

2009 Annual Report

The National Court Appointed Special Advocate Association



CASA
Court Appointed Special Advocates
FOR CHILDREN

THE NATIONAL COURT APPOINTED
SPECIAL ADVOCATE ASSOCIATION

Frankye Hull
Volunteer

Letter from the CEO

It appears that the sustained economic downturn of 2009 created the perfect storm for many of our children—one that combines increased stresses on family life with decreased services and resources for families and children in need. In many areas, CASA and volunteer guardian ad litem programs tell us that they are seeing more difficult cases, with fewer services being offered to children due to reductions in staff and budgets.

National CASA helped our member programs weather the storm. We increased grants to programs by \$2.4 million over the previous year's total and developed new funding categories to help programs bridge the financial gap created by regional funding reductions. These grants helped programs maintain staffing levels and continue their strong service to children.

In 2009, National CASA took a giant technological leap forward with the launch of our new website, CASAforChildren.org. The new site makes it easier for potential volunteers to connect with their local program, provides rich resources on topics related to child welfare, and is integrated with social networking sites including YouTube, Facebook and Twitter. These new tools—and smart use of our existing resources—will help our programs reach, support and retain needed volunteers to serve abused and neglected children.

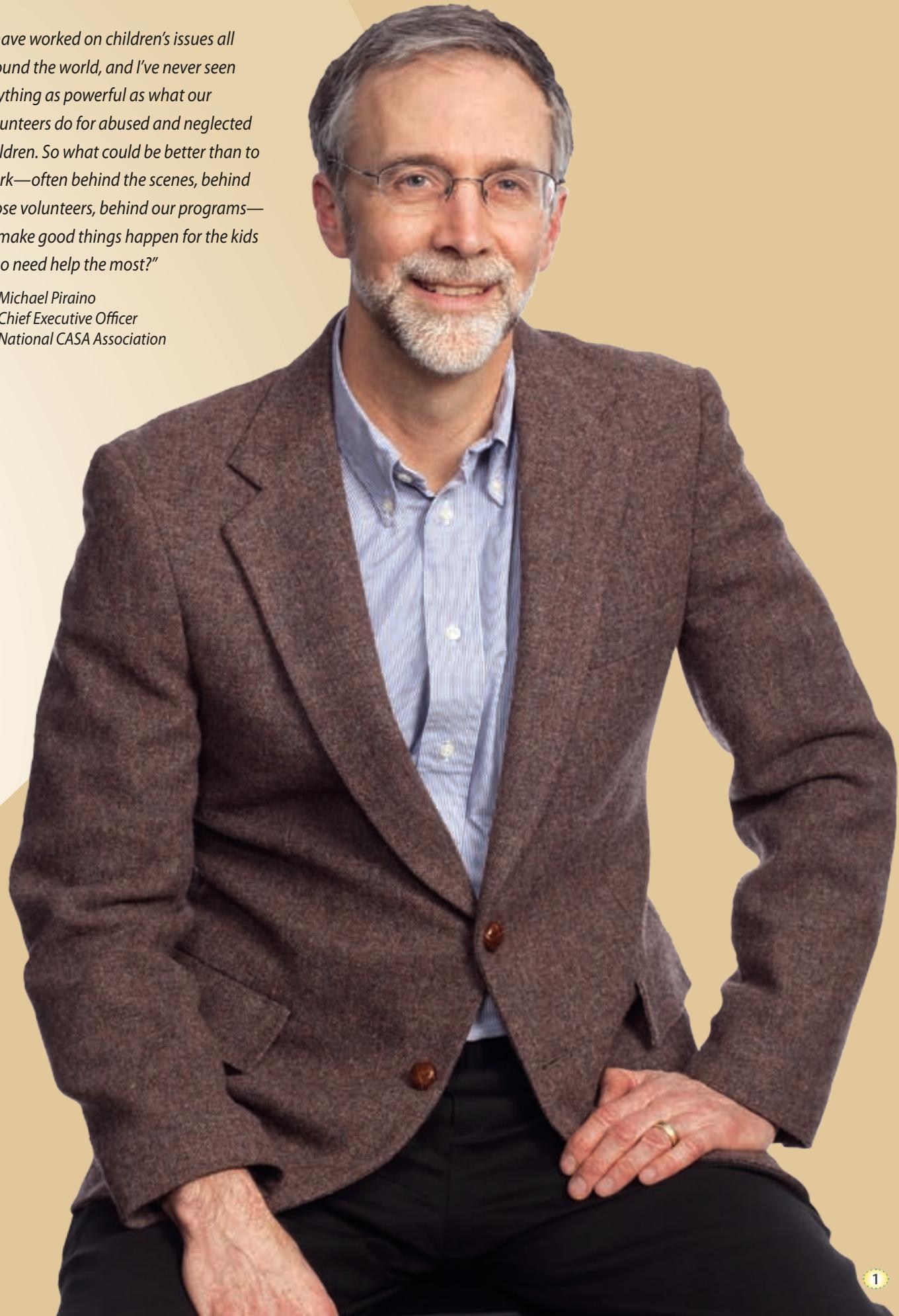
National CASA is part of a community of organizations working to improve the welfare of children. But among them, the work of CASA programs—training caring adults to represent the best interest of children in court—is unique. In this annual report, you will meet some of the people who make this important work possible—the donors, staff, supporters and volunteers. And, finally, you'll meet 22-year old Lauren Mueller, a freshman at Denison University who credits her current success and drive to help others to the CASA volunteer who stood by her side 11 years ago.

Through your support and contributions, you are making success possible for nearly one-quarter of a million children each year. Thank you for your trust. We could not do this work without you.

**The sustained economic downturn of 2009
created the perfect storm. National CASA
helped our programs continue their strong
service to children.**

"I have worked on children's issues all around the world, and I've never seen anything as powerful as what our volunteers do for abused and neglected children. So what could be better than to work—often behind the scenes, behind those volunteers, behind our programs—to make good things happen for the kids who need help the most?"

— Michael Piraino
Chief Executive Officer
National CASA Association



National CASA and the CASA/GAL Network

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. 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 that child is placed in a safe, permanent home.

The National CASA Association is a network of 1,055 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.

In 2009, more than 70,900 CASA volunteers served as caring adults in the lives of 237,000 children. Independent research demonstrates that children with a CASA volunteer are more likely to receive supportive services and less likely to return to the foster care system.

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 administers grants that foster program quality and growth, enabling state and local programs to better meet the needs of abused children.

Low administrative and fundraising costs enabled National CASA to direct 87.8% of funding to program services in 2009.

In 2009, more than 70,900 CASA volunteers served as caring adults in the lives of 237,000 children. Independent research demonstrates that children with a CASA volunteer are more likely to receive supportive services and less likely to return to the foster care system.

"A family court judge faces seemingly insurmountable problems every day. In this difficult environment, CASA volunteers are shining lights that help illuminate the darkness. Their dedication allows judges to ensure successful outcomes for children. For that, every family court judge I know is grateful."

— Hon. Ernestine Gray
Orleans Parish Juvenile Court, New Orleans, LA
President, National CASA Association



Contributing to Success Through Supporting CASA Programs

Strong CASA programs mean quality advocacy for abused and neglected children. National CASA exists to serve and support a network of 1,055 CASA and guardian ad litem program offices. By offering direct support, training, online and printed materials, information sharing and grants, National CASA provides tools necessary to build, sustain and grow strong CASA programs.

Expanding Our Reach and Services

In 2009, we crossed new frontiers for children in foster care with several notable initiatives.

First, we began an expansion of CASA advocacy in Alaska. While there has long been a CASA presence in the state, our efforts in Alaska will help us reach more children through tribal courts as well as more Alaska Native children in state courts. The foundation is in place to open programs in the rural interior, bush and Arctic Circle.

We also embarked on a new initiative to enhance our service and quality of advocacy to youth who are aging out of the foster care system. Through the new *Fostering Futures* initiative, funded by a generous grant from the Walmart Foundation, we will develop and deliver a curriculum to train CASA volunteers to provide the advocacy, resources and support to older youth that will ensure their successful transition to adulthood.

In 2009, we substantially increased our online resources, including training and volunteer recruitment for programs, with the launch of a new website: CASAforChildren.org. Online training modules, semi-monthly webinars and bi-weekly podcasts provide skill-building training and timely resources and information to program staff and volunteers.

Building Diversity to Improve Service to Children

It is increasingly well documented that children of color enter the foster care system at higher rates than the general population. To ensure that they receive volunteer advocacy that is culturally appropriate, National CASA is building the diversity and cultural competency of staff and volunteers in the network. In 2009 we increased our capacity to deliver the *Knowing Who You Are* (KWYA) cultural identity training by expanding our pool of certified facilitators and coaches to nearly 20. CASA program staff, volunteers and board members in eight jurisdictions built skills and awareness through participating in a KWYA training.

Improving National Standards Ensures Quality

National CASA, with the support of our Standards Committee, revised the staff and volunteer screening standards for both our state and local programs to ensure the highest quality screening for program representatives and safety for children.

"National CASA standards ensure that we run quality organizations that provide quality advocacy. They are key to our credibility, to our professionalism, to obtaining funding, to raising public awareness, to everything."

—Leslie Dunn, Indiana State Director, CASA/GAL



*"What keeps me passionate about CASA work?
Knowing that my actions are helping to make a
difference in the lives of the kids that we serve.
With a CASA volunteer by their side, our children
and teens receive the committed support and
attention they deserve so that they can be safe,
be loved and have hope for the future."*

*— Simone Jones
Executive Director
CASA of Adams and Broomfield Counties, CO
2009 National CASA Program Director
of the Year*



Effecting Positive Changes for Children Through Public Policy Work

National CASA educates public officials, contributing to improved policies that ultimately create success for youth in care. To accomplish this, we worked closely with groups including the National Foster Care Coalition, National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges, American Bar Association on Children and the Law, National Child Abuse Coalition and Casey Family Programs.

Ensuring the Full Potential of Landmark Legislation Is Realized

In 2009, the National CASA Association collaborated with other national child-serving organizations to educate states and CASA programs on the provisions of the Fostering Connections to Success Act, the landmark child welfare legislation enacted into law in 2008.

The act promotes permanence for children through an emphasis on lifelong support and connections to family and other adults, and seeks to improve outcomes for youth leaving care through more thorough planning to address their future needs. A remarkable component of the legislation is the focus on older youth: they should now be engaged as participants and key decision-makers in their cases. CASA/GAL volunteers have an important role to play in this process: by becoming familiar with the new requirements and opportunities, they help to ensure that states and all parties adhere to the new requirements and work to honor the intent of the law.

The volunteer's role evolves to both advocate and advisor, to help youth find their own voice and the tools they will need to chart and navigate their future.

National CASA is partnering with other leaders in the child welfare community to ensure that the full potential of Fostering Connections is realized. Working with the National Foster Care Coalition (NFCC), National CASA helped develop a 78-page guide to the older youth provisions of the legislation. The guide—a comprehensive and definitive summary of the act's provisions relating to older youth—assists courts, child welfare agencies, state legislators, youth, advocates, relative caregivers and others with the provisions of the act that most impact youth.

Also in partnership with NFCC, National CASA sponsored a national webinar on the older youth provisions of Fostering Connections. Offered twice, the webinar attracted a record audience of child welfare agency representatives, researchers, state legislative staff, national organization members and state and local CASA program staff. We are also an affiliate partner of a newly developed Resource Center on Fostering Connections, an initiative designed to advance implementation of the Fostering Connections to Success Act across the country.

"CASA volunteers and I share a common goal: Improving the odds of success for children in foster care. I have worked toward this throughout my congressional career. CASA volunteers are pursuing this goal on a personal level, by sharing critical information with the courts, by recommending services, and by providing stability and support to a child at a time of chaos, confusion and heartache."

— Rep. Jim McDermott (D-WA)



New and Longtime Donors Support National CASA's Work for Children

In 2009, supporters stood behind National CASA's commitment to helping abused and neglected children attain what every child deserves: a safe, permanent home. Individual giving grew substantially—including an increase of online giving by 41% over 2008. Longtime supporters and new organizations stepped up to support volunteer advocacy.

Walmart Foundation Supports Older Youth in Care

In 2009, the Walmart Foundation invested in National CASA and the futures of foster youth with a \$1.6 million grant to fund the new *Fostering Futures* program. *Fostering Futures* will support local CASA programs' efforts to educate and support volunteers working with older youth, who often emancipate from care at the age of 18 unprepared to face the challenges and responsibilities of living independently.

"With our investment in *Fostering Futures*, we extend our commitment to make a lasting difference in the lives of foster youth aging out of the system," said Margaret McKenna, president of the Walmart Foundation. "Our support of *Fostering Futures* is a natural extension of Walmart's local commitment to the CASA cause. Our stores and associates have long supported their local CASA programs through our Volunteerism Always Pays program."

Jewelers for Children Recognizes National CASA as a Super Legacy Charity

In 2009, Jewelers for Children—an association of manufacturers, retail jewelers, trade associations, watch companies and professional service providers—formally recognized National CASA as one of two "Super Legacy Charities" deserving of their ongoing support.

In 2009, JFC contributed \$500,000 through its Champions for Abused Children Initiative, bringing its total support of National CASA to \$5.875 million since 2003.

National Partners Support Local Successes

Support of the American Legion Child Welfare Foundation enabled National CASA to provide a "Friends Asking Friends" website to CASA programs holding *Forgotten Children* and other fundraising and awareness-raising events. Participating CASA/GAL programs raised nearly \$700,000 in their communities.

In 2009, National CASA and Kappa Alpha Theta commemorated a 20-year relationship that has resulted in millions of dollars in support to National CASA and local programs. The Kappa Alpha Theta network—125 university-based chapters and 198 alumnae chapters in the US—contributed countless volunteer hours and more than \$330,000 to CASA programs in 2009 alone.

Through a new national partnership, the brothers of Omega Delta Phi are supporting CASA programs through service and fundraising efforts. Brothers are recruiting needed volunteers—particularly volunteers of color—and raising funds for their local CASA programs.

"Like all children, children who have been abused and neglected have dreams. CASA volunteers help these children realize dreams that most children take for granted—to have a stable, loving home and a normal life. The way I think about it, CASA volunteers are angels. That is why I donate. A donation is the least I can do."

— Julio Mercado

Julio and his wife, Elizabeth, are two of 1,382 individuals who contributed to National CASA in 2009.



2009 Is a Record Year for National CASA Awareness and for Children

In 2009, National CASA received a record number of CASA volunteer and supporter inquiries through our national website, CASAforChildren.org. The support of National CASA spokespeople Dr. Phil and Robin McGraw and Judge Glenda Hatchett, and of CBS Television, helped us reach more than 70 million individuals. As a result, over 38,000 people inquired about local CASA and GAL volunteer opportunities, a 27% increase over 2008.

Two highlights of the 2009 National CASA awareness campaign include:

Dr. Phil and Robin McGraw Champion the CASA Cause

Psychologist Dr. Phil McGraw and his wife, Robin McGraw, continued their efforts to make CASA a household word. A special *Dr. Phil* show on the foster care system and CASA volunteers that aired on Memorial Day included footage of Robin McGraw's visit to Los Angeles CASA and a strong call for both volunteers and donations. This show generated over 2,300 inquiries through our website in three days alone. In December a *Dr. Phil* show featured an Orange County (CA) CASA volunteer, along with a former CASA youth and National CASA CEO Michael Piraino. Each show reaches over 8 million adults.

"I am a CASA advocate in Pennsylvania, and I owe it all to watching Dr. Phil and the show about CASA. Being a CASA volunteer is a wonderful way to finally give children a voice in the courts." —Leticia Muller, CASA volunteer.

National CASA was honored to have Dr. Phil and Robin appear pro bono at our 28th Annual National CASA Conference. Together, they delivered a message of encouragement and appreciation that inspired the 1,400 CASA volunteers and staff in attendance.

CBS Cares Continues to Support and Promote Volunteer Advocacy

National CASA continues to benefit from the support of the CBS Network, which has made our cause one of their selected CBS Cares charities. The network aired a CBS Cares CASA TV PSA featuring *Cold Case* star Danny Pino and another featuring William Petersen, star of the CBS prime time drama *CSI*, during his final appearance on the show. That airing brought a CASA volunteer recruitment message to over 16 million viewers.

"All of us at CBS are so thrilled to be working with such a wonderful cause as CASA. Raising awareness of your organization is so satisfying for us. Thank you for the opportunity to help children." —Stacey Adams, vice president, CBS Television

"I know from sitting on the juvenile court bench in Atlanta that CASA volunteers transform children's lives. You simply cannot put a monetary value on court appointed special advocates. Time and again, I saw CASA volunteers save abused children from lingering in foster care."

—Judge Glenda Hatchett
National CASA Spokesperson



"CASA volunteers are special people who stand up for vulnerable children and change their lives. As advocates, they speak up for the best interests of the children in their care. But they are also there to hold a child's hand, to answer their questions, to let them know what happened. To let them know they are not alone. And that can make all the difference for a child."

*— Dr. Phil and Robin McGraw
National CASA Spokespeople*



Legacy of a CASA Volunteer

In one short year, Lauren Mueller's CASA volunteer taught her lessons that have lasted a lifetime.

Lauren met her CASA volunteer, Stephanie Eichenauer, when she was living with foster parents after being removed from the care of a mother struggling with mental illness and alcoholism. Stephanie helped Lauren pull the pieces of her disrupted life together and take steps toward building a future: she replaced the diary Lauren lost in the transition, made a CD of songs they sang together and helped Lauren obtain a grant for her first volunteer service project. Stephanie stood by Lauren during every court appearance until the day that Lauren was returned to her mother.

Through her actions, Stephanie showed Lauren the value of serving others.

"Stephanie was the first person who helped me to want to help other people. Before that, I felt like I was in such a bad family situation that there was no way that I could help anyone. I didn't realize that I could give other people help too, even if I still needed it."

Lauren went on to become involved in several youth service organizations. She has been recognized with awards for her contributions. Today, she is a freshman at Denison University, and her efforts include spreading the word about CASA work. Lauren speaks at fundraisers and is becoming involved with the Denison chapter of Kappa Alpha Theta, which endorses CASA as its national philanthropy.

"I hope that people I talk to about CASA come away knowing that I'm happy. I've done some awesome things, and a lot of it is because of CASA. The 10 minutes or the hour or the lifetime that you spend with CASA is going to a child who really, really needs it. Just helping someone once can be a lifelong legacy for you, and for that person."

"The way my CASA volunteer helped me made me want to help other people. There is a direct connection. I knew, even though I did not talk with her for 10 years, I knew that she would be proud of what I was doing. And I kept doing it. Because I knew somewhere that if I could tell her, she would be happy."

*— Lauren Mueller
Freshman, Denison University, OH*



Lauren is holding a photo of herself when she was four years old.

CASA by the Numbers

Statistics matter. As Rep. Jim McDermott said of CASA work, "Behind every statistic is the face of a child in care who has the same hopes and aspirations as every other child. They need us to make those dreams a reality."

In 2009, 70,900 volunteers helped 237,000 abused and neglected children find safe, permanent homes. National CASA supported their efforts by providing training, technical assistance and 417 grants to member programs.

The following numbers help to describe the breadth of National CASA's service to CASA programs in 2009. Some annual figures are estimated based on monthly averages.

\$13.9 million

Total amount expended on services and grants to National CASA member programs.

forty-two

Number of National CASA staff providing training, technical assistance and support to member programs; raising funds for and awareness of the CASA cause; and advancing child welfare issues on the national level.

250

Number of CASA programs that participated in a self-assessment process that measured their compliance with National CASA standards, demonstrating that they are providing the highest quality of service to children.

87.8%

Percentage of National CASA's funding directed to program services in 2009.

2 million

Number of people who visited the National CASA website in 2009. Visitors range from potential volunteers seeking to learn more and connect with their local program to staff accessing resources and current information.

2,566

Number of volunteers and others who became "fans" of National CASA during the last three months of 2009, following the October debut of our new National CASA Facebook page: facebook.org/casaforchildren.

3,800

Number of CASA program staff who improved their ability to advocate for abused and neglected children each month by accessing technical assistance and training provided by National CASA. Includes information accessed through the website, in person, by phone and in scheduled sessions on topics such as governance, cultural awareness, resource development and volunteer and program management.

six

Number of full-time National CASA program officers stationed throughout the United States in order to provide personal consultation to the CASA programs in their regions.

1,400

Number of CASA program staff, volunteers, judges, board members and other members of the child welfare community who traveled to Denver, CO, to gain skills necessary to improve their advocacy for children at the 2009 National CASA Annual Conference.

9,600

Number of people who learned more about the work of National CASA and its member programs at presentations by National CASA staff members in 2009.

two

Average number of new programs that National CASA helps develop each month.

Financial Information

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

For the Year Ended December 31, 2009

	Unrestricted	Temporarily Restricted	Total
Support and Revenue			
Cooperative Agreements			
Department of Justice for Training and Technical Assistance	\$4,120,099		\$4,120,099
Grants Program	9,730,586		9,730,586
Grant – Department of Justice for Native American Tribal Courts	75,026		75,026
Conference fees	320,440		320,440
Membership dues	88,525		88,525
Promotional sales, net of cost of sales of \$93,321	80,622		80,622
Interest and investment income	43,729		43,729
Foundation contributions	3,300	2,174,950	2,178,250
Other contributions and income	551,653	170,880	722,533
Net assets released from restrictions	807,840	(807,840)	–
Total support and revenue	\$15,821,820	\$1,537,990	\$17,359,810
Expenses			
Training and technical assistance	\$2,733,687		\$2,733,687
Member and public outreach	1,945,692		1,945,692
Grant activities	9,225,569		9,225,569
Total program services	\$13,904,948		\$13,904,948
General and administrative	\$1,697,195		\$1,697,195
Fundraising	234,470		234,470
Total supporting services	\$1,931,665		\$1,931,665
Total expenses	\$15,836,613		\$15,836,613
Change in net assets	(\$14,793)	\$1,537,990	\$1,523,197
Net assets, beginning of year	\$1,383,162	\$859,595	\$2,242,757
Net assets, end of year	\$1,368,369	\$2,397,585	\$3,765,954

Financial Information (continued)

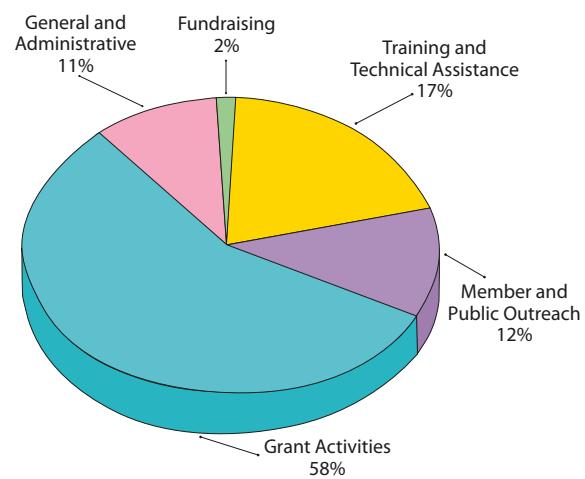
SUMMARY OF REVENUE AND EXPENSE For the Year Ended December 31, 2009

Support and Revenue

OJJDP training and technical assistance	\$4,120,099
OJJDP grants program	9,730,586
OVC tribal courts	75,026
Conference fees	320,440
Sales, interest and dues	212,876
Foundations	2,178,250
Other contributions and income	722,533
Total	\$17,359,810

Expenses

Training and technical assistance	\$2,733,687
Member and public outreach	1,945,692
Grant activities	9,225,569
General and administrative	1,697,195
Fundraising	234,470
Total	\$15,836,613



NATIONAL CASA GRANT PROGRAM

The National CASA grant program is funded through the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention and private sources. Grants are awarded to increase the number of CASA organizations nationwide; strengthen and expand existing organizations; and increase the diversity of CASA volunteers to better reflect the children served.

Each year, approximately one-third of CASA/GAL programs receive grants from the National CASA Association through a competitive funding process. More than \$102 million in grants have been awarded since 1993.

GRANT AWARDS

For the Year Ended December 31, 2009

Grant Types	Number Awarded	Amount Awarded
Bridge Funding	65	\$1,926,000
Capacity Building	34	562,500
Diversity Implementation	15	146,500
New Program Development	18	673,500
Program Expansion	74	2,028,000
State Organization	46	2,530,000
Sustainability	64	997,500
Tribal	8	260,000
Urban High Needs	15	717,500
Other	78	324,702
Total	417	\$10,166,202

STATEMENTS OF FINANCIAL POSITION

December 31, 2009 and 2008

ASSETS	2009	2008
Current Assets		
Cash	\$3,544,617	\$1,244,590
Investments	203,293	156,221
Receivable from Department of Justice	160,373	281,571
Contributions receivable	11,502	695,628
Other receivables	14,477	18,496
Inventory	43,565	68,895
Prepaid expenses	64,525	67,194
Total current assets	\$4,042,352	\$2,532,595
Furniture and Equipment		
Office furniture	\$18,464	\$20,040
Office equipment	64,945	84,560
Computer equipment	206,786	267,104
Total furniture and equipment	290,195	371,704
Less accumulated depreciation	(282,595)	(361,414)
Net furniture and equipment	7,600	10,290
Total assets	\$4,049,952	\$2,542,885
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS		
Current Liabilities		
Accounts payable	\$164,678	\$157,640
Accrued vacation payable	104,100	121,828
Other liabilities	15,220	20,660
Total current liabilities	\$283,998	\$300,128
Net Assets		
Unrestricted	\$1,368,369	\$1,383,162
Temporarily restricted	2,397,585	859,595
Total net assets	\$3,765,954	\$2,242,757
Total liabilities and net assets	\$4,049,952	\$2,542,885

Donors

The National CASA Association is grateful to the following individuals, corporations and foundations, whose contributions from January 1 through December 31, 2009, made our work possible.

\$100,000+

Jewelers for Children
Viacom Cable TV Litigation
Walmart Foundation

\$50,000 – \$99,999

Kappa Alpha Theta Foundation

\$10,000 – \$49,999

All-State Legal
Britt Banks
Dr. Phil Foundation
Lipton Green Tea
Newmont Mining Corporation
Carin and Michael Piraino

\$5,000 – \$9,999

Anonymous (2)
Conway & Associates, LP
Fred Meyer Jewelers
Kappa Alpha Theta Delta Epsilon Chapter
Sidney Stern Memorial Trust
Tipton Associates
The Webkinz Foundation
The Richard & Lois M. Worthington Foundation

\$2,500 – \$4,999

Anonymous (2)
Sally and Dale Erny
Hon. Ernestine S. Gray and James Gray
R.V. Kirkorian Foundation
Kobo Products, Inc.
Silver Crest Farms, Inc.

\$1,000 – \$2,499

Anonymous (1)
Daniel Adelstein
Julia Atalla
Nancy and Louis Berlin
Renne and Bruce Bilson
Macon Brock III
Ame and Marc Carter
Barbara Cooper-Ravenna
Nancy Dame
Beth and Larry Dessem
Gilker-Shoupe Family Charitable Trust
Goldman, Sachs and Co.
Bradley C. Hanson
Kearns Saldinger Charitable Foundation
Leo Kropywiansky
Mike Lara
Susan and Arthur Leeds
Elizabeth and Julio Mercado
Geraldine Mirando
Donna Mongiardo
Pinkerton Foundation
Elia and Armando Quiroga

Jennifer Rosner and Bill Corwin

Schneider Electric/Square D Foundation

Dianne and Patrick Schultheis
Connie Stephens
Amanda Swaim
Cathy Sweetman
Carol Swindle and Shane R. Swindle, Esq.

Tradis, Inc.

G. William Walker Irrevocable Trust

Alice Tobin Zaff and Alan Zaff

\$500 – \$999

Anonymous (4)

Cecilia Absher and David A. Katz

Curtis Ambrose

Megan and John Anderson

Terene Bennett

Steve Bryant and Michael Greer

Monica Burmeister

Theresa Carleton

Ray Cavola

Lorene Chang

Jeremy Chapman

James Clune

Doris and Wilford Constable

Lisa D'Aquila

Barbara and Allan Ferrin

Michelle Finet

Victoria Fitzgerald

Fort Worth Transportation Authority

Eric Gardner

Terra Gay

Kris Gonzales

Emily Henne

HID Global Corporation

Tam Hulusi

Denise Kennedy, Esq.

Tiffany and Jeffrey Knox

Susan Lederer

Holly and Brian Lemons

Hon. J. Dean Lewis-Lohman and Larry Lohman

Helena Ma

Sharon and Kevin Maifeld

Laura Maines

Elisabeth and Matthew Marsh

Patricia and John McCarthy

Deb and Dan McGinn

Veronica Montaño-Pilch and Martin Pilch

Joanne Mulloy

Neal Myerson

Aleks Radko

Rich Township High School

Ryan Robbins

Didier Serra

Lauren Sinrod

Helene Tanner

Noga and Antonio Villalon

Brian Washburn

M. Carmela Welte

Bradley Williamson

Karen Winner and Tom Sed

Casey Young

\$250 - \$499

Anonymous (7)

Asantewa Antobam

Nancy Benigno

Mary MacLellan Bergevin and Paul Bergevin

Brian Berkenhoff

Susan Blatt

Jessica and Adam Broadwater

Margaret Clinton

Mary Collard

Amy Creamer and Brian Tatosky

Michael Crye

Katherine Daugherty

Mark Demanes

Diane and William Dickert

Lahna Diskin

Natalya Dolginsky

Salwa El Habib

W. Durand Eppler and Jean Scandlyn

Mimi Feller

Dianne Fentress

Sarah J. and Stephen Fettters

Carol Franklin

Judy and Glenn Frye

Sarah Gagne

General Telecom, Inc.

Deborah and David Gordon

Steve Gray

Greater Miami Jewish Federation

Suzanne Greenberg

Rebecca Grossman

Haddon, Morgan, Mueller, Jordan, Mackey & Foreman PC

Sharon Heiber

Jessica Hibler

Margaret Isaac

Dorothy and Kevin Judiscak

Blaise Judja-Sato

Margaret M. Kachadurian

Juanita Kamman

The Kimley-Horn Foundation

Robert Lamb

Ruth Larson

Stephen Laurance

Margaret and Peter Lemoine

Ellen Levin

Jan Looney

DruAnn McCluskey

Gerald Messina

Sharon Neill-Doyle

Organic Bouquet, Inc.

Sarah Palmer

Rich Parsons

Tammy and Kevin Piccola

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George Pine

Sally Reilly

Heidi Sachs

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Seyfarth Shaw, LLP

John Solters

John Storms

Christine Taylor

Pamela and Brian Tingley

Kirsten Valley and Randy J. Kesten

Eunice and Don Waggoner

Beth Wagner and Thomas Dunn

Waltonen Engineering

Betsy and Moe Whitaker

Michael Yasick

\$100 – \$249

Anonymous (14)

Wendy Adams

Sara Adler

John Almy

Carrie and Mark Anderson

Stewart Appelrouth

Jerica Arguello

Sally Armstrong

April Arnold

Artefact Design

Patricia Aylward

Bruce Bagley

Terri Bass

Paige Beard

Mindy Beck

Barbara and Alan Bellanca

Sandra Berain

Karen and Terry Bergin

Ena Bhagat and Puri Vishal

Pat Biedess

Renee and Jason Bohrer

Carol and Ted Bradley

Adam Bressler

Barry Brookes

Ethel and Jimm Brown

Maria and Jon Bundy

Suzette Burdett and Jeffrey Ramsay

Maryann and Larry Calvin

Jacqueline and Anthony Cardillo

Dr. Lee Carter

Karen and Bob Caudle

Ellen Winsor Chaffin

Dooyon Cho

Deborah and Richard Ciamacca

Betty Clark

Gretchen and Aaron Clark

Claudia Clifford

Elizabeth Coker

Kathleen Cook

Ben Cooner

James F. Cory Jr.

Paul Costoff

Karen Cox

Ebbie Crawford

Norvel Crawford

Michaela and Jack De Simone

Kailee DeShon

Paul DiCorleto

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2009 National CASA Child Advocate of the Year

Frankye Hull

Kershaw County Guardian ad Litem Program, Camden, SC

When Frankye Hull suffered a brain aneurism, she was forced to give up much of her volunteer work—but not her work with abused and neglected children. Frankye believed that she had been allowed to live in order to continue serving children.

"I prayed over it, I said, 'Lord, tell me what to do. Because I have to do something. I can't just sit down.' And it fell with the children. The children come first with me."

In the 12 years that she has served as a guardian ad litem, she estimates that she has worked on at least two dozen cases. Among her peers, she is known for her tenacity in uncovering the facts of a case. As Frankye describes it, "Being a guardian ad litem volunteer is a lot like being a detective. You have to be nosy. To help a child find a safe home, you've really got to want to know what is going on."

When Frankye accepted the Child Advocate of the Year Award, she told the audience that guardian ad litem volunteers are very well paid. She was joking about the money, but not about the rewards: "The little children come innocently. All they want is love. When you show them that there is goodness out here in the world, that somebody knows they are special, it becomes engrained in that child's mind. By showing them something different than what they have experienced, we can put those children on the right track. This is my reward."





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