

Mission & Vision

The San Francicso Court Appointed Special Advocates (SFCASA) vision is that every child has a safe, loving home and is given the opportunity to thrive. Our mission is to train community volunteers to serve as officers of the court to advocate for the best interests of abused and neglected children in the foster care system.

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SFCASA VOLUNTEER ADVOCATES
CONTRIBUTED 15,047 HOURS
OF SERVICE TO SUPPORT
217 FOSTER YOUTH THIS YEAR.

Dear Friends of SFCASA

The past year has been nothing short of extraordinary for our organization. As we've grown our staff and begun a strategic planing process, we have a solid foundation upon which to stand as we move forward into the 2015-2016 year and the 25th anniversary of our founding here in San Francisco. Together, thanks to the tireless efforts of our team and the generosity of our donors, we've been able to maintain our efforts ensuring that foster children in San Francisco can rely on a CASA to fight for their needs. We couldn't have accomplished this without you.

Given the many changes of the past few years, it is exciting and promising that this year has put us onto a more stable path, both for our program growth and for our ability to help San Francisco's foster youth. We're thrilled that your support helped us exceed our fundraising goal. Because of this support, we were able to hire two new Case Supervisors, allowing us to effectively support more CASAs and serve more youth. We've improved support for our volunteer advocates, and with Naomi Irvine joining as our new Recruitment and Training Specialist, have expanded our training and recruitment strategy to serve more youth in the coming year.

In the 2014-2015 year, 209 volunteer advocates gave 15,047 hours in dedicated service to 217 abused and neglected foster youth. A record 465 guests attended the Fostering Change Gala in May, which helped raise over \$490,000. We also celebrated our new, fully expanded educational advocacy program, so volunteers have the option to support a youth as their Educational Representative without taking on the longer-term CASA commitment. Our volunteers held educational rights, with the authority to make educational decisions, for 40 youth this year.

There are still 750 foster children and youth in San Francisco without a CASA to speak up for them. These children are hardly seen by the general population, but we have the capacity to take a stand and let their voices be heard.

San Francisco's foster youth are frequently moved among placements, schools, social workers, teachers, and other relationships during their time in foster care. A CASA can reduce the ongoing trauma and inconsistency that this frequent movement entails. Without a CASA, youth are more likely to be separated from their siblings, or placed outside of San Francisco. They will have, on average, lived in seven different homes and attended nine different schools. The need for CASAs is still just as great as it's been, which is why, with our new plan and stable foundation, our goal is to train more CASAs this year than we ever have before.

A CASA, a consistent and caring adult, an advocate willing to stand up for a foster child, is a true gift in a time fraught with confusion and frustration. Your support ensures more foster youth will experience the consistent support and advocacy of a CASA.

Thank you for trusting us with your investments. Your support sustains our work as we strive to provide a CASA for every child in the San Francisco foster care system.

With gratitude,

Lisa Spinali Renee Espinoza
Board Chair Executive Director

NANCY AND SHAY

Entering into foster care at a young age can dramatically affect a youth's lifelong development. For Shay, who entered foster care at the age of two, the odds for a successful, happy, independent life were stacked against her. Until she met her CASA, Nancy.

Nancy, a long-time San Francisco resident, was assigned to Shay's case nearly six years ago in early 2010. For many years, Nancy had worked in the Administrative Office of the Courts for the Judicial Council. There, she became familiar with the work of SFCASA and was eager to become a volunteer. Her background in law and her knowledge of the courts gave her the knowledge and skills she needed to write informative reports to support her work with the energetic teenager Shay had become.

Shay was bright but needed guidance in navigating the foster care system and standing up for her rights, especially as she neared the age of 18. Nancy advocated for Shay to ensure she had the support system in place to help her

stay in school, address educational challenges, pursue extracurricular activities, and grow into a mature young woman. Most importantly, Nancy helped Shay find some of the stability she'd been missing from so early on in her life.

Now, Nancy and Shay meet regularly to prepare Shay for turning eighteen and the new opportunities and challenges it will bring. With Nancy at her side, Shay has been able to experience more of what every teenager should, and has developed her own strong identity as a result. Established routines and traditions, including a yearly trip to the Nutcracker Ballet on Shay's birthday, have given Shay a foundation upon which to grow, develop her interests, and become a healthy and happy young adult.

As Shay's advocate and mentor, Nancy has donned many roles: teacher, cheerleader and coach, and advocate in court when Shay's voice needed to be heard and her rights defended. Nancy knows that Shay will soon face a lot of uncertainty with applying to college, finding a job and stable housing, and practicing self-advocacy. But Nancy always stays positive,

and helps Shay do the same, pursuing opportunities that present themselves instead of fearing the transition. Shay is looking forward to serving on the yearbook staff this year as a high school senior, and to attending the out of state college tour offered by Independent Living Skills Program this October. Nancy has taught Shay about advocating for herself and what she needs. But Shay knows Nancy will be there to support and encourage her, understanding Shay's hopes, dreams, and ideas for her future.

Shay is now a young adult eager to see the world and find her place in it. She says, "because of Nancy, I have become more open-minded, willing to try different things and meet new people. I've grown to love her over the six years we've known each other." Shay calls Nancy one of her "best friends." That's the highest compliment a CASA can hope for from a teenager. As Nancy and Shay work together towards Shay's 18th birthday and potential enrollment in extended foster care, Nancy will continue to support her in all she dreams she will accomplish.



CALIFORNIA VOLUNTEER OF
THE YEAR AWARD



OVER 25% OF YOUTH PARTICIPATED IN SUMMER OR EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES DIRECTLY SUPPORTED BY SFCASA.

APRIL AND CHARLIE

Charlie and April first met a year and a half ago in 2014. April, who has a background in special education and working with disabled children, was eager to take on her first role as a CASA. Charlie was also excited to have an adult he could count on.

The stability of routine and consistent interaction with a caring adult can make a world of difference for a foster youth's development, social skills, and exploration of their passions and interests. Once meeting Charlie, April realized how much she could do to support the young teen. She encouraged Charlie to speak up about his interests, both academic and extracurricular. As a result, he was able to get a summer scholarship to attend baseball camp last summer. And this summer, he got the chance to improve upon his already accomplished guitarist skills by attending band camp.

April makes the effort to visit Charlie at his group home outside of the city regularly. He eagerly looks forward to their weekly visits. Fridays, the last day of school and the start of a weekend at his group home, are tough for him. But, he says, "I remember that I have our visit to look forward to on Saturday and it helps me get through Friday." With April nearby, Charlie can also stand up for his needs while at the group home: "I have a resource to talk to if I get in trouble," he says. "She listens to my side of the situation and talks to the staff to try and solve the problem. We can talk about what happened and she doesn't get mad at me; she still shows up for our visit."

April is also a constant source of support for Charlie beyond encouraging him to explore other extracurricular activities. She shows up to his special education (IEP) meetings and attended his graduation. She makes it a priority to always be there for him, especially when no one else can. And she fights tirelessly to find the resources to make sure Charlie is engaged, learning and growing as an individual. Thanks to April, he now looks forward to birthdays and holidays. Last Christmas, they went to the SFCASA holiday party together, laughing and eating a lot, while decorating cookies and playing bingo. Charlie's already looking forward to the next one, and knows that April will be there to share this holiday season.

"Having a CASA has helped me in a lot of ways," says Charlie. Now, as he prepares to move from his group home to live with a foster family, and also gets ready to transition to public high school, he is more ready than ever to tackle head-on this new, exciting chapter of his life. With April by his side, his future has never been brighter.

THANK YOU TO OUR VOLUNTEER CASAS

Felicia Curcuru

Tim Abraham Jessica Angulo Michelle Armstrong Monette Aujay Judy Aune Arlie Ausich Nishanth Babu Erica Baccus Patty Baldwin Matthew Bauer Doug Beeferman Sarah Benjamin Ellen Berman Michael Bonner Nancy Bourne Samantha Bours Margaret Brickner Mikki Bryan Jennifer Burden Gianna Burns Alicia Burt Cynthia Butler Julie Butler Kristen Byrne Maria Jose Cabrera Elizabeth Cady Aurele Carlat Rose Carlyle Tracy Carter Regan Catanzaro Robin Cavagnolo Morgan Cepparo Tristen Chang Sabrina Chang Julia Chou Amanda Clarke Hilarie Coby Deanne Coorough

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68 NEW VOLUNTEERS COMPLETED THE 42 HOUR ADVOCATE TRAINING

Lauren Hargrave Gwen Harrison Ellen Haude Jessi Havel Janie Havemeyer Bailey Haws Owen Hege Mimi Hernandez Caitlin Herrforth Judy Ho Joanne Irvine Nadine James-Ward Aaron Jeweler Lee Jewell **Emilie Johnson** Angela Jones Malgorzata Kacprzak Adean Kane Jamie Karpilow Lisa Katayama Becca Katz Walter Keefe Robert Keehan Melissa Keir Yasmine Khan Ann Kirk Madelaine Krehm Elizabeta Kunic Peter Kupfer Courtney Lagace Sammie Lai **Emily Leathers** Ryan LeBlanc Eliza Leoni

Cate Lewis Patricia Levn Todd Lloyd Kate Lorch Michelle Loya-Talamantes Candee Lozano Eric Lukoff Kathleen Lynaugh Ana Maciel Denisse Mancia Braun Meg Martin Jaimi Martin Jennifer Martins Keith Martinsen Georgi Maule-ffinch Sheila McCarthy Ryan McCown



THANK YOU TO OUR VOLUNTEER CASAS

Pam McKulla Scott McMillen Megan McTiernan Kevin Meehan Jubilee Menzies Yvonne Milham Patricia Ann Miller

Puppet Mills Annie Mitchell Joseph Mocklin Christine Molzner

De Moore Mary Morris Michael Morris William Most Ben Nason Berkeley Neblett Audra Nemir

Hannah Nerenhausen Philippe Nguyen Robert Novelli Jeff Nussbaum Anne Nyffeler Michael O'Rourke Tara Pandarinath Shade Paul

Flizabeth Pederson Jeffrey Perry

Desmond Perryman Sarah Pfingsten Alex Pichette Jan Platt Raiiv Prabhakar Lucy Quacinella

Liz Ren

Boris Reznikov Windy Riemer Gillian Rogers Cecilia Romero Jeanne Rosenmeier

Catherine Reilly

Jackie Ross Renee Ross Abby Rovner Jennifer Ruiz Michelle Ryan Nichole Santiago Timothy Savin Ashlei Schulz David Shamszad Myndi Sheets Mary Shields Nicole Simoneaux Michael Simpson

Justine Sink

Dale Smith

Dawn Snyder Penne Soltysik Kelly Sopher Heather Spearman

Nancy Spero Blyth Strachman Molly Street Nina Swanson April Swenson Marcy Taylor Winn Taylor Candace Tejuco Tom Terbell

Catherine Thomas Colette Thomason Shannon Tilston Jamie Tuckev Harry Turner Rocky Unruh Christine Unruh Joanne Vidinsky Philip Waddington Amanda Wheeler Singer

Amanda White Crane

Lois Winder Camille Wu

Avril Zielin-Brodey Heather Zona





WE INCREASED MALE VOLUNTEERS TO 20% OF OUR ADVOCATES AND DOUBLED THE PERCENTAGE OF AFRICAN-AMERICAN **VOLUNTEERS.**

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

For the year ended June 30, 2015 (unaudited) with comparative totals for the year ended June 30, 2014

July 2014 - June 2015 July 2013 - June 2014 **INCOME Contributed Revenue** 49,683 66,460 Government Foundations 221.561 215.154 12.909 22.431 Community Individual 186,929 195.132 Corporate 61,001 107,346 Events 350.941 409.333 Total Contributed Revenue 1,014,856 879.617 Total Other Revenue 287 1.941 Direct Costs of Event (86,674)(88,780)Net Assets Released 455,510 128,572 **Total Income** 1,250,395 1,054,935 **Cost of Goods Sold** (707)(648)**TOTAL Gross Income** 1.249.688 1.055.583 **EXPENSE Program Services** 592,144 720,180 General & Administrative 65.486 71,407 Fundraising 186.446 213.550 949.112 887.10

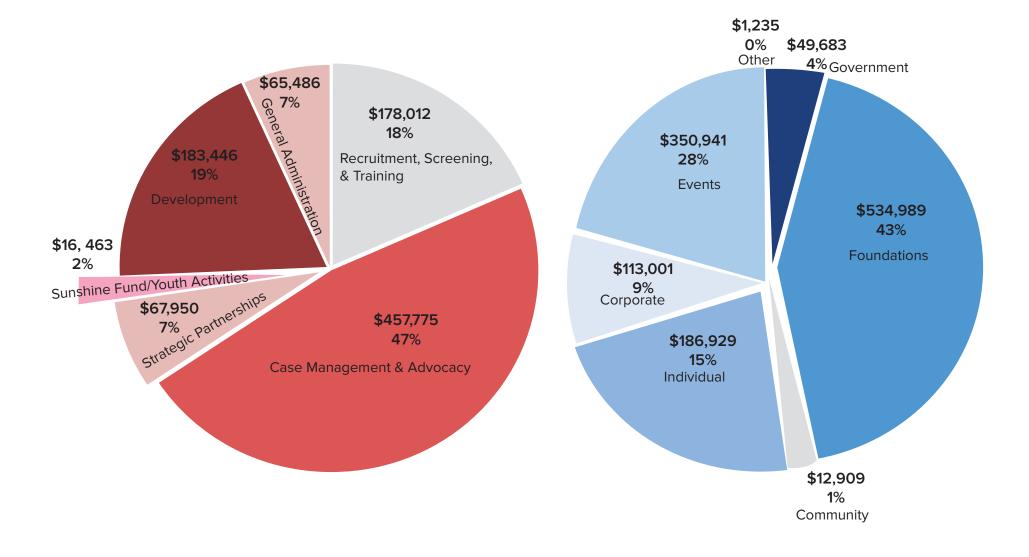
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

As of June 30, 2015 (unaudited) with comparative totals for June 30, 2014.

	June 30, 2015	June 30, 2014
ASSETS		
Total Checking/Savings	1,098,598	394,236
Total Accounts Receivable	175,998	273,366
Total Other Current Assets	25,846	20,596
Total Current Assets	1,300,422	688,198
Total Fixed Assets	4,902	8,107
Total Other Assets	6,383	5,620
Total Assets	1,311,727	701,925
LIABILITIES & EQUITY		
Total Accounts Payable	13,315	10,036
Total Credit Cards		4,976
Total Other Current Liabilities	18,188	19,760
Total Liabilities	31,503	34,772
Temp Restricted Net Assets	828,006	495,510
Unrestricted Net Assets	452,218	171,642
Total Equity	1,280,223	667,152
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	1,311,727	701,925

SFCASA ADVOCATES SUBMITTED 380 REPORTS TO THE COURT THIS YEAR.

SFCASA FY14-15 Expenses by Category SFCASA FY14-15 Revenue by Category



THANK YOU TO OUR DONORS

INDIVIDUALS

\$25,000+

Amanda B. Clarke John & Heather Hughes Botti

\$10.000-\$24.999

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Judy & Gary Pasquinelli

Arthur & Toni Rembe Rock

Martin Romo & Leesa Miao Jeffrey Ross & Janice Platt Jerry Roth Benjamin Ruegsegger Sharon Schenone Andrew & Catarina Schwab Xander Shapiro Roxanne Sheridan & Gil Purcell Chris Sommer Annie & Charlie Stone Anne Stuhldreher & Tim Wirth Tracy Thompson Dorothy & Enzo Torresi A. Lee & Helen Tyree James & Marci Valleras Sandy Van Keuren Jeffrey & Lauran Weinmann Michael Wilkins & Sheila Duignan

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Pam Moon

Jack Chu

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CIRCLE

Thank you to these individuals for making plans to support SFCASA through their estates.

Amanda B. Clarke Rob & Liz Nakamoto Singer

FOSTERING FUTURES

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CORPORATE

\$25,000+

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Louis R. Lurie Foundation
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Sleep Train
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Bernard E. and Alba Witkin Charitable
Foundation

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ebay inc
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Recharge Medical and Day Spa
Robert Half International
Safeway
Steve and Kate's Camp
Tenney Family Charitable Fund
U.S. Bank

Harold L. Wyman Foundation Inc

\$1,000-\$2,499

Bank of the West Employee
Giving Campaign
BlackRock
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Google Matching Gifts Program

Lee and Linda Meier Family Foundation In-N-Out Burger Foundation Jackson National Life Insurance Company Sephora Theta Delta Xi Weiss Associates Westphal Family Foundation

\$500-\$999

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SFCASA WAS NAMED ONE OF THE SAN FRANCISCO GIANTS' AT&T COMMUNITY ALL-STARS.



