

CASA

Court Appointed Special Advocates
FOR CHILDREN

LARIMER COUNTY

CONNECTIONS

2024

Dear friends,

Connect. Advocate. Empower. Three powerful actions – and foundational pieces of our mission – that guide our commitment to ensuring more children and families in our community thrive.

This past year, we thoughtfully grew our programs and expanded our physical space at the Harmony House, further fostering connection among children and their families and between our organization and our community. We supported 181 CASA Volunteers who advocated for the needs of 319 children in our community. We welcomed a Bilingual Family Case Manager to our Family Connections Program. We invited more families and community members than ever to participate in Trust Based Relational Intervention® (TBRI®) training, and we formalized CASA advocacy in Juvenile Delinquency cases.

While the numbers are compelling, more moving are the stories we have the privilege of hearing:

- How our volunteers show up for kids in ways that vastly improve their lives
- How our TBRI® training empowers parents to build better relationships with their children
- How families are fitting the pieces of their stories together thanks to having safe places to connect at our Harmony House

As we look ahead, we continue to be grateful for the dedication of our passionate staff, committed volunteers, and generous donors. With your steadfast support, we can ensure more children have safe, nurturing, and permanent connections.

With sincere gratitude and hope,



Jen Ryan

Jen Ryan
Executive Director



Julie Malmberg Grawe

Julie Malmberg Grawe
Board President

Board of Directors

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Executive

Jen Ryan

TBRI®

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Natasha Hayden

CASA

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Nina Hamilton
Holly Cable
Joe Clifton
Courtney Cleek
Lori Davis

Operations

Leslie Piper
Alice Stopher
Jennifer Entner

Development

Cristi Clifton
Maya Jayachandra

Family Connections

Sarah Killorn
Quinn Schulte
Erin Washington
Brisa Morales

Community Engagement

Dakota Montez

2024

AT A GLANCE

"I am so thankful to you and your team for the loving and caring atmosphere you provided for my children during this difficult time. I am so glad we are back to one family unit." – PARENT

622
CHILDREN
SERVED
511 in 2023

1,162
CLIENTS
SERVED
963 in 2023

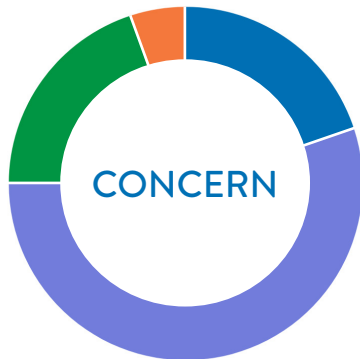
DEMOGRAPHICS OF CHILDREN SERVED

AGE GROUP

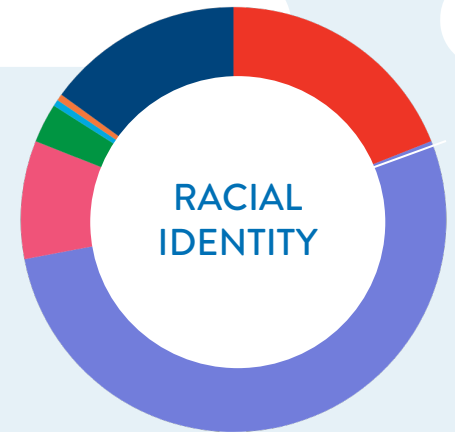
0 to 5	30%
6 to 8	26%
9 to 12	16%
13+	28%

GENDER IDENTITY

Female	46%
Male	54%



Neglect	55%
Domestic violence	20%
Physical abuse	20%
Sexual abuse	5%



White	53%
Latinx	19%
Multiracial	9%
Unknown / declined to specify	15%
Black	3%
Asian / Pacific Islander	0.5%
Native American	0.5%



BUILDING FOR CONNECTION

HARMONY HOUSE

CASA of Larimer County completed the much-anticipated addition to the historic Harmony House in August of 2024, a project made possible through a generous matching grant from the Noel B. Shuler Foundation and strong community support. The expansion **improves security, accessibility, and functionality** for the organization, adding 2,500 square feet of space. Key enhancements include separate entry points, improved lighting, accessible bathrooms, and upgraded security. A new multipurpose community room now accommodates vital training programs, such as TBRI® Caregiver training and CASA Volunteer pre-service training and is easily converted into a recreation room for children visiting the Harmony House.

Relocating administrative staff to the new space **restores the historic home's original purpose** — providing a safe, comfortable environment for Family Connections services. In the historic house, the rooms are being refreshed with new paint, flooring, sensory items, and furniture. A special thanks to Forma Furniture for their contributions to improve the look and feel of the house for families with new furniture.

“When I was ordered to complete supervised visitation, I didn’t expect a place like the Harmony House. The staff here have treated me with dignity and shown a real care for both me and my child. Coming to the Harmony House is the highlight of my week.” – PARENT



Truss signing, April 2024



Staff move into the new space, August 2024



ADDITION TRUSS SIGNING

We celebrated a **historic milestone** at Harmony House with a truss-signing event in April. Board Members, donors, CASA Volunteers, and past supporters gathered to commemorate the new addition made possible by the community. Guests enjoyed delicious refreshments from Fiona's Deli, Bakery & Catering, donated by RLR Accountants. It was a wonderful opportunity to come together and mark this exciting occasion.

THANK YOU

We are tremendously grateful to the generous donations from so many individuals, corporations, and foundations which made this new space possible. A special thank you to the teams at *Collab Architecture* and *Swift Builders* for making the process as easy as possible for the CASA staff and families in this space.

"I value connecting CASA Volunteers and coworkers and the new space provides the atmosphere to create authentic community. Whether it is a staff potluck or a CASA book club, it is nice to have a place on-site that has the capacity to serve our growing organization" – **CASA TEAM MEMBER**





“This has been an unexpected blessing for me and my child. In just one year, I’ve seen more growth than ever before. The staff have been true advocates, offering support when things felt hopeless, and now, our visits are the highlight of my week. I truly believe our bond is stronger and healthier because of this program.” – PARENT

STRENGTHENING CONNECTION FAMILY CONNECTIONS

In 2024, Family Connections continued to see the powerful impact of healthy, supportive connections in the healing process for children and parents who have experienced relational trauma. The Family Connections Program remains a vital resource, providing **fee-free supervised family time and safe exchange services** to the community. Family Case Managers create a secure and welcoming environment at the Harmony House, offering objective documentation and evidence-based training to help caregivers develop new skills and knowledge. Children enjoy new activities that support their regulation and sensory needs as they spend time with family they might not otherwise spend time with.

With the addition of new space and a bilingual Family Case Manager, CLC is growing to meet the need for visits and exchanges in our community. As **one of the few providers of supervised family time** and safe exchanges in Northern Colorado, CLC is proud to serve any families in need of these essential services.

224
CHILDREN
SERVED

496
CLIENTS
SERVED

1,898
VISITS &
EXCHANGES

319

CHILDREN
SERVED

181

CASA
VOLUNTEERS

64

NEW CASA
VOLUNTEERS

7,998

VOLUNTEER
HOURS

ADVOCATING FOR YOUTH


CASA

A CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocate) Volunteer provides vital connection, as a **consistent and supportive** adult in the lives of children in crisis. CASA Volunteers advocate for the educational, health, and placement needs of children both inside and outside of the courtroom. Before being appointed to a child or group of siblings, CASA Volunteers undergo a rigorous screening and training process, followed by an official swearing-in by Chief Judge Susan Blanco. In November 2024, **45% of assigned CASA Volunteers were not on their first case**, highlighting the experience and dedication of this volunteer team. In 2024, CASA of Larimer County formalized advocacy in Juvenile Delinquency cases for youth who are dual-involved.

Within the CASA Program, Fostering Futures provides advanced training and ongoing support for CASA Volunteers who work with older youth, ages 12 and older. This program helps improve outcomes for older youth who may be at greater risk for long-term challenges such as homelessness, unemployment, and future victimization. This year the Teen Challenge Event took place at Fort Fun with 26 youth attending. Youth engaged in activities with their CASAs and received prizes while learning about various life skills, education options, and community resources. Five community partners attended to provide resources and help prepare youth for their transitions to adulthood.

"She's funny and nice and is there for me when I'm not feeling okay." – CASA YOUTH





"I feel like TBRI® has changed the way that I parent. I am more aware of my triggers and I am able to correct in a way that we are both okay with. I cannot say enough positive stuff about TBRI® and what it has done for me and my son." – PARENT

EMPOWERING CONNECTIONS

TBRI®

Trust-Based Relational Intervention® educates and empowers parents and caregivers with understanding to meet the needs of children in their care who've experienced developmental trauma. TBRI® provides the tools CLC uses to integrate a **trauma-informed lens** into all services.

FAMILIES

Last year, 122 caregivers (birth-parents, foster-parents, kinship placements) engaged in TBRI® to better understand the effects of trauma on the brain, biology, behavior, body, and beliefs. Through the 24-hour Caregiver Package, one-on-one coaching, and Nurture Groups led by CLC's TBRI® Practitioners, parents learned skills grounded in three core principles: **connecting, empowering, and correcting**. In addition to feeling better able to support children in their care, many caregivers shared that they are also better able to understand their own reactions, regulation, and attachment style.

CLC is excited to have been selected by the CSU Social Work Research Center to be the Larimer County implementation partner in an evaluation to elevate the evidence base of TBRI® funded by the Colorado Evaluation and Action Lab.

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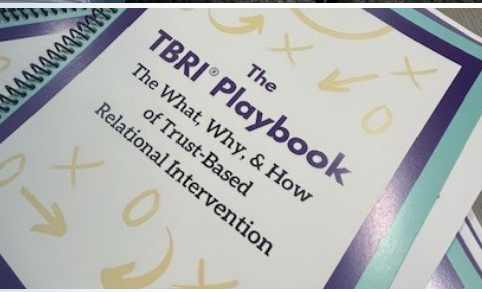
CHILDREN
IMPACTED

136

CASAs TRAINED
STATEWIDE

89

CAREGIVERS
TRAINED

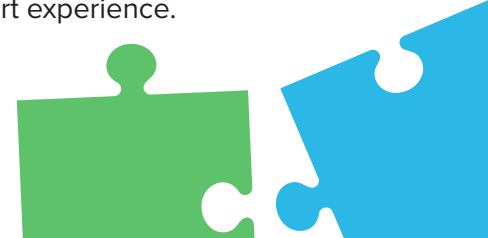


CASA VOLUNTEERS

Since 2023, CLC has required new CASAs to complete TBRI® training to learn practical tools for **building connection, promoting felt safety, and supporting children's emotional regulation**. A total of 59 local CASA Volunteers were trained in TBRI® in 2024 to support the children and youth they serve in this community. Thanks to funding from State VALE, CLC was able to extend this training to more than 80 CASA Volunteers and Staff from other CASA programs across Colorado. Three months post-training, CASAs overwhelmingly report that these tools are improving their ability to connect and advocate for the youth they serve.

COURTS

Through funding from the Children's Justice Act, CLC is leading a collaborative effort to build trauma informed practices into the Dependency and Neglect court system. With the support of Magistrate Connors and the Best Practice Courts Team, CLC is providing TBRI® training, resources, and staff to **improve family engagement in the court process**. One of CLC's TBRI® Practitioners works at the Justice Center on hearing days to support the regulation of children, families, and professionals. CLC supplies healthy snacks, water, and sensory items. In June, CLC was able to transform a small conference room near the Dependency and Neglect courtroom into a **calming room designed to help families manage stress** during court proceedings. The calming room offers sensory tools to support children and parents, providing a space to regulate emotions and improve their court experience.

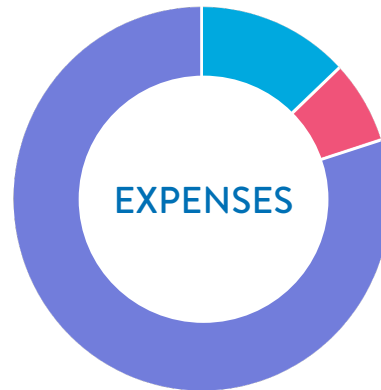




2024 FINANCIALS

OPERATING REVENUE

Philanthropy Grants	\$	372,797
Corporations	\$	219,910
Individuals	\$	384,276
Government Grants	\$	494,723
Legislative Funding	\$	187,512
Other Revenue	\$	74,543
In-kind	\$	53,530
TOTAL	\$	1,787,291



Programming	80%
Fundraising	13%
Administrative	7%

ANNUAL EVENTS

INAUGURAL NIGHT OF HOPE FUNDRAISING GALA

Our largest fundraiser of the year was a tremendous success, seeing almost 500 guests who raised over \$200,000 to support children in our community who have experienced abuse and neglect. The event helped spread awareness, recruit volunteers, and raise critical funds for the children and families we serve.

CASA CLASSIC GOLF TOURNAMENT

The 3rd Annual CASA Classic, presented by the Kenneth & Myra Monfort Foundation, 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.

APPRECIATION SOCIAL

The 2024 Appreciation Social, hosted at the Harmony House, was a wonderful opportunity to bring together all of those who support CASA of Larimer County for an evening to celebrate over drinks, live music, and food.



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.





CASA

Court Appointed Special Advocates
FOR CHILDREN

LARIMER COUNTY



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CASALarimer.org

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