

# CASA in Your Community



CASA of the 18th JDC was established in the summer of 2023 to provide a voice for abused and neglected children living in the foster care system. We are a part of a statewide network of 18 CASA programs serving all 64 parishes in Louisiana. Our CASA volunteers advocate for children in Iberville, Pointe Coupee and West Baton Rouge parishes. CASA of the 18th JDC aims to support and promote court-appointed volunteer advocacy so every child who has experienced abuse or neglect can be safe, have a permanent home and the opportunity to thrive. Our vision is a world where every child in need is given the opportunity to thrive in a safe, nurturing, and loving home with a promising future.

Together, with the support of our community, judges and legislators, we are able to achieve this mission and give foster youth a voice in court.

## BOARD LISTING & ORGANIZATIONAL CHART

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**MARK WARD**  
Board Member

### STAFF LISTING



**KENDALL C. HEBERT**  
Executive Director



## A Message from the Board President

Dear friends of the 18th JDC:

Our little program has made big strides, thanks to the incredible support from the tri-parish communities.

Children in foster care often know what's going right and what's going wrong in their lives, but they aren't always given the chance to express it. Without realizing it, a child in foster care may go without being asked how they feel or what they need, leaving them confused and uncertain. This is where our Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASAs) make a difference, helping these children understand that their feelings and desires matter.

Our proudest moment this year was seeing our volunteers sworn in and appointed. Our mission wouldn't be possible without our CASAs, who dedicate their time to changing a child's story. With your continued support, we look forward to hosting many more volunteer training sessions and appointing even more volunteers.

The journey for CASA of the 18th JDC has only just begun. We are deeply grateful to all who have contributed to our success over the past year. Looking ahead, we remain committed to our mission and to the possibilities yet to come. We are eager to continue creating positive change and advocating for our children—today and tomorrow.

*C Bourgeois*

Claudia Bourgeois  
Board President



CASA OF THE 18TH JDC

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**CASA of the 18th JDC | CASA18JDC.org**

Member of Louisiana CASA Association and National CASA/GAL Association



## Current CASA Volunteers



**LYDIA CAILLOUET**  
PROUD CASA



**DIXIE DAIGLE**  
PROUD CASA



**LISA FRANCISE**  
PROUD CASA



**CLIFFORD "JIM" GUIDRY**  
PROUD CASA



**PAM KEOWEN**  
PROUD CASA



**ALAYIAH MINGO**  
PROUD CASA



**CHRYSTAL POURCIAU**  
PROUD CASA

### Judges of the 18th JDC

Judge Alvin Batiste, Jr.  
Judge Elizabeth Engolio  
Judge J. Kevin Kimball  
Judge Tonya Lurry

*"I, along with my fellow judges look forward to having advocates for the children in need of care in our courts. We welcome CASA of the 18th JDC, knowing it will provide critical support to the most vulnerable children who are in the foster care system."*

*- J. Kevin Kimball, 18th Judicial District Court Chief Judge*



## CASA's 2023-24 Impact

**18** cases appointed by judges

**11** children who have a CASA

**31** children affected by those cases

**11** cases without a CASA

**7** CASAs each working a case

**20** children who still need a CASA of the appointed cases

**89** children in foster care as of June 30, 2024

Whatever their age, children who have experienced abuse or neglect face a frightening, profound unknown. Courtrooms. Foster care. New schools. We make sure they don't face it alone. To make decisions that affect the rest of a child's life, judges need to know the child. Our highly trained court appointed special advocate (CASA) volunteers help them do that by getting to know the child at the heart of each case and gathering details to help the judge determine what is in the best interests of the child. CASA advocates help these child victims heal and thrive, through a dedicated, one-on-one relationship.

“

The formation of CASA in the 18th Judicial District marks a monumental milestone. Every child in our state, irrespective of their parish, can now have access to the advocacy and support they deserve.

- Amanda Moody, Louisiana CASA Association executive director

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# 2023-24 Statement of Activities

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024

	<u>2024</u>
Changes in Net Assets Without Donor Restrictions:	
Revenues, Gains, and Other Support	
Public Support:	
Donations	\$ 74,021
Fundraising	20,031
In-Kind donations	11,298
Total Public Support	<u>105,350</u>
Fees and Grants from Governmental Agencies	55,000
Miscellaneous Income	<u>935</u>
Total Revenues, Gains and Public Support	<u>161,285</u>
Expenses:	
Program Services:	
Court Appointed Special Advocates for Children	4,060
Supporting Services:	
Administrative and General	91,408
Fundraising	2,521
Total Expenses	<u>97,989</u>
Change in net assets without donor restrictions	63,296
Net assets, beginning of year	<u>-</u>
Net assets, end of year	<u>\$ 63,296</u>



Thankful for *you*

## Notable Events

Celebrity Waiter Recipient

Child Abuse Prevention  
Month Initiative

Coburn's Supply Holiday  
Toy Drive

Port Allen Rotary Golf  
Tournament Recipient

Shintech Golf  
Tournament Recipient

Victims of Crime Act  
(VOCA) Grant Recipient

## 2023-24 Donor Support

Arceneaux's Jewelers

Roland Gaudet

Tonya Lurry

Annie Claire Bass

Sarah Giroir

Erica Major

Megan Bass

Melissa Gulotta

NextEra Energy Resources

Baton Rouge Printing\*

Kendall Hebert

Kristine Ourso

Ashlee Bergeron

Hop-n-Shop Deli, LLC

Dudley Perry

Heidi Berthelot

Iberville Math Science & Arts Academy

Placid

Hope Bonadona

J&S Automotive

Margaret Pritchard

Claudia Bourgeois

Danielle Jenkins

Edwin, Jr. & Anne Reeves

Meg Braud\*

Carla Juneau

Chris & Kari Reeves\*

Herman Brister

K4 Child Care, LLC

Kathleen Richey

CC Wellness Center

Stacie Keller

Kallie Ruggiero Somme

Kylee Champagne

Thomas Lacy

Shintech

Melanie & Justin Clouatre

Joe & Nikkie Landry

Talos Low Carbon Solutions

Dalbor's Home Furnishing

Katherine Langlois

The Bank of Commerce

Jamie Denoux

Dana Larpenteur

The Pangburn Group

Courtney Deshotel

Law Office of Tony Clayton

Velocity Clinical Research

Todd & Bridget Easley

Brittany LeBlanc

Joanna Wurtele

Stanley & Lisa Fenton

Jessica JeJeune

Donors July 1, 2023 - June 30, 2024

\*Denotes in-kind support



# A Year in Review

