

From the Director

Dear CASA Supporter,

Looking back at 2007, I see a picture of change — reflecting both strong tradition and history as well as excitement about new horizons in the future. In 2007 CASA's previous longtime Executive Director, Karen Cox, retired after ten years. During her tenure as the Executive Director, CASA of Travis County grew tremendously, serving more and more children, recruiting more and more volunteers, and developing a program that has a sterling reputation and is relied upon by the Travis County judges and other parties in the child welfare system. During Karen's years here, this program won well-deserved recognition from National CASA for outstanding performance. This organization and our community are better for her having been here.

So, it was a privilege and honor for me to be offered the opportunity to become CASA's next Executive Director and I took on that role in September 2007. I have been awed by the power of CASA's work and I am proud to be part of such courageous advocacy.

It is a true testament to the strength and integrity of this program that during a year of such transition in leadership, CASA staff and volunteers served a record number of children here in Travis County, ensuring that their best interests were promoted and protected in the court system.

Thank you for the part you have played, and for what you may do in the future, to build upon CASA's strong history so that we may move ever closer to a time when every child in this community who needs a CASA has one. We are not there yet, but we are making progress.

I cannot imagine more meaningful work than to speak for children who have been abused or neglected — thank you for helping CASA to make their voices heard.

Laura D. Wolf
Executive Director

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2007 Program Report



CASA of Travis County A Year In Review

2007 Accomplishments

- CASA served 1,238 children who needed an advocate to represent their best interests in court. Since 1985, CASA has served more than 6,000 children who were abused or neglected.
- CASA served 66% of the total number of children in the Travis County courts. Our vision is to one day serve all abused and neglected children who need a CASA.
- CASA of Travis County maintained one of the highest volunteer retention rates of all the CASA programs in Texas, with a volunteer retention rate over four years of almost 50%.
- CASA joined the Travis County courts and other community organizations to form a brand new Family Drug Treatment Court. Through this program, parents with drug and alcohol addictions receive intensive and personalized legal and in- and out-patient services to improve their situation and provide a safe home for their children. CASA ensures that the children whose parents are in Drug Court are safe and that their best interests are presented to the court.
- With the community's support, CASA raised more than \$135,000 through our Annual Children's Campaign. Those funds were used to support our efforts to provide the highest quality services to the children in Travis County.

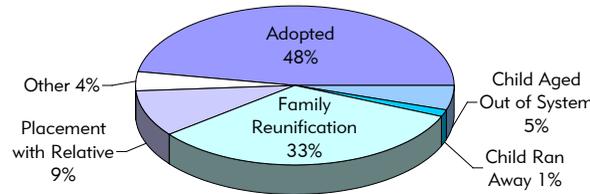
Child Statistics



Cedric Wilson and his CASA, David Chasis

- CASA advocated for 1,238 children in 2007, surpassing all previous records.
- CASA was appointed to represent the best interests of 474 new children by Travis County judges.
- CASA helped close cases for 499 children.

Child Closure Reasons



Volunteer Statistics

- CASA supported 398 active volunteers assigned to children in 2007.
- CASA recruited 128 new volunteers who began training to become advocates.
- CASA volunteers donated over 16,500 hours and more than 100,000 miles in 2007 for the children of Travis County.



CASA volunteers and supporters (from left): John & Dorothy De La Garza and Sherwin & Rozenna Sanders

A Judicial Note

"I always value the courageous and commonsense recommendations of CASA advocates, because I know that they have no agenda other than the best interests of children. My only wish is that there were enough CASAs to appoint one to every single case that comes before me."

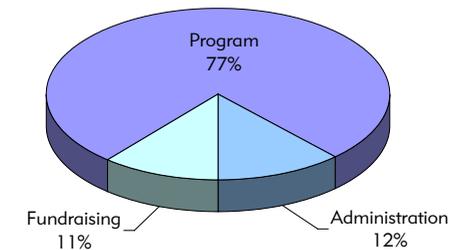


From left: Denise Conway, Board President, Laura Wolf, Executive Director, Judge Darlene Byrne

The Honorable Darlene Byrne
126th District Judge

Program Financials

Organization Expenditures



Revenue Sources
2007 Revenue: \$1,606,356

