

# 2024-25 ANNUAL REPORT





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# A message from the outgoing board president

As past president, I am happy that we were able to celebrate another year's worth of hard work, commitment, and dedication. CASA of the 18th JDC grew in operations, partnerships, finances, and most importantly, volunteers. I am pleased to report that from July 2024 to June 2025, we added five more CASA volunteers to our tri-parish communities. I am so proud and grateful for their selflessness and commitment. The generosity and compassion of our volunteers and those that support CASA of the 18th JDC will help re-write a child's story and ensure that the child's voice is heard.

Our organization also grew by adding an advocate supervisor to help training and supporting our volunteers. Our Celebrity Waiter "In our CASA Era" fundraiser event was a huge success in September 2024. Many guests, including the "waiters" arrived not knowing what to expect. Many learned what CASA was for the first time, some gained more knowledge, conversations were held that sparked interests in volunteering, and partnerships were ignited. Our successful year would not be possible without the tri-parish community support that included private donations, supporter donations, funding from CASA Assistance Program, Victims of Crimes Act, and our Celebrity Waiter event. Looking ahead, CASA of the 18th JDC will continue to strategically grow and adhere to our mission.



Claudia Bourgeois  
Outgoing Board President

### Our Mission

CASA of the 18th JDC supports and promotes 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

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.

## A message from the executive director

What a year it's been. Last year had its own challenges of building an organization: website, branding and awareness, national standards, policies, recruitment, applicant processing, training, securing funding and strategic planning. And we succeeded!

I'm proud of the work of our board of directors & CASA volunteer advocates and the continued growth of our program. The organization has a solid foundation of strategic purpose, financial stability, volunteer recruitment & retention and brand awareness. Our communities have rallied around our efforts, and for that we are grateful. It's because of this support that we are able to continue our mission of providing volunteer court-appointed advocacy for children in foster care due to abuse or neglect.

I'm beyond excited about the future of our program and the many opportunities to share our impact with our communities. Thank you for your ongoing support and investment in our most vulnerable children and for helping us #ChangeAChildsStory.



Kendall C. Hebert  
Executive Director

**2024-25 Board of Directors**

Claudia Bourgeois - President  
 Bridget Easley - Vice President  
 Melanie Cloutre - Treasurer  
 Courtney Alvarez - Secretary

Members:  
 Kylee Champagne  
 Sarah Giroir  
 Dana Larpenteur  
 Warren LeJeune, Jr.  
 Brock Vosburg  
 Mark Ward

**2025-26 Board of Directors**

Bridget Easley - President  
 Melanie Cloutre - Vice President  
 Sarah Giroir - Treasurer  
 Warren LeJeune, Jr. - Secretary

Members:  
 Paula Bernard  
 Heddie Carville  
 Kylee Champagne  
 Gail Hurst  
 Dana Kirby  
 Dana Larpenteur  
 Julie Mayeux  
 Brock Vosburg  
 Mark Ward

# Volunteer growth

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# of active advocate volunteers

10

# of children served

17

# of volunteer hours

349

## OUR CASA ADVOCATES



JESSICA CICERO



DIXIE DAIGLE



LISA FRANCISE



JIM GUIDRY



PAM KEOWEN



ALAYIAH MINGO



EMILY PIPES



CHRISTAL POURCIAU



LESLIE STRAHAN



STEPHANIE WHITE

Active advocates from July 1, 2024-June 30, 2025

## CASA advocacy work continues

CASA of the 18<sup>th</sup> JDC was the last CASA program to form in the state. Seven applicants participated in the first pre-service training in April 2024, and all seven completed the training - a major feat to have 100% retention in the program's first training class.

Since that first class, the program has seen continued growth with applicants successfully completing the comprehensive national curriculum. As of the printing date of this document, the program has nearly doubled its capacity to serve our most vulnerable children across its tri-parish service area with continued growth and interest in applicants. Stay tuned for impact statistics for year-end 2025.

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What I didn't expect was how quickly I fell in love with my three CASA children...their unique personalities, willingness to attach to someone outside their family and getting to know each individually. The effort is easy in comparison to the rewards.

-Lisa Francise,  
CASA advocate



**STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2025**

	<b>2025</b>
Changes in Net Assets Without Donor Restrictions:	
Revenues, Gains, and Other Support	
Public Support:	
Donations	\$ 106,645
Fundraising	194,534
In-Kind donations	11,049
Total Public Support	312,228
Fees and Grants from Governmental Agencies	75,000
Miscellaneous Income	101
Total Revenues, Gains and Public Support	387,329
Expenses:	
Program Services:	
Court Appointed Special Advocates for Children	21,297
Supporting Services:	
Administrative and General	183,674
Fundraising	28,389
Total Expenses	233,360
Change in net assets without donor restrictions	153,969
Net assets, beginning of year	63,296
Net assets, end of year	\$ 217,265

FY 2025 = July 1, 2024 - June 30, 2025

# Strategic Growth

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## 3-year strategic plan created to oversee growth of program

In coordination with Louisiana CASA, the board of directors implemented a three-year strategic plan focused on specific areas of growth:



### Strengthening Services

To improve and expand the services offered, ensuring that every child receives timely and effective advocacy.



### Infrastructure and Operations

To support effective service delivery by upgrading our technological and physical resources.



### Marketing and Awareness

To increase visibility and community engagement through targeted communication and outreach strategies.

### Board Development

To strengthen governance and ensure effective leadership through structured board development and training initiatives.

### Financial Sustainability

To secure a stable and diversified funding base to support current operations and future growth.

# Around the community





# CASA

Court Appointed Special Advocates  
**FOR CHILDREN**

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**CASA OF THE 18TH JDC**



**Email**

[info@casa18jdc.org](mailto:info@casa18jdc.org)



**Phone**

225.257.9558



**Connect on Social**

@CASA18JDC