



**CASA**

Court Appointed Special Advocates  
FOR CHILDREN

MONTANA

# Montana CASA/GAL Association

2023 Annual Impact Report

Providing Hope for Montana Children & Families

[www.montanacasagal.org](http://www.montanacasagal.org)

As the only organization that looks out exclusively for the Best Interest of abused and neglected children, families & children rely on CASAs for a safe and positive experience. We provide hope for a better future and uplift the voices of children & families. As the statewide leader in Best Interest Advocacy, Montana CASA/GAL Association (MTCASA) and our network continued to grow and expand in 2023 in these ways:

Quality control through site visits and individualized coaching at each of the 15 local programs.

Ongoing funding via Federal TANF to local programs in support of efforts to serve 100% of children and families in need of CASA services and for new CASA services. MTCASA has been awarded 1 million dollars in TANF funding to utilize for 2023/ 2024 and 2024/2025.

Introducing CASA to and engaging judges in district and tribal courts where CASA does not exist.

Statewide CASA marketing awareness efforts increased through targeted social media efforts.

Continue to host the annual Montana CASA Conference providing trainings and education to local program CASAs, staff, & board members.

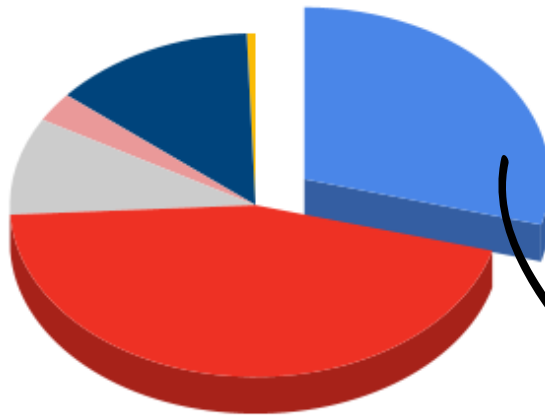
Information and education provided to state legislators regarding bills that directly impact CASA, the children, & families we serve. Supporting preservation of the CASA role in the courtroom and partnering with leaders & court stakeholders to encourage working together for best outcomes for children and families.

Conducted studies and surveys collecting vital data and information regarding the needs, capacity and impact of Montana CASA Local Programs.

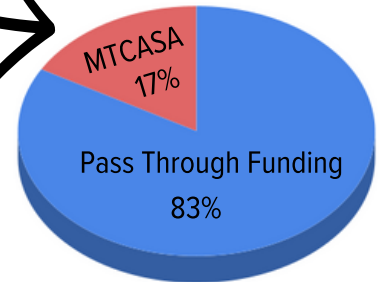
Increased staffing to two full-time employees and 3 independent contractors.



## Total Funds Raised in 2023: \$381,09

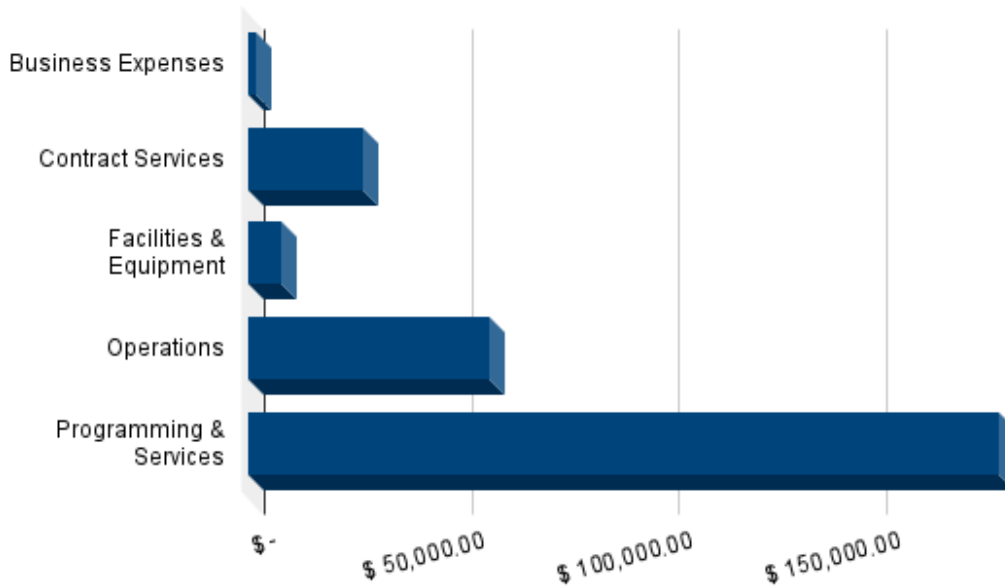


- Grants
- Foundations
- Donations
- Board & Local Program Giving
- Corporate Giving
- State Funding



\$92,938.69 of MTCASA grant funding was allocated to local CASA programs via pass through funding

## Total 2023 Expenses: \$275,282



MTCASA expenses by dollar amount





Montana has 15 local CASA programs serving over 40 counties. Approximately 1,250 Montana children had CASAs in 2023. 577 Volunteer Advocates served these children.

**Success Stories & Highlights from a few of the local programs.**

Cheyenne\* came into foster care in 2018 after her adoptive mother stated that she could no longer care for Cheyenne. At the time, eleven-year-old Cheyenne disclosed ongoing physical abuse in her home, and she was officially removed and placed into foster care. Cheyenne's CASA, Andrea of CASA of Yellowstone, has been with her since then. She has been a consistent and safe adult for Cheyenne to rely on through the challenges and changes of the next several years. Since coming into foster care, Cheyenne has had 6 caseworkers, 3 attorneys, 7 foster placements, and 1 CASA. After 5 years in foster care, Cheyenne's foster parents received guardianship of the now 16-year-old.



Local Program Pilot Projects offering new services such as mentoring youth that are aging out of the system and providing more resources to parents and guardians.

In Progress expansion of CASA of Eastern MT into the Fort Peck Reservation.

Expansion of Youth Focus Programs in Flathead County.



Judge Halligan (3rd from right) receiving her award at the National CASA Conference.

Missoula Judge Leslie Halligan wins Honorable David W. Soukup Judge of the Year Award.



Lincoln County has officially become an independent program, allowing the program to meet the unique needs of the county.

Lincoln County Executive Director, Keeli Anderson and Program Director, Kerri Fahland (standing).





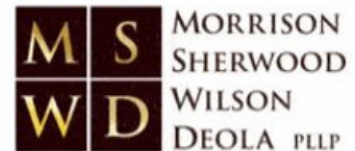
Thank you for partnering with us as we strive to keep families whole and children safe during an incredibly difficult time in their lives. As we grow, MTCASA will continue to drive the necessary changes needed to better serve through collaboration with integrity, inclusivity, and accountability.

\*LISTED IN ALPHABETICAL ORDER

Jennifer & Christopher Boyer  
 Laura & Larry Brehm  
 Gerry Browning  
 Laura Dever  
 Allison Dunne  
 Jim Fitzgerald  
 Brandon Green  
 Jeff & Kelli Hoffman

Mr. & Mrs. John Lake  
 Randi Levin  
 Tom & Christine McCall  
 Tom & Carol McElwain  
 -In Honor of Jamie Campbell  
 Elaine & John Meeks  
 John & Jody Menyhart  
 Jeff Montag

Jan & Pat Munday  
 Glenda Noyes  
 Karen & Burke Townsend  
 Joe Walsh  
 Jeffrey Werstak  
 Local Montana CASA  
 Programs





Donate to MTCASA Today to  
Continue Providing Support  
for Montana Children and  
Families

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Missoula, MT 59806

Donate online at  
<https://www.montanacasagal.org>