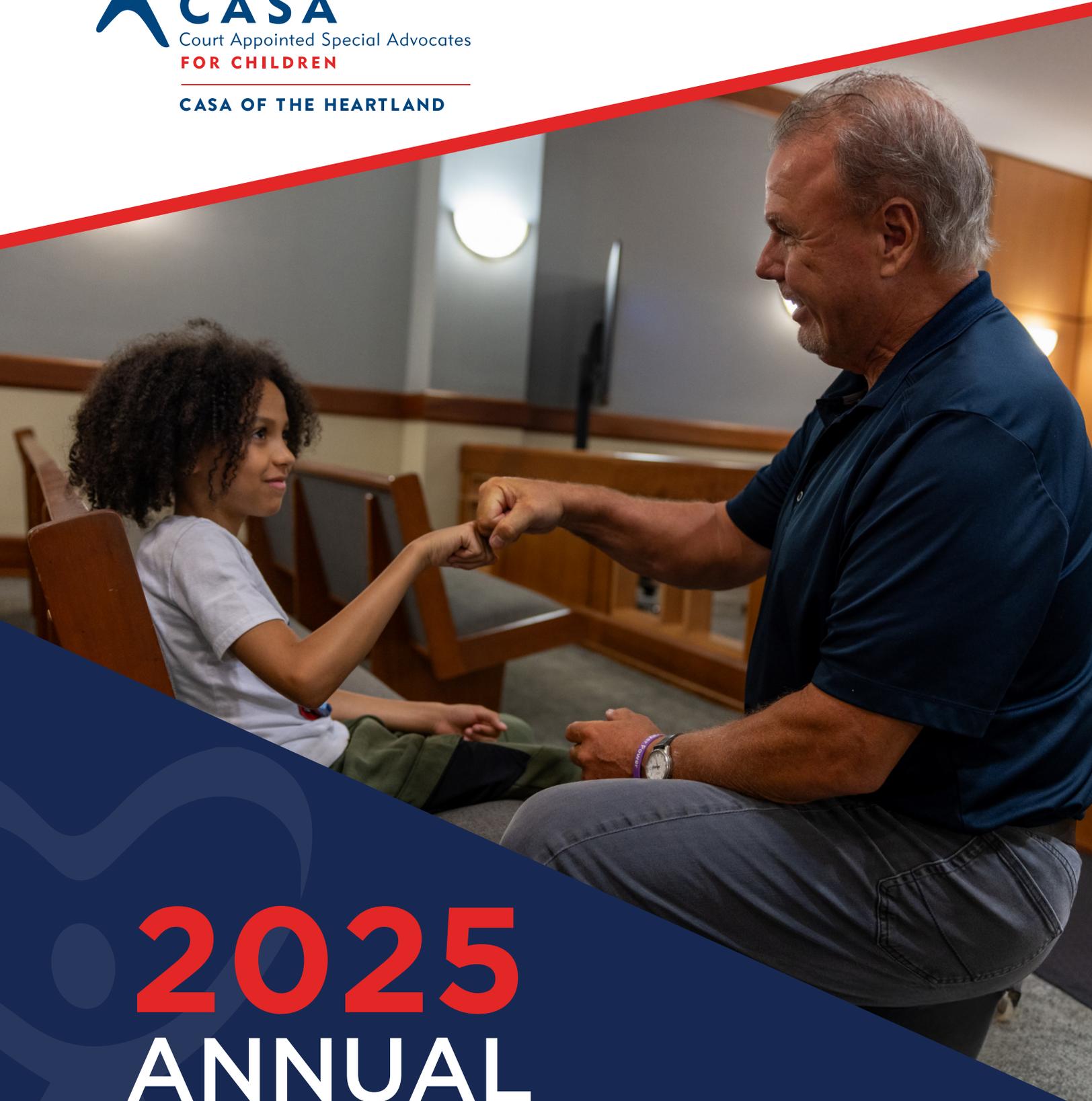




CASA

Court Appointed Special Advocates
FOR CHILDREN

CASA OF THE HEARTLAND



2025 ANNUAL REPORT

LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear CASA Supporters,

CASA of the Heartland experienced another remarkable year of growth and impact throughout 2025, which was made possible by the dedication of our incredible volunteer advocates, devoted staff, committed board members, community partners, the local courts, the Kentucky CASA Network, and our generous donors. Because of your unwavering support, CASA of the Heartland was able to serve more children than ever before during our first full year providing advocacy across our five-county region: Hardin, Meade, Breckinridge, Grayson, and LaRue Counties.

In 2025, CASA of the Heartland proudly supported **108 volunteers**, who advocated for the best interests of **312 children**. The need for our services continues to grow, and we remain inspired by the strength, compassion, and resilience of our volunteers—each one dedicated to ensuring that every child has the opportunity to thrive in a safe, permanent home.

Looking ahead, we are excited to share that CASA of the Heartland will expand services to Hart County in 2026, continuing our mission to ensure that no child in our region faces the court system without a voice.

This year's accomplishments would not have been possible without the generosity and commitment of supporters like you. Whether you serve as a volunteer, staff member, board member, community partner, or donor, you play an essential role in helping CASA of the Heartland carry out its mission every day.

From the bottom of our hearts, thank you for standing with us and believing in the power of advocacy to Change a Child's Story™.

Respectfully,



Michelle Kail



BOARD OF DIRECTORS



BOARD CHAIR
Beth Avey
Knox Regional Development Alliance



VICE CHAIR
Kelly Emerine
Cerity Partners



TREASURER
Tanya Deneen
The Cecilian Bank



SECRETARY
Michelle Morrison
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HUMAN RESOURCES CHAIR
Barbara Jones
City of Elizabethtown



Dayna Fentress
Hardin County Extension Office



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CleanGoodEats



Neal Gibbs
Bluegrass Middle School



Abe O'Bryan
Skeeters, Bennett, Wilson & Humphrey



Tracy Schiller
Cupper's Choice Coffee



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Brandenburg Telecom



Stephanie Brown
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Human Resources Consultant



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Amy Hollingsworth
Director of Advocacy



Nilah Ware
Advocate Coordinator



Angela Rafferty
Advocate Coordinator



Stephanie Babcock
Advocate Coordinator



Jocelyn Corbin
Advocate Coordinator



Larry Hoh
Quality Assurance Assistant



Christa Brangers
Advocate Trainer



Tony Parker
Advocate Recruiter



Elizabeth Kail
Advocate Recruiter

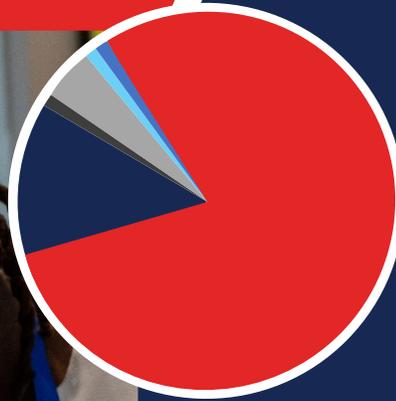
FAST FACTS



VOLUNTEER DEMOGRAPHICS

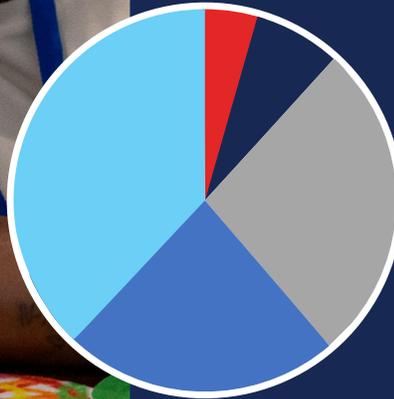
RACE

- White 81%
- Black 14%
- Hispanic 2%
- Two or More Races 1%
- Asian 1%
- Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander 1%



AGE

- 21 - 29 4%
- 30 - 39 17%
- 40 - 49 23%
- 50 - 59 19%
- 60+ 37%



GENDER

- Female 85%
- Male 15%



312 CHILDREN SERVED

155 NEW CHILDREN SERVED IN 2025

131 CHILDREN WHO REACHED PERMANENCY

38 VOLUNTEERS TRAINED

CHILDREN SERVED

13		LARUE
185		HARDIN
36		MEADE
15		BRECKINRIDGE
63		GRAYSON

ASSETS & LIABILITIES

\$630,984.60

REVENUE

\$723,881.37

Donations: \$68,064.10
 Fundraising: \$184,846.29
 Grants: \$460,005.83
 Other: \$9,224.57

EXPENSES

\$689,591.22

Operating revenue and expenses shown reflect cash activity for the year and exclude non-cash in-kind donations and related expenses, as well as a one-time, non-cash asset donation (bourbon inventory purchased in a prior year) that supported a charitable fundraiser benefiting CASA. This presentation is intended to provide a clear picture of CASA of the Heartland's cash operations and financial stability.

FUNDRAISING & EVENTS

Friend of CASA	\$7,596.26
Pinwheel Planting	\$1,038.96
CASA Loves Community	\$914.00
KY Gives Day	\$1,646.73
Summer Blitz	\$5,945.14
Pappy Palooza	\$42,500.00
Light the Night 5K	\$10,637.17
Farm to Fork	\$77,009.57
End of Year Mailer	\$36,185.14
T.Swift Release Party	\$573.32
90 Miles	\$800.00



SUCCESS STORY

A HEARTFELT SUCCESS STORY: THE JOURNEY OF JESSIE AND HER FOREVER FAMILY

Jessie's story began with challenges no child should face. Born substance-exposed, she entered foster care immediately after birth when it became clear that her biological parents could not provide a safe and stable home. Her mother had a long history of substance abuse and previous involvement with child protective services, and her father was unknown. In her earliest years, Jessie moved between several foster homes, never experiencing the consistency or security that every child needs to thrive.

Everything began to change when a CASA volunteer was appointed to her case. From that moment forward, Jessie had a steady, caring adult dedicated to making sure her voice was heard. Her CASA volunteer visited often, built relationships with her caregivers, and advocated for her emotional and developmental needs. Through every transition, Jessie's CASA volunteer remained a constant

presence, ensuring that decisions made on her behalf truly reflected what was best for her future.

In time, Jessie was placed with a family who welcomed her as one of their own. Surrounded by loving parents and several siblings, including others who share her cultural background, Jessie began to flourish. Her adoptive parents supported her involvement in play therapy and encouraged her to explore her interests and build confidence. Today, Jessie is healthy, joyful, and thriving in school and at home.

Her adoption was finalized this year, marking the start of a new chapter filled with stability, love, and hope. Thanks to her CASA volunteer's unwavering commitment and the compassion of her adoptive family, Jessie finally has the forever home she deserves.

ADDRIENNE BROWN ♥ ALISON RAY ♥ ANDRIETTE JANSING ♥ ANITA MILLER ♥ ANN STRAND ♥ ANNA DAHL ♥ ASHLEY MCKINNEY
AUGUST PHILLIPS ♥ BAMBI SNYDER ♥ BERNADETTE BELL ♥ BOBBI JO POOLE ♥ BRENT GRISWELL ♥ BRITTANY PANTELLO ♥ CARL MILLSAP
CATHLEEN SKIDMORE ♥ CATHY SCHULTZ ♥ CHANTAL GLOVER ♥ CHERYL BROOKS ♥ CHRISTINA RIVAS ♥ CINDY TRENT ♥ COURTNEY JOHNSON
CRISTINIA WILLIAMS ♥ DANA SONG ♥ DARLENE JUPIN ♥ DAVID MILES ♥ DEBBIE CHILDRESS ♥ DEBORA FARACI ♥ DEBRA CHAVEZ ♥ DONNA BROWN
EDDIE BOHANNON ♥ ELIZABETH KAIL ♥ ERICA BELL ♥ EVELYN SCHNEE ♥ GLYNIS BOND ♥ HEATHER YEAGER ♥ HOPE TUCKER ♥ JACQULYN BASHAM
JAIME FEY ♥ JENNIFER MABRY ♥ JENNIFER PARK ♥ JERRY MRAZ ♥ JESSICA CHRISTIE ♥ JESSICA EMBRY ♥ JESSICA YOUART ♥ JESSICA WILLIAMS
JOCELYN CORBIN ♥ JOHN HOUSE ♥ JOHN WHIPPLE ♥ JOSE TORRES ♥ JOSEPH CHANG ♥ JUDY DAVENPORT ♥ JULIE CARROLL ♥ JULIE QUINN
KATIE KERR ♥ KATHERINE SMITH ♥ KATHY SIMMONS ♥ KATIE BEYL ♥ KIMBERLY HELSEL ♥ LAANNA MRAZ ♥ LATISHA BUTLER ♥ LAURA HAMILTON
LAURIE JAGGERS ♥ LESA WEIKEL ♥ LESLIE SHARTZER ♥ LOREENA OERDING ♥ LOUISE EATON ♥ LYNETTE MATHIS ♥ LYNN DUMMITT ♥ MADELINE DRAKE
MANFREDO QUIROS ♥ MARK CHITWOOD ♥ MARSHA SENNINGER ♥ MARY YOUNG ♥ MELISSA TORRES ♥ MICHELLE BERGER ♥ MICHELLE PERKINS
MISTY WILMOTH ♥ NOSHIA SAUNDERS ♥ OLIVIA DUVAL ♥ OLIVIA LARAMORE ♥ PETRA KLINE ♥ RACHEL RIVERA ♥ RALEEN FISHER ♥ RANDALL PETTUS
RENEE DENNISON ♥ ROBERT YOUNG JR ♥ ROXANNE MILES ♥ SANDRA SHARP ♥ SARAH ELIZABETH KELLEY ♥ SHANNON JOHNSTON ♥ SHELBY SNIDER
SHERRI SEARLES ♥ SONEKA ADAMS ♥ STEPHANIE WIMPEE ♥ STEPHEN SPOHN ♥ TAMMY EMBRY ♥ TANNIN POHLMAN ♥ TEAL RICHARDSON
TERRY OWENS ♥ THERESA ARMSTRONG ♥ THERESA BUSH ♥ TONIA SAETTEL ♥ TREVOR DEIBEL ♥ TW SHORTT ♥ VARSHA ROBINSON
VICKI SCHMIDT ♥ VICKI WILSON ♥ VICTORIA LUNDBERG

2025 COURT APPOINTED SPECIAL ADVOCATES

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHTS



NOSHIA SAUNDERS

In 2020, Noshia Saunders became a CASA volunteer after her son brought home a flyer promoting a CASA fundraiser. Curious to learn more, she called the office—and soon decided to join. Her favorite part of being a CASA is interacting with the children, even if it takes time to earn their trust. “The kids we advocate for need a loving adult to consistently be in their corner, to be the light that shines for them and with them,” she said. Born in Wilmington, Delaware, Noshia grew up in a military family, served in the Army, loves to go golfing, and even volunteered at the 2024 PGA Championship in Louisville.



DEBBIE CHILDRESS

A lifelong advocate for her community, Debbie Childress has served as a CASA volunteer since 2013. “What you do with your time matters. When I know there is suffering in my community, I want to be part of the solution,” she said. Debbie is also the director of the Grayson County Alliance, where she leads local efforts to fight hunger and poverty. Before that, she spent 14 years teaching and mentoring in Christian education. Debbie and her husband, Mark, have been married for over 34 years and have one son.



MANFREDO QUIROS

Three years ago, Manfredo Quiros discovered CASA online and was inspired by what he learned about its mission. Originally from Puerto Rico, he moved to the United States to attend Purdue University, where he earned a degree in Mechanical Engineering before beginning his career at Fort Knox. Since then, he has made our community his home. Manfredo says that serving as a CASA has been deeply meaningful, allowing him to give back in a way that truly changes lives. In his free time, he enjoys traveling and exploring new places with his wife.

SCAN THE QR CODE TO MEET
MORE OF OUR VOLUNTEERS!



EVENTS & HIGHLIGHTS



FRIEND OF CASA T-SHIRT CAMPAIGN

At the start of 2025, CASA of the Heartland launched its third annual Friend of CASA t-shirt fundraiser. Supporters once again came together to purchase and proudly wear custom-designed shirts throughout the community, helping to spread awareness for Child Abuse Prevention Month and show their continued support for CASA's mission to advocate for children in need.

“Partnering with CASA allows Donatos and myself to live out our values of giving back to the community that supports us every day. My hope is that our partnership helps raise both awareness and resources so CASA can continue recruiting and training volunteers who stand up for children in need. If our support helps even one child feel seen, heard, and protected, then it's made the difference that truly matters.”

- Phillip Justice, Donatos - Elizabethtown



PINWHEELS FOR PREVENTION

During Child Abuse Prevention Month in April, CASA of the Heartland joined the national Pinwheels for Prevention campaign. With the help of volunteers, schools, and community partners, more than 4,000 pinwheels were planted across Hardin, LaRue, Meade, Breckinridge, and Grayson counties, with each pinwheel representing the hope for a safe, happy, and healthy childhood for every child.



KY GIVES DAY

On May's statewide Kentucky Gives Day, the community came together to support CASA of the Heartland through 24 hours of giving. With 14 generous donors, CASA raised \$2,555 to help ensure every child in the dependency system has a voice in court through a dedicated CASA volunteer.

CASA LOVES COMMUNITY

In February, CASA of the Heartland hosted its second annual CASA Loves Community Luncheon, bringing together long-time supporters and new friends for a time of connection and celebration. The event highlighted the tremendous impact donors and volunteers had in 2024 and shared exciting updates and goals for the year ahead. Guests learned more about CASA's expanding services across the region and how their support continues to make a difference in the lives of local children.



“We’ve seen their passion up close. I’ve watched Michelle and her team pour their hearts into being a voice for kids who, by no fault of their own, need someone to stand in the gap for them. We believe in the mission of CASA, and as long as there is a need, Team CKRM will always stand beside them and support the work they do for these children.”

-Greg Milby, Central Kentucky Race Management

LIGHT THE NIGHT 5K

In May, CASA of the Heartland hosted its third annual Light the Night Superhero 5K at the Elizabethtown Sports Park. Families, volunteers, and supporters dressed as their favorite superheroes and ran, walked, or jogged to shine light on CASA’s mission. With the help of sponsors, food vendors, and community partners, this year’s event raised awareness and vital funds to continue providing hope and advocacy for children facing life’s darkest moments.

GIVE 270 PAPPY PALOOZA RAFFLE

For the third consecutive year, CASA of the Heartland was honored to be selected as a beneficiary of Give 270’s Pappy Palooza raffle series. Through this incredible partnership, the community raised \$62,500 in proceeds to support CASA’s mission of providing a voice for children who have experienced abuse and neglect. CASA extends heartfelt thanks to the Give 270 team and everyone who participated to make this campaign another success.

VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION

In December, CASA of the Heartland hosted its annual Volunteer Appreciation Dinner at the CKCF Community Hall to celebrate the remarkable individuals who dedicate their time and hearts to local children. CASA honored the advocacy of over 108 active volunteers who served more than 300 children in 2025, as well as the commitment of family court judges, board members, and community partners.

“We should all strive to leave the world better than we found it. There is no better way than helping the little voices in our community. We hope our support gives a voice to the voiceless and gives them hope that there are people who care and the world isn’t all that bad.”

- Scott McMillen, American Pro Staffing



FARM TO FORK

In June, CASA of the Heartland held its annual Farm to Fork fundraiser at Highland Sod Farms in Elizabethtown, welcoming more than 200 guests for an unforgettable evening of community and purpose. Attendees enjoyed live entertainment from Van Winkle and the Spirits, locally inspired dishes, and spirited bidding during the live and silent auctions. Thanks to the generosity of sponsors, attendees, and donors, the event raised over \$70,000 to support CASA’s advocacy programs across multiple counties.





CASA

Court Appointed Special Advocates
FOR CHILDREN

CASA OF THE HEARTLAND



GET INVOLVED IN 2026

FEBRUARY 4

CASA Loves Community @
Meade County Chamber

APRIL

Friend of CASA: Partner in
Prevention - Awareness/
T-Shirt Campaign

MARCH—APRIL

Pinwheels for Prevention Planting
LaRue County - March 24
Meade County - March 25
Hardin County - March 26
Breckinridge County - March 30
Hart County - March 31
Grayson County - April 2

MAY 8

Light the Night 5K:
Superhero Series

JUNE 5

AUGUST 21

JUNE 27

Farm to Fork

DONOR RECOGNITION

A A Portable Sanitation LLC
Abound Credit Union
Altec Industries Inc.
American Pro Staffing, Inc
Debbie Anders
Ann Sonneborn Charitable Foundation
Anthem Health Plans of Kentucky, Inc
Beth Avey
Stephanie Babcock
James R Banks Jr.
Charlene Barnes
Beccas Place Inc
Bills Heating and Cooling
Rebecca Bishop
BlueOval SK
Michael Bowers
Courtney Bowling
Brandenburg Telephone Company
Christa Brangers
Steve Bratcher
Molly Brewer
John Brightharp
Brite Wholesale Electric Supply, Inc.
Miller Browder
Addrienne Brown
Angela Brown
Belinda Brown
Donna Brown
Eleanor Brown
Kimberly Brown
Maurice Brown
Michelle Brown
Stephanie Brown
Andrea Bruns
Sakinah Bunch
Donna Burch
Katie Butler
Cindy Carter
Laura A Case
Cecilia Auto Sales
Central Kentucky Community Foundation
Central Kentucky Race Management
Debbie Childress
City of Elizabethtown
Claycomb Law Office, PLLC
William Cochran
Mark Colomb
Rhonda Corley
Cornerstone Advisors of Arizona LLC

Chris Cornett
Myra Covault
Michael Coyle
Crate Escape, LLC
Mitzi Crowe
Natalie Curtis
Kyle Dalton
Rosemary Deaton
Tanya Deneen
Dermitt Funeral Home
Dirt Works Unlimited LLC
Donatos Pizza
Anonymous Donors
Faye Dowell
John DuPlessis
Louise Eaton
Elizabethtown Junior Woman's Club
Athena Emerine
Kelly Emerine
Farm Credit Mid-America
Dayna Fentress
Stephanie Fernandes
Vicky Ferriell
Peggy Fink
Stacy Fletcher
Davisa Fogle
Force4Giving Inc
Marilyn Ford
Marilyn Blair Ford
Fort Knox Spouses & Community Club (FKSCC)
Albert Freeland
Bethany Gatlin
Gerald Printing
German American Bank
Give 270 Inc.
William Godfrey
Gold Star Realty LLC
Grayson County Healthcare Foundation, Inc.
Brown Gwynn
William Hack
M. Brent Hall
Hardin County Farm Bureau
Hardin County Tree Service LLC
Hardinsburg Tire Service Inc.
Rose Harris
Barbara Hawkins
Brittany Hawkins
Samara Heavrin
Jessica Hermsillo
Taylor Herndon
Lawrence Hoh

Amy Hollingsworth
Honorable Order of Kentucky Colonels
Pat Howell
Danny Hutcherson
Ising Orthodontics
Beverly Ivey
J.D. Beavin Insurance Services, Inc.
Bri Janes
Jarred Butler Insurance Agency Inc
Missy Jenkins
Barb Jones
Carol Jones
Mike Jones
Theresa Jones
Katherine Jordan
Clara Juergens
Elizabeth Kail
Maggie Kail
Michelle Kail
Thomas Kail
Kentucky CASA Network
Kentucky Department of the Treasury
Michael Kinsey
Kiwanis Club of Hardin County
Joan Knight
Kona Ice Etown
Kosair for Kids
KPE Restaurants 2, LLC DBA Mr. Gatti's Elizabethtown
KPE Restaurants 2, LLC DBA Mr. Gatti's Leitchfield
Kroger
LaRue-Carey Insurance Group
Jimmie and John Lee
Leitchfield Lions Club
LG&E and KU Foundation, Inc.
Lincoln Trail Behavioral Health System
Karen Looper
Magnolia Bank Hodgenville
Duane Mangum
James Marini
Mark's Feed Store
Mary Cofer Trigg Grant Award
Lynette Mathis
Betsy McElwee
Carl McKinley
Julia McKinley
Meade County Fiscal Court
Joyce Meyer
Michael Miller
Paul Monday

Stephanie Moore-Brewer
Alexandria Morris
Steve Morton
Mouser Cabinetry LLC
Stephen Mouser
Jerry Mraz
Jerry and LaAnna Mraz
LaAnna Mraz
Aaron Mulhall
National CASA Association
Nationwide Uniform
Emily Neel
Grant Niebuhr
Nolin Rural Electric Cooperative Corporation
Brian Oberg
Ambrose O'Bryan
Jeffrey Olson
Owensboro Health Twin Lakes Medical Center
Jennifer Dawn Parker
Sarah Parrish
Bonnie Patterson
Rachel Patton
Donna Pence
Peoples Bank
Peoples Insurance Inc.
Sherry Whitman Powers
Joseph Prather
Price Smith Insurance Inc
Barbara Proffitt
Radcliff Christian Church
Reagan's Voice Foundation
ResultPoint Financial, Inc
Brenda Reynolds
Lawrence Roederer
Sarah & Group, LLC
Noshia Saunders
Priscilla Scarborough
Tracy Schiller
Schmidt Family Foundation Inc.
Marjorie Schory
Greg Schrecke
Mandi Septer
Sandra Sharp
Bryce Shumate
Deanna Simcoe
Kathryn Simmons
Smith Engineering and Land Surveys, Inc
Brian Smith
Giselle Smith
Shelby Snider
South Central Bank
Crystal Standridge

Stith Family Farms
Phillip Stith
Swope Care Group Foundation Inc.
Swope Family of Dealerships
Bob Swope
T&T Construction Enterprises, LLC
Jerry Taylor
Tekno, Inc.
The Cecilian Bank
The F.A.B. Lab LLC
The Goodman Family Charitable Fund
Thomas Academy Farm
Emily Thomas
Thrive Wellness Studio
TMC Rentals, LLC
Robin Todd
Cindy Trent
Greg Trent
Tracee Troutt
Mary Turner-Scott
United Way of Central Kentucky
E. J. Vessels
Village Green Garden Center, LLC
Nilah Ware
Hannah Wassom
Mark Waynick
Melissa Webster
Welcome Home Realty Groups, LLC
WestBanco Bank Inc.
West Point Bank
WGM Sales Associates, Inc.
WHAS Crusade for Children
White Stone Company
Rennatta White
Patricia Whitehead
Shane Whitt
Kimberly Wild
Karen Wilder
Lela Williams
Wilson & Muir Bank & Trust Co.
Vicki Wilson
Windows Direct of Louisville
Woman's Club of Elizabethtown
Xtreme Fabrication
Alyssa and Sawyer Yates
Jessica Youart
Teresa Young
Cori Zaring

THANK YOU TO OUR DONORS!



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FOR CHILDREN

CASA OF THE HEARTLAND

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casaheartland.org