

Stewards of their Future

CASA of Monterey County

Executive Summary and Annual Report | 2005 - 2007



MISSION STATEMENT

Our mission is to ensure that abused and neglected children are provided with every available opportunity to begin a journey into healthy, productive lives. By introducing caring, responsible adults into their lives, we help break the cycle of abuse and neglect. By engaging trained volunteers, we empower people in our community to place children's needs and well-being as a priority.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

2007-2008 Officers

David Berck
Board Chair
Paula Arnold
Vice-Chair
Pete St. Geme
Treasurer
Mary Barker
Secretary
David Alan Bernahl, II
Immediate Past Chair

Directors

Mary Bakke
Lavonne Chin
Doreen Cursio
Mike Evans
Andrew Malcolm
Janet McAthie
Judge Robert Moody
Norbert Relecker
Al Saroyan
Jeannette K. Witten

201 Monterey-Salinas HWY., Suite F
Salinas, CA 93908
Phone: **831.455.6800**
www.casamonterey.org



"We make a living by what we get...
We make a life by what we give."

-Sir Winston Churchill-

A powerful driving force... a burst of energy... a brilliant light... a rocket

A rocket is defined by Webster as a vessel filled with a combustible composition, carefully designed to be propelled through the air. Sometimes a rocket is defined as an object that thrusts bright light high into the sky or is used to propel a lifesaving line. Finally, as a verb: to make extremely quick progress towards success

Dear Friends and Supporters,

Are you envisioning images of July 4th, space shuttles, or a science fair project? From my perspective I see a different image. I see the rockets surrounding me – the human kind. They are people, who through their tireless work and dedication, drive change, energize children's lives with hope, lighten children's worlds, and collectively drive us toward success. My rockets are our advocates, our staff, and our board. They are brilliant, filled with power and energy, and create a striking impact in children's lives. Our rockets propel children into a brighter future.

Our donors fuel our rockets. Foundations, individuals and corporate donors demonstrate their confidence in our ability to carry out our mission as they strengthen our agency through their generous contributions. Stabilizing our financial health has been a parallel process to recruiting volunteers, hiring the right staff, and serving more children. They are interdependent.

Because of these rockets and their source of fuel, it has been another wonderful year for CASA of Monterey County. I am inspired and invigorated by everyone's involvement. Just as that beautiful rocket heading into space takes our breath away; the collective groups of people who make this program work fill me with awe and admiration.

With great pride we present this annual report, commemorating and celebrating 10 years of child advocacy. I hope you enjoy reading these updates. Thank you all for propelling us to this level of success and accomplishment. Because of you, the trajectory for the future is indeed brilliant.

Sincerely,

Stobhan Greene
Executive Director



Celebrating 10 Years

ADVOCATES

- Ann Aaroe
- Jean Albright
- Janna Aldrete
- Allison Alejo
- Michelle Arnold
- Paula Arnold
- Rick Baldwin
- Bryn Bjerke-Phayer
- Lin Blaskovich
- Roy Stephen Bloch
- Peter Boulais
- JoAnne Boulger
- Ellie Brookman
- Juliana "Julie" Bryan
- John Burdick
- Michelle Burnett
- Joine Campion
- Robert Carroll
- Edna Chinn
- Julie Christiansen
- Wendy Conway
- Christina Courcier
- Lisa Kay Crawley
- Mary Ann Cutino
- Mary Dandridge
- Josette "Jo" Davis
- Margaret de Lorimier
- June Deome
- Lisbeth Dermody
- Jane Doud
- Darlene Drain
- Delores "Dee" Drake
- Temple Elliott
- Evelyn Epstein
- Sonja Erickson
- Freda Escobar
- Catherine "Cathy" Estrella-Dannels
- Christine "Chris" Farmerie
- Melissa Felkins
- Jane Foley
- Susan Friedrichs
- Denyse Frischmuth
- Martha Angel Froke
- Alvina Galvan
- Susan Gardner
- Narit Gessler
- Heather Giarratano
- Marie "Nikki" Gillette
- Morgan Gilman
- Stacy Gooder
- Rosalie Ann Gray
- Jimmee Nichola "Nikki" Greco
- Myriam Greenberg
- Siobhan Greene
- Donna Hagins
- Betty Haines
- Nancy Hanson
- Marlene Haskel-Brickner
- Barbara Hays
- Tracy Henderson
- Tiffany Hickenbottom
- Steven Hillyard
- Brittney Hix
- Dick Holm

My dearest friends,

It always amazes me how time flies. As I write my last letter as board chair, I am overwhelmed with a sense of pride and accomplishment for the work that the staff, board, and advocates have managed over the past three years. It shows what can happen when committed, caring individuals get together to accomplish great things. Our program boasts the healthiest financials in its history, we have doubled our number of advocates and we have nearly doubled the number of children we currently serve. Most importantly, our program has a solid foundation in our community, comprised of a substantial group of donors and volunteers that will guide CASA to even greater success and accomplishment with the abused children in our community. CASA is now a fixture in Monterey County.



Russell Byrne Photographer, 2007

For me, letters of reflection have always been the hardest to write. I seem to find myself overwhelmed with emotions, and a dreamy-like quality to my text. I can never seem to get enough of what I want to say on paper. I find this letter the most difficult of all. Here's why... This program that we all love and cherish is more than donated hours, and more than money contributed... it is a part of our lives. Indeed, CASA has changed my life forever.

As my term as board chair comes to a close, I want everyone to know that my involvement in CASA has just begun. In June, I received the most unbelievable honor in my life, and it was from this program. My fellow board members created an endowment fund in my name: The David Alan Bernahl, II Local Heroes Fund for CASA. This act left me speechless... more than that; I was brought to tears, just like a child, in front of 200 adults. Tears of emotion say a lot. Siobhan and the board worked together to initially fund this endowment, and they now have left me with an exciting challenge. I won't rest until this fund has \$1,000,000.00 in it. That money will provide an annual revenue stream for the program and ensure CASA's future.

I want to say 'thank you' to my board... the best board in Monterey County (sorry, I'm a little biased). You all have contributed so much. Each of you has inspired me to do more. To the advocates, you are the heart of this program. We are all here to support the limitless love and support you give these children. You are all heroes. To the staff, Siobhan is a lucky girl to have such dedicated and intelligent people on her team. To my good friend David Berck, our incoming board chair, I know that you will take this program to new heights, and I couldn't be more confident in your ability to do so. Lastly, I want to say thank you to Siobhan Greene, one of the most compassionate, philanthropically driven individuals I know. Her love for this program is infectious, and I owe her a lot. Thank you for your friendship and leadership.

For those of you who have considered getting involved with CASA... **do it.** Involvement in a program doesn't have to do with a title, it has to do with a lifelong relationship and commitment to what is right. My journey has just begun to make a positive impact in the life a child. Join me as we grow this organization to a place of security where there is an advocate for every child in our community. It is imperative for the future of our County.

Very Truly Yours,



David Alan Bernahl, II
Board Chair

p.s.

Thank you, Charlotte Evans for opening my eyes to this great program. You are leader to all of us.



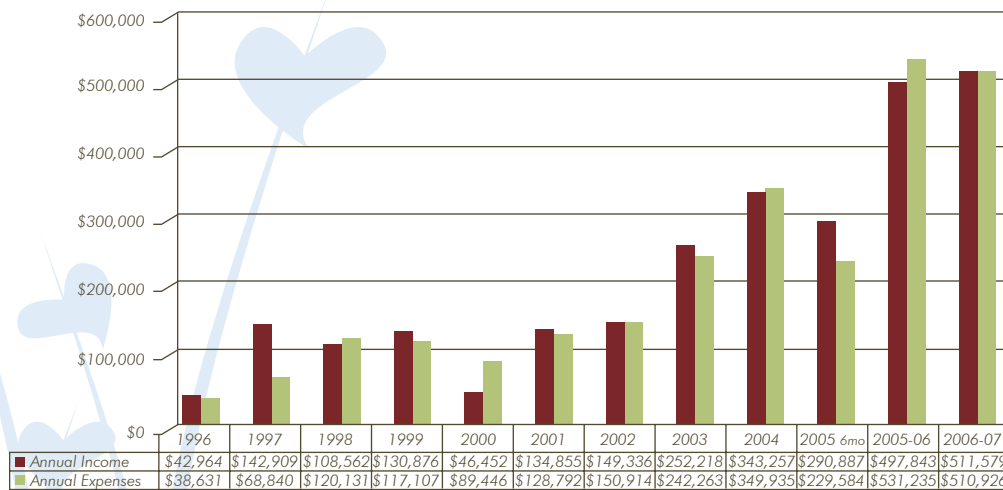
ADVOCATES continued

of Child Advocacy

10 Years of Growth

CASA began serving children in 1997. In the early years CASA of Monterey County experienced financial challenges and a difficulty engaging volunteers. In recent years the program flourished and gained significant community support. The annual budget for the agency has grown by over 340% in the past five years; accomplished by the joint efforts of the staff and board. In 2005 the fiscal year changed from a Jan – Dec year to a July – June year, thus a 6-month period for early 2005.

Ten Year Analysis: Income and Expenses: CASA of Monterey County

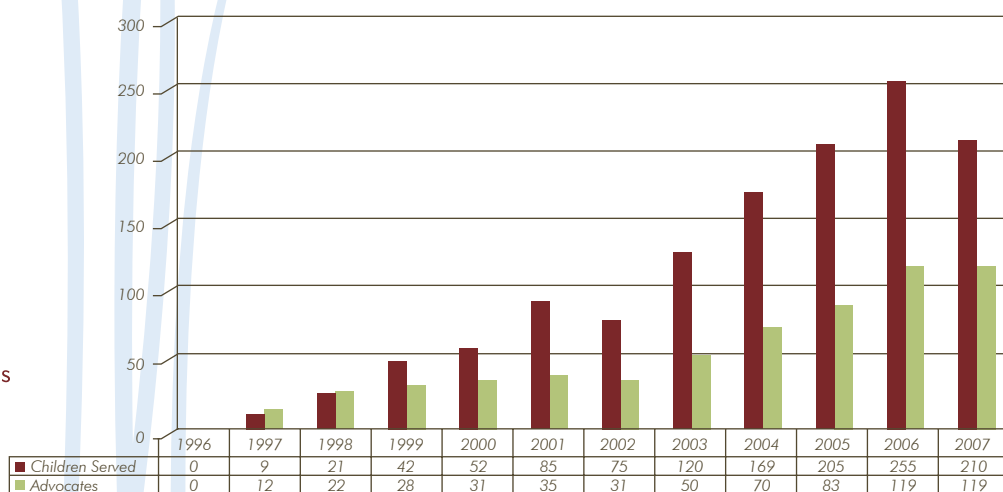


Your on-going support enables us to train more volunteers to guide the delicate lives of abused and neglected children in Monterey County.

Your support is an investment in our community and in a child's future.

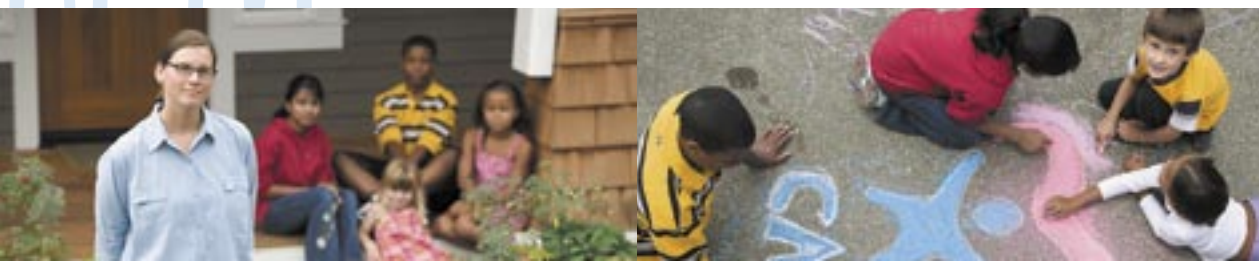
CASA of Monterey County has always been committed to serving all of the children appointed to us. Our staff monitors a child for whom we do not have an advocate, providing a basic level of advocacy; ensuring his or her best interests remain the priority. During that process, staff assesses the severity of needs and prioritizes cases for assignment to an advocate when one becomes available. Still, the need for more volunteers is great as the number of children appointed to us continues to increase.

Ten Year Statistics: CASA of Monterey County - Children Served; Advocates



Advocates

- Catherine Horan-Walker
- Susan Horcajo
- Marvel Howarth
- Kathleen Jackson
- Mary Eileen Kiniry
- Sarah "Sasha" Koster
- Scott Koster
- Dawn Kruyger
- Linda Kuhn
- Beverly "DeeDee" LaChance
- Kelly Locke
- Deanna "Dee" MacDonald
- Fred MacDonald
- Deborah Mallamo
- Kathleen Manley-Coburn
- David Maradei
- Joseph "Joe" Marasco
- Gina Martyn
- Maria Matias
- Kara Mazariegos
- Maureen McEachen
- Bob Montgomery
- Leslie Montgomery
- Barbara Moore
- Anne Morris
- Sherli Muir
- Alan Murphy
- Bree Nakashima
- Reyna Navarrete
- John Niblock
- Antonia "Toni" Nicklaus
- Peggy Norris
- Noemi Orozco
- Eric Paulson
- Tricia Perault
- Alvarez "Meechie" Pierce
- Brenda Raspberry
- Susana Rocha
- Alejandra Rubalcaba
- Kathleen Ruiz
- Yesenia Salvatierra
- Debbie Sandoval
- Angela Schreiner
- Elana Schwartz
- Lloyd Schwimmer
- Rebecca "Becky" Skrdla
- Christina Slager
- Kristin Snowden
- Sonya Splane-Wilson
- Jacqueline "Jackie" Steakley
- William "Bill" Sullivan
- Elizabeth "Betsy" Sunukjian
- Jacqueline "Jacque" Swartz
- Susan Szasz
- Julie Taylor
- Philip Teal
- Debbie Trent
- Delia Valdez
- Marlene Vanzant
- Hillory White
- Florence Whitmire
- Cheryl Wilson
- Kathi Wojtkowski
- Shirley Wylly
- Wendy Yen



“If people want to help kids and society, there’s just no more direct way to do it than by getting personally involved with a child in dire straits, and that’s what CASA is all about.”

~ The Honorable Judge Robert F. Moody

Friends of CASA Monthly Giving Program

As a Friend of CASA, your tax-deductible gift makes a tremendous difference in our ability to pair up advocates with children who need them. Consistent monthly donations help us manage our program better and maximize the dollar value of your contribution.

Your support helps fund:

- **Initial Screening:** FBI, Department of Justice, and DMV background checks, personal interviews and reference checking for all potential volunteers
- **Training:** 30-Hour initial advocate training; monthly continuing education; guest lecturers and workshops
- **Advocate Resources:** Educational Advocacy, Permanency Planning, Legislative Updates, and reference manuals
- **Supervision:** Ongoing individualized case planning, guidance, and direction for advocates
- **Volunteer Recruitment:** Outreach campaigns, public awareness and education

The David Alan Bernahl, II Local Heroes Fund for CASA

In 2007 CASA of Monterey County established an Endowment Fund for on-going, long-term support, named in honor of David Alan Bernahl, II; Chairman of the Board, 2005 – 2007. Through Bernahls’ leadership more than \$100,000 was raised for CASA in a two-year period. Donors may select this fund for legacy gifts or to realize personal planned giving priorities. Please make contributions directly to the Community Foundation for Monterey County.

CASA STAFF

- Siobhan Greene**
Executive Director
- Kathryn England**
Program Manager
San Benito County
- Michelle Arnold**
Recruitment &
Training Coordinator
- Edna Chinn**
Development Coordinator
- Donna Hagins**
Advocate Coordinator
- Kylie Kelly**
Case Supervisor
- Noemi Orozco**
Case Supervisor
- Eric Paulson**
Education Specialist

CASA of Monterey County - Volunteer Opportunity

CASA of Monterey County’s need for volunteers has never been greater. A CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocate) volunteer can be someone like you - a caring adult, willing to devote some time and energy to learn how to become an advocate and to then look out for the best interest of an abused child. The advocate is often the one adult who is a consistent presence in the life of an abused child. CASA of Monterey County fully trains and supervises volunteers to be the voice for these children.

To learn more about the CASA program, attend the information session on the first Wednesday of each month at local Starbucks from 6:30pm to 8:30 pm. You can also visit our website at www.casamonterey.org.

CASA of Monterey County is a program offering a very necessary service to children. While you cannot control where abused children come from, you can have something to do with where they end up. There are many children in Monterey County who need a voice. Won’t you lend them yours?

Be the difference, volunteer.

Please contact the CASA of Monterey County office for more information at: 831-**455-6800** or 866-406-CASA (2272).

The tragedy of abuse is a reality in our community. Abused and neglected children are everyone’s responsibility.



CASA

Court Appointed Special Advocates
FOR CHILDREN

201 Monterey-Salinas HWY., Suite F
Salinas, CA 93908

