

annual report 2018



#### mission

Child Advocates engages community volunteers and staff members to protect children who are victims of child abuse. We are their voices in court, ensuring all children thrive in a safe and secure home.

#### vision

Child Advocates strives to ensure that the children we represent and advocate for receive a safe, permanent home as soon as possible and thrive in home, school, and life.



## annual report 2018

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# a story of persistence



Ebony was four years old when the red convertible pulled up to her house and a lady from the Department of Child Services took her away from her home. This would be the first of many times when Ebony and her sisters would be separated from their parents and each other.

While they were in the child welfare system, they were not placed together. The sisters waited anxiously as their father worked to get himself situated and able to get the girls placed back into his custody. Ebony and her sisters returned home, in the care of their father and new stepmother. Within a year, Ebony's dad disappeared and the girls were left in the care of their stepmother. From age 7 to 12, Ebony and her sisters lived with their stepmother who received financial assistance to care for them. According to Ebony, "when the money stopped coming in, I was kicked out."

Ebony was placed in The Children's Guardian Home, separated once again from her sisters. DCS placed her, temporarily, in a foster home until she was moved into the home of her great aunt and uncle whom she had never met.

This new home and family lasted a few short years. About the time she started middle school, Ebony was back in the Guardian Home. Ebony preferred living in the Guardian Home. She wanted to take care of herself, she believed she had to, because everyone she had known continued to let her down.

Throughout middle school and high school, Ebony was again placed in multiple different foster homes and group homes, each of them not working out. All of this taking place during the most transformational years of her life.

While most children are leaning on their friends and family through their youth and teenage years, Ebony had to be independent and resilient. She had to forge her way through the world as her own advocate.

When Ebony was 16 years old she was assigned a Guardian Ad Litem from Child Advocates, Chris Mundy. Chris was appointed to Ebony to advocate for her best interest while she was in the foster care system. He was a constant presence, a friend, and a confidante. He was someone she could count on and rely on, after everyone else had let her down.

I saw him often. I'm pretty sure I got on his nerves a lot. He let me talk. He let me vent about life and my situation. He was there for me. He let the court know what I wanted. He was my voice when I couldn't speak for myself. I know he was doing a good job advocating for me because he was honest and genuine.

Chris helped guide Ebony into extended services after she turned 18, which is typically when teens transition out of foster care. "Most of us experience help and support when we transition out of our homes into college or the real world, I think children in foster care deserve the same support," said Mundy.

After completing an associate's degree in 2011, Ebony began to intern at Child Advocates. In 2012, Ebony was hired to work at Child Advocates full time, alongside the man who helped guide her through the toughest time in her life.

While working at Child Advocates, Ebony began to pursue other passions. In 2016, Ebony started to venture into the fashion world. She started a small business and by 2018 she decided to pursue it full time.

Perfect Pick by Ebony Nicole currently has three store front locations and a full online store. "The goal for my store is to sell quality fashion at a reasonable price. I want to keep expanding to be able to meet the needs of fashion-ista's like myself," said Ebony.

To say that Ebony is determined and motivated would be an understatement. She's unstoppable. She's independent. She's resilient. She's the exception to what everyone thinks and expects of children in foster care. She's transformed into an extraordinary adult and Child Advocates is honored to have been part of her journey to success.

Find out more about Perfect Pick by Ebony Nicole at perfectpickbyebonynicole.com.

8

children in Marion County are victims of neglect or abuse every day; half are under the age of five



29,000

children are currently in Indiana's foster care system



number of homes a child will likely live in during their first year in foster care

# who we served

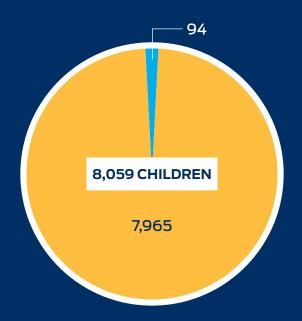
In 2018, Child Advocates served 8,059 children in Indianapolis who were victims of abuse and neglect.

CHINS: 7,965 children
CHINS means Child in Need of Services.
This is a child who has been removed

This is a child who has been removed from home due to abuse or neglect.

Custody: 94 children

These are high-conflict custody cases involving children.



### **2018 CHINS DEMOGRAPHICS**

**▶** GENDER





▶ AGE

0-1 years	1,057			
2-4 years			1,759	
5-9 years				2,198
10-12 years	1,053			
13-17 years		1,505		
18+ years <b>393</b>				

**▶** RACE

white	3,/21
Black or African American 3,258	
Multi-Racial <b>836</b>	
Unknown/Other <b>89</b>	
Asian <b>55</b>	
American Indian or Alaska Native 4	
Native Hawaiian 2	

**ETHNICITY** 

Non-Hispanic	7,801
Hispanic 164	



Becoming a CASA Volunteer gave a new meaning to my life. Watching Child Advocates' CEO and staff tireless dedication to serving children in the foster care system was my inspiration to start Foster Fairies. I knew I had to do my part, too. It's been a remarkable experience supporting children throughout the holidays and beyond.

## Aleksandra Pesalj

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 $oxed{6}$  Child Advocates not only plays a significant role in the lives of the children and families they serve, but also in the lives of those who support the mission. I have been blessed to be a part of the organization for several years and I have found that my life has also been enriched immeasurably through serving.

**Evelyn Gearries** 

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I love to work with children. I want to give them a voice, support and someone to lean on.

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Claire, Jeremy, Jacob, Jason, Finesse, Olivia, Justin Mr. Garv

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# CASA Volunteers

We are grateful to the CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocate) Volunteers who donated their time to children in need in 2018.



IN 2018

749

total CASA Volunteers

18,795

volunteer hours donated

185

new volunteers trained

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There are many children in bad situations that need help and support from caring people.

Bernie, CASA Volunteer

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I want to give children a voice and let them know they are valued and cared for.

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Kristen Isley

Linda Kaser Cari Kelm Art Kemp Jay Kennedy Kelli Kersev Sandi Kessel Marlena Key Alison King Judith King Karen King Scott Kinsey **Emily Kitterman** Thomas Klassen Toni Kleine Alisa Klepach Lauren Klotz Michele Knerr Kelsey Knight Jessica Knudsen Susan Kobets Dawn Koers Nancy Koppel Roxanne Kovacs Shaindel Kramer Susan Krohne Donna Kroll

Linda Krontiris Kimberley Kurtz Timothy Kurtz David Lakes Cynthia Larmore Rhiannon Law Anita Lawrence Marilyn Lawrence Elizabeth Lecher Stanley Lemon Tiffany Lemons Kendra Lenv Danielle Lenz Mary Leslie Lilandra Lestz Shaquilliea Lewis Maureen Lindsey Caitlin Lischer Louise Lombard Kristy Lombardo Maria Long Mona Long Dallas Longdon Maureen Longenecker Cheri Longerbone Dorothy Longworth JoAnn Loomis Brenda Lopez-Rodriguez Michele Lothridge Allison Luellen Elizabeth Lynch Sandra Magner Karen Maher Harriett Maiors Lawanda Malan Christine Malasto Kim Malicoat Robert Maple Chaveli Marin Megan Martens Kaylah Martin Melanie Martin Karen Masbaum Anita Massengill Helene Massey Hope Matthews Hannah Matthies **Deborah Matus** Edward McConnell Dylan McCoy Joyce McCray Jacquelyn McEntire Joseph McGonigal Kathleen McGowan Frin McGrew Cassandra McILwain Sherri McKeen Kathy McKimmie Cynthia McKinley Karla McLaughlin Mia McLendon Melissa McMickle Mia McRoy Suzanne McVev Christine Mears Kate Mellen

## CASA Volunteers, continued

Raeiohne Melton Jill Merle Brianne Mershman Kimberly Metzger Eileen Meulbroek Carrie Miannan Cvnthia Michaelis Denice Michel Amy Michie Kellie Miles Beverly Miller Donna Miller Ellen Miller Kimberly Miller Leslie Miller Marcia Miller Aundria Mitchell Jerry Mitchell Kyleigh Mitchell Tina Mitchell DeJorie Monroe Kristin Montgomery Scott Montross Allison Moore Angelia Moore Christine Moore Kelsea Moore Sherri Moore Stacey Moore Lisa Moore Michelle Moorman Karen Morgan Amanda Morris Kristen Morris Les Morris Bertie Morse Thomas Mulcahy Barbara Mulvanev Michael Mundy Ashlev Murphy Courtney Murray Theresa Murray Halev Myers Ranga Narayanaswamy Carrie Neal Danielle Neal Kimberly Neal Miranda Nehrig Brittany Nelson Lona Newton Whitney Newton William Newton Amy Nichols Amy Michelle Nichols Anna Nichols Catherine Nickerson Jennifer Noll Jessica Norris Michael North Richard Ogden Kate Orme

Chad Oswald Brandi Otieno Zenobia Overmyer Jessica Owens Ruby Owsley Julie Pack Trudy Paige Carol Pate Donna Pate Anna Patterson Lisa Paulson Jane Pavan Andrea Pavey Paul Peaper **Taylor Pearson** Joyce Peipert Susan Perkins Miaahmada Person Aleksandra Pesali Travis Peterson Nataki Pettigrew

Adrienne Reed LeAnn Reed Carol Reeves Jenny Reifeis Stacy Reifeis Wilson Ren Michelle Revling-Schnell David Reynolds Pat Revnolds Kimberley Rhoades Fredrick Rice Beth Riga Juliana Riley Lacey Ring-Verbik Mary Glenn Rinne Karrie Rivers Frika Roach **Austin Robbins** Katherine Robbins Stacey Roberson

Shanita Redd



I love children and I care about their welfare. I want to be there to help.

Ranga, CASA Volunteer

Kerri Pfau Marilyn Pfisterer Ishira Phillips Rowena Phillips Sylvia Phillips Noelle Pickler Danielle Pierson Catherine Pillischafske Diane Pinkins Katherine Pittman **Brittany Pitts** David Poole Dorian Poole Jake Porter-Eakle Pamela Potesta Judith Princell Eileen Pritchard Crystal Pulley Susan Quimby Lynn Ragland Erin Rainey Tennille Rains Kristen Ramirez Shelby Rampone

Bryn Ramsey

Amanda Recupido

Annie Robinson Kvle Robinson Margaret Robinson Thomas Rockwell Arnaldo Rodriguez Anne Rosebrock **Curtis Rostad** Betty Routledge Katherine Rueffer Jennifer Rzeszewski David Salemme Gina Sanders Cheryl Santee Brandon Schaaf Kathleen Schell Steven Schlangen Sr. Caleb Schlegel Kacie Schlegel Lindsay Schloss Natalie Schneider Haley Scholz Seidina Schotting David Schwab Sandy Segneri Samantha Selden Debra Seymour

Joan Ossip

Lauren Shafer Sarah Shaffstall Khadijah Shareef Nicole Shelton Carol Sheppard Catherine Shook Mary Short Anna Shotts Eileen Sigmon Charlotte Simpson Elizabeth Simpson Janet Simpson Erika Singler Leanne Sinks Maureen Sippel Sarah Beth Skidmore Spencer Slabaugh Joanna Slisz Meghan Sloan Deb Slough Elaine Smith Ireka Smith Janean Smith Kristyn Smith Lori Smith

Sandy Stuaan Shannon Stuart Patrice Suttle-Nunn Debra Swain Amv Swann Tanva Swanson Beth Swayze Abbey Swhear Laura Tagliani Kimberly Tant Stephanie Tartaglia Debra Taylor Elizabeth Terrell Carole Terry Jennifer Terry Kellie Terry **Brooke Thomas** Lavonna Thomas **Tiffany Thomas** Angela Thompson Anne Thompson Stanley Thompson James Thorne Jayne Thorne Tera Thornton

Zainab Wahab Lindsay Wahl Brenda Walde Barbara Walker Crystal Walker Elizabeth Walker Michelle Walker James Wallis **Audrey Walters** Lauren Walters Herman Ward Jr. Marcia Wareham Melissa Warth Barbara Wayman Lynn Weatherly Mary Weber Trisha Weiger Sharon Wellbrook Elaine Weller Carol Wellman Michelle Werner Bea White Brian White DawnMarie White Jovce White Kristal White Carolyn Whitfield James Whitten David Wilev **Emily Wilson** Judy Wilson Lucinda Wilson Susan Wilson Sasha Windham Lois Winenger Amy Wisdorf Tara Witchger Diana Witt Teresa Witt Lvnn Wolf Catherine Woodard Terran Woodford Julia Woodworth Cindy Woolf Rebecca Woolf Mercedes Wooten Jessica Wootten Trina Wurst Wendy Yerkes **Brittany Yoder** Gina Yoder Jen Yoder Jessica Yoder **Dorothy Yundt** 

Janine Zee-Cheng

Sharon Zollman

Kristeen Waddell

Kevin Wagner



I enjoy working with kids and I feel this is very fulfilling and rewarding.

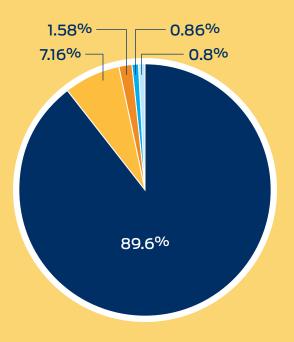
Erin, CASA Volunteer

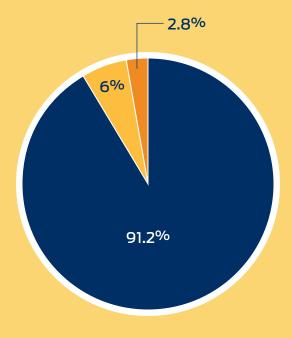
Michelle Smith Nancy Smith Stefanie Smith Jeanne Smucker Chris Sommer Adina Spears Jennifer Speier Anjelicia Spencer Cheryl Spencer Stacey Spencer Brenda Starks Tiffany Stevens-Nelson Trellis Stewart Vera Stewart Regina Stigger Kelsey Stolz Margaret Stork Alexandra Stouffer Bruce Strack

Nancy Tinsley Nancy Tolson Girsdy Torres Catherine Treen Amber Treio Cheryl Trice LaShauna Triplett Ketha Troutman Tonya Troutman **Gary Truelock** Jennifer Tucker Kathleen Tymorek Kay Ulery Pamela Upchurch Carolyn Valachovic-Monroe Tara VanderWoude Heather Vergara Halie Vining Ashley Vyverberg

# 2018 financials

For the fiscal year January 1, 2018 to December 31, 2018





#### **SOURCES OF INCOME**

89.6% State and County

7.16% Contributions and Grants

1.58% Miscellaneous
0.86% United Way

0.8% Government Grants

#### **OPERATING EXPENSES**

91.2% Program Services

6% Fundraising

2.8% Management and General

3,000+

foster children received gifts as a result of the toy drive 1,182

children served by education advocates in over 100 different schools in 2018 560+

community members trained in Undoing Racism Workshops



I find supporting Child Advocates to be very enriching and fulfilling. I produce an annual event that raises funds for Child Advocates and informs the community about the plight of abused children. It is one of the most gratifying experiences in my life.

### **David Odle**

# with thanks



To everyone who supported Child Advocates in 2018, thank you. Your dedication to children in our community makes an impact that lasts a lifetime.

We hope you will continue that support in 2019 and beyond.

Cindy Booth, Esq.

Chief Executive Officer



#### CHILD ADVOCATES LEADERSHIP STAFF

#### Cynthia K. Booth, Esq.

Chief Executive Officer

#### Phyllis Armstrong, Esq.

Director of Mediation

#### **Felicia Brown**

Chief Financial Officer

### **Katy Crichlow Cummings, CFRE**

Chief Advancement Officer

### Cindy Dean, Esq.

Director of Family Crisis Advocacy Program

#### **Diana Dunn**

Co-Director of Undoing Racism Initiative

#### lill Fnglish

Co-Director of Undoing Racism Initiative

#### **Gregg Ellis**

Chief Program Officer

### **Chris Mundy**

Director of Volunteer Training

### Shun Radford, PHR

Chief Administrative and Human Resources Officer

#### **Donna Walker**

Director of Educational Liaison Program

#### Carey Haley Wong, Esq.

Chief Legal Counsel



8200 Haverstick Road, Suite 240 Indianapolis, IN 46240

### childadvocates.net

317.205.3055







I support Child Advocates because I know they work to improve the lives of some of the most vulnerable children in our community. It is heartbreaking that so many children in Indianapolis find themselves in such dire circumstances of abuse or neglect. Child Advocates is a glimmer of hope for those kids, so I choose to financially support the mission to ensure that these children have someone looking out for their best interests.

Ron Gifford