

FUNDING APPLICATION

GENERAL INFORMATION

Organization Information

Legal Name:		Federal Tax ID#:		501(c)(3) Public Charity	
Child Advocates San Antonio		74-2494625		509 (a)(1)	
Address:	City:	State:	Zip Code:		
406 San Pedro Avenue	San Antonio	TX	78212		
Website:		Fax:		United Way Funded:	
www.casa-satx.org		(210) 225-7070		Yes	

Head Of Organization

Name: Marina J. Gonzales	Title: Chief Executive Officer
E-Mail Address: mgonzales@casa-satx.org	Phone: (210) 437-2591

Application Contact

Name: Erin Grothues	Title: Grants Manager	E-Mail Address: egrothues@casa-satx.org	Phone: (210) 437-2591
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Previous Najim Funding

Year	Funding \$
2007	\$20,000
2008	\$30,000
2010	\$25,000
2011	\$40,000
2012	\$50,000
2013	\$50,000
2014	\$50,000
2015	\$75,000
2016	\$100,000
2017	\$100,000
2018	\$110,000
Total	\$650,000

Has the organization applied to the Najim Family Foundation in the past and been declined?

No

Grant Amount Requested \$:	Total Project Budget \$:	Organization's Annual budget \$:
\$107,000	\$2,454,869	\$3,134,000

Mission Statement:

The mission of Child Advocates San Antonio (CASA) is to recruit, train, and supervise court-appointed volunteer Advocates who provide constancy for abused and neglected children and youth while advocating for services and placement in safe and permanent homes.

PROJECT INFORMATION

Program / Project Title:

To support Advocate Supervisor Salaries & Fringe.

PROJECT TIMELINE

Start Date	End Date
07/01/2019	06/30/2020

Harvey E. Najim Family Foundation Priorities:

Child Abuse & Child Neglect

Program / Project Description:

Approximately 2,000 children a year are removed from their homes due to abuse or neglect in Bexar County. Child Protective Services (CPS) is appointed legal guardian during removal which is typically 12 - 18 months. Insufficient CPS staffing limits one-to-one child contact and hinders ability to research and collect vital information, as well as ability to advocate and provide medical, education, and other services to children. As a result, the needs of children in state protective care often go unmet. Judges need reliable information with which to make decisions regarding services and appropriate placement for children. Children need a constant adult they can count on as they have multiple caseworkers, attorneys, and placements. Children need safe and permanent homes as soon as possible. CASA volunteers act as the front line volunteer workforce to provide advocacy to abused and neglected children in the Bexar County Court system. CASA volunteers support the mission of CASA while upholding and demonstrating our shared values on behalf of the children we serve. CASA strives to recruit, train, supervise, and retain a diverse volunteer-base that is reflective of the community and children we serve. CASA provides a stable and constant adult Advocate to ensure children don't fall through the cracks of an overwhelmed system.

Child abuse and neglect is a pervasive problem that affects communities of all races, ethnicities and socioeconomic levels. CASA serves children and youth in Bexar County who are in legal custody of CPS who have been removed from their homes due to abuse and neglect. Typically, judges select the most complex cases for CASA to serve on, since our volunteers often provide critical information that helps the judge determine the best final placement for the children on the case. These children are victims of chronic neglect (malnourishment, improper or no medical treatment, dangerous exposure, and/or 'failure to thrive'), severe physical, sexual, and/or emotional abuse. Coupled with abusive backgrounds and chaotic childhoods, most of these children are emotionally unstable, educationally disadvantaged, socially unprepared and financially impoverished. Abuse is associated with a range of other risks--juvenile delinquency, suicide, unemployment, and poor school performance. In Texas, only 41% of kids in foster care graduate high school versus 70% of non-foster kids who graduate high school. 65% of all children who are trafficked are in the foster care system. According to research by Dr. Richard Gelles, at the University of Pennsylvania, victims of child abuse and neglect are at high risk for general health problems, mental health issues, development delays, dismal academic achievements, and recursive involvement with the criminal justice system. Children who experience child abuse and neglect are 9 times more likely to become involved in criminal activity, are at higher risk for domestic violence, alcoholism, and illicit drug abuse, all of which correlate to negative health impacts, both on the individual and on the community. Child abuse fully affects a community's quality of life, economic prosperity, and positive growth. Research shows children with a CASA Advocate are more likely to receive court-ordered medical and social services because of the Advocate's detailed knowledge of the child's circumstances.

To meet the need of providing more CASA Advocates for abused and neglected children in foster care in Bexar County, our grant request of \$107,000 would be used toward our FY20 (7/1/2018 -6/30/2020) goal to recruit, train and support a capable volunteer base of 792 volunteer Advocates to serve 1980 children. Funding constraints mean we are currently serving only about half of children in the foster care system.

Our primary program is to provide courtroom advocacy for abused and neglected children. Advocate supervisors provide professional expertise, educating Advocates on the complex workings of the child welfare and judicial system, support Advocates' work to ensure children's needs are met, and offer guidance on resources. Our Advocates' work promotes better outcomes for children, which include Constancy (one adult to be a constant, stable presence during the case of each child), Impacts (how children are positively and directly impacted due to the work of their CASA Advocate) and Judge Agreement. Our goal for FY20 is to achieve program outcomes of 90% Constancy; 95% Impacts; 95% Judge Agreement. All new volunteers complete 33 hours of initial training offered on average 8 times a year. After the volunteers are legally sworn in by the court, they are eligible to be assigned to a case and can begin advocating for children. Twelve additional hours of training are required by each Advocate per calendar year. We ensure the quality and effectiveness of those volunteers who work on behalf of the children we serve through an extensive screening process, intensive training, and supervising the volunteers for assigned cases. Advocates spend an average of 15-20 hours per case, obtaining critical information from contact with doctors, teachers and other professionals who are aware of the child's needs. Advocates ensure children have constancy and receive needed services, such as therapy, medical appointments, educational assessments, and understanding legal rights and services. Medical, mental health, safety/risk factors, educational and legal impacts are the most common impacts CASA Advocates make. Our services are provided free of charge to children in State protective custody, as assigned by the courts. Last year, as a result of this information, judges agreed with CASA recommendations 96% of the time. Through the requested grant funding, CASA can further its goal of providing an Advocate for every child who needs one, helping reduce negative outcomes related to abuse/trauma.

Evaluation Plan:

CASA plans to serve 1980 children through the work of 792 volunteer Advocates during our FY20. CASA will use statistical data collection through the Optima system to track and monitor the following:

1. 90% of the time, a CASA Advocate will serve a child as a constant, stable presence through the duration of a case
2. 95% of the time, Advocates will have a specific and measurable impact
3. 95% of the time, Judges will agree and implement suggestions for the child's welfare and placement as recommended by a CASA Advocate

Feedback mechanisms include pre- and post-training tests; volunteer post-training evaluations; annual volunteer evaluations; volunteer satisfaction surveys; and attorneys/judges surveys. Pre- and post-tests are administered to volunteers at the beginning and end of each training class, respectively, eight per fiscal year. Advocate Supervisors also evaluate the effectiveness of each volunteer via written evaluation at case closure.

Plans to sustain project beyond the term of this request:

Our vision is to improve the lives of abused and neglected children in State protective custody in Bexar County by providing a volunteer Advocate to every child in the foster care system who needs one. CASA maintains a long-term strategic plan to achieve our key objectives and sustainability. This includes the continued execution of our funding model for sustainable operations funding, the execution of strategic partnerships as well as the creation of financial efficiencies via administrative services. We will continue to be the voice for abused and neglected children and maintain diligence in obtaining other revenue sources, including State, foundation, corporate and individual contributions.

Children Impacted:

How many unduplicated children will the TOTAL PROJECT INITIATIVE impact?

1,980

How many unduplicated children will NFF REQUESTED FUNDS impact?

200

Please provide the percentage of each group below that will be served by the project in which funds are being requested. Do not leave any area blank. If that specific group will not be served, include zero. The percentage should total 100%.

A. Population Served Age		B. Population Served Ethnicity	
Infants (0-5)	30%	African American	10%

Children (6-13)	46%	Asian American	0%
Young Adults (14-18)	24%	Caucasian	11%
TOTAL:	100%	Hispanic/Latino	67%
		Native American	0%
		Other and Define	12%
		TOTAL:	100%

City Council District for Which Children are Being Served:

District1, District2, District3, District4, District5, District6, District7, District8, District9, District10

Line item Budget:

Line Item Description	Total Project Funds Allocation	Najim Funds Allocation
Advocate Supervisor Salaries & Fringe	\$2,454,869	\$107,000
TOTAL:	\$2,454,869	\$107,000

OTHER FUNDING RESOURCES

For Project being Requested: Funding sources and amounts, pending and committed.

PROJECT - PENDING

Funder Name	Amount Requested
Alamo Kiwanis Club	\$5,000
Nathalie and Gladys Dalkowitz Charitable Trust	\$10,000
David and Betty Sacks Foundation	\$10,000
Coates Foundation	\$7,500
Sunstate Equipment Foundation	\$10,000
Texas Cavaliers Charitable Foundation	\$2,000
Valero Energy Foundation	\$10,000
TOTAL:	\$54,500

PROJECT - COMMITTED

Funder Name	Amount Requested
Circle Bar Foundation	\$10,000
Cowden Charitable Foundation	\$10,000
Billian Family Fund	\$5,000
American Endowment Foundation	\$2,500
Capital Group	\$2,900
In-N-Out Burger Foundation	\$5,000
Koehler Foundation	\$17,500
Kronkosky Charitable Foundation	\$125,000
Parker Foundation, Inc.	\$3,200
Terry and Regina Armstrong Charitable Foundation	\$3,000
Valero Benefit for Children	\$40,000
Texas CASA - PSTV	\$3,221

Texas CASA - Volunteer Travel	\$2,066
TOTAL:	\$229,387
Other funding sources and amounts, pending and committed not specific to this request.	
ALL OTHER ORGANIZATION REQUESTS - PENDING	
Funder Name	Amount Requested
Charity Ball Foundation	\$100,000
TOTAL:	\$100,000
ALL OTHER ORGANIZATION REQUESTS - COMMITTED	
Funder Name	Amount Requested
Texas CASA VOCA	\$1,021,337
License Plate Fund - TX CASA (LSP)	\$330
Bexar County	\$10,000
Humana Foundation	\$126
OVAG	\$42,000
Texas CASA - CVC	\$617,381
United Way	\$181,800
TOTAL:	\$1,872,974
BOARD OF DIRECTORS	
What percentage of your board contributes financially to the organization?	
100%	
If Board giving is not at 100%, please explain why?	
Not Applicable	
How are board members expected to participate in your organization?	
Board members are expected to act as a voting member with full authority and responsibility to develop policies, procedures and regulations for the operation of CASA; to monitor the nonprofit's financial health, programs and overall performance; to support the organization financially and publicly; and to provide the CEO/President with the resources to meet the needs of the children CASA serves.	
LIST OF BOARD DIRECTORS	
Name & Office Held	Corporate Affiliation
Kevin Moore (Chair)	iFinancial
Juanita Pelaez-Prada (Vice Chair)	Begum Pelaez-Prada, PLLC
Christina Lecholop	South Texas Money Management
Gabriela Black	Rinaldo J. Gonzales, CPA, PC
Carmen Gelhausen	H-E-B
Dr. Monica Dalrymple	South Texas Radiology Group
John Carlson	Sundt Construction
Larry Mendez	Transwestern
Lorien Whyte	Pozza & Whyte, PLLC
Mark Jones	Structure Tone Southwest
Krishna Reddy (Secretary)	Paul Garcia & Associates

Matt Turner (Treasurer)	Padgett, Stratemann & Co., LLP
S. Scott House	Morgan Stanley
Sandra Gonzales	Premiere Realty Group
Hon. Yvonne Katz, Ed.D.	Vision Into Action Associates, Inc.
Joseph "JK" Baxter (Assistant Treasurer)	Holt Texas, Ltd.
Robert "Rocky" Lopez	Lopez Sala Architects
Signature	
Marina J. Gonzales	