Annual Report 2021 - 2022





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Executive Director's Message



Dear Friends,

We are proud to share our Fiscal Year 2021-2022 Annual Report, which showcases the life-changing mission of PARACHUTE: Butler County CASA. This year has been full of change and adaptation as our board, staff and volunteers continue to work to meet the needs of local abused and neglected children. We are incredibly thankful for the community's generosity, kindness and determination to support vulnerable youth and families.

For over 33 years, PARACHUTE has had one mission, to advocate for a child's right to a safe and permanent home. With your support, 80 dedicated CASA volunteers

and staff have served 357 children that were in need of a consistent caring adult in their lives. We could not do this work without our dedicated community partners. Our staff and board remain committed to being worthy stewards of the resources entrusted to us, allowing us to provide a strong voice for children.

The children we work with have all experienced trauma and are caught in the complexities of the court and child welfare system. Their world is often confusing and frightening; Where will I live? Where will my parents live? Are my parents safe? When will I see my parents/siblings? What school will I attend? Will I have food? CASA volunteers provide these children with a consistent, caring adults who advocates for their best interest in the court system, with Children Services, at school and medical settings to ensure their needs are met and that they have a chance to succeed. Recently, a CASA volunteer was visiting with a teen she had been assigned to for over 2 years and in her 3rd placement and third school. She proudly told her new foster parents "My CASA is family now. I know I can count on her. She comes to see me where ever I am, she always listens to me and she shows up." Doesn't every child deserve an CASA in their corner?

We are incredibly grateful for our generous grants from Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) Attorney General Dave Yost, Office of Criminal Justice (OCJS), Butler County United Way, Ohio CASA and National CASA. Many of our loyal donors increased their giving, allowing PARACHUTE to continue to recruit, screen and train new CASA volunteers. These investments to advance our mission have ensured our services will continue into the future and allow PARACHUTE to make an impact on children and families here in Butler County.

Our CASA children, their families and our CASA volunteers have shown tremendous resiliency through the past year. It is our honor to support our advocates who provide a voice to children who have experienced abuse or neglect. Thank you for being part of the solution to strengthening families and protecting children.

With sincere appreciation,

Jorya Buchanan

Tonya Buchanan Executive Director

2021 - 2022 Board of Directors

President – Renee Leuthold Vice President- Britt Cole Treasurer – Alex Getz Secretary – Verlena Stewart

Rev. Adam Profitt Heather Kirkendall Susan Vaughn Anna Houchins Erica Millikin Brenda Yablonsky

Josh Hodges
Jennifer Wacker

Be a Child's Voice 2021 - 2022

Court Hearings Attended

4,519 hours donated serving children, a

98% of our CASA volunteers had regular and consistent contact with their CASA child/children.

80 Active **CASA Volunteers** Trained 13 **New Advocates**



99% of our CASA children reported safe from harm with no recurrence of abuse.

Since 1988

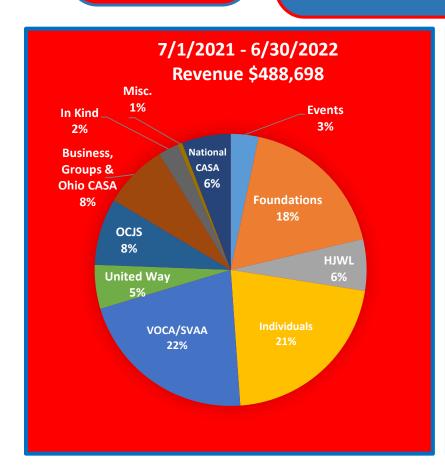


CHILDREN SERVED



Children with CASAs get more help to heal from their trauma. 90% of the CASA volunteers' recommendations for therapeutic, medical & educational services were accepted by the court.

> 89% of the children's cases closed ended up in a safe, nurturing, and permanent home due to the advocacy of our CASA volunteers





Thank You to All of Our Donors

\$10,000 and Above

Andrew Jergens Foundation **Anonymous Donation Butler County United Way** Charles H Dater Foundation **Hamilton Junior** Womens League (HJWL) Mark Roeser – New Pathways

Child Dev. Center Office of Criminal Justice (JAG) Ohio CASA/GAL Association National CASA Association National Philanthropic Trust Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) John & Jen Wacker

\$5,000 - \$9,999

Fire & Iron Station 133 **Hamilton Community** Foundation Insuring The Children Michael Kelley Molyneaux Foundation State Victims Assistance Act The Spaulding Foundation

\$2,500 - \$4,999

Joe & Kathy Statt Maxwell C Weaver Foundation



\$1,000 - \$2,499

Alan & Dorothy Blake (HCF) **Butler County Juvenile Court Butler Rural Community** Connection

Fairfield Community

Foundation

Fairfield Women First Baptist Church

(Middletown)

Hamilton Professional

Firefighters IAFF Local 20

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Three Bond

\$500 - \$999

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c/o Lovi Singh

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We Love it Too

(Erin Robinson)

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Julia Feldmann

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(Middletown)

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Alex Getz

Christopher & Theresa Hoffer

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Ed & Joyce Molinsky

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Margaret Wooten

William & Susan Wortman Harry Zornow

Thank You to All of Our Donors

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Edward Demske

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In Honor of Gifts

Judge Kathleen D. Romans

Elaine Garver

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Chris Schultz

James & Cynthia Stever

PARACHUTE staff & volunteers

David & Diane McClain

In Recognition of Gifts

Madelyn Liedel

Douglas & Susan Smith

Christian Benninghofen

Linda Benninghofen

Thank you to our In-Kind donors:

Butler County Commissioners
Butler County Juvenile Court
Butler County Republican Women's Club
Colonial Schools – Hats, gloves, scarves
Duffels for Darlings
Kappa Alpha Theta – Miami University
Kendra Scott – Liberty Center
Tekion Corp.







All gifts, large and small, are genuinely appreciated. We pledge to be fiscally responsible to the stakeholders, transparent in our operations and do our best to serve those children so desperately in need. Your donation ensures that a helpless child will have a CASA volunteer, a strong voice and hopefully a better future. Thank you for joining us and being a voice for a child.

Thank You to All of Our Community Partners



PARACHUTE: Butler County CASA is honored to have the **Hamilton Junior Women's League** be one of our valuable founding partners and in 2022, HJWL's fundraising event raised **\$25,000** for PARACHUTE to continue to provide advocacy for abused and neglected children. "A Night at the Disco" was an amazing success. Thank you to the women of HJWL!

Thank you to **Mark Roeser**, President of New Pathways Child Development Center for the generous donation of **\$10,000** to benefit abused and neglected children. New Pathways has been a PARACHUTE partner since 2020 and has been providing childcare to families in Fairfield for nearly 50 years.





Fire & Iron Motorcycle Station #133 hosted their 6th Annual "Ride to Stop Child Abuse" which took place on June 4, 2022. Motorcycle enthusiasts came from near and far to enjoy the beautiful scenery of several townships throughout Butler County. The ride concluded at Rick's Tavern for the always popular after party which included live music, great food, split-the-pot, raffles, and silent auction items – raising a total of **\$5,500.** Since 2016, Fire & Iron has raised over **\$33,000** to help PARACHUTE recruit and train CASA Volunteers. Thank you, Fire & Iron #133 for your hard work and detailed planning for this annual event.

We would like to thank the **City of Hamilton Professional Firefighters** for their donation of **\$500** to PARACHUTE. They have been proud supporters for many years. Thank you for protecting the families in our community each and every day.





Patty and Linda of Duffels for Darlings have

been stopping by the PARACHUTE office for over 10 years – every time a new group of CASA volunteers are assigned a new case, these lovely ladies deliver delightful gifts for each and every child – from newborns to teenagers. Since 2010, Duffels for Darlings has delivered **over 800 gifts** to our CASA kids. Thank You!

Thank you to all of the wonderful families who donated hats and gloves to **Colonial Schools** at Westover Retirement Community. The donations helped children stay warm during the cold and brisk winter months.





Thank you to **Butler County United Way** for donating hundreds of fun loving stuffed animals

to our children in need. This brightened the face of so many youngsters during the holiday season.

Thank You 2021 - 2022 CASA Volunteers

<u>Over 20 years</u> Ginger Tannenbaum

10 – 15 years Karen Bell Jill Berry Brenda Daniels

Joe Statt

5 – 10 years
Lori Argalas
Janet Bailey
Karin Drake
Peter Engelhard Jr
Lisa Farthing
Dave Gilday
Bev Gorman
Sheila Maxwell
Diane McClain
Julie Phelan

Ernest Riley

Fay Smillie

Cindy Trauthwein Brenda Wanninger

<u>Up to 5 years</u> Emily Algalayini Shannon Anderson Jessia Black

Beverly Blevins Loni Bothwell Carol Bowles Megan Bowman Kristy Brann Roger Braun Kathy Brossart Andrea Brunner

Kim Bryant Lanie Calihan Frias Laura Cogan Brianna Combs Karen Cook Susan Damm Sheri Davis Sophie Dilek Cindy Elam Robyn Foreman Karen Fuchs Danniel Galbraith Charles Ganelin

Charles Ganelin
Lori Garver
Connie Girard
Rachel Helwig
Brendy Henderson

Sharon Henrichsen
Beth Hiltz
Ashley Husain
Patty Kelley
Amy King
Pamela Kopp
Kathy Louder
Alyssa Moorman

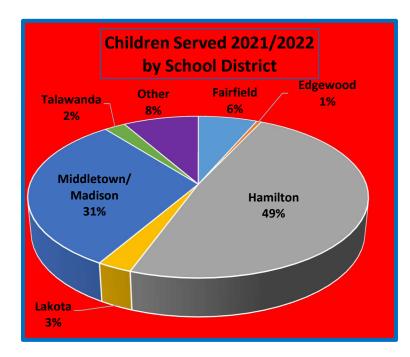
Diane Neilson Lynn Newton Larry Ochs Kaci Owens Karrie Owens Linda Pope Hannah Prentiss Karen Ray Anna Ressler

Anna Ressler Neal Ressler Nancy Riggs Timothy Roch

Timothy Rocheleau
Vickie Rocheleau
Joanie Roenfanz
Cherl Royer
Jenna Rutter
Carol Schaber
Abigail Sommers

Abigail Sommers
Jim Spicer
Debbie Steel
Renee Williams
Mary Jane Willke
Bethany Paul-Wilson
Katie Woodruff

In Memory: The late Chris Hacker was a dedicated CASA Volunteer from her swearing in on April 25, 2007 until she completed her last CASA case in August of 2021. Chris was a strong advocate in the community for children's mental health services and her CASA children benefited from her expertise.



Thank you to Judge Kathleen D. Romans and Judge Ronald Craft for their continuous support of the PARACHUTE program and appreciation for our CASA volunteers.





We Need Your Help

Attend CASA 101 – Each year PARACHUTE hosts "CASA 101" which are 1-hour informational sessions committed to sharing PARACHUTE's mission, along with the opportunity to recruit community volunteers that want to become future CASAs. These events take place at the PARACHUTE office, local libraries, online via Zoom, or at community centers throughout Butler County. Visit our website at www.parachutecasa.org to sign up!



Request a Speaker – Does your club, group or church need a speaker? We would be glad to schedule a talk regarding child abuse and how to make a different through volunteering, either in person or via zoom.

Become a CASA Volunteer – You can speak up for a child in court. **C**ourt **A**ppointed **S**pecial **A**dvocates participate in training sessions provided by staff, and work directly with local abused and neglected children. For more information contact PARACHUTE at (513)867-5010 or visit our website at www.parachutecasa.org

Make a Donation – Every donation is so important and assists PARACHUTE in continuing lifesaving work for our community. The cost of training one new CASA is \$1,900, and with more trained CASA volunteers, we can serve more children.

