



2017 FUNDING APPLICATION

Date Received by NFF: _____

1) Organization Full Legal Name: CASA of Central Texas, Inc.			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ As shown on organization's IRS Determination Letter ▪ If requesting organization is doing business under another name ("doing business as," "d/b/a"), a copy of the documentation from the applicable state/government entity, generally the Secretary of State's office, recognizing the d/b/a name must accompany this proposal. 			
2) Address:	1619 E. Common St Ste 301	Phone:	(830) 626-2272
3) City, State, Zip:	New Braunfels, Texas 78130	Fax:	(830) 626-3636
4) Exec. Director/CEO:	Norma Castilla-Blackwell	Signature:	
5) Title:	Executive Director	Phone:	(830) 626-2272
		Fax:	(830) 626-3636
E-Mail Address: nblackwell@casacentex.org		Web URL: www.casacentex.org	United Way Funded: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N
6) 501(c)(3) Public Charity <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Select One: 509 (a)(1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Y 509 (a)(2) <input type="checkbox"/> Y Designation must appear on the IRS Determination letter 509 A (3)? <input type="checkbox"/> Y If yes, written legal opinion is required and must accompany application. Tax ID Number of the Organization Applying: 74-2403373		7) Amount Requested: \$ <u>50,000</u> 8) Total Project Cost: \$ <u>221,400</u> 9) Organization's annual budget: \$ <u>1,360,000</u> (for the current year) 10) Previous Najim Funding: 2007: <u>N/A</u> 2008: <u>\$ 20,000</u> 2009: <u>\$ 25,000</u> 2010: <u>\$ 25,000</u> 2011: <u>\$ 25,000</u> 2012: <u>\$ 25,000</u> 2013: <u>\$ 30,000</u> 2014: <u>\$ 35,000</u> 2015: <u>\$ 35,000</u> 2016: <u>\$ 40,000</u> 2017: <u>\$</u>	
11) Has the organization applied to the Najim Family Foundation in the past and been declined? <input type="checkbox"/> Y <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N If yes, when? <i>(This includes all organizations, for any and all requests made to the foundation, regardless if funding received for one request and a decline for a different request.)</i>			
12) HARVEY E. NAJIM FAMILY FOUNDATION PRIORITIES: (Please check only one area below that applies to the funding request)			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Child Abuse & Child Neglect	<input type="checkbox"/>	Food, Shelter and Clothing
<input type="checkbox"/>	Disabilities/Special Needs	<input type="checkbox"/>	Medical Needs
<input type="checkbox"/>	Education		
13) 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 or N/A. The percentage should total 100%.			
A. Population Served Age: <u>34</u> % Infants (0-5) <u>42</u> % Children (6-13) <u>24</u> % Young Adults (14-18) 100 % TOTAL		B. Population Served Ethnicity: <u>5</u> % African American <u>0</u> % Asian American <u>35</u> % Caucasian <u>54</u> % Hispanic/Latino <u>0</u> % Native American <u>6</u> % Other (Define <u>Multi-ethnic</u>) 100 % TOTAL	
<i>(Example: If more than one group is affected, divide the percentage appropriately among those affected or in some instances the project may only affect one group, therefore the entire percentage will be applied to that group.)</i>			

14) Project Title: *(Copy and Insert the "To Support" sentence from Invitation email received from NFF)*

To support the general operating costs of recruiting, training, and supporting community volunteers and staff.

15) Project Description: (Describe in detail the project the funds are being request for – may include goals, issues, or needs the project will address, individuals impacted, expected results). *This section will expand and if additional space is required, organization may add no more than 1 additional sheet.*

CASA of Central Texas' primary objective is to provide effective advocacy to achieve safe, permanent homes for a higher number of children in conservatorship of Child Protective Services. Judges appoint Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) as Guardian ad Litem to protect the children and youth's best interests (*Texas Family Code Ch.107*). Recent studies have found that foster children are at higher risk with mental health problems (anxiety, depression, post-traumatic stress disorder) as well as educational problems (fall behind in classes, drop out). CASA Advocates are particularly effective in monitoring the children's mental health and educational needs. Advocacy for these services are a major component of CASACT's services through identifying therapeutic services and medication intake, and by serving as that one consistent and caring adult for educational success. CASA Advocates are a consistent and compassionate adult for children and youth in a chaotic environment, when mental health and educational needs are most at risk.

With requested funds from NFF, CASA of Central Texas will provide direct services to children who have been removed from their homes due to physical and sexual abuse, neglect or abandonment and placed in temporary protective care with CPS/TDFPS. CASACT does not discriminate on the basis of race, national origin, color, creed, sex, age, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, disability, veteran or citizenship status. CASACT will also serve older youth/young adults ages 18-21 as they transition from foster care into independent living. CASACT will carefully screen prospective volunteers who will successfully complete a free 42-hour advocate training class with 6 hours of family court observation. Volunteers sworn-in by a Child Protection Court judge will then be assigned to qualified Case Supervisors who oversee case management and progress. By following a 1:25 staff to volunteer ratio, each Case Supervisor will support 25 volunteers who can serve up to 75 children. CASA of Central Texas has Memorandums of Understanding with the Child Protection Court (CPC) of Central Texas as well as the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services. The CPC of Central Texas has for many years recognized the need for more CASA volunteers.

GOAL 1: Advocate for 565 abused and neglected children (230 new appointments).

Per advocate/per child/year

- 100 hours of donated casework services including 12+ visits to child in person, 12+ emails/calls to CPS caseworkers, 12+ visits/calls to primary placement; 2-3 hours of case file review; 4-6 phone calls to child's attorney
- 20+ mental health casework hours including 4-6 phone calls to child's therapist or psychologist; 4-6 phone calls to child's doctors
- 10+ educational casework hours including for younger children, 12+ meetings with school counselor, nurse, teachers; 12+ reviews of grades and attendance; 1-2 meetings for children with developmental disabilities (Admission, Review, and Dismissal for individuals with disabilities)
- 30+ casework hours to help older youth achieve high school graduation and to receive state benefits such as college tuition assistance; keep children and youth from falling behind in school
- 4 written reports to judge and 2 hours courtroom testimony

GOAL 2: Recruit, screen and retain 286 advocates (68 new).

- 136 community presentations
- 20 training sessions
- 1 pre- and post-training interview, 3 background and 5 reference checks per applicant

16) Children impacted:

- The **TOTAL** project initiative will impact 565 number of unduplicated children.
- **NFF requested funds** will impact 230 number of unduplicated children.

17) Zip Code/City Council District: (Enter the zip code(s) and the City Council District from which the children are being served for this project)

The zip codes and City Council Districts from which the children are being served are located inside Caldwell, Comal, Guadalupe and Hays Counties. Unless noted, City Council Districts below are at-large.

Caldwell: 78616 Dale, 78622 Fentress, 78644 Lockhart, 78648 Luling, 78655 Martindale, 78656 Maxwell, and 78661 Prairie Lea

Comal: 78623 Fischer, 78130-33/78135 New Braunfels Districts 1-6, 78133 Canyon Lake, 78070 Spring Branch

Guadalupe: 78108 Cibolo Districts 1-7, 78115 Geronimo, 78638 Kingsbury, 78124 Marion, 78123 McQueeney, 78154/78108 Schertz, 78155-56 Seguin Districts 1-8, 78670 Staples

Hays: 78610 Buda, 78619 Driftwood, 78620 Dripping Springs, 78640 Kyle Districts 1-6, 78666-67 San Marcos, 78676 Wimberley

Organization's Mission: CASA of Central Texas, Inc. advocates for abused and neglected children in the court system by recruiting, training and supporting community volunteers.

18) **(For Project being Requested): Funding sources and amounts, pending and committed: Insert as table and total each Pending & Committed columns. REQUIRED:** (This section must include the names & dollar amounts of other funding sources & foundations, pending and committed for this specific project. **Application will be declined if the name and dollar amount is not included.**) Rows can be added to table below (if needed).

PROJECT - PENDING	
Funder	Amount
Texas CASA VOCA	\$15,000
McKenna Fdn	\$22,190
Baptist Hlth Fdn SA	\$15,000
Union Pacific Fdn	\$2,500
Valero Fdn	\$2,500
In-N-Out Burger Fdn	\$2,500
Comal Cops for Kids	\$5,000
Burdine Johnson Fdn	\$10,000
Gov't (City, County)	\$10,800
Other (Events, Indiv.)	\$22,700
Total Pending:	\$108,190

PROJECT - COMMITTED	
Funder	Amount
Texas CASA CVC	\$30,000
Kronkosky Fdn	\$2,100
Topfer Family Fdn	\$5,000
Gov't (OVAG, City, County)	\$26,110
Total Committed:	\$63,210

19) **Other funding sources and amounts, pending and committed not specific to this request: Insert as table and total each Pending & Committed columns. REQUIRED:** (This section must include the names & dollar amounts of other funding sources & foundations, pending and committed. **Application will be declined if the name and dollar amount is not included.**) Rows can be added to table below (if needed).

ORGANIZATION - PENDING	
Funder	Amount
Texas CASA VOCA	\$187,057
Baptist Health Fdn	\$60,000
GVTC Fdn	\$5,000
Valero Fdn	\$2,500
Union Pacific Fdn	\$2,500
McKenna Fdn	\$37,810
Burdine Johnson Fdn	\$20,000
In-N-Out Burger Fdn	\$7,500
United Way (various)	\$28,000
Gov't (CDBG, Counties)	\$54,700
Corporate/Civic/Churches	\$28,500
Other (Events, Indiv.)	\$252,429
Total Pending:	\$685,996

ORGANIZATION - COMMITTED	
Funder	Amount
Texas CASA CVC	\$223,313
Kronkosky Charitable Fdn	\$97,900
Lola Wright Fdn	\$7,343
St. Luke's Lutheran Hlth Fdn	\$8,000
Anderson Fdn	\$10,000
Texas Bar Fdn	\$5,000
United Way (various)	\$50,000
Gov't (CDBG, Cities, Counties)	\$68,748
Total Committed:	\$470,304

20) **What percentage of your board contributes financially to the organization?** 100% of our Board contributed in FYE 6/30/17.

How are board members expected to participate in your organization? (financially and other roles)

Our Board of Directors holds meetings on a monthly basis and maintains written records of meetings. The Board is responsible for the oversight of legal, compliance and regulatory issues; personnel policy and procedure; financial affairs and resource development; strategic planning and evaluation. Expectations include regular attendance at meetings and serving as a voting member: developing policies and procedures; monitoring and evaluating finances, programs and performance; securing and providing meaningful financial support; representing CASA to the public; evaluating/perpetuating board activity. Members serve a three year term; for no more than two consecutive terms; 5-10 hours per month.

Plans to sustain project beyond the term of this request:

Through our Strategic Plan for 2014-2019, we envision a world where every child thrives in a safe, stable and loving home. The strategic plan states that CASACT will 1) serve 100% of the children in State protective care with volunteers who are fully supported by CASACT and respected by the judges and community, 2) be a sound organization with financial stability through diverse funding, long-term income sources and contingencies, while working at capacity and planning for growth, and 3) be known as the community organization that provides a meaningful and fulfilling volunteer opportunity while bettering the lives of children in the court system and, in turn, bettering our community as a whole. Specific goals and objectives include preparing succession plans for senior staff positions, creating a fund development plan, implementing a donor database, conducting a capital campaign and beginning construction of a new Training & Support Center facility for volunteers and staff. Through 6/30/17, 64% of all identified strategic plan activities have been completed. CASA of Central Texas has steadily grown its staff, board, volunteers and donor base. This Fall 2017, CASA will partner with Corridor Title on an inaugural fundraising event "Hole Lotta Love" CASA Classic Golf Tournament in Spring Branch, Comal County (www.casaclassic.golfreg.com).

21) Required documents: Requests without these documents will not be processed. Attach in order listed below. The required documents and application cannot exceed 10 pages in total combined. Numbers 1-3 below may be combined on one page if room permits.

1. Line item budget for project.
2. Project timeline. (one sentence –list the project start date & end date including the year)
3. Project evaluation plan.
4. List of board members with their corporate affiliations.
5. Current Balance Sheet. – **Must list all current assets (cash etc.) and all current liabilities otherwise application will be declined.**
6. Last 12 Month Consolidated Income Statement
 - It is acceptable to use the last fiscal year
 - If not available, submit the last FY Income Statement
7. Annual Budget.

Contact:	<i>Nona Castilla-Blackwell</i>	Title:	Executive Director	Phone:	(830) 626-2272	E-Mail:	nblackwell@casacentex.org	Date:	<i>9/18/17</i>
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