

# IMPACT REPORT

2022



Celebrating 20 years in 2022  
**Family Law CASA**  
Giving children a voice in court



Advocating for local children in high-risk custody cases so they have a chance for a safe and secure home life.

# Celebrating 20 Years of Helping CASA Kids Thanks to You!



Director Deidre McCormack Martin and President Blake Hilty

Dear Friends,

Our 2022 fiscal year end this past June was marked by the closure of one of our longest-running cases yet. This complex and highly emotional case involved a young girl's custody arrangement and spanned two and a half traumatic years and involved eight extensive reports written by our dedicated Court Appointed Special Advocate, two trials and at least eight hearings. In the end, the court adopted our recommendations to continue living with her father, while starting to have relationships with both parents in a safe and secure living environment as she navigates her teen years.

Your support also allowed us to expand our vision for a more diverse, equitable and inclusive program. Due to significant community need and after much preparation, effort, and coordination, we are thrilled to now serve non-English speaking families for which the court requests a CASA. With the complexities of the language barrier, these children are more likely than their peers to be placed in unsafe environments which can have disastrous lifelong consequences.

We are so proud of the work of our staff and volunteers to represent hundreds of kids each year and ensure they are in the safest, most supportive environment. In our first 20 years, we have served 3,000 children, and we couldn't have done this without your belief in a positive future for these children!

In addition to our cases, we brought new expertise to our staff and board and we have embarked upon two new fundraising campaigns which have been met with great response - our Fund Their Future multi-year campaign for sustainability and our Defenders program for monthly donors.

As we embark upon our next 20 years, we are starting a strategic process to envision how we might have the greatest, most equitable impact on children from low-income families moving forward. We will be reaching out for input from you as part of the process, as you are integral partners in our work to lift up the voices of those whose voices are so often unheard.

Thank you for being a part of our efforts to support kids safety today, in order to create a more diverse, generation of community members and leaders for our future.

With gratitude,

With gratitude,

J. Blake Hilty  
President, Board of Directors

Deidre McCormack Martin  
Executive Director

# HOW YOU HELP LOCAL KIDS

180 children had their voice heard in court

Volunteers donated 6,475 hours

49% of cases settled outside of court

108 volunteer advocates assigned to cases

60% of active cases closed

132 reports submitted to the court

Attorneys participated in 33 trials

Appeared at 200 court hearings

Contributed to 33 meditations

232 households engaged by program team



# PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

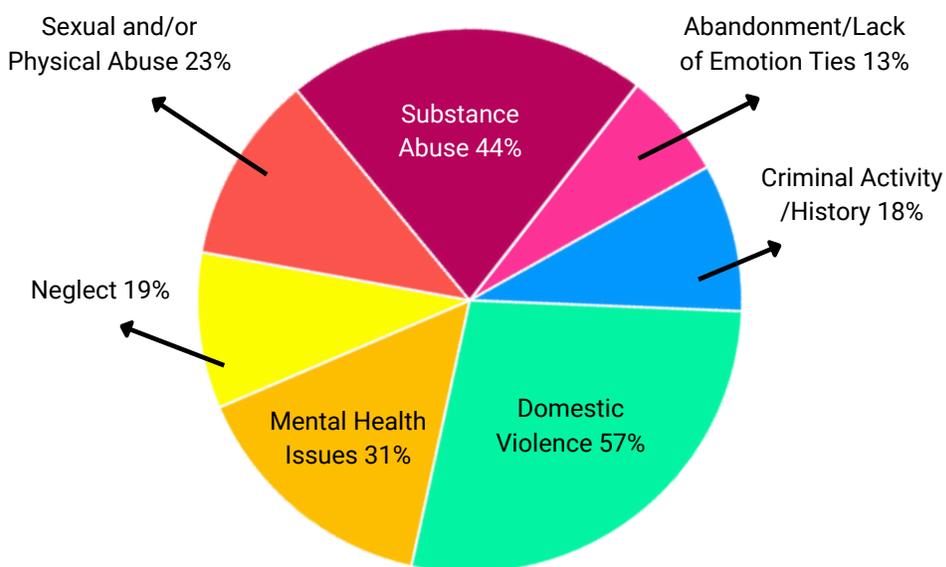
## Advocate reports lead to increase in cases settled before trial

There has been a substantial increase in the number of reports requested by the Court this past year. Staff advocate supervisors partnered with their case-assigned volunteer advocates to fulfill needed family interviews, visits to homes, background research and more. These reports are essential to the Court in recommending the safest living situation for each child.

The trend of reaching a settlement before going to trial is a positive step for families reducing the stress and trauma that additional court proceedings can bring. For kids, the impact of trauma can include challenges with emotional understanding, difficulty learning in school, and long term health issues. In every case, minimizing trauma exposure is a win for children walking into a bright and healthy future.



## RISK FACTORS IN CASES



# PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS CONTINUED...



## Interpreter program increases safety for kids

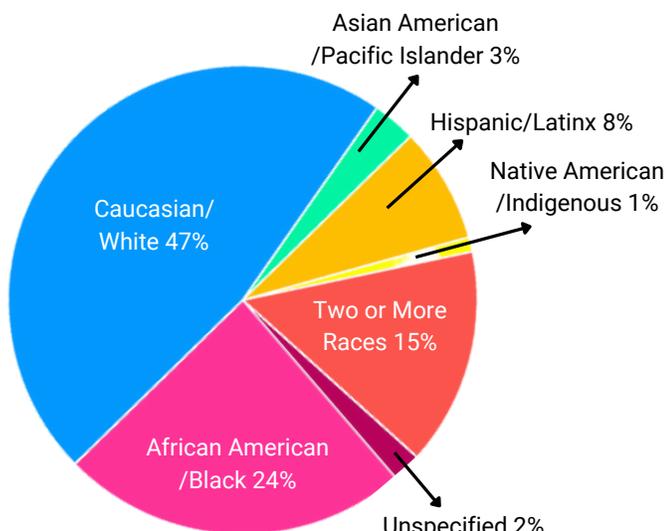
FL CASA completed a successful “CASAs for non-English Speaking Families Pilot Program” in FY22. There has been a great community need for CASA support for non-English speaking families and judges have expressed a desire for us to serve these families. In King County, there are over 41 languages spoken at home besides English.

These children who are involved in high-risk custody cases are at an even greater disadvantage than their low-income peers. Due to the additional

complexities of the language barrier, in Family Courts, these children are more likely than their peers to experience inequities related to Access to Justice and ultimately to be placed in unsafe environments which can have disastrous lifelong consequences.

In a new partnership with the King County Court system, we will work with Court interpreters in non-English speaking cases. We’re looking forward to supporting more language-diverse children and families in the upcoming year.

### Racial Demographics of Assigned Cases



## Equity and accountability in the family court system

At Family Law CASA, we exist in response to the family court system that disproportionately impacts BIPOC (Black, Indigenous, and People of Color) families. We strive to uphold the dignity and respect of all individuals by developing transparent and authentic relationships. We aspire to elevate BIPOC voices and experiences in decisions and hold ourselves, leadership and partners accountable through ensuring that we provide equitable advocacy for BIPOC children in court.

# CELEBRATING 20 YEARS

**2002** Family Law CASA incorporated\* as a privately funded 501c3 nonprofit, Caroline Davis was founding Executive Director with 9 Founding board members.

**2002** Established court-approved training sessions for new volunteer advocates.

**2003** 35 cases assigned, serving 51 children.

**2005** The Paul Allen Family Foundation followed by Social Venture Partners in 2006 and Washington Women's Foundation in 2011 provided substantial program-building grants.

**2006** First Annual Breakfast held in March, kicking off a longtime annual spring tradition of celebrating FLCASA's mission with the community.

**2010** FLCASA received notice of a legacy gift to increase program capacity leading to the establishment of a special gifts fund.

**2013** The organization's second Executive Director, Roxanne Mennes, was hired. The Board approved a strategy to expand program capacity to 120 cases/year.

**2014** The next four years saw an average of 107 cases assigned per year with an active advocate pool of 200.

**2020** Deidre McCormack Martin joined as Executive Director in January.

**2020** COVID-19 pandemic shutdown began in March and courts closed for 3 months. FLCASA converted to 100% digital and continued cases remotely. Served over 250 children.

**2021** Office relocated from downtown Seattle to Tukwila. The South King County location reflects the racial and ethnic diversity of the families FLCASA serves.

**2021** Created a racial equity vision statement and charter. Established the guiding values of equity, compassion, integrity, gratitude, collaboration, quality and adaptability.

**2022** Piloted 4 cases in which interpreters were used for non-English speaking families.

**2022** 20th Anniversary! 243 active volunteer advocates, 10 staff members, 22 board members, and helping over 3,000 children since 2002.



# FUND THEIR FUTURE

Celebrating two decades of child advocacy made possible by you. Can you help with 20 more?

## Thank you to our lead matching gifts!

The Ellison Foundation  
Jill Geary & Neil Beaton  
The Grousemont Foundation  
The Knossos Foundation  
Korynne & Jeffrey Wright

## A multi-year pledge will:

- Advocate for 750 kids
- Recruit & support 200 volunteers
- Secure sustainable & new funding streams
- Diversify staff, board and advocates, and embed equity into our organization
- Explore new strategic ways to better support low-income kids in the community

## Sustainer Circle - we'd like to add your name too!

Anonymous	Caroline Davis	Elizabeth Park
Anne Read-Andersen	Chad Driesbach	Gary Sampson
& Erich Andersen	Jennifer Fournier	Laurie Stewart
Bobbe & Jon Bridge	Frank & Della Houston	Darcia & Gary Tudor
Larry Engel & Kate Battuello	Polly Lenssen	Wyman Youth Trust
Christine Chang & Steve Bush	Kellie & Nate McKenna	& Merrily Wyman
Bryan Digel & Daihong Chen	Cadence Miller	Helen Halpert & Alan Zarky

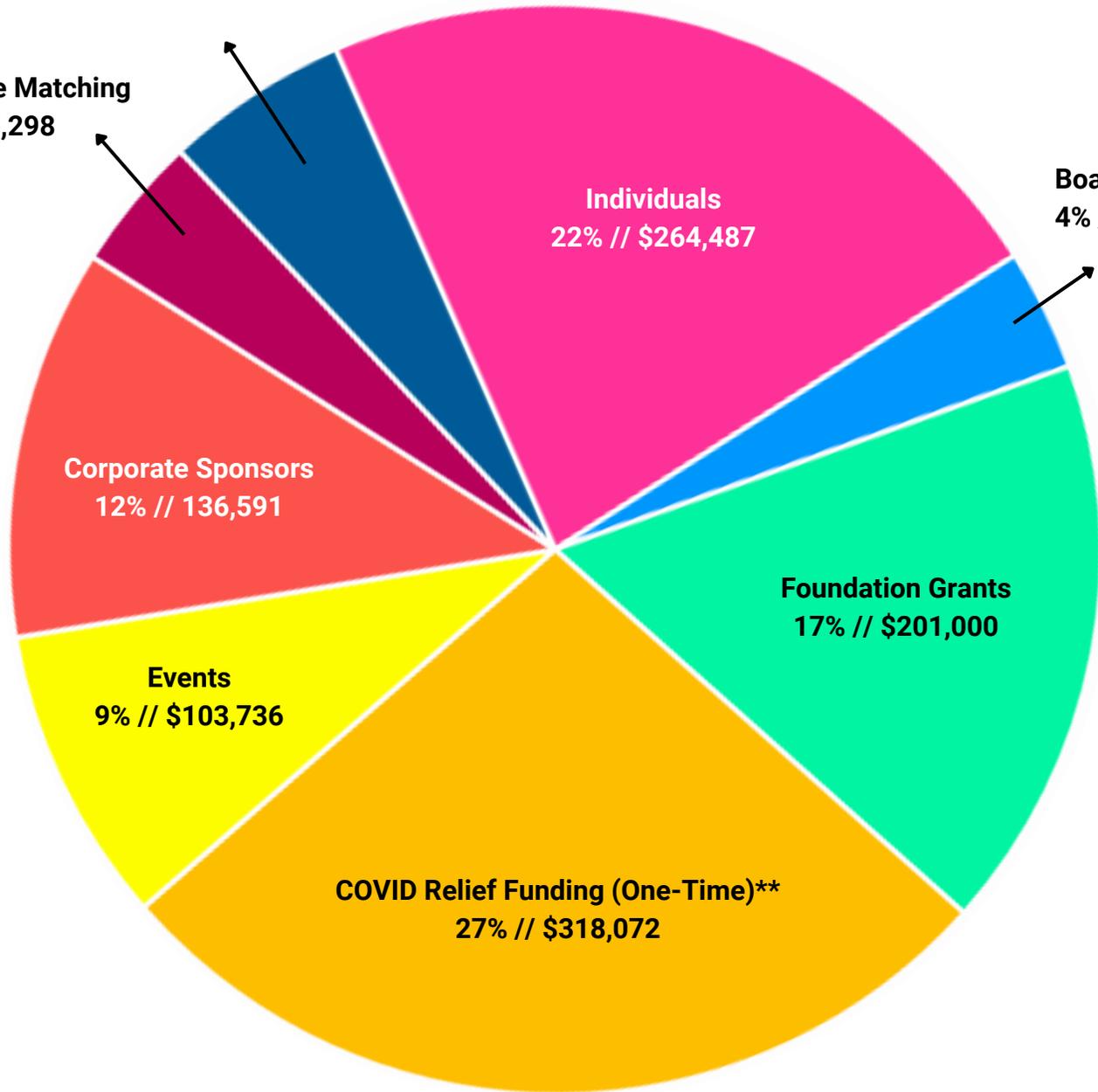
# BY THE NUMBERS

FY2022 REVENUE | TOTAL \$1,177,838

Investment Income/Other  
5% // \$64,197

Corporate Matching  
4% // \$47,298

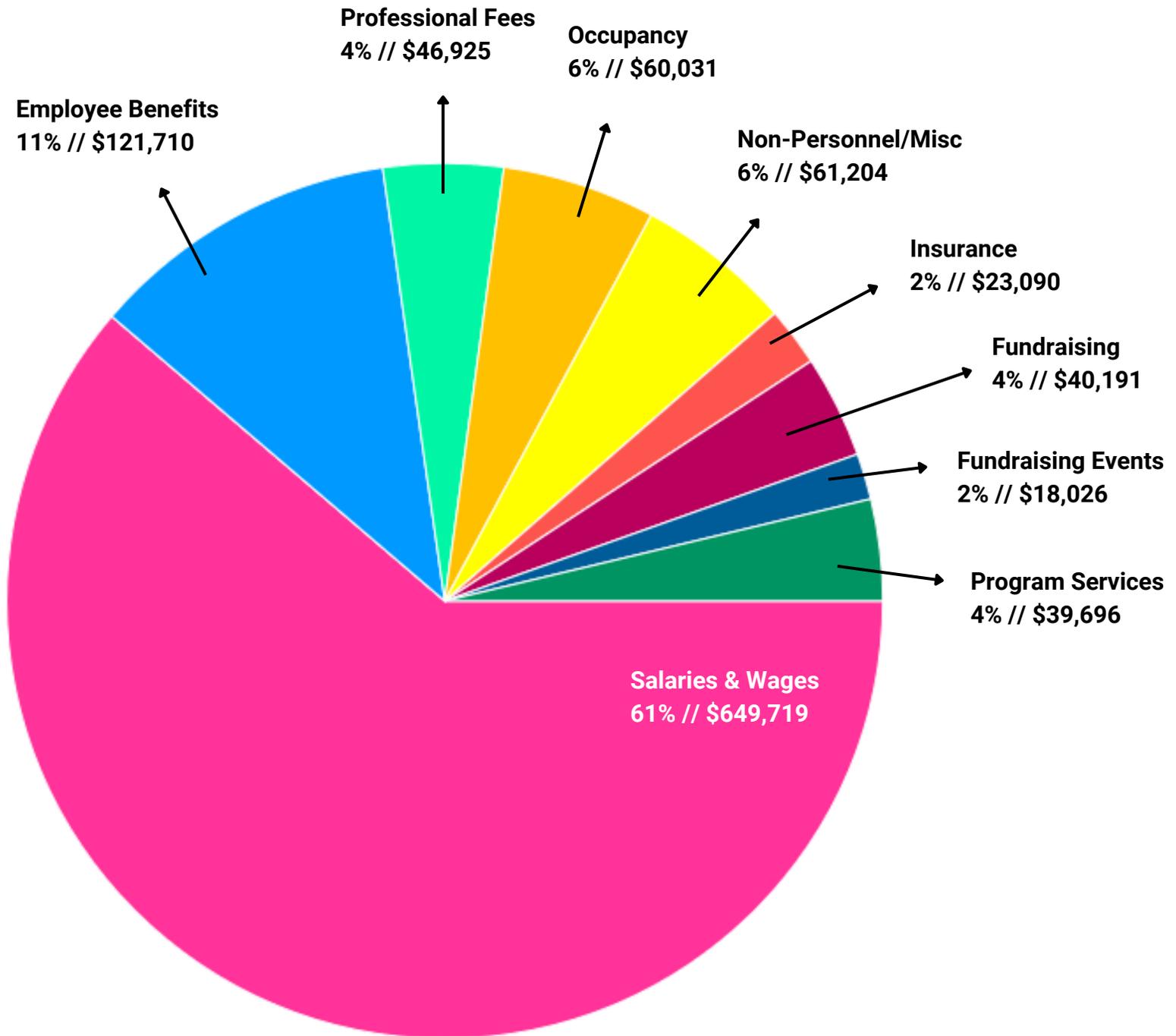
Board  
4% // \$42,458



\*\*PPP Loan & Employee Retention Tax Credit

# BY THE NUMBERS

FY2022 EXPENSES | TOTAL \$1,060,592



# ROUND OF APPLAUSE

Thank you to the community partners for your support! You give local, low-income children a chance for a safer and brighter future.



**Adobe Inc.**  
**Advocacy & Caring for Children**  
**Alaska Airlines Matching Gift Program**  
**Amazon Smile**  
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**First Financial NW Foundation Fund**  
**Gates Foundation Corporate Match**  
**GE Foundation Matching Gifts Program**  
**Google Matching Gifts Program**  
**Grousemont Foundation**  
**Katie Hill Designated Fund at Kitsap  
Community Foundation**

**"The recommendations,  
findings, and testimony  
at trial was so valuable.  
Finally my daughter is  
thriving and living without  
constant anxiety."  
CASA Parent, 2022**



## **Community Partners Continued...**

**King County Employee Giving Program  
Knossos Foundation  
Laird Norton Family Foundation  
Lucky Seven Foundation  
Marie Lamfrom Charitable Foundation  
Medina Foundation  
Microsoft Matching Gifts Program  
Moccasin Lake Foundation  
Morningstar Employee Match  
Moss Adams Match Program  
Nordstrom Employee Charitable  
Match Program**

**Northwest Children's Foundation  
PwC Employee Match  
Renton Regional Community Foundation  
Seattle Foundation  
Sound Community Bank  
Starbucks Matching Gift Program  
T-Mobile  
Twilio Corporate Match Program  
UBS Employer Match  
US Bank Foundation Matching Program  
US Charitable Gift Trust - Mockingbird Fund  
Wells Fargo  
Windermere Capitol Hill Foundation  
Wyman Youth Trust**

# SPONSORS

Because of our sponsors, 100% of the annual breakfast contributions from individual donors directly benefitted our CASA children.

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Washington Trust Bank

"It only takes one small moment, one person's small act of selfless kindness, to give our children the possibility to grow beyond their circumstances."  
Volunteer Attorney

## MATCHING GIFT FUND

David and Katherine De Bruyn

Robert Dent and Carole Lycett-Dent

Larry Engel & Kate Battuello

Alden Garrett (Founder)

Jamie Polito Johnston and Jim Johnston

William Kinzel

Brigid McCormack and Pete Cooper

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Karl and Michelle Quackenbush

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Stacey and Scott Thompson

Wendy Wyman

★ Sponsor for 15+ years   ★ Sponsor for 5+ years  
★ Sponsor for 10+ years   ★ First Time Sponsor

# 7 WAYS TO HELP CASA KIDS TODAY



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to make a gift online



Make a gift of stock:  
Contact [development@familylawcasa.org](mailto:development@familylawcasa.org)  
for transfer instructions



Mail your gift to FLCASA:  
16300 Christensen Rd Ste 306  
Tukwila, WA 98188



Give through your IRA (if you  
are 70.5 or older) as a Qualified  
Charitable Donation (QCD)



Advise your charitable fund  
to make a gift to FLCASA



Direct your gift of cryptocurrency  
through [cryptoforcharity.io](http://cryptoforcharity.io)



Include CASA in your Estate Plans:  
Contact [development@familylawcasa.org](mailto:development@familylawcasa.org)  
for more information.



**Thank you  
for 20 years!**



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