

# 2018-19 Annual Report

# The View from the Chair

Dear Friends,

It is with deep gratitude that we present this report on the impact that we made during our 2018-19 fiscal year. The support we received from you, fellow members of our community, made it possible for us to serve over 300 abused, neglected, and at-risk children who had been placed in the El Dorado County foster care system. This support came through in many ways.

The financial support that you provided individually through personal donations and at our fundraising events clearly shows the power of standing together to address this need.

The local business community showed its backing, with many small firms holding their own events in our behalf, bringing in revenue and raising awareness of this ongoing issue.

Grants from larger corporations and foundations throughout the region provided stability to our program on the West Slope and the South Lake Tahoe regions.

And, those of you who dedicated your time and talents as CASA Volunteers and Friends of CASA are truly the backbone of the organization.

Since our founding in 1992, we have been able to serve over 8,500 children, the most vulnerable among us. Thanks to you, we have been able to maintain this momentum, and can look forward to continuing our quest to serve every child who needs us.

*Bill*

Bill Fuser

President, Board of Directors



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On average, a child  
abuse report is made  
every 10 seconds.

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**CASA**  
Court Appointed Special Advocates  
FOR CHILDREN

# Director's Cut

Dear Friends and Colleagues:

Thank you for making FY18-19 a remarkable year for Child Advocates of El Dorado! This year's accomplishments included achieving 110% of our revenue, over 300 new donors, selling over 2,600 box lunches to businesses, and hosting our first annual High Tea event. Your support contributed to these successes, allowing us to serve 307 abused children in our community - 106% more than last year! Our dedicated staff has done an incredible job of expanding our outreach while strengthening our programs and services. Thank you!



Additional program highlights include: Developing and Implementing on-line training, CASA University, allowing us to train more volunteers to become advocates; hosting a holiday party for the children; partnering with community resources to provide a shopping spree; holiday gifts, bikes, and Easter baskets for over 100 youths. The most important highlight is giving hope to over 307 children: hope for their situation to end and hope for a brighter future.

Our ongoing goal is to keep our overhead low while increasing our number of advocates, and you truly make this possible! Child Advocates of El Dorado is stronger than ever due to our continually expanding community that comes together to donate time, resources, and talent in support of our important mission. Our CASA volunteers logged over 10,000 hours; our Board of Directors has helped us dramatically increase our donor base, and our Ambassadors have assisted us in spreading the word.

Together, we are positioned to serve even more children this year. Thank you for believing in our mission, for supporting the work we do today, and believing in our tomorrow.

Sincerely grateful,

*Kathryn Mathews*

Kathryn Mathews

Executive Director

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Children with  
disabilities are at least  
three times more likely  
to be abused or neglected.

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## **It's All About the Kids**

**The hoped for result is always for the child being served to make it out of the foster care system. Last year saw lots of success stories.**

**306 Children  
served by  
CASA  
volunteers**

**61 were  
reunified  
with their  
families**

**29 found  
forever  
homes  
through  
adoption**

**18 were  
placed in  
guardianship**

**Louise was assigned to serve two siblings who had been removed from their mother due to the mother's substance abuse, and placed with the father. There was concern on the part of the social workers and the court that this single father also did not possess the parenting skills required to adequately care for these small children. Louise addressed this by making unannounced visits to the home so that she could assess the day to day care that the children were receiving. She supported the father and encouraged and assisted him to the point that she could demonstrate to the other service providers that he was a capable parent. This resulted in the children being able to remain with one of their biological parents, which is the preferred outcome these situations.**

# By the Numbers

Our 2019 fiscal year saw our revenues increase by \$180,982 and expenses decrease by \$84,276 compared to the previous year, putting our organization on solid financial footing.

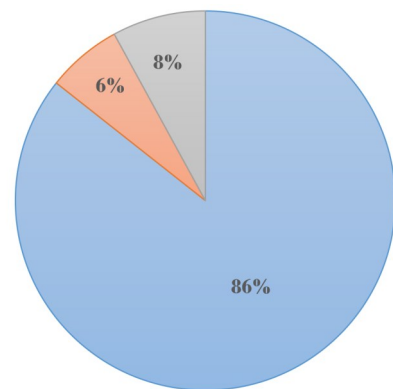
## STATEMENTS OF ACTIVITIES

For the Years Ended June 30, 2019 and 2018

	June 30, 2019			June 30, 2018		
	Without Donor Restrictions	With Donor Restrictions	Total	Without Donor Restrictions	With Donor Restrictions	Total
<b>PUBLIC SUPPORT AND REVENUE</b>						
Grants and contributions	\$ 270,145	\$ -	\$ 270,145	\$ 150,993	\$ -	\$ 150,993
Governmental contracts	283,113	-	283,113	250,215	-	250,215
Special events, less direct costs of \$79,389 in 2019 and \$53,214 in 2018	122,701	-	122,701	128,291	-	128,291
In-kind contributions	227,484	-	227,484	197,716	-	197,716
Investment income	15,673	-	15,673	11,319	-	11,319
Net assets released from restrictions:	400	(400)	-	10,951	(10,951)	-
<b>TOTAL PUBLIC SUPPORT AND REVENUE</b>	<b>919,516</b>	<b>(400)</b>	<b>919,116</b>	<b>749,485</b>	<b>(10,951)</b>	<b>738,534</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>						
Programs	666,193	-	666,193	732,651	-	732,651
General and administrative	49,733	-	49,733	54,774	-	54,774
Fundraising	61,901	-	61,901	74,678	-	74,678
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>777,827</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>777,827</b>	<b>862,103</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>862,103</b>
<b>CHANGE IN NET ASSETS</b>	<b>141,689</b>	<b>(400)</b>	<b>141,289</b>	<b>(112,618)</b>	<b>(10,951)</b>	<b>(123,569)</b>
<b>NET ASSETS AT BEGINNING OF YEAR</b>	<b>328,237</b>	<b>507</b>	<b>328,744</b>	<b>440,855</b>	<b>11,458</b>	<b>452,313</b>
<b>NET ASSETS AT END OF YEAR</b>	<b>\$ 469,926</b>	<b>\$ 107</b>	<b>\$ 470,033</b>	<b>\$ 328,237</b>	<b>\$ 507</b>	<b>\$ 328,744</b>

At Child Advocates of El Dorado County, we tailor our operations so that 86% of our budget goes directly to our primary task of recruiting, training, and supervising volunteer Court Appointed Special Advocates.

Programs	\$666,193	86%
General & Administrative	\$49,733	6%
Fundraising	<u>\$61,901</u>	8%
Total	<u>\$777,827</u>	100%



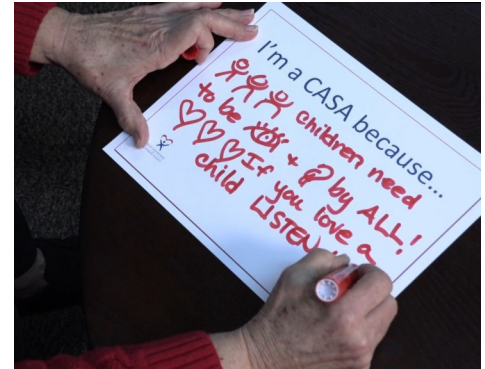
Our full audited financial statement is available on our website at [casaeldorado.org](http://casaeldorado.org).

■ Programs ■ G & A ■ Fundraising



# Volunteers

“Being a CASA has opened my eyes to the reality of the stressful conditions that many of my community's children live in, and which most of us are unaware of, and it has given me more empathy and insight into their lives. I can see firsthand the results of my efforts in the positive outcomes of the children I have served.” - Susan Ward, CASA Volunteer



"Volunteers do not necessarily have the time; they just have the heart."



~ Elizabeth Andrew

Early on, CASA volunteer Chuck contacted his assigned child's school and learned that this child, Bobby, was not graduating from the 8th grade and that Bobby's foster family was not involved with the child's education. Because of his efforts in helping Bobby, Chuck was given education rights. Upon receiving these education rights, Chuck arranged a meeting with Bobby, the principal and several of the Bobby's teachers to make a success plan to complete missing assignments and raise his grades to graduation level. With this encouragement, Bobby buckled down and did graduate and proudly walked with his class. This is the impact our volunteers achieve.

# Fundraising Events

As in past years, our fundraising events were well attended. Our annual dinner dance Gala, CASABlanca in the Hills, sold out, with over 200 revelers. High Tea, a new event this year, also sold out, and it too boasted over 200 local ladies in their finest, attended to by Men in Black. And, our long running annual Box Lunch sale resulted in over 2,660 lunches being delivered to county businesses this year.



The first annual High Tea, held at Mercy DiPaolo's Vino Palazzo in El Dorado Hills.



Box lunches being prepared by our ever loyal volunteers!



CASABlanca in the Hills, with featured speaker and former CASA child, Dimon Sanders.

# Corporate & Foundation Grants

Grants made by larger corporations and family foundations in the region have been a key funding source, enabling our program to thrive. The following generously contributed to our success last year:

Wells Fargo Foundation - \$10,000

El Dorado Hills Endowment - \$5,000

Vail Resorts EpicPromise - \$5,000

Lyon Cares Foundation - \$5,000

Teichert Foundation - \$5,000

Tahoe Women's Community Fund - \$4,000

Marshall Foundation - \$3,470

In-Out-Burger Foundation - \$3,000

Pacific Gas and Electric - \$2,500

US Bank - \$2,500

Lake Tahoe Visitors Authority - \$2,000

Walmart - \$1,500

El Dorado Community Foundation - \$854

Eldridge Family - \$800

## Third Party Fundraisers

Community support is made apparent through the thoughtfulness of the local business community. These companies and organizations - and their patrons - held their own fundraising events for us, raising cash and awareness:

Adagio for Hair

Relish Burger Bar

District Church

Sierra Squares Advance Club

Leap Yoga

South Lake Brewing Company



**Be the voice. Be the difference.**



**Today in court I heard...**

When this is over we're going for Ice Cream!

The Judge said I get to go home!

My CASA took me to the ballgame!



CHILD ADVOCATES  
*of*  
EL DORADO COUNTY

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## Our Mission

Child Advocates of El Dorado County advocates for and empowers the abused, neglected, and at-risk youth in our community by providing court appointed volunteers who speak up for the needs of children and make a positive impact in their lives.

It is hard to imagine that anyone would hurt a child, but it does happen. Our goal is to ensure that every child in our community is able to live in a safe and permanent home. We accomplish this mission by recruiting, training and supervising volunteer Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASAs) who become sworn officers of the court. They then establish a relationship with the child by visiting them, typically once a week, and then representing the child's best interests in Juvenile Court by acting as the "eyes and ears of the judge and the voice of the child". These volunteers also interact with the children's families, schools, and doctors, and are often the only constant adult presence in a young life filled with uncertainty.

Child development research tells us that **children need consistency, predictability, and attachment to a caring adult to thrive**. This is especially true for children in foster care, who have experienced trauma leading up to and including removal from their home and community. Children in out-of-home care need stable adult connections to support their well-being. These secure attachments can best be assured in stable placements that help young people transition in and out of care and into permanency without delay.

Since it was established in 1992, CASA El Dorado has served over 8,500 children in the El Dorado County, CA foster care system. We have served on average, over 300 children each year. We consider every child that has been reunited with his or her family, or found another permanent home, to be a success story, and a great accomplishment.

Visit [www.casaeldorado.org](http://www.casaeldorado.org) to learn more.

