresa Smith – Carroll Smith
In honor of Elizabeth, Nicholas and Sarah Stransky – Christine and Bill Stransky
In honor of Amelia Stratigos – Alexia Weirich
In honor of Amy Tamkin – Sandi Tamkin
In honor of "The Best Sales and AMP Team Ever" – Ross M. Fowler
In honor of Dan Vogel – Christian S. Vogel
In honor of Janet Ward – Barbara and Edward Disser
In honor of Lois Ware – Hester D. Willis
In honor of Janet Watts – Thomas and Virginia Etheredge
In honor of Debbie Wheeler – Kristi Emmons
In honor of Tanya R. Whitner – Gina Marie Pitti
In honor of Jill Wiedenhoft – D'Nika Jackson
In honor of Ann Wiitala – Todd C. Gentry

In honor of Jack and Roberta Williamson – Linda and Bob Wilson
In honor of Ginny Wittell – John A. Williams
In honor of Rose Wittmer – John Wittmer
In honor of Ross Woessner – Erica Vandersand
In honor of Helaine Woodruff and Stacy Funderburke – Alison Ho
In honor of State Representative Beverly Woolley – Dawnna Dukes Campaign, Michael Hamilton and Ella E. Rach, Norma Chavez, Myra Crownover Campaign, Sylvester Turner Campaign Fund, Texans for Dan Branch
In honor of the Zapata Family – Barbara Becker Donner

In memory of

In memory of Anthony Afflitto – Shirley A. Zembruski
In memory of Helen Armstrong – Anchor Wall Systems
In memory of Chandler Ashton – Neil Baron
In memory of Dorothy Barry – Suzanne B. Bryan
In memory of Virginia Beeson – Jerry Garry
In memory of Rand Blackledge – Paul Devereux
In memory of Irvin Carter, Jr. – Dorothy Bass
In memory of William Cox – Linda Hyde
In memory of Jennifer Dunn – M. Carmela Welte
In memory of Tommy Durr – Elizabeth LeBlanc
In memory of Joan Francis – Joanne L. Platt
In memory of John Geras, Sr. – Ronald A. Zagorsky
In memory of Gil – Barbara Engel Moss
In memory of Dr. Arnold Gully – Sally Coffman
In memory of Larry Hamilton – Mary Jo and Ron Ross
In memory of Dillon Henry – Patricia O'Connell
In memory of Henry and Julia Jones – Randy K. Jones
In memory of Jesse B. Lewis – Kathy Lewis-Aucreman
In memory of A. Lieberman – Dr. Robert Lieberman
In memory of Leon Lunden – Glenn Lunden
In memory of W.M. Melville – Donna and Dick Maley
In memory of Dr. T.R. Miller – Robert Miller
In memory of Claude Moorfield – Koinonia Group #2
In memory of Mathew Motto – Thomas Rehak
In memory of Camille Carol Oakley – Robert M. Duffy
In memory of Elizabeth Pero O'Neil – Public Defender's Office, Nashville TN

In memory of Edna Roach – Gloria L. Yarrow
In memory of Vincent Schulte – M. Carmela Welte
In memory of Rosalie Smith – Terene Bennett and M. Carmela Welte
In memory of Joe Tamalonis – Anne Marie Tamalonis
In memory of Grant Tanner, Jr. – Ed and Erin Finklea and Steven F. Greenwald
In memory of Brittany F. Trivett – Teri Willrick
In memory of June Turner – SCY Nursing Staff
In memory of William Westerman – Christopher N. Miller
In memory of Lee Wilson – Marc Wilson
In memory of Marty Wilson – Joni Tamalonis
In memory of Carlee A. Wines – Sal Rizza
In memory of Ross Woessner – Leonard and Monica Fox, Jeffrey M. Leake and Frederick P. Ott
In memory of Davin YoungClarke – Tom Dunn, Joni Tamalonis
In memory of Carolyn Zanders – Brian and Jule Martin



National CASA is one of five national charity partners in the **Office Depot Foundation** backpack distribution program. The foundation has donated more than 35,000 backpacks with essential school supplies to National CASA for distribution to elementary school children served by our local programs across the US. In 2007 **Hewitt Associates** sponsored backpack distribution.



FINANCIAL INFORMATION



Statement of Activities For the Year Ended December 31, 2007

| | Unrestricted | Temporarily Restricted | Total |
|---|---------------------|------------------------|---------------------|
| Support and Revenue | | | |
| Cooperative Agreements | | | |
| Department of Justice for training and technical assistance | \$3,966,109 | | \$3,966,109 |
| Department of Justice for startup and expansion grants | 7,178,389 | | 7,178,389 |
| Department of Justice for Native American tribal courts | 55,367 | | 55,367 |
| Conference fees | 364,250 | | 364,250 |
| Membership dues | 104,940 | | 104,940 |
| Promotional sales, net of cost of sales of \$117,678 | 98,721 | | 98,721 |
| Interest and investment income | 61,050 | | 61,050 |
| Foundation contributions | 71,158 | 1,111,302 | 1,182,460 |
| Independent Charities of America | 136,814 | | 136,814 |
| Other contributions and income | 462,164 | | 462,164 |
| Net assets released from restrictions | 1,262,363 | (1,262,363) | 0 |
| Total support and revenue | \$13,761,325 | (\$151,061) | \$13,610,264 |
| Expenses | | | |
| Training and technical assistance | \$2,803,303 | | \$2,803,303 |
| Member and public outreach | 2,071,333 | | 2,071,333 |
| Startup and expansion grants | 7,304,695 | | 7,304,695 |
| Total program services | \$12,179,331 | | \$12,179,331 |
| General and administrative | 1,162,614 | | 1,162,614 |
| Fundraising | 179,344 | | 179,344 |
| Total supporting services | \$1,341,958 | | \$1,341,958 |
| Total expenses | \$13,521,289 | | \$13,521,289 |
| Change in net assets | \$240,036 | (\$151,061) | \$88,975 |
| Net assets, beginning of year | \$1,361,616 | \$735,558 | \$2,097,174 |
| Net assets, end of year | \$1,601,652 | \$584,497 | \$2,186,149 |



Summary of Revenue and Expense For the Year Ended December 31, 2007

Support and Revenue

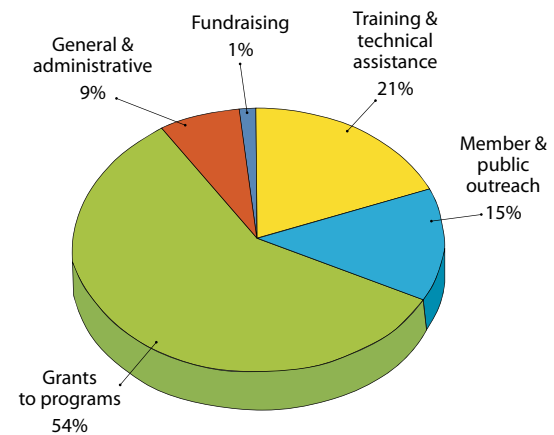
| | |
|---|---------------------|
| OJJDP training and technical assistance | \$3,966,109 |
| OJJDP startup and expansion grants | 7,178,389 |
| OVC tribal grants | 55,367 |
| Conference fees | 364,250 |
| Sales, interest, dues | 264,711 |
| Independent Charities of America | 136,814 |
| Foundations | 1,182,460 |
| Other contributions and income | 462,164 |
| Total | \$13,610,264 |



Angela at Albuquerque Biopark

Expenses

| | |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------|
| Training and technical assistance | \$2,803,303 |
| Member and public outreach | 2,071,333 |
| Grants to programs | 7,304,695 |
| General and administrative | 1,162,614 |
| Fundraising | 179,344 |
| Total | \$13,521,289 |



**Statements of Financial Position
December 31, 2007 and 2006**

| ASSETS | 2007 | 2006 |
|---|--------------------|--------------------|
| Current Assets | | |
| Cash | \$1,381,034 | \$1,250,406 |
| Investments | 216,666 | 91,947 |
| Receivable from Department of Justice | 218,255 | 225,428 |
| Contributions receivable | 517,473 | 600,286 |
| Other receivables | 28,377 | 72,753 |
| Inventory | 75,418 | 53,051 |
| Prepaid expenses | 64,969 | 36,096 |
| Total current assets | \$2,502,192 | \$2,329,967 |
| Furniture and Equipment | | |
| Office furniture | \$27,016 | \$27,016 |
| Office equipment | 86,796 | 86,796 |
| Computer equipment | 339,843 | 396,263 |
| Leasehold improvements | | |
| Total furniture and equipment | 453,655 | 510,075 |
| Less accumulated depreciation | (428,086) | (464,396) |
| Net furniture and equipment | \$25,569 | \$45,679 |
| Total assets | \$2,527,761 | \$2,375,646 |
| LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS | | |
| Current Liabilities | | |
| Accounts payable | \$246,896 | \$178,935 |
| Accrued vacation payable | 94,716 | 98,037 |
| Deferred conference revenue | | 1,500 |
| Total current liabilities | \$341,612 | \$278,472 |
| Net Assets | | |
| Unrestricted | \$1,601,652 | \$1,361,616 |
| Temporarily restricted | 584,497 | 735,558 |
| Total net assets | \$2,186,149 | \$2,097,174 |
| Total liabilities and net assets | \$2,527,761 | \$2,375,646 |

**2007 Grant Awards
For the Year Ended December 31, 2007**

| Grant Types | Number Awarded | Amount Awarded |
|-------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Diversity | 10 | \$88,500 |
| Program expansion | 88 | 2,392,500 |
| Jewelers for Children | 82 | 900,130 |
| New program development | 24 | 917,000 |
| Special project | 27 | 582,000 |
| State organizations | 46 | 2,254,000 |
| Tribal | 14 | 457,333 |
| Other | 77 | 152,480 |
| Total | 368 | \$7,743,943 |



JOSEPH



He's my heart.

—Melissa



Joseph holding a woodcarving that his grandfather made



It feels good being back with my mom. I missed her—I squeeze her so much that I make her back hurt—that's love.

—Joseph, 10





BOARD OF TRUSTEES AND MANAGEMENT STAFF

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Reed, Smith Law Firm
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Chief Executive Officer

M. Carmela Welte
Deputy Chief Executive Officer

James Clune
Chief Communications Officer

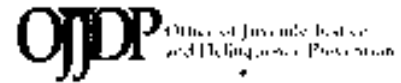
Tom Dunn
Chief Financial Officer

Sally Wilson Erny
Chief Program Officer

Jill Wiedenhoft
Human Resources Director



This project was supported by Cooperative Agreement No. 2007-CH-BX-K001 from the Office of Juvenile Justice & Delinquency Prevention, Office of Justice Programs, US Department of Justice. Points of view or opinions in this document are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official position or policies of the US Department of Justice.



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Email: staff@nationalcasa.org
Websites: nationalcasa.org and casanet.org

Thank you to Melissa Vigil and her family for sharing their story. Thanks also to Bernalillo County CASA volunteers Jean and John Whiteside for their invaluable assistance with this report.

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Jean and John pushed for a tutor for my son—they looked out for my kids' education.

—Melissa



guardians

supportive



Our family would not be together today if I didn't have the support of others—of Dad, my sisters and Jean and John especially. They never gave up on us—they never gave up hope that we could be a family.... They always gave me that push, that encouragement. And I think that everybody needs that.

—Melissa

I never spent time with any of Melissa's children—my grandchildren—when they were babies. We're working now to make that connection. I say, let's not worry about the past, let's worry about now, let's start now.

—Marty, Melissa's father



Left to right: Melissa's sister Maria, mother Yvonne and father Marty pictured with Melissa and her children

Jean and John had a big part in us becoming a family again. I pretty much isolated myself for a good while. Jean had my sister and I start meeting and involved my mom and dad too, in my life and in my kids' lives. Now we are starting to feel like a family again.

—Melissa

REUNIFICATION

family



National Court Appointed Special Advocate Association
100 West Harrison Street, North Tower, Suite 500
Seattle, WA 98119-4123

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