

Annual Report

2026



CASA of Bell &
Coryell Counties



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Introduction



CASA of Bell and Coryell Counties is a nonprofit organization dedicated to advocating for the best interests of children who have experienced abuse or neglect. CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates) trains and empowers community volunteers to serve as dedicated advocates for these children in the foster care system. These volunteers provide a consistent and caring presence, ensuring that each child's voice is heard in court and that they receive the necessary support to thrive in a safe, permanent home. By working closely with judges, attorneys, social workers, and families, CASA of Bell and Coryell Counties strives to make a lasting difference in the lives of vulnerable children in the community.

Vision & Mission



Vision

CASA of Bell and Coryell Counties envisions a community where every child who has experienced abuse or neglect has a safe, permanent home and the opportunity to thrive. Through dedicated advocacy, compassionate support, and a commitment to justice, we strive to create a future where every child's voice is heard, their needs are met, and they grow up with the stability and care they deserve.

Mission

CASA of Bell and Coryell Counties serves children who have experienced abuse and neglect by providing a trained volunteer to be the voice for the child's right to safety in placement, permanence in family life, and a loving home.

History

CASA Through the Years

Bell and Coryell Counties have historically ranked among the highest in Texas for per capita rates of child abuse and neglect. Because of this ongoing need, CASA of Bell and Coryell Counties remains committed to both retaining our dedicated volunteers and recruiting new advocates so that every child in foster care has a voice in court and a consistent adult fighting for their best interests.

In 2025, almost 1,000 children were in the care of DFPS in Bell and Coryell Counties. Our CASA program was able to serve just over 300 of those children, ensuring they had an advocate standing beside them during one of the most difficult times in their lives. Our continued goal is to grow our volunteer base so that every child in care has the support of a CASA advocate.

Since becoming a stand-alone program in 2014, CASA of Bell and Coryell Counties has served more than 1,700 children and worked on nearly 900 cases. During that time, over 400 volunteers have been sworn in to serve as CASA advocates.

CASA has helped successfully close cases for over 1,100 children, with 53% of those cases resulting in reunification with their primary family. Additionally, 406 children have been placed in permanent homes with relatives, and 100 children have been adopted into safe, loving, and supportive families—the stable futures every child deserves.

The Role of a CASA Advocate

CASA/GAL Best-Interest Advocacy



2025 Board of Directors



PRESIDENT.....	Ashley Clapper Bennett
VICE PRESIDENT	Deana Stafford
SECRETARY.....	Laura Smith
TREASURER	Dusty Stafford
FUNDRAISING CHAIR.....	Jennifer Ramirez
OUTREACH CHAIR.....	Maria Jones Hall

MEMBERS

Dr. Landon Belcher * Stephanie Biefeld * Alicia Boaze *
Dr. Jesse Hickland * Birdie Jones * Nieomi King *
Joel Perritte * John Porter *Dusty Stafford * Bryant Ward

Letter from our Board President



Ashley is a Board-Certified Family Law attorney who has served the Bell County community since 2011. A Magna Cum Laude graduate of Texas A&M University School of Law, she currently serves as President of the Bell County Bar Association and has been recognized as Young Lawyer of the Year. Ashley is deeply committed to supporting children in foster care, having served as Board President of Foster Love Bell County and now as Board President of CASA of Bell and Coryell Counties. Through her leadership and advocacy, she continues to champion efforts that ensure every child has a voice. She lives in Belton with her husband, William, and their daughter, Mia.

Dear Friends, Supporters, and Advocates,

As I reflect on the past year, I am filled with deep gratitude and pride for all that we have accomplished together at CASA of Bell and Coryell Counties. Every milestone we reached in 2025 is a direct result of the compassion, dedication, and unwavering commitment of this incredible community.

This year marked a truly historic chapter for our organization. We proudly purchased our own building and moved into a space to call home, one that reflects the stability, hope, and permanence we strive to provide for the children we serve. This achievement is more than just a new address; it is a symbol of our growth and our enduring commitment to being a constant presence in the lives of children we serve.

Even more inspiring is that, in 2025, we served a record number of children. Behind that number are individual stories; children who needed someone to speak up for them, to stand beside them, and to ensure their voices were heard. Because of CASA, they were not alone.

We also made meaningful strides in expanding our fundraising efforts, strengthening our ability to serve more children and sustain our mission for years to come. This growth reflects not only increased support, but also a shared belief in the importance of advocacy and the life-changing impact it has.

None of this would be possible without our extraordinary volunteers. Your willingness to step into difficult situations with empathy, determination, and courage changes lives every single day. You are the heart of CASA, and your advocacy brings hope where it is needed most.

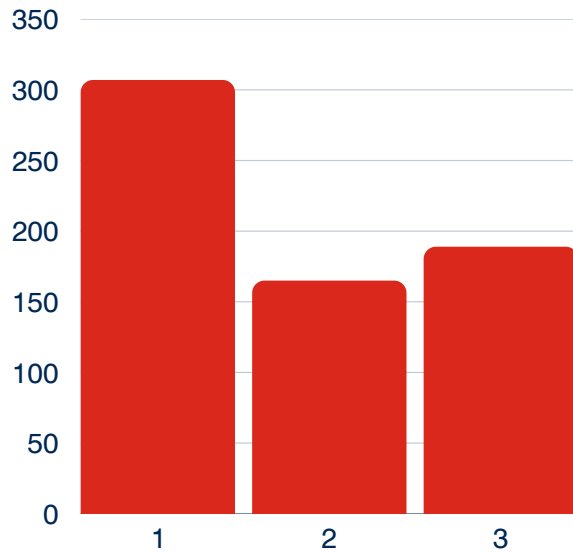
To our dedicated Board of Directors, thank you for your leadership, vision, and steadfast guidance. Your commitment ensures that our organization remains strong, accountable, and forward-thinking.

And to our incredible CASA staff and supervisors, your passion and tireless work make everything we do possible. You support our volunteers, champion our mission, and show up each day with a deep sense of purpose. I am endlessly grateful for each of you.

As we look ahead, we remain focused on growing our impact, reaching more children, and continuing to be a voice for those who need it most. Together, we are building brighter future, one child at a time.

Ashley Clapper Bennett
President
CASA of Bell and Coryell Counties

CASE REPORTS

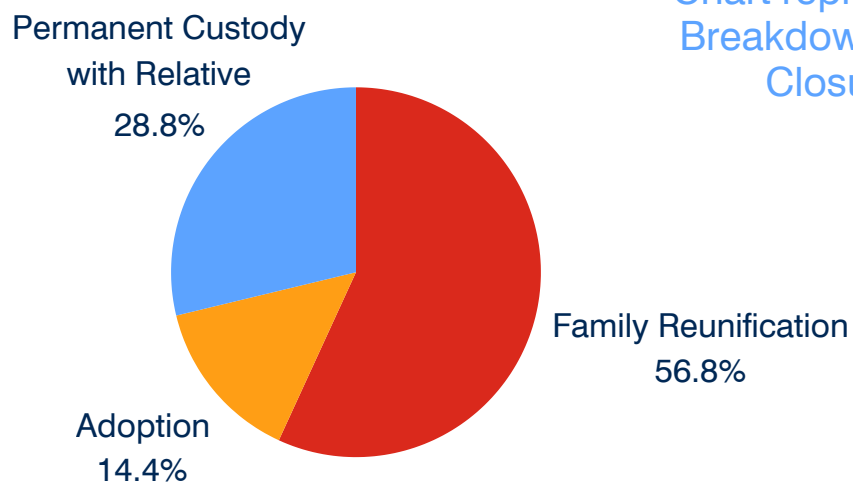


CHILDREN SERVED

1	Children Served	307
2	Cases	165
3	New Children	189

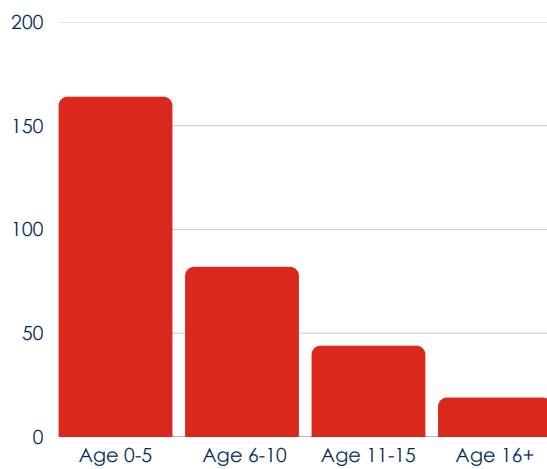
84 CASES CLOSED -

Chart represents the
Breakdown of Case
Closures

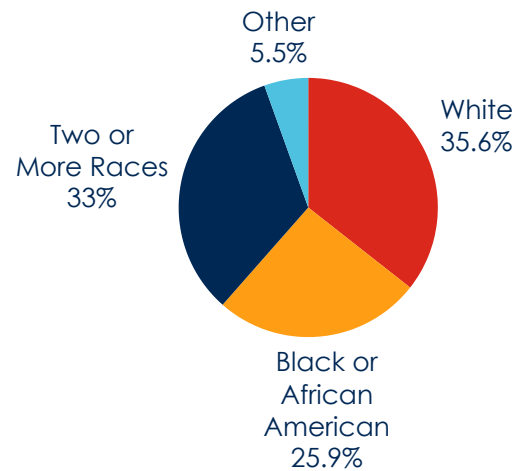


CASE REPORTS

Age Demographics



Race Demographics



94%

of children served by
volunteers

CASA Volunteers

Our CASA volunteers continue to be the heart of our mission, showing up with compassion, consistency, and a deep commitment to the children we serve. Through their advocacy, children in foster care are given stability, support, and a voice during some of the most uncertain times in their lives.

This year was a record-breaking one for our program, with nearly 70 new CASA advocates stepping forward to serve. This incredible milestone was made possible through the leadership and dedication of our Director of Volunteer Engagement, Maddy Ramos, whose efforts have strengthened our program and expanded our reach.

Because of this growth, we are able to serve more children than ever before and continue working toward our goal of ensuring every child in foster care has a CASA advocate by their side.

 **158**
Volunteers

 **3,067**
Hours Spent on Casework

 **47,328**
Miles Traveled

 **\$95,077**
Monetary Value of Volunteers



2025 CASA Advocates

Stephanie Abaga	Dawnesha Eskridge	Benjamin Kersten	Ali Pruitt
Randal Adair	Kim Evans	Charlotte King	Patrice Pruitt
Elena Aleman	George Fennell	Tonya King	Jennifer Ramm
Elizabeth Allen	Josine Flagello	Tiffany Kleypas	Aries Ramos
George Antonio	Adela Francis	Matthew Kuester	Tracie Rayburn
Damaris Balarezo	Rolana Frank	Arelis Laboy	Dallis Reed
Peter Barajas	Amanda Franks	Cody LaChappelle	Jamie Ross
Danny Bass	Dimitra Fuller	Brian Lentz	Kristal Rychlik
Anthony Beach	Cari Furst	Cheryl Lewis	Sarah Sanchez
Stephanie Biefeld	Kenneth Furst	Felicia Lowe	Sachin Scaria
Marilyn Bird	Erica Gage	Kenitra Lumpkin	Sharon Schawang
Doris Blake	Maira Garcia Gonzalez	Ahmed Makin	Alpha Schwan
Joanne Boucher	Alondra Garcia	Cyndi Manning	Brennan Shanks
Courtney Brewer	Danielle Garitty	Melody Marrow	Brandy Shuster
Angela Brown	Salvador Garza	Amber Martin	Ronald Smith
Emilee Brown	Christopher Geier	Kateri Martinez Villarreal	Terrinita Smith
Philemon Brown	Dolores Geier	Itaska Massie	Kyah Spence
Veronica Brown	Tammie Generette	Tina McConnell	Rosalie Stafford-Langan
Sharla Bundy	Stephanie Gonzales	Sabrina McCray	Christa Stenzel
Angenette Burns	Melissa Gonzalez	Robert McDonald	Suzanne Sturm
Brenda Calhoun	Tiffani Gregg	Krystal Mehrhof	Selene Sullivan
David Carder	Michell Griffith	Anamaria Mercedez	Mele Tupou
Catherine Cardone	Linda Guerrero	Donald Miller	Alfred Turner Jr
Jocelyn Carpenter-Lelle	Hannah Haley	Sandra Miller	Jennifer Valle
Nayibe Castillo	Angela Hampton-Stover	LaTanya Minor	Kimberly Vance
Jennifer Center-Fluegge	Daniel Hanchett	Elizabeth Miranda	Abigail Villagrana
Sheryl Chambers	Sydney Hansen	Leah Mishket	Jacinta Walker
Davia Chapa	Corinthia Harris	Stephanie Moody	Treniece Walker
Marcelyn Chapman	Fred Harris	Cindy Morris Serfass	Lilye Waters
Rodney Chiles	Luther Harris	Elicia Murtha	William Welch
LeighAnna Cina	Kareisha Hartsfield	Jeremy Nunn	Carre Whiting
Robyn (Cayla) Colvin	Howard Hawk	Sharon Orcutt	Deborah Williams
Nathan Cook	Christine Hernandez	Antonino Orozco	KaSandra Williams
Peggy Cunningham	Megan Hill	Shari Pacha	Tia Williams
Graciela Daniels	Jessica Ingold	Katherine Padilla	Janelle Williamson
Michaela Denazen	Sarah Janicek	Kalli Patrick	Justin Williamson
Zaakiyah Denefield-Davis	Brittany Johnson	Amy Patterson Ivy	Dawn Woodard
Ellen DiScioscia	Shai Johnson	Amber Peipert	Denia Woods
Douglas Dotson	Guy Jones	Ola Pickens	Lillian Woods
			Kay Woodson

2025 Donors

At CASA of Bell and Coryell Counties, we are deeply grateful for the unwavering support of our donors. Your generosity not only sustains our mission but empowers us to create meaningful, lasting change in the lives of children and families in our community. Every contribution, no matter the size, plays a vital role in our ability to advocate for children in need and ensure their voices are heard. Thanks to your commitment, we can continue to provide vital services, support, and resources, making a profound impact on the lives of those we serve. We appreciate each and every donor whose kindness enables us to make a difference and move closer to our goal of a brighter, safer future for all children.

Category	Amount	Donors
CASA Champions	\$25,000 +	Bette & Robert Robinson · E.R. Carpenter Foundation · First Community Foundation · Mike & Sara Dent · Wings Pizza N Things
Guardian Angel	\$10,000 +	Bell County Commissioners Court · David & Janet Leigh · Rock Rose Foundation · The American Legion No. 133
Shield of Support	\$5,000 +	Brandon & Lizzie Allen · Carlson Law Firm · First Baptist Church of Temple · Lee Ann Deal · Maria Jones Hall · Yveta Phillips · United Way of Central Texas
Advocate Ally	\$2,500 +	Baylor Scott & White · Beth Rabroker · Cadence Bank · Garlyn Shelton Auto Group · Jack Hilliard Distributing Co. · Pinnacle Paving · Richard & Judy Winkler · Rosemary Carter · Sysco · Thomas & Jennifer Valle · Walmart
Community Builders	\$1,000 +	Alicia Boaze · Birdie Jones · Boley Foundation Repair · Cole Eason · Connie Mathews · Corbin & Clapper Attorneys · Magnolia Realty · Deana Stafford · Extraco Bank · First United Bank · Gregory Reynolds · Harry Macey · Jennifer Ramirez · John Porter · Johnson Brothers Ford · Keg One Oneal · Kim Chambers · Kristal Rychlik · LASCO · Ludwick, Montgomery & Stapp, PC · Marilyn Bird · Dow Fogleman · Susan Fogleman · Monteith Abstract & Title Co · Tanner Roofing · Temple Generation · Temple Lions Club · TX A&M Central TX · Richard & Judy Winkler · Wilson Art
Friends of CASA	\$500 +	Ashley Clapper Bennett · Bluebonnet Electric · Bill & Karon Wheelless · Carla Wright · Cheryll Mabray · Daniel Jeanes · Danny Ady · Dawn Woodard · Don Ringler · Express Employment · First Community Title · Goosehead Insurance · Henry Garza · Hugh & Debbie Shine · Isabella St George · John Teinert · Jonathan Fox · Kelsey Kilter · Kelly Partyke · Firefly Yoga · Landon Belcher · Laura Bergin · Louie Dudley · Nieomi King · Novaura · Purvis Industries · Rebecca Smith · Richard Aguilar · Ronda Lovelady · Sandy Johnson · TDAS · Temple Firefighters Association · TKLS All About Insurance · Wanda Williams · Zachary Backor

2024 Fundraiser Sponsors

CASA St. Patrick's Day 5k

Arrow and Child Family Ministries · Aztec Pet Hospital · Boleys Foundation Repair · Carlson Law Firm · CERT · Circles of Care · Corrective Chiropractic & Wellness · Monteith Title & Abstract · Nightlight Christian Adoptions · On Target Portable Services · Priority Charter Schools · Salado Veterinary Hospital and Urgent Care · Sargent's Trophy Company · Secrest Law Firm · Tejas Land & Title, LLC · Temple Childrens Academy · TX A&M CT · Vista Real Estate

CASA Classic - Golf Tournament

All About Insurance · Aliance Bank Central Texas · Boley's Smart Foundation Repair · Carlson Law Firm · DPCG · First United Bank · Jack Hilliard Dist. Co., Inc · Johnson Brothers Ford · KEG 1 O'Neal · LASCO · LMS · Ludwig Montgomery & Stapp PC · Magnolia Realty · Monteith · Pinnacle Paving · Primrose School of Temple · SYSCO · Tanner Roofing · Temple Founders Lions Club · Temple Volunteer Fire Fighter Association · Turley Associates · Westphalia Market · Wilson Art · Wings Pizza N Things

CASA Bingo Night

Carlson Law Firm · Corbin Stapler & Clapper · Corrective Chiropractic · Don Ringler · Dow Fogleman · Extraco Banks · Goodwill Heart of Texas · Judge Cheryl Mabray · Keeping America Healthy · Monteith Title & Abstract Co · Novaura · Pamela Alice Faye Blair · Pop With It Balloons & Events

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BE A VOICE