

# 2024-2025 Impact Report



Family Law CASA  
Giving children a voice in court



From Our Executive Director & Board President

# Our Year, Your Impact

As we reflect on another remarkable year at Family Law CASA, we're filled with deep gratitude for your partnership. Together, we've taken bold steps to secure our long-term sustainability and deepen our impact for the children and families we serve.

Over the past year, our staff, board, and Community Advisory Board have worked diligently to advance our mission, strengthen our programs, and refine our strategy for the future. In this report, you'll see the outcomes of that work: the impact we've achieved together, our refined mission and vision, and stories that show how advocacy changes lives.

A few highlights that illustrate what we've accomplished together:

- Delivered advocacy services in **121 cases, serving 178 children** across King County.
- Raised a record-breaking **\$1.36M in revenue**.
- Engaged interpreter services to **support non-English speaking families in 14 cases**.
- Launched a **Community Advisory Board** with diverse expertise and lived experience.
- Completed a **program evaluation design** to guide our impact measurement and learning.
- Developed a new **10-year strategy**, including refreshed mission and vision statements.

As we look ahead, we invite you to continue leaning into this work with us—advancing equity in family court, strengthening support for families, and driving systems-level change to shape a community where all children and families can thrive.

With deepest gratitude,



**Deidre McCormack Martin**  
Executive Director



**Bryan Digel**  
Board President



Our Guiding Statements

# Vision, Mission, & Values



## Vision

We envision a world where justice and equity transform communities, nurturing children to grow and thrive.



## Mission

Family Law CASA is committed to positive long-term outcomes for children, families, and communities navigating economic injustice across King County. We advance intersectional equity by providing free advocacy services for children involved in family law cases, connecting families to support services, and driving transformational systems change.



## Values

Adaptability

Equity

Levity

Collaboration

Gratitude

Quality

Compassion

Integrity



# Impact in Focus



**178**

children  
served



**18**

litigated  
trials



**33**

mediation  
contributions



**141**

court hearing  
appearances

**100**

reports  
submitted



**52**

cases  
closed



**242**

households  
served

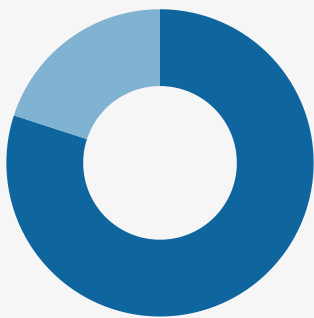


**121**

total cases  
worked



# Impact in Focus



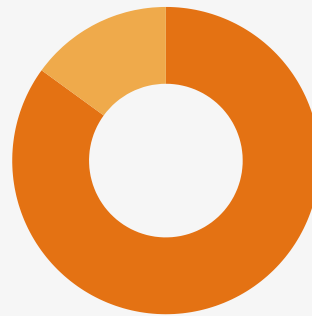
In nearly

**80%**

of our cases, one or both parents had no legal representation



an increase of **28.5%** over last year



The Court adopted

**85%**

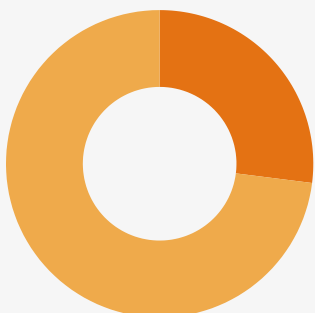
of our recommendations for parenting plans following trial



Of the 178 children assigned an advocate,

**79%**

were 11 or younger



We helped

**27%**

of cases settle out of court

avoiding further trauma exposure and saving the Court substantial time and resources.

# Impact in Focus

## Rates of Alleged Safety Issues in Our Cases

Safety Issue	FY24	FY25
Domestic Violence	90%	71%
Substance Use	66%	44%
Mental Health Issues	53%	41%
Neglect	67%	41%
Physical/Sexual Abuse	41%	29%
Withholding Child	20%	17%
Criminal History	18%	15%
Abandonment	10%	15%
Abusive Use of Conflict	8%	6%

We worked through **challenging and complex** cases this year, with **71% involving allegations of domestic violence, 44% substance use, 41% mental health issues, and 41% neglect** often with more than one safety concern investigated.



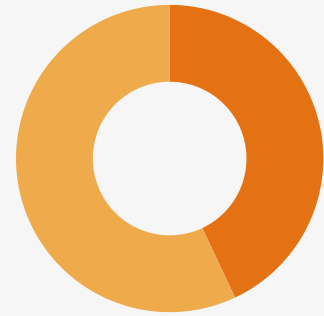


# Impact in Focus



**5,335**

hours donated by  
volunteer Court-  
Appointed Special  
Advocates (CASAs)



The Program Team,  
including  
133 volunteer  
CASAs, closed

**43%**

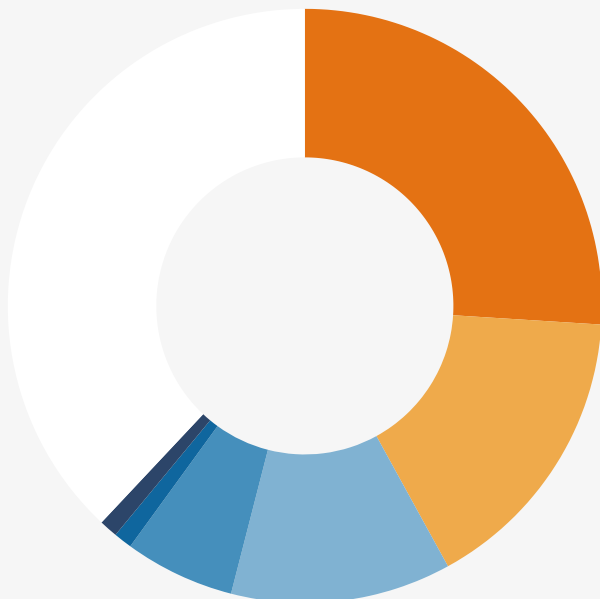
of cases this year

**32%**

of our 133 volunteer CASAs were people of color.  
They are assigned to cases first when possible.



an increase of 23% over last year



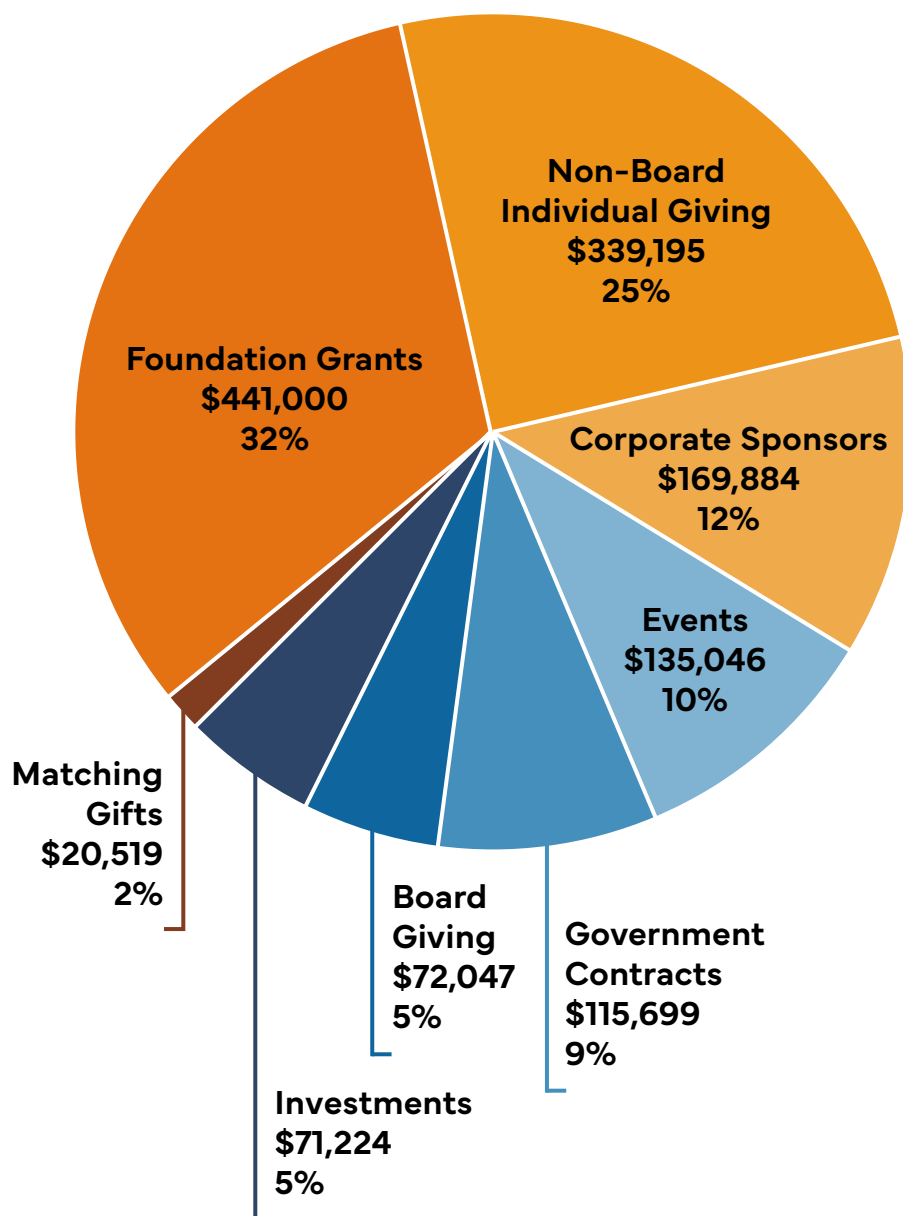
**63%**

of children served were  
from communities of color

- 26% multiracial
- 16% Black
- 12% Latinx
- 6% Asian/Pacific Islander
- 1% Native American/Indigenous
- 1% Middle Eastern/North African

# Revenue

Total Revenue: \$1,364,613



Total In-Kind  
Volunteer Hours

\$253,952\*

*\*Not included in above chart*

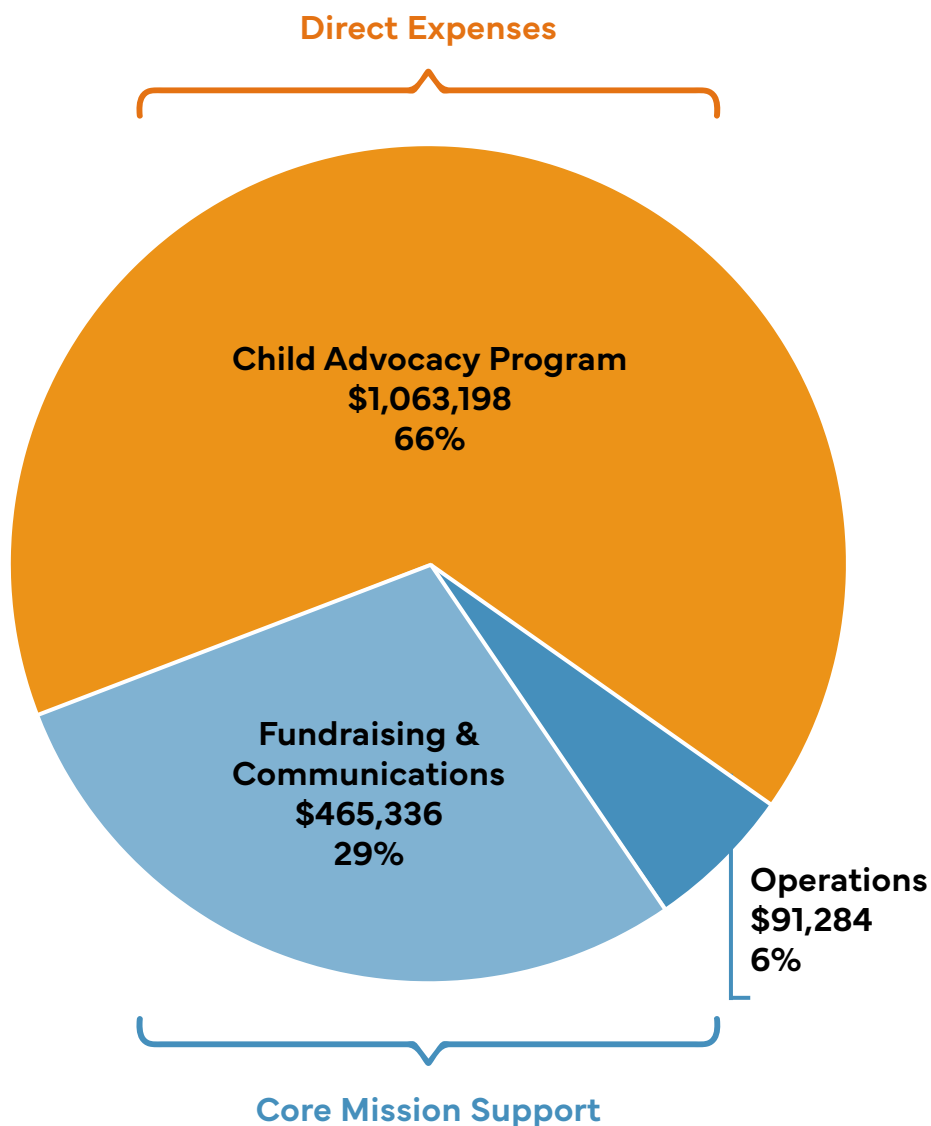




# Expenses

**Total Expenses: \$1,619,819\***

*\*includes in-kind program expenses of \$253,952*



## Notes

The Family Law CASA Board of Directors approved a deficit budget for FY2025 to fund and sustain capacity for 100-120 cases per year. A draw from the Special Gift reserves covered the deficit.

Core Mission Support refers to the essential infrastructure that enables Family Law CASA to effectively fulfill our mission and ensures sustainability for our child advocacy program.



2025-2030

# Strategic Goals

## Goal #1

**Reduce childhood trauma by expanding program services to deepen engagement with families, increase family stability and reduce the stresses that can lead to trauma, with particular emphasis on supporting families of color.**

- Design and launch navigation services for families, who have completed their family law case, to help them access additional culturally responsive services throughout the community that meet basic needs and support family stability, healthy behaviors and positive dynamics.
- Explore gaps in education and services that benefit Family Law CASA families and other families with similar needs in King County, in order to determine what we might provide in the longer term.

## Goal #2

**Advocate to change systems that negatively impact children and families who are furthest from justice.**

- Charter a standing advocacy committee to identify and act on systems or policy issues that impact families and children experiencing trauma.
- Add Family Law CASA's voice and influence to existing partnerships or coalitions working for systems change.

## Goal #3

**Enhance Family Law CASA's capacities to support current and expanded impact and organizational growth.**

- Enhance organizational capacities to respond to family needs and interests by building infrastructure and processes for continuous learning, improvement, data collection and evaluation.
- Continue refining the current program model to ensure we are providing equity-centered and high-quality outcomes for children and families.
- Build organizational capacities in the areas of partnership management, communications, social work and collaboration across departments and with advocates.
- Identify and pursue new fundraising opportunities to support navigation services and needed infrastructure.
- Assess and develop Board of Director capabilities, relationships, structure and expertise needed to fully support Family Law CASA's impact and strategic learning objectives.
- Deepen and expand opportunities for community and family voice into program decisions, including supporting the ongoing development of the Community Advisory Board.





# A New Chapter for Layla & Brooklyn

**Layla and Brooklyn, 10-year-old twin sisters, were navigating a major transition as their parents separated.** Their mother was working to rebuild her life—reconnecting with family, restarting her career, and managing her mental health with new support. As their family changed, the girls began talking about what was happening at their dad's house.

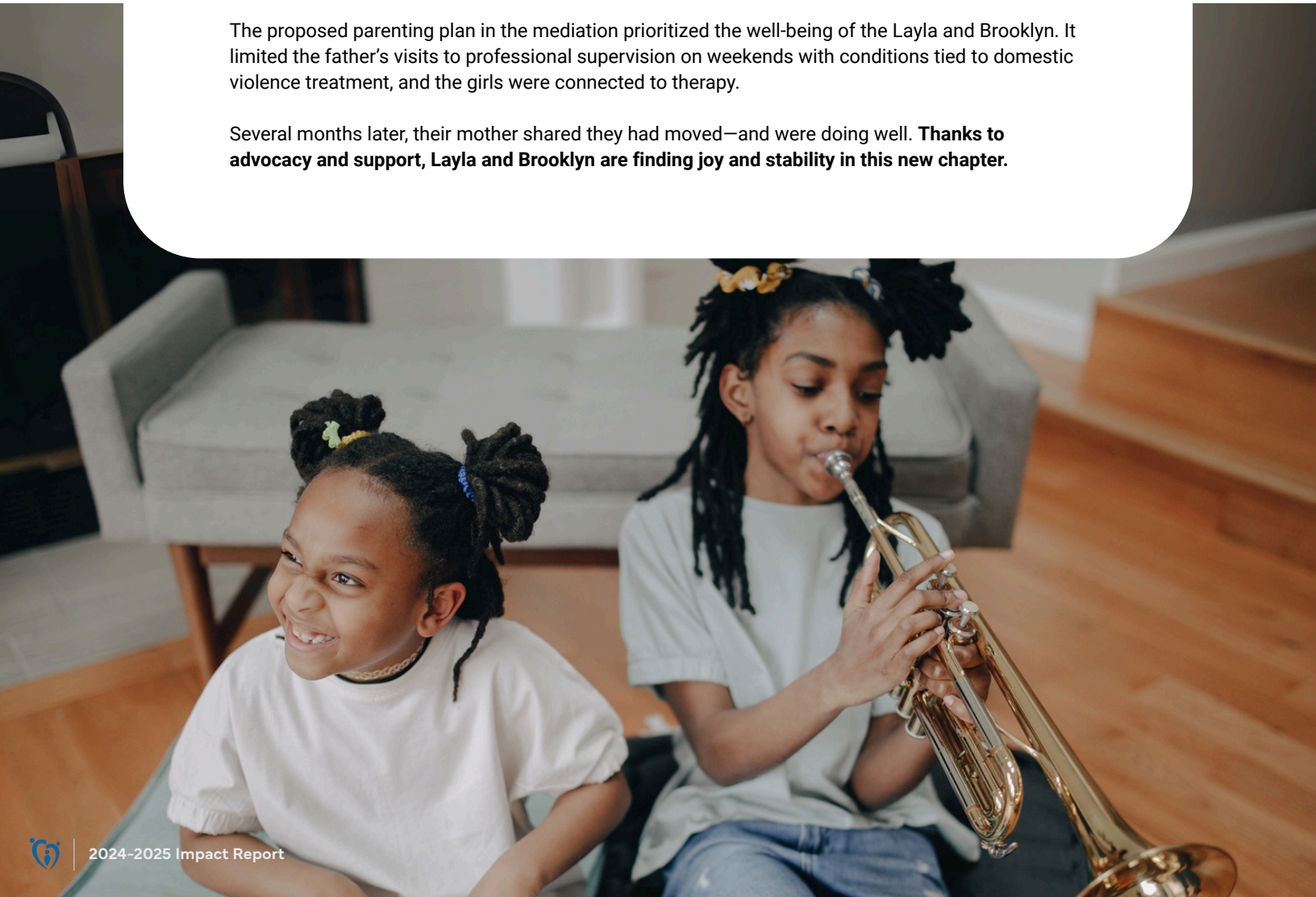
They shared how their father criticized their mother and talked about women in ways that made them feel upset and not okay around him. The girls also noticed similar behavior in his new relationship. He often told his girlfriend to be quiet, laughed at her ideas, or got angry when she disagreed.

**Each family member spoke with their volunteer CASA, Gary, and his report documented patterns of coercive control.**

The father denied the mother's claims, but he couldn't dispute the examples in Gary's report. After reading it, he chose to settle the case rather than go to trial.

The proposed parenting plan in the mediation prioritized the well-being of the Layla and Brooklyn. It limited the father's visits to professional supervision on weekends with conditions tied to domestic violence treatment, and the girls were connected to therapy.

Several months later, their mother shared they had moved—and were doing well. **Thanks to advocacy and support, Layla and Brooklyn are finding joy and stability in this new chapter.**



# Listening to Gracia, Diego, and Alejandro

**12-year-old Gracia, 10-year-old Diego, and 5-year-old Alejandro were splitting time between both parents when their mom raised concerns about their safety.** The children often came home overtired, with bruises or untreated skin conditions. She also shared that the boys had asked if it was normal for a car to swerve while someone was driving—something that left her deeply concerned.

When their CASA met with them, the children shared both good memories and things that didn't feel okay. They remembered pancake breakfasts, soccer in the backyard, and laughing at silly bedtime stories. But Diego didn't like being teased for "acting soft." Gracia said she felt nervous when their dad got mad. Alejandro shared that video calls sometimes ended in yelling—and made him cry.

**They all said they loved their dad. But when asked where they felt safer, they named their mom's house. There, they had routines, help with homework, and didn't have to worry as much.**

Their dad said he cared for them and denied the concerns. But he hadn't completed court-ordered parenting classes or domestic violence treatment. The CASA's report gave the court insight into the children's day-to-day experiences and needs.

Since then, the children have moved to a new home with their mom. They're doing well in school. They're sleeping better. They're settling in. And while they sometimes miss their dad, things feel more peaceful now.





A Year in Snapshots

# Thank You to Our Community

