



CASA

Court Appointed Special Advocates
FOR CHILDREN

TULSA CASA, INC.

ANNUAL REPORT 2023



Change a child's story

LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Tulsa CASA Friends & Supporters:

As I reflect on 2023, I am filled with a deep sense of pride for the journey past and enthusiasm for the journey ahead.

Similar to the children and families we serve, the lengthy path we have traveled out of the pandemic has been littered with obstacles. We saw children in state custody increase while our volunteers decreased. We saw parents and children and siblings struggle to get the services, visitation and stable placements needed. We saw the kindness, resourcefulness and collaboration of colleagues and community partners as we all worked on behalf of state involved families and children to keep them safe and secure in our community. We saw our volunteers eagerly tread difficult and unknown terrain for children who were first strangers and then a priority to them. We never let the obstacles slow our step but instead used them as learning opportunities to guide our path forward.

Over the past year, Tulsa CASA reimagined and strengthened our advocacy. We continued to hold the child's best interest in the forefront of our work without ever losing sight of the importance of family preservation. We expanded our resource library to provide material for parents, children and volunteers. We worked in collaboration to provide stellar continuing education training for our volunteers as well as our staff. We set up systems to ensure the quality of our advocacy meets the highest standards. We paved the road for future successes.

As we envision the future of Tulsa CASA, we are grateful for our volunteers, donors and community partners. Our journey of advocacy would not be possible without your unwavering commitment. Your support ensures many foster children in our community will not have to walk alone through the child welfare system. On behalf of the Board of Directors and the Tulsa CASA team, thank you!

Elizabeth Fisher

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



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Program Impact

*In Their Words...



“She comes to see me because she’s one of my supports and she’s always there for me.”

Why do you think your CASA comes to see you?



“Listens, cares about me, always there for me in my darkest times.”

What are 3 important things your CASA does to help you?

The overarching goal of Tulsa CASA is to provide quality advocacy to every child in foster care in our community. Tulsa County Juvenile Deprived Court saw 1,600 abused and/or neglected children in 2023. Tulsa CASA was able to advocate for 205 of those children.

Having a CASA volunteer means having a consistent, stable adult for a child during a difficult and unfamiliar time. In 2023, the 197 children served by Tulsa CASA saw 788 professional changes. Of those changes; 359 were caseworker changes, over a hundred were attorney changes, and only 24 were CASA changes.

2023 SNAPSHOT

92

CASA volunteers

113

Cases assigned to CASA volunteers

197

Children served by a CASA volunteers

4,509

Hours CASA volunteers advocated

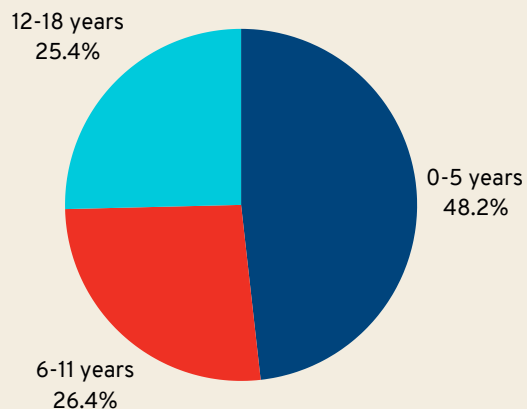
318,207

Miles driven by CASA volunteers

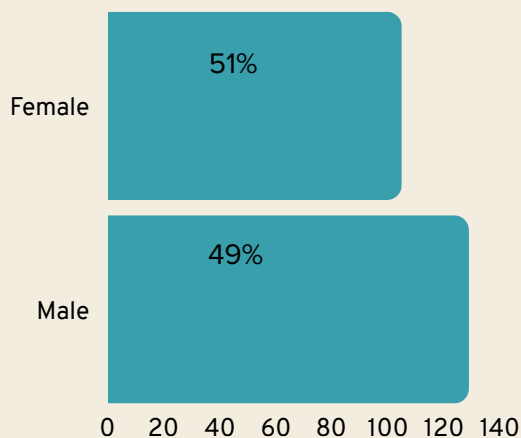
**From OKCASA annual survey of children served by Tulsa CASA.*

CHILD DEMOGRAPHICS

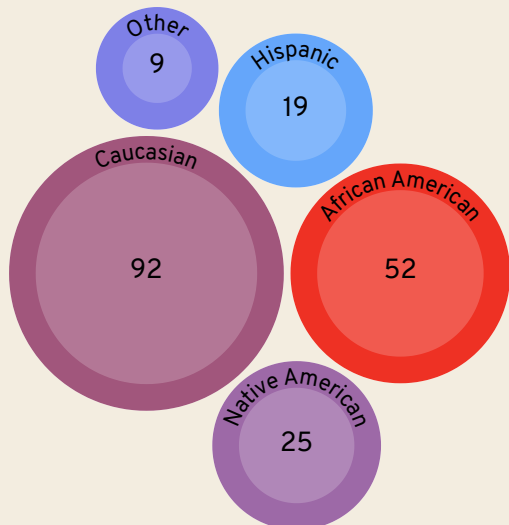
AGE



GENDER

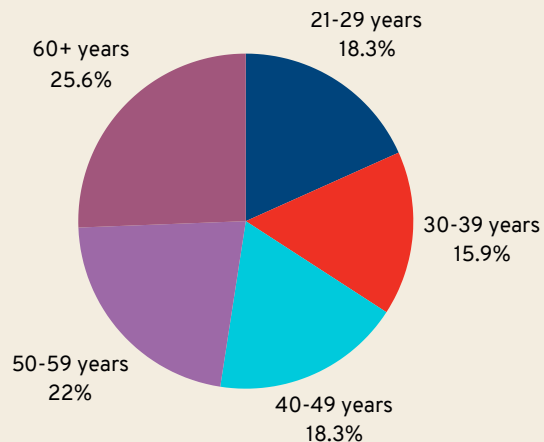


RACE/ETHNICITY

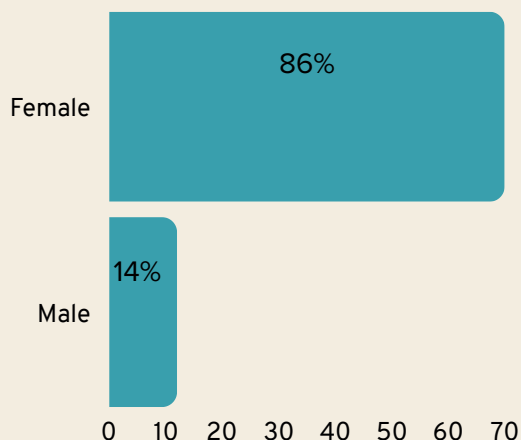


VOLUNTEER DEMOGRAPHICS

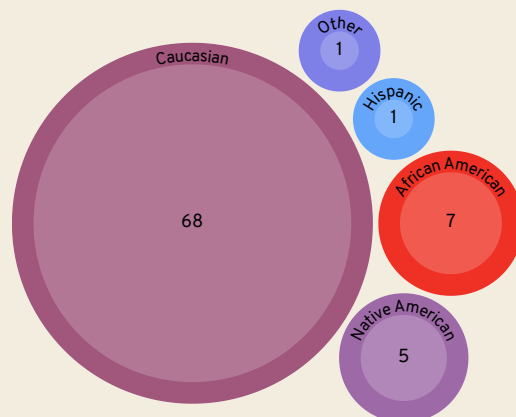
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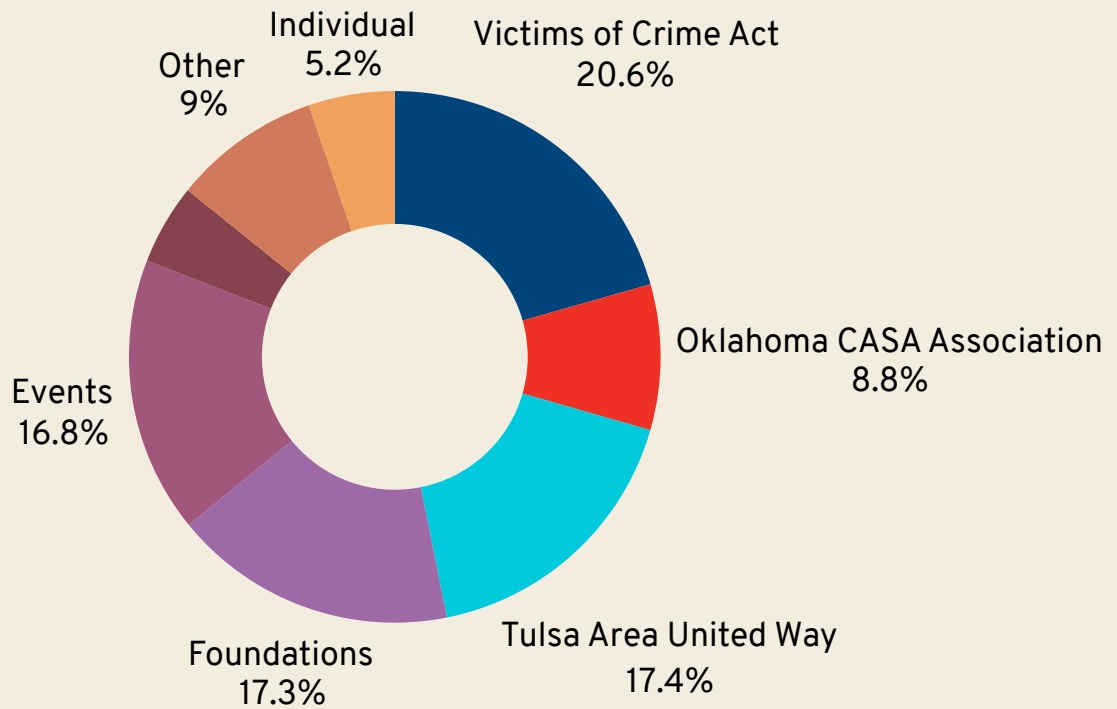


RACE/ETHNICITY

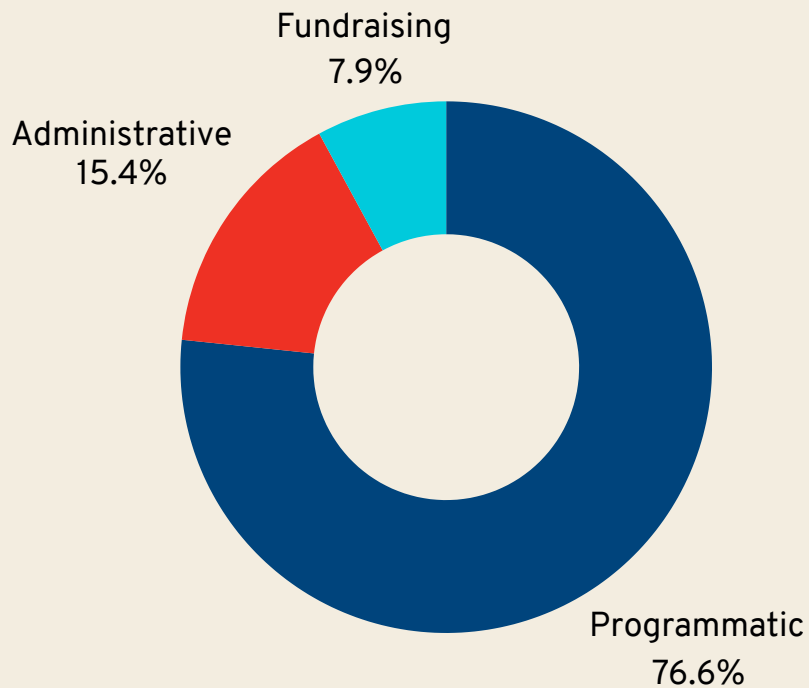


Financials

REVENUE



EXPENSES



This information represents unaudited financials for the fiscal year 2023, ending 12/31/2023.

2023 Volunteer of the Year: Kerri Harlin

Meet Kerrie Harlin. She has been a true champion for children at Tulsa CASA for seven years. During her tenure as an advocate, she has served on six different cases and tirelessly fought for the best interest of 12 children total.

Serving on both regular deprived cases and safe babies cases, Kerrie delivers empathy and understanding to all she encounters in the arena of advocacy.

Kerrie believes CASA serves a critical role in the life of a deprived child. “We work with kids who have been through trauma. Teaching them that they are valuable, worthy and loved is the most important thing about being a CASA. I love seeing children smile, laugh, and overcome situations they had no control over. Knowing they have someone safe in their corner is so very important for our children.”

Kerrie is such a phenomenal advocate. She has great instincts and is dedicated to her CASA children. She is a team player and brings calm energy to potentially heightened situations. She courageously advocates for her CASA children even when it’s difficult. We are so thankful she is a CASA!

- Jalynn Youngberg, Program Manager





OUR SUPPORTERS

This list represents the generous individuals, foundations, corporations, and other entities who gave to Tulsa CASA between January 1, 2023 and December 31, 2023. If you believe your name was omitted from this list, please accept our sincerest apologies and contact the Development & Community Relations Manager, Comfort Keidel, at comfort.keidel@tulsacasa.org or 918.584.2272.

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Oklahoma CASA Association
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VOCA
**Victims of
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