



2022 ANNUAL REPORT



Our Mission Statement

The CASAs for Kids Fund was created to support the Tippecanoe County Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) program in its efforts to enrich the lives of abused and neglected children. The foundation accomplishes this end through raising, managing, and distributing funds to:

- Provide positive intervention for kids through educational assistance, goods, and other services which are not provided by another source
- Support CASA volunteers, staff, and other activities to further the goals of the CASA program
- Raise awareness of the community's opportunity to make a difference in children's lives.

From the President

As another year comes and goes for the CASAs for Kids Fund, I would like to sincerely thank you for your support. You are friends, donors, cycling challenge participants, and sponsors, but all of you are advocates.

It is not fun to talk about abused and neglected children. In our community alone, 201 kids were being provided CASAs at the end of last year. That is the cold hard truth. Without your generosity, we wouldn't be able to help the CASA office each year. Your help and support allow us to purchase sporting equipment, beds and bedding, clothing, tutors, birthday gifts, a staff advocate for the office, training for the CASA staff and volunteers, and a vehicle to allow the volunteers to safely visit the children all over the state, as well as out of state if necessary.

The largest fundraiser we have, the Subaru CASA Cycling Challenge, allows us the chance to raise most of our annual funds. Jim Stafford continues to work hard to make sure this event is fun, impactful and safe. We appreciate Subaru of Indiana for allowing us to host this event at their test track.

Whether you gave a little or a lot, it's all meaningful and impactful. Think of it as a pebble being thrown into a pond. Even a small pebble makes a ripple. We need all of you to share our vision with your friends and family. We need as many pebbles as we can to make sure we can continue to help out the CASA department and the kids in need.

Please reach out to any of our board members or myself if you have any questions about our group. We appreciate you making ripples with us.

Christine Sammons

President,

CASAs for Kids Fund Board

2022 Subaru CASA Cycling Challenge

The 2022 Subaru CASA Cycling Challenge was held on Aug. 6-7 at the Subaru test track for the 11th consecutive year. We had a total of 243 riders. There were 30 teams, 37 solo riders and 1 virtual rider. The event raised \$112,648, which is the eighth straight year we have raised more than \$100,000. CAT 2 was the top team, finishing with 490 miles. Shane Thread was the top individual with 300 miles.



Michael and Julie's Christmas Stocking Fund

The family and friends of Julie Sennott and Michael Dunlap raised \$10,232 in 2022 and donated that to Julie and Michael's Christmas Stocking Fund to purchase holiday gifts for children in the system. Almost \$4,000 was spent by CASAs on holiday gifts in 2022 for children.

Michael and Julie were youth workers who died in 2009. Their dream was that every child would have a special gift to open on Christmas Day. A donation fund was established in their memory in 2009, and these funds allow CASA volunteers to ensure children in need receive holiday gifts.

Margaret J. Hand Child Advocacy Award



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Cadi Bien has been a CASA volunteer for 17 years and has advocated for 34 youth! Cadi is a fierce advocate who is not afraid to speak up when situations become adversarial or confrontational. Her steadfast persistence, consistency, diligence and follow through are at times what drives her cases to the best outcomes for her children. Cadi is the "go to" person on her cases as team members know and trust her - as do the children. In addition to her work as a CASA volunteer, Cadi has impacted children in the classroom as a teacher.

Dr. Jim Bien has practiced pediatrics here for 18 years (1999 - 2017). Since moving into administrative leadership, he continues to serve in various roles and various boards that impact many children in our community. His list of involvements, all related to children's health and well-being, is so numerous that we will not list them here. You may also remember Jim as the spokesperson for IU Health Arnett during the most difficult days of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Margaret J. Hand Child Advocacy Award was established in 1999 to honor former Juvenile Court Judge Margie Hand and a CASA volunteer or community member who has proven to be a strong advocate for children. This award is given each year to an individual who has shown selfless and tireless efforts for children's rights and the best interests of kids in our community. For a list of previous recipients, please visit our website: casasforkidsfund.org

Eberle-Graefnitz Campout

The 2022 Eberle-Graefnitz campout held this year raised \$1,100 for the CASA Camp Fund. This annual event honors the memory of John and Mary Eberle and their grandson Ben Graefnitz. This fund gives children in need the opportunity to attend a camp who otherwise would not have that experience.

Financial Summary

Income

Total Direct Public Support \$ 44,898
Total Fund-Raising Events \$ 116,038
Total Investments \$ 1,451
Total Income \$ 162,387

Expenses

Total Board Expenses \$ 3,690
Total Fund-Raising Expenses \$ 25,948
M & J Expenditures-Christmas Fund 3,828
Total Program Services \$ 17,010
Total Program Support \$ 95,771
Total Expenses \$ 146,247

Net Operating Income: \$ 16,140

Donors & Sponsors

Our sincere thanks to the individuals and companies who donated in 2022 to improve the lives of abused and neglected children in Tippecanoe County. Your thoughtfulness, generosity and kindness make it possible for children to receive necessities like clothing and household goods, take music lessons or participate in organized sports, and attend camp and receive birthday gifts like their peers. Your support is appreciated more than words can say. For a complete list of donors and sponsors, please visit our website: casasforkidsfund.org

Board of Directors

CASAs for Kids Fund is incorporated as a not-for-profit organization separate from the Tippecanoe County CASA program. A volunteer board of directors operates the fund:

President : **Christine Sammons**

Vice President : **Jason Lipscomb**

Treasurer : **Erika O'Brien**

Secretary : **Mary Laurie**

Members :

Helene Bishop
Michelle Gerrety
Hallie Gorup
Mary Hood
Gina Loggins
Kris Lowe

Patti O'Callaghan
Donna Osborn
Thomas Scott
Jim Stafford
David VanVactor
Coleen Conner (ex-officio)

Learn more about :

the CASAs for Kids Fund:
casasforkidsfund.org

becoming a CASA volunteer:
bit.ly/2xgfozi or
tippecanoe.in.gov/445/Become-a-CASA-Volunteer



[CASASFORKIDSFUND.ORG](https://casasforkidsfund.org)