



ANNUAL REPORT 2021

CASA of Northeast Oklahoma

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Website: www.casaneok.org

FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S DESK

Dear Friends,

What an unusual year 2021 has been! COVID-19 challenged every organization - including CASA of Northeast Oklahoma - to come up with creative ways to serve clients while keeping staff and volunteers safe. I am thankful that only a few of the children, volunteers, board members, and staff of CASA of Northeast Oklahoma became ill and that everyone is still with us.



This annual report demonstrates what happens when people with a common mission band together and support one another during the most trying of times. It was gratifying to watch and gave me a sense of renewed purpose during some rather dark days.

Not even a pandemic could stop the growth and expansion of CASA of Northeast Oklahoma. Our entry into Washington County, which began in fiscal year 2020, continued and we recently opened an office at The Strategy Center at Tri-County Tech. The new Shawnee Tribal Court joined the CASA Family in January 2021 and we are excited to add more Native American volunteers to speak up for Shawnee and Quapaw children.

It is an honor to work collaboratively with the CASA of Northeast Oklahoma Board of Directors, staff, and volunteers to ensure that every child who needs a CASA volunteer has one. Join me in applauding our team for a job well done!

Sincerely,

Angela Henderson
Executive Director

STRATEGIC HIGHLIGHTS



Children Served

199 on 120 cases

Volunteers Serving

73

Volunteer Case Hours

4,102

New Volunteers Trained

22

Area Served

The 11th, 12th, and 13th judicial districts in Oklahoma. Headquartered in Claremore, Oklahoma, the program serves Craig, Delaware, Mayes, Ottawa, Rogers, and Washington county district courts and the Quapaw Nation and Shawnee tribal courts.



Member of the Ottawa County United Way, Miami, Oklahoma

FINANCIAL REPORT

Statement of Activities June 30, 2021

Revenues, Gains, and Other Support

Victims of Crime Act (VOCA)	\$203,223.07
Oklahoma CASA	\$48,148.24
Ottawa County United Way	\$15,000.00
Foundation, Corporate, and Individual Donations	\$115,750.79
Special Event Fundraising	\$18,410.41
Interest Income	<u>\$9,426.05</u>
TOTAL SUPPORT	\$409,958.56

Expenses

Program	\$236,916.48
Management and General	\$100,249.84
Fundraising/Resource Development	<u>\$56,867.49</u>
TOTAL SUPPORT	\$394,033.81

Change In Net Assets \$15,924.75

Net Assets, Beginning of Year \$93,303.12
Net Assets, End of Year \$109,227.87

BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND STAFF

Andrew Haire, Chair, **Vinita, OK**

Julie Sellmeyer, Vice Chair, **Vinita, OK**

Dr. John Myers, Treasurer, **Vinita, OK**

Tara Howard, Secretary, **Collinsville, OK**

Chief Ben Barnes, **Miami, OK**

Father David Bridges, **Grove, OK**

Mylisa Gaines, **Pryor, OK**

Ashley Landon, **Fairland, OK**

Missi Nash, **Bartlesville, OK**

Dynda Post, **Catoosa, OK**

Daniel Webster, **Afton, OK**

Staff:

Angela Henderson, Executive Director

Emily Bowling, Assistant Director

Sandra Rains, Lead Advocate Coordinator

Mark Ogle, Resource Development and Marketing Coordinator



VOLUNTEER PROFILE

CHARLENE BAILEY [Grove, Oklahoma]

Charlene is a retired school teacher. "What attracted me to get involved with CASA was I wanted to have a real opportunity to make a one-to-one difference in the life of a child in need," she said. "Hope keeps me motivated to stay involved. Hope that I continue to make a difference."



Charlene has served as a volunteer advocate in Delaware County for two years. During that time, she has been able to expand her understanding of what CASA does and has learned so much. She has seen a change for the better, even in the life of the mother of the child whose case she worked on. She has also gained an appreciation of all the people who work every day with CASA of Northeast Oklahoma.

The CASA movement is central to fulfilling society's fundamental obligation by making sure a qualified, compassionate adult will fight for and protect a child's right to be safe, to be treated with dignity and respect and learn and grow in the safe embrace of a loving family.

Charlene formerly taught school in a one-room schoolhouse on an Indian reservation in Montana. She continues to help in the Grove Public Schools in her spare time. "If someone is considering becoming a CASA volunteer advocate, I would tell them that it's a learning experience. An opportunity to grow and make a difference," said Bailey.

When she isn't busy serving as a CASA volunteer, Charlene loves to fly fish. Thank you, Charlene, for your dedicated service!

WHAT CHILDREN SAY ABOUT THEIR CASA VOLUNTEERS

All children ages 6 to 18 are surveyed each year to determine if they are satisfied with CASA volunteer services. Here are their responses:

Do you feel that your CASA cares about you?	All the time - 100% of respondents
Do you feel that your CASA understands you?	All the time - 100% of respondents
Do you feel like you can talk to your CASA?	All the time - 100% of respondents
Do you feel like your CASA listens to you?	All the time - 100% of respondents

WHAT JUDGES SAY ABOUT CASA VOLUNTEERS

All judges are surveyed each year to determine if they are satisfied with CASA volunteer services. Here are their responses:

Compared to cases WITHOUT a CASA, do you feel children WITH a CASA receive:

More services = 100% of respondents

Fewer services = 0% of respondents

The same service = 0% of respondents

I have a better understanding of what is happening in a case when a CASA is appointed:

Strongly Agree = 83.33% of respondents

Agree = 16.67% of respondents

The information included in the reports I receive from CASA meets my expectations:

Strongly Agree = 100% of respondents

I feel the needs of the children are better met while they are wards of the court when they have a CASA:

Strongly Agree = 100% of respondents

“Since CASAs generally have no more than 2 or 3 cases, they are able to observe issues children are having by spending more time in the foster home and the parents’ homes and more time observing visitations and talking with foster parents and counselors.”- Juvenile Deprived Judge

“CASA workers go above and beyond assisting children with issues. For example, one CASA worker drove across state numerous times to meet with the client in order to have the latest information for the court.”- Juvenile Deprived Judge

CONNECT WITH US!

Website: www.casaneok.org

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CASA of Northeast Oklahoma is a regional court-appointed special advocate program serving district and tribal courts in the 11th, 12th, and 13th Judicial Districts of Oklahoma. CASA of Northeast Oklahoma supports and promotes court-appointed volunteer advocacy so every child in northeast Oklahoma who has experienced abuse or neglect can be safe, have a permanent home and the opportunity to thrive. CASA staff and volunteers work every day to help Change A Child's Story™.

MISSION

The mission of CASA of Northeast Oklahoma is to speak for the best interests of abused and neglected children in district and tribal courts in northeast Oklahoma. We promote and support quality volunteer representation for children to provide each child with a safe, permanent, and nurturing home.

VISION

The vision of CASA of Northeast Oklahoma is that every abused and neglected child has a CASA volunteer appointed to represent his or her best interests.

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

The CASA movement is central to fulfilling society's most fundamental obligation by making sure a qualified, compassionate adult will fight for and protect a child's right to be safe, to be treated with dignity and respect, and to learn and grow in the safe embrace of a loving family.

CASA of Northeast Oklahoma complies with all federal and state laws regarding public access to records. All organizational records are available online at www.casaneok.org under the [Governance](#) tab. Select [Our Financials](#). There, you will find IRS Form 1023, Application for Recognition of Exemption Under Section 501(c)3 of the Internal Revenue Code, IRS Forms 990, Return of Organization Exempt from Federal Income Tax for a period of three (3) years; and CASA of Northeast Oklahoma's annual Registration Statement of Charitable Organization filed with the Oklahoma Secretary of State. CASA's entire FY 2021 audit also is available on our website. CASA of Northeast Oklahoma follows the spirit and intent of all federal, state, and local employment law and is committed to Equal Employment Opportunity. We do not discriminate against any employee, volunteer, prospective volunteer, or client in a manner that violates the law. CASA is committed to providing equal opportunity for all employees and applicants without regard to race, color, religion, national origin, sex, age, marital status, sexual orientation, gender expression, disability, political affiliation, personal appearance, family responsibilities, matriculation, or any other characteristic protected under federal, state, or local law.