

# TEXAS CASA MEDIA KIT 2020



**TEXASCASA**  
Court Appointed Special Advocates  
 **FOR CHILDREN**

Texas CASA  
[TexasCASA.org](http://TexasCASA.org)  
[BecomeACASA.org](http://BecomeACASA.org)

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## CONTACT US

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## 03

# ABOUT TEXAS CASA

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Texas CASA is a statewide membership organization that works to connect each part of the CASA community and support the 72 individual local CASA programs to perform in their legal role. With a solid foundation and a culture of collaboration, we strengthen the programs' ability to serve their volunteers – and ultimately, the children in need – through training, coaching, resources and the development of innovative practices.

## VISION

Texas CASA envisions a safe and positive future for all Texas children and families.

## MISSION

The mission of Texas CASA is to support local CASA volunteer advocacy programs and to advocate for effective public policy for children and families in the child protection system.



## THE CASA WAY

We have an uncompromising belief that we will achieve what others think is impossible, and each of us is an essential part of the solution.

04

## LEADERSHIP

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*CASA volunteers are special people. They find ways to go beyond the minimum of staying safely connected with children and families. They're not just advocating. They're innovating, protecting, transforming, delighting.*”

Vicki Spriggs is a dedicated advocate for children who has worked for more than 40 years in the child services arena. Known for her leadership on youth-related issues, she is a national speaker, a decisive leader and a fierce believer in the rights of all children and families.

Prior to joining Texas CASA in January 2012, Spriggs served in a variety of positions dedicated to child welfare, including 16 years as executive director of the Texas Juvenile Probation Commission and director of the Travis County Juvenile Court Informal Adjustment Unit. She has also opened her home as a foster parent.

She received a bachelor's degree in education and Master of Education in juvenile justice and secondary counseling from the University of Massachusetts at Amherst.



**VICKI SPRIGGS**  
**TEXAS CASA CEO**

05

OUR EXPERTS



**CANDICE DOSMAN**  
*CFE Manager*



**ANDY HOMER**  
*Chief Public Policy Director*



**SARAH CROCKETT**  
*Senior Public Policy Associate*



**DENNISE JACKSON**  
*Strategic Network Support Director*

# IMPROVING THE CHILD WELFARE SYSTEM

## COLLABORATIVE FAMILY ENGAGEMENT (CFE)

CFE, a partnership between local CASA programs and Child Protective Services (CPS), is focused on creating better outcomes for children in the Texas child protection system by identifying, locating and engaging family members and other committed adults so they may be involved in the child’s care and permanency planning.

## LEGISLATIVE ADVOCACY

Texas CASA works to make sure that the voices of children in the child welfare system are heard not only in the courts but also at the Texas Capitol. Texas CASA engages in legislative advocacy efforts to better enable CASA volunteers to serve these children through the promotion of public policies.

## FAITH-BASED RECRUITMENT

The Clergy, CASA and Community initiative is a partnership between CASA, child welfare providers and the diverse faith-based community of Texas. Through developing these relations, we hope to learn how we can work together to help children in the foster care system.

06

# IMPACT NUMBERS

## 2020 TRENDS



- 72 LOCAL CASA PROGRAMS
- 219 COUNTIES SERVED
- 10,874 CASA VOLUNTEERS
- 30,432 CHILDREN SERVED
- 51,417 CHILDREN IN FOSTER CARE SYSTEM
- 42% OF CHILDREN STILL NEED A VOLUNTEER

## CHILDREN SERVED BY CASA WITH CPS CASES CLOSED

Research shows that reunification with their family of origin, when safe and possible, is the best outcome for children. Families become involved in with the child welfare system during a time of crisis and need support from everyone within the system and their community to heal. By helping to create connections and support systems around children and families, we work to ensure that they will have the opportunity to be happy and whole again.



EXIT REASON	COUNT	%
RETURN HOME	4,416	42.7
CUSTODY TO RELATIVE	2,266	21.9
CUSTODY TO NON-RELATIVE	580	5.6
ADOPTION (RELATIVE)	1,164	11.2
ADOPTION (NON-RELATIVE)	1,445	14.0
EMANCIPATION, AGE OUT	432	4.2
OTHER	47	0.4

## 07

# TESTIMONIALS

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*"I was recently presented with a picture of my young man that I have been a CASA to. The picture frame had the engraving of his new adoptive name he will be changing to. I am so honored that he is taking my last name as his middle name. My heart is full."*

*"On a visit with my 16 year old kiddo when we were on an outing - she, upon learning that I loved singing, asked me to sing a song with her. We worked for 30 minutes on our harmonizing and repeated the song and recorded (eventually) us signing a song that we both knew. It was one of few moments when I saw her in a moment of pure joy! It was simple, it was free and it was memorable."*

*"My CASA child... came with a wheelchair that was very beat up and worn out. One of my favorite moments was when she received a beautiful, new, custom-made wheelchair."*

*"Biological mother telling me 'thank you!' It was after a court hearing. She was present when I spoke about her children to the judge and answered questions. The mother recognized what she had done, was making steps to change, and appreciated the CASA role. At the end of the case she took myself and CPS worker to dinner."*

