



CASA

Court Appointed Special Advocates
FOR CHILDREN

LARIMER COUNTY

2023 IMPACT REPORT

Dear Friends,

In 2023, with a continued focus on improving connections and outcomes for children and families in our community, CASA of Larimer County expanded access to services, strengthened the quality of programming, nurtured partnerships, and listened to the needs of children and families.

Independently, the CASA and Family Connections programs strengthened their advocacy and case management to support the best outcomes. These educated and caring teams are focused on empowering children and families with the voice and tools they will need to thrive.

The addition of Trust Based Relational Intervention® (TBRI®) has raised the impact of each program by equipping staff, volunteers, parents, and other caregivers with knowledge and tools which help us all to be better caregivers and healthier people. The feedback from parents taking TBRI® has inspired us all.

As we move into 2024, we will continue to focus on increasing the quality and accessibility of our programs so that every child can have a CASA and every family has the tools and time to build healthy connections. We are committed to listening to the individual needs of the children and families we serve, strengthening the evaluation of programs, and supporting systemic changes which will improve outcomes for families.

With sincere gratitude and hope,

Jen Ryan
Executive Director

Wendy Banks
Board President



2024 BOARD MEMBERS

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Foundation

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2024 STAFF

Jen Ryan, *Executive Director, TBRI® Practitioner*

Operations

Leslie Piper, *Operations Director*
Alice Stopher, *Grants Manager*
Wendi Horvat
Jennifer Entner

Development & Marketing

Cristi Clifton, *Development Director*
Maya Jayachandra

Community Engagement

Dakota Montez, *Community Engagement Manager*

CASA

DeAnn Zamora-Schroeder, *CASA Program Manager, TBRI® Practitioner*
Nina Hamilton
Holly Cable, *TBRI® Practitioner*
Joe Clifton
Courtney Cleek
Lori Davis

Family Connections

Natasha Hayden, *Family Connections Program Manager, TBRI® Practitioner*
Ashton Rooks
Sarah Killorn
Quinn Schulte

TBRI®

Valeria Silva-Woodruff, *TBRI® Program Manager, TBRI® Practitioner*
Chloe Voiles, *TBRI® Practitioner*



Our Mission

We advocate for safe, nurturing, and permanent connections to family and community so children who have experienced abuse and neglect have the opportunity to thrive.

Our Vision

We believe every child deserves a safe and nurturing permanent home.

Our Commitment to Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

CASA of Larimer County is committed to fostering an inclusive and equitable environment that celebrates diversity and cultivates belonging for children, families and all other stakeholders. We strive to promote equitable, positive, and lasting change by embracing diverse perspectives, backgrounds, and experiences. We recognize our responsibility to listen and learn from historically underrepresented groups to advance diversity, equity, inclusion, justice, accessibility, and belonging (DEIJAB). We will continue to educate ourselves and hold ourselves accountable for creating a culture that reflects these values. We are committed to eliminating barriers and disparities that exist within our organization and challenging those within our community. We actively challenge biases, promote equal opportunities, and nurture a safe environment where everyone feels respected and valued.

FINANCIALS

OPERATING REVENUE

Philanthropy Grants	\$	225,346
Corporations	\$	187,356
Individuals	\$	294,896
Government Grants	\$	553,737
Legislative Funding	\$	109,385
Other Revenue	\$	71,069
In-kind	\$	58,158
TOTAL	\$	1,499,947
Restricted Revenue	\$	456,066

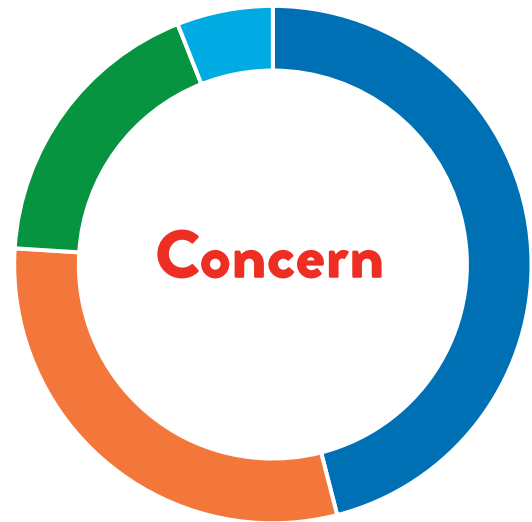


Programming	80%
Fundraising	14%
Administrative	6%

2023 A YEAR AT A GLANCE

963

Total Clients Served



Neglect	46%
Domestic Violence	30%
Physical Abuse	18%
Sexual Abuse	6%

511

Total Children Served



"When I view the kids from a trauma perspective, I can see where behaviors are wrapped up in the many unknowns about her experiences over her young life."

- CASA VOLUNTEER

Demographics of Children Served

Ages

0-5	.....	31%
6-8	.....	15%
9-12	.....	20%
13-19	.....	34%

Gender Identity

Male	.....	51%
Female	.....	44%
Non-binary/ gender-fluid	.....	5%



RACE / ETHNICITY

White	60%
Hispanic or Latino	14%
Two or More Races	8%
Black	3%
Asian/Pacific Islander	2%
Native American	1%
Unknown	12%



FAMILY CONNECTIONS

What the research shows, and what our clients affirm, is how essential healthy connections are toward creating stronger outcomes and facilitating healing for children and adults who've experienced relationship trauma. Our Family Connections Program offers fee-free supervised family time and safe exchange services to the community. Family Case Managers help to provide a safe environment at the Harmony House, objective documentation, and evidence-based training for caregivers to grow their skills and knowledge. Family Connections is one of the only providers of supervised family time and safe exchanges in Larimer County for any family who needs these services.

After identifying an interest from parents in the trauma-informed coaching and case management suite, the team finalized the transition from the previous parenting curriculum, Nurturing Parenting Program, to TBRI® 1:1 Coaching. By using the Strengthening Families model, the program takes a holistic approach to engaging families in building key protective factors against the recidivism of child abuse and neglect.

558
Clients Served

229
Children Served

1,708
Total Safe Exchanges
and Family Time

"I was having a hard time hanging in there without my son in my life. The services you provide brought us back together." – PARENT

TRUST BASED RELATIONAL INTERVENTION®

After seeing a high need for trauma-informed care and intervention for clients in both Family Connection and CASA programs, TBRI® was launched in 2021. Trust-Based Relational Intervention® (TBRI®) educates and empowers parents and caregivers to understand and meet the needs of children in their care who've experienced developmental trauma.

This program integrates a trauma-informed lens and care practice into all programming across the organization. In 2023, 43 CASA Volunteers and 62 Caregivers (parents, foster, & kin) were trained in TBRI® to support the children and youth they serve with complex histories of developmental trauma. At the same time, 82 contacts (hours) of individual TBRI® coaching was delivered to families in acute need in 2023.

"I have heard these things all my life, but I have never been able to relate it to my life until I started taking this class. The way you deliver it and talk about it, I feel like I can relate and actually use it." - CAREGIVER

The Caregiver Package was the primary mode of delivery of TBRI® that delivers a 24-hour intensive group training for caregivers, acknowledging what each caregiver brings to their relationship with the child, educating caregivers in child development, the impacts of trauma, and providing hands-on tools and strategies for correcting behaviors and empowering youth.



123

Caregivers
Served

62

Caregivers Trained
in the Caregiver
Package

153

Children
Impacted

282

Children Served

179

CASA Volunteers

53

New CASA
Volunteers

8,835

CASA Volunteer
Hours

"Building a connection with a child who has faced adversity and offering support through love, care, and advocacy has been an incredibly empowering experience."

— CASA VOLUNTEER



CASA

According to current research, for children and youth who've experienced trauma, like abuse and neglect, healing is made possible by as few as one stable, safe, and nurturing relationship with an adult. A CASA is a court-appointed volunteer who acts as a stable adult in the lives of children in crisis, advocating for their educational, health, and placement needs in and outside of court. CASA Volunteers are thoroughly screened and trained before being sworn in by the Court and appointed to a child or group of siblings.

Children with a CASA Volunteer in 2023 reported they are happy (75%) and safe (85%) in their current placement and are exhibiting safe behaviors (75%) in their current placement.



"As a CASA, I get to be a consistent and caring adult in the lives of these resilient children, an advocate and voice for their needs, and a part of the overall healing process for families."

— CASA VOLUNTEER

Fostering Futures

The Fostering Futures curriculum provides advanced training for CASA Volunteers to provide support and foster better outcomes for older youth who are at greater risk for long-term challenges such as homelessness, unemployment, and future victimization. The annual Teen Challenge Event provides direct resources and support for youth to learn various life skills, education options, and support after they turn 18. In 2023, funding provided by the Poudre Golden Kiwanis of Fort Collins supported rental fees and the cost of a laptop given away to one youth. Having the event at an off-site, fun location doubled the number of attendees in 2023 over the events held in 2021 and 2022 at the Harmony House.

Thank You

A special thank you to the 179 CASA Volunteers who were court-appointed to advocate for the needs of **282 children** in our community in 2023. We are incredibly grateful for the dedication, heart, and energy you share each to ensure that each child has the opportunity to thrive. **Thank you.**

HARMONY HOUSE

Our staff and families we serve recognize that Harmony House is a special place. With a matching grant from the Noel B. Shuler Foundation and generous donations from this community, in 2023 we secured the funding to build an addition to the Harmony House. The addition will increase family spaces inside the house, upgrade the security and accessibility of the Harmony House, and improve the comfort and privacy for families. There will be a secure entrance and waiting room for families, accessible bathrooms and entrances, offices, and an all-purpose room for training and youth activities.

In 2023 our project was approved to move forward by Historic Preservation. We completed planning and permitting through the City of Fort Collins at the end of 2023, and construction will begin in March 2024 with expected completion in Fall 2024.



"I feel like the Harmony House is not just taking care of the child's safety, but the parent's, and family's safety" - CAREGIVER

ANNUAL EVENTS

Light of Hope Luncheon

Alpine Bank was the presenting sponsor for our largest event which brought together community partners, business leaders, and volunteers. This event has three goals: raise awareness of our programs, recruit volunteers, and secure funding for our organization.

CASA Field Day

The first annual CASA Field Day, sponsored by AAA, was held at City Park on a rainy Saturday in June. The rain did not stop the fun as we welcomed over 100 community members to enjoy carnival games, food trucks, and a chance to explore a tow truck provided by AAA.

Appreciation Social

The 2023 Appreciation Social, hosted at Odell Brewing Company, was a wonderful opportunity to bring together all of those who support CASA of Larimer County for an evening to celebrate with one another over drinks, live music, and food provided by Fork Yeah.

CASA Classic Golf Tournament

The 2nd Annual CASA Classic presented by Alpine Bank was hosted at the Harmony Club where attendees spent the day supporting CASA of Larimer County while enjoying a game of golf. Thank you to SCHEELS Johnstown and Hunter Noell for joining us for long drives and trick shots on the course.





CASA

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FOR CHILDREN

LARIMER COUNTY

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CASALarimer.com



Call 1-844-CO4KIDS to report child abuse or neglect.