

#### **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.

# Dear Friends,

As we pass the midyear mark of 2023, I wanted to share some of the important work that you support at CASA of Larimer County. Time goes by so quickly, and it's nice to pause for a moment to reflect on the work that's been done and the needs that remain.

We are inspired by the children we serve, dedicated CASA Volunteers, and resilient caregivers. The stories that bring children and families to CASA of Larimer County are hard. Through our three trauma-informed and strengths-based programs, children and their families are empowered to write new stories of hope.

# Our Programs

**Court Appointed Special Advocates** 

**Family Connections** 

Trust Based Relational Intervention®

### A CASA Story

Jay is a teenage youth who has been struggling with school and been in fights with other students. He went on a hike with his CASA, David, after an especially rough couple of weeks. On the hike they talked about the past week, and they brainstormed some new ways to interact with others. On the way back to the car, David asked Jay, on a scale of 1-10, how he was feeling about things. Jay answered 10, because "I got to spend time with my best friend." Jay looked at David and said, "You know that's you, right?!"

The CASA team has coached volunteers and guided advocacy for **234 children** so far this year. These CASA volunteers provide connection, stability, and advocacy for youth involved in the Dependency and Neglect system. We estimate that we will need to train an **additional 60 CASA Volunteers this year** to provide a CASA for every child. We remain committed to ensuring that every child has a voice and is connected to safe, caring adults.

#### **2023 MIDYEAR UPDATE**



396

Total Children Served



162

CASA Volunteers Appointed



817

Family Connections
Visits and Safe
Exchanges



4,563

by CASA
Volunteers



57

Caregivers
Participated in TBRI®

The Family Connections program continues to create the opportunity for families to repair and strengthen relationships by ensuring that children and parents can reconnect safely. Services take place at Harmony House where families can play, enjoy meals, and make lasting memories while our team provides supportive case management and parent education to ensure a safe and conflict-free environment—giving both parents and children hope for a better tomorrow.

Our newest program, Trust Based Relational Intervention® (TBRI®), strengthens our trauma-

informed programs and offers practical tools for parents and caregivers to see the "whole child" in their care. In group training classes and through one-on-one coaching, caregivers are learning tools to support connection and self-regulation that enable children to choose their stories.

I'm excited to share that this fall we will begin construction on the addition to the Harmony House. This expansion will improve safety and accessibility while providing additional space for training and offices for our growing team. The original house will gain back family spaces for the children and families who use our services as originally intended.



You make these beginnings possible in all the ways you give your time, talent, and treasure to CASA of Larimer County. Your support provides the spark for new stories of hope our children and families are writing. It is with immense gratitude that we can stay true to our mission and share this impact with you.

Sincerely,

In 5

Jen Ryan, Executive Director





