Dear friends of Dallas CASA,

Now in its 35th year, Dallas CASA is the largest CASA program in Texas and one of the largest CASA programs nationwide. Even with our impressive growth, nearly half of the abused and neglected children in protective care in Dallas County last year navigated the complex child welfare system without a CASA volunteer. Because we know that a CASA volunteer advocate can make a critical difference in the life of a child, we cannot be satisfied serving only half of the children. In 2013, Dallas CASA and its board of directors committed to step up the agency’s growth plan to increase at a faster pace the number of abused and neglected children we serve. To support this accelerated growth plan, our board launched the $37 million Abused Children Can’t Wait—The Campaign for Dallas CASA. The Campaign’s message speaks to the reality that a victimized or deprived child who could not safely remain at home needs our focused attention and dedicated resources today.

I realize how fortunate I am to be leading Dallas CASA at this moment in its history. My predecessor, Beverly Levy, left huge shoes to fill when she retired last July. I appreciate the support so many have provided to ease my transition into this role. What impresses us most—literally, on a daily basis—are the many ways our volunteers, our donors and our board help us change the trajectory of the lives of abused children. Thank you for helping us provide an advocate’s steady and strong voice for more and more children.

Together, we are investing in the future of each of these children and in the future of our community.

With gratitude,

Kathleen M. LaVolle
Every year, more than 20,000 Dallas County children are the subjects of reported abuse or neglect.

Some must be removed from their homes because it isn’t safe for them to remain. Many enter and remain in foster care through the complex, often lengthy process before our judges are able to determine where the children may safely and permanently live. During this time, the children may move from one temporary placement to another, never knowing what will happen next. This is where a CASA volunteer can make such a critical difference.

CASA volunteers are trained and supervised to gather information and make recommendations that help judges decide the best possible outcomes for children living in protective care. CASA volunteers make a personal connection with and come to know the children. They review records, research information and talk to everyone involved in a child’s life — social workers, attorneys, judges, parents, teachers and family members. The volunteers then make recommendations to help judges decide the best outcomes for the children.

By developing one-on-one relationships with each child, volunteer advocates help their CASA children do better in school, heal from their abuse and learn to trust adults again. For CASA volunteers, the ultimate goal is to protect a child from further harm and to help identify and evaluate the best option for a child to grow up in a safe and loving home.

For many children, a CASA volunteer is the only constant and caring adult during a frightening, uncertain time in the child’s life. Few volunteer roles offer the opportunity to have such a critical and immediate impact on the life of a child as that of a CASA volunteer.

Our mission is for CASA volunteers to advocate for the best interests of abused and neglected children under the protective care of the courts, so they will have safe, permanent homes where they can thrive. Our CASA volunteers give generously of their time, resources and hearts. Every single case with a CASA volunteer represents many hours of advocacy on the part of the volunteer, many hours of support from CASA’s professional program staff, and in so many cases, a change in the direction of a child’s life.

Tobias’ drug-addicted parents lost custody of him one weekend when they neglected him while on a drug binge. When his grandmother discovered he’d been placed in a foster home, she was frantic. But with Spanish as her main language, complicated legal documents and written requirements laid out for his return proved to be an almost insurmountable barrier.

Tobias’ Spanish-speaking volunteer advocate, Estela, received his case just as his grandmother was about to lose custody of him. She quickly realized his grandmother hadn’t understood. His CASA volunteer found access to resources and translating that allowed Tobias’ grandmother to have her house ready to receive her grandson. Today, Tobias lives safely in his grandmother’s home.
Dallas CASA served more children than any other CASA program in Texas in 2014.

Dallas CASA has a strong and steady history demonstrating its ability to grow the number of children it serves.

Over the last 10 years, Dallas CASA has increased the total number of children served annually by more than 135 percent. During 2014, Dallas CASA served 2,264 children, representing a 21 percent increase over the prior year. The number of children in new cases to which Dallas CASA was appointed increased by 43 percent over the prior year. Dallas CASA received a record 1,824 inquiries about volunteering in 2014, a 35 percent increase over the prior year, that resulted in the swearing-in of a record 288 new volunteer advocates, also a 35 percent increase over the prior year. The agency set a new high in the total number of assigned CASA volunteers which rose to 771 in 2014. An expanded marketing campaign also created greater reach in more diverse communities in the Dallas area, resulting in an increase in the diversity of our volunteer ranks.

Rose & Lily
For a decade as their mother struggled with drug addiction, the two young siblings would seek refuge at their grandmother’s house for days and weeks at a time. But when the children were removed from their mother’s home due to neglectful supervision, they were assigned to a foster home and not placed with their grandmother. In the chaos and confusion that followed the removal, the family didn’t know who to turn to for help. That’s when a CASA volunteer, Sandy, was assigned to the siblings’ case. Their volunteer advocate quickly recommended to the judge that the children be allowed to live with their grandmother who could provide them the loving, safe home they so desperately longed for. Now reunited with their grandmother, the sisters are living with her permanently—safe, happy and in a familiar place of refuge.

EXPANDING NEED IN 2014:
- 11% increase in the number of allegations of child abuse or neglect across Texas
- 8.2% increase in the total number of children in protective care in Dallas County
- 9.2% increase in the number of new children coming into protective care in Dallas County
Dallas CASA raises more than $35 million toward $37 million campaign goal

Dallas CASA hopes to make Dallas the largest community in the country with a nonprofit CASA program able to serve 100 percent of the children in protective care who need a volunteer advocate. To meet this ambitious yet achievable goal, we first needed to build and move into a much larger facility, which we did in 2014. Looking forward, we also need to double our number of volunteer advocates and expand our professional staff to train, supervise and support those volunteers within the next five years. The model developed to size the Campaign goal assumes that Dallas CASA will grow annual revenue year-over-year, in order to sustain the accelerated growth the Campaign funds will permit.

Crystal Charity Ball selects Dallas CASA as 2014 beneficiary

In February, Dallas CASA was selected as one of the 2014 Crystal Charity Ball beneficiaries. The Crystal Charity Ball is a nonprofit organization whose sole purpose is to support and raise funds for children’s charities in Dallas. The year-long efforts of the 100 women serving on the 2014 ball committee resulted in a contribution of $960,290 to Dallas CASA. In honor of the gift, the 2nd floor program area in Dallas CASA’s new building is named the Crystal Charity Ball Voices for Children wing.

Dallas CASA opens The Rees-Jones Center for Children’s Justice to the child welfare community

The new Dallas CASA headquarters houses The Rees-Jones Center for Children’s Justice in recognition of The Rees-Jones Foundation leadership gift to Dallas CASA’s campaign and the foundation’s commitment to improving the lives of children living in protective care. In addition to providing a training space for CASA volunteers, the facility also is a center for collaboration with the child welfare community to help facilitate systemic change to transform the lives of abused children. During 2014, the space was utilized by the Dallas County Child Welfare Board, Texas Department of Family and Protective Services, Dallas Disproportionality and Disparities Advisory Committee and Family Compass. In April, Dallas CASA hosted “Stand Up for Children,” an annual event sponsored by the Child Abuse Prevention Coalition during Child Abuse Prevention & Awareness Month.

Long-serving executive director and program director retire

Beverly Levy, executive director and president of Dallas CASA for 21 years, retired in July 2014. Beverly was named the National CASA Outstanding CASA Program Director of the Year in 2011. Upon her retirement, Beverly was recognized by the Commissioners Court of Dallas County with a resolution that thanked her for her service and leadership in protecting the rights of children unable to speak for themselves. Dallas CASA’s longest serving employee, Program Director Mary Timmons, also retired in 2014 after 25 years of dedicated service with the organization. Her longtime associate, Ben Wilkins, took over responsibility for leading the program department.

Kathleen M. LaValle named as new executive director and president by Dallas CASA board of directors

Following a national search, the board of directors named Kathleen LaValle as executive director and president of Dallas CASA. Dallas CASA Board Chair Greg May stated, “We are delighted that Kathleen accepted the position. She has been a strong advocate for CASA for many years, and we feel fortunate to have her vision, insight and leadership in helping Dallas CASA continue to grow and fulfill its vital mission in the community.” Kathleen has served on the Dallas CASA board of directors since 2003, including a term as board chair in 2006. Kathleen was the recipient of the Greater Dallas Chamber of Commerce 2014 Athena Award in October 2014, an honor bestowed on women who have achieved excellence in their business or profession, served the community in a meaningful way and assisted women in reaching their full leadership potential.

Dallas CASA moves into new headquarters to position for future growth

In March 2014, Dallas CASA moved into its new 25,020 square foot office and training center on Swiss Avenue, three times the size of the former space. The new building cost was approximately $8.5 million. The new facility was designed by Bernard-Magadini and constructed by Austin Commercial, with interiors by HOK. On April 16, the Dallas CASA board of directors and staff were joined by Jan and Trevor Rees-Jones and other donors for a ribbon cutting ceremony for the new office facility. Also attending the celebration were Dallas County government and judicial officials and area business and civic leaders. The day continued with an open house celebration for Dallas CASA’s volunteer advocates, donors, Children’s Council members and other community stakeholders and supporters.

New Dallas CASA headquarters

Abused children can’t wait

THE CAMPAIGN FOR DALLAS CASA

Putting Children First: A Message From Executive Director and President Kathleen M. LaValle:

With the completion of our new building, Dallas CASA is poised for growth. Our new building is approximately 3 times the size of our former space, and provides opportunities for training, collaboration and community engagement.

Dallas CASA is now the largest nonprofit CASA program in the country. We are driven to expand volunteer advocacy, professional staff, and program services to help more children in Dallas County. In the next few years, we will be hiring additional staff and increasing the number of volunteer advocates.

The Rees-Jones Center for Children’s Justice is open for business, and we are excited to work with community partners to transform the lives of abused children. Our new building is a symbol of our commitment to the children of Dallas County.

Thank you for your continued support for the work of Dallas CASA. We appreciate your partnership in putting children first.

Kathleen M. LaValle, Executive Director and President

Dallas CASA Board Chair Greg May

Dallas CASA staff

Dallas CASA volunteers

Dallas CASA board of directors
Dallas CASA hosts successful fundraising events

**CHERISH THE CHILDREN**
The Dallas CASA Children’s Council hosted the 2014 Cherish the Children luncheon, featuring The New York Times best-selling author and decorated military officer Donovan Campbell as the 2014 keynote speaker. The event was chaired by Shelley R. Tims. Northwood Woman’s Club, in recognition of its service to our community and children for more than 45 years, was the Cherish the Children honorary chair.

**CHAMPION OF CHILDREN AWARD DINNER**
Pioneer Natural Resources and its employees were honored for their commitment to protecting children at Dallas CASA’s annual Champion of Children Award Dinner in November at the Ritz-Carlton, Dallas. The company was presented with the prestigious Judge Bonifaz Sanders Champion of Children Award which recognizes community leaders who significantly improve the lives of children, particularly those whose lives have been marked by abuse, neglect or other adversity. In 2012, Pioneer stepped up its commitment to abused children, joining Goldman Sachs (then Archon Group L.P.) to host the Dallas CASA Classic golf tournament. Approximately 200 Pioneer employees volunteer annually to make the tournament a success. Frank A. Risch, retired vice president and treasurer of Exxon Mobil Corporation, and a Pioneer and Dallas CASA board member, served as honorary chair for Champion of Children. Linda and Rob Swartz served as event chairs, raising the most funds ever for this annual dinner.

**PARADE OF PLAYHOUSES**
Dallas CASA’s annual Parade of Playhouses presented by the ORIX Foundation was held in August at NorthPark Center. Jona Brossin and Lauren Maggard chaired Parade of Playhouses. In recognition of its long-term commitment to Dallas CASA and support of Parade of Playhouses over many years, the Jim and Angela Thompson Foundation served as the 2014 honorary chair.

**37,792**
hours of service were logged by Dallas CASA volunteer advocates in 2014
Dallas CASA is grateful to all our volunteers who annually serve abused and neglected children in our community.

Unwavering in their commitment, multiple volunteer advocates serve for many years. We wish to recognize the following volunteers serving as advocates during 2014 who have generously served for five years or more. Tenured volunteers allow our supervisory staff to take on additional volunteers, meaning we can serve more children. While we have listed those with the most tenure, we are thankful to all of our volunteer advocates for their commitment and the critical difference they are making in the lives of the children they serve.

16-20 YEARS
Mona Baker
Marcia Cluxton
Larry Dolan

11-15 YEARS
Margaret Durpee
Schenita Floyd
Donna Graves
Nicole LeBœuf
Carlen Penfold-Long

6-10 YEARS
Deborah Ackerman
Eman Alkani
Diana Barcinas
Heather Bennett
Doug Bily
Heather Brasier
Suzanne Bryson
Sandra Burnon
Sandy Cappis
Sonya Coleman
Judy Cook
Nikki Cornell
John Courville
Ava Crawford
Debbie Daniels
Cheri Denomore
Kerri Dorsett
Sally Drayer
Amy Durston
Samantha Durst
Barbara Emerson
Kay Eubanks
Jan Fletcher
Sophie Forsythe
Susan Fiske
Sarah Friedman
Bobbie Fryer
Joyce Gastier
Marian Glenn
Myma Gorchoff
Sylvia Gray
Penni Honsen
Lana Horder
Dianne Horst
Carleen Hieleg
Shirley Hoffman
Anne Hollingsworth
Chris Hollingsworth
Kari Hopper
Chuck Hyde
Julie Irsh
Bakarre Jackson
Jaki Jackson
Elisabeth Jenkins
Julie Johnson
Marag Johnson
Johno Kacir
Ginny Laughlin
Wendi Martin
Megan Martinez
Maria Mendoza
Beverly Minot
Mihir Misra
D’Iane Mueller
Moxy Nerling
Rebecca Noel
Talynn Osuki
Sasa Parnell
Rena Papage
Robert Powell
Stephanie Roberts
David Robinson
Ana Maria Rush
Marianne Sharp
Rebecca Show
Heather Shover
Janet Shumake
Debra Shumway
Robyn Slay
Cindy Smith
Claude Smith
Patricia Stein
Nicky Stout
Linda Swartz
Cecilio Thomas
Alisha Vance
Danette White
Ryan Whittill
Jennifer Wilhelm
Jack Williamson

5 YEARS
Rhonda Aghamalian
Kothea Atillo
Valorie Bobb
Jenipher Bolick
Sue Brown
Christie Bunch
Ted Campbell
Michelle Chapman
Rhino Chotom
Helena Cook
Beth Dattorno
E cosa Fisher
Sharon Gardner
Cindy Graham
Ann Heidiger
Shea Hopkins
Gerard Hudspeth
Poulette Hunter
Kathleen Johnson
Katharine Kane
Gnieir Kirvary
Carla Latchier
Estela Lopez
Cherie Luckett
Margie Marck
Gail Marmol
Gil Marmot
Nancy Marston
Sarah Masood
Allyson Mills
Robyn Muller
Joanna Robben
Laura Shumake
Leslie Sims
Pamela Stewart
Shayna Vincent
Carol Waters
Al Young
Our work would not be possible without the generosity of many individuals, companies and foundations.

CAMPAIGN DONORS
We are grateful to THESE MAJOR CAMPAIGN DONORS who made gifts or pledges of $1,000 or more to Abused Children Can’t Wait—The Campaign for Dallas CASA.

2014 DONORS
We are grateful to OUR 2014 DONORS who made cumulative cash contributions of $100 or more January 1 through December 31, 2014.

Click on the links above to view donor lists.

2014 REVENUE:
- Foundations: 37%
- Endowment & Investment: 14%
- Events: 22%
- Organizations: 20%
- Corporations: 8%
- Individuals: 8%
- Government: 5%
- Other: 1%

2014 EXPENSES:
- Program Services: 81%
- Fundraising: 11%
- General and Administration: 8%

Click HERE to view full financial statements.

Financial policies for Dallas CASA are reviewed annually by the Dallas CASA Board of Directors Finance Committee and approved by the Dallas CASA Board of Directors.

Audit and IRS Form 990—Independent auditors review our financial statements each year, preparing our audited financials and tax returns. Access to our audit and tax filings can be found online at dallascasa.org.
Dallas CASA is grateful for the leadership of our board of directors. We are fortunate to have a diverse, dedicated and compassionate board, 100 percent of whom support Dallas CASA with generous financial contributions.
2014 ADVISORY BOARD
In 2014, Dallas CASA established an advisory board comprised of community leaders who are committed to the mission of Dallas CASA and our vision to provide a CASA volunteer advocate for every abused child living in protective care in Dallas County. This group of dedicated individuals will help to create greater awareness in our community and engage other leaders and individuals to support Dallas CASA.

Deborah Ackerman
Pam Busbee
Gloria Campos
Karen and Mark Carney
Penny Cook
Rich Enthoven
Don Glendenning
Randi Halsell
Sarah Losinger
Shirley McIntyre
Carmen McMillan
Tincy Miller
Regina Montoya
Nancy Nasher
Debbie Oates
Betty Regard
Darrel Rice

2014 CHILDREN’S COUNCIL BOARD
The Dallas CASA Children’s Council auxiliary group supports Dallas CASA throughout the year by hosting the Cherish the Children luncheon, volunteer appreciation events, holiday gift drives and coordinating Dallas County’s participation in National Adoption Day in November.

Robin Lewis
President
Eman Alvani
Lorten Anderson
Jana Brasin
Veree Brown
Suzanne Bryan
Karen Carney
Jessica Glitz
Sylvia Gray
Nicole LeBoeuf
Lauren Maggard
Jennifer Motes
Rae Gene Mangioli
Christina Norris
Talynn Otsuki
Jenny Reynolds
Linda Swartz
Suzan Tujague
Shelley R. Tims
Katie Viola
Phyllis Viola
Cachet Weinberg
Tricia Wortley

Tyrone
Ten-year-old Tyrone was living in foster care, struggling in school with behavior and academic problems. Tyrone wasn’t sure anyone cared until a CASA volunteer advocate was assigned to his case. Tyrone’s advocate, Doug, asked why he was disrupting class and falling behind, and Tyrone admitted he could not see what was written on the board. Tyrone needed glasses. His advocate made a recommendation to the court that Tyrone have an eye exam. Within two weeks, Tyrone had a new pair of eyeglasses and a brand-new outlook. By the end of the school year, he was an grade level academically and no longer a behavior problem in class.

Robin Lewis
President
Eman Alvani
Lorten Anderson
Jana Brasin
Veree Brown
Suzanne Bryan
Karen Carney
Jessica Glitz
Sylvia Gray
Nicole LeBoeuf
Lauren Maggard
Jennifer Motes
Rae Gene Mangioli
Christina Norris
Talynn Otsuki
Jenny Reynolds
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Suzan Tujague
Shelley R. Tims
Katie Viola
Phyllis Viola
Cachet Weinberg
Tricia Wortley
To learn more visit dallascasa.org

To protect the identities of the children, the names and some of the details of their stories have been altered and the images used are not the actual children.

Photography by Lara Biemer Photography and James French Photography, concept and design by TycherStein