



FY 2022 ANNUAL REPORT

"...Champions of Hope,
Purpose,
and Family."



casa7jd.org 

Serving Delta, Gunnison,
Hinsdale, Montrose, Ouray,
& San Miguel Counties



A photograph of two women smiling and looking at each other outdoors. The woman on the left is wearing a blue shirt, and the woman on the right is wearing a yellow shirt. They are standing in front of a background of orange and green foliage.

Mission

**"Helping to break the cycle of abuse
and neglect through prevention,
advocacy and interaction"**

Dear Friends & Partners

As we continue to engage with families, children, and young adults across the 7th Judicial District, the indicators of success are diverse and found in the individual journey of each person we serve. It can be the voice of an Advocate sharing the hopes and desires of a child in the courts due to abuse and neglect in the home. Success can be seen in the reunification of a son or daughter with parents who have responded to intervention and created a safe home for their child to grow and thrive. To see a young adult settle in to the stability of their first home and explore the opportunities of employment or education. Having a baby born to a mother that can access the mental health supports she needs to break the patterns of abuse and neglect.

Success, however, is not the number of children we served, the employment rate of previously homeless youth, or the hours of parenting time provided. Success is what we bring to these relationships; it has more to do with who we are than how they respond.

For us to succeed, is to finish our day knowing that each person has been treated with dignity, respect, and the perseverance that sees beyond an addiction, or trauma induced response, and finds the heart of a young person hoping to be valued just as they are. To succeed is to lean in, give more, and stay present. This annual report is more than a summary of outcomes; it is an expression of gratitude to "my team"; a team that I am proud to serve.

On behalf of our team,
Thank you for your support and trust.

Sincerely,

Carlton Mason
CEO

FY 2022 HIGHLIGHTS

June 2022

Governor Polis signs **HB22-1389 Financial Literacy Exchange Program** based on a pilot program developed by CASA of the 7th Judicial District to encourage employment, increase net-worth, and provide financial literacy to individuals living in supportive housing.

December 2021

First tenants move into 1st Place on Palmer; a six unit, supportive housing project serving the needs of homeless young adults in Delta County

October 2021

CASA of the 7th Judicial District enters into a contract to purchase fifteen acres off the San Juan Bypass in Montrose for the development of a 33 unit supportive housing community meeting the needs of those 18 to 24, and 60+, at imminent risk for homelessness.

Programs and Initiatives

- *CASA of the 7th Judicial District / Court Appointed Special Advocates*
- *Supervised Visitation / Dependency & Neglect, Domestic Relations*
- *Youth Services / Mental Health, Life Skills & Clinical Case Management*
- *YAC / Walk-in Youth Access Center*
- *Winston's Smoothie Bar / Employment Readiness*
- *1st Place on 2nd St. / 8 units of Supportive Housing - Montrose CO*
- *1st Place on Palmer St. / 6 units of Supportive Housing - Delta CO*

Vision

"A community where children and youth become tomorrow's champions of hope, purpose, and family."



For Children and Youth within the Child Welfare System

- One third have a chronic health problem
- Up to 80 percent have a mental health issue
- Are three times more likely to use drugs
- The young women are more than twice as likely to become pregnant by age 19
- Of those emancipating from foster care, only 15.6 percent report part or full time employment



**Number of
Hours
Volunteered**

575

**Number of
Children
Served**

58

**# of Children
Returned
Home**

19

**Active
CASA
Advocates**

26

**Number of
Cases
Served**

33

The need for CASA Advocacy

Court Appointed Special Advocate® volunteers are appointed by judges to advocate for children's best interests. This best-interest advocacy makes a life-changing difference for children and youth who have experienced abuse or neglect, many of whom are in foster care.

COURT APPOINTED SPECIAL ADVOCATES

SUPERVISED EXCHANGE & PARENTING TIME

**Total Number of Visits &
Exchanges** **3,245**

Hours of Visitation **6,200**

Children Involved **296**

Families Served **73**

Children Returned Home **61**

The purpose of visitation is to maintain the parent-child attachment, reduce a child's sense of abandonment, and preserve their sense of belonging as part of a family and community. A child needs to see and have regular contact with their parent(s), as this relationship is the foundation of child development.



"Thank you for never giving up on me...I appreciate your patience and the drive you have to make sure i get my visit."

Parent

"Muy bueno el servicio, Gracias."

Padre

"One thing I am grateful for through all of this is the tools they have given me to succeed."

Parent

"I want you to know everything you have done in the past 5 months now. it's been truly appreciated."

Parent

PARENTING CLASSES

**Total Number of
Participants in Parenting
Education** **147**

**Total Number of
Parenting Classes** **430**

**Total Number of Hours of
Class Time** **1,119**

YOUTH SERVICES



**Number of Individuals
receiving Services**

66

**Number of Youth
receiving Mental
Health Services**

24

**Individual Contact
Hours**

1,383

**Group Contact Hours
Outings, LGBTQ+, etc.**

1,079

She was 16, living with her grandparents, and had dropped out of high school. When she came to the YAC, M was angry, struggled to form healthy relationships, and shared feelings of hopelessness. M continued to come in weekly and worked with staff to find and develop supportive relationships. Currently, M. is residing with family member out-of-state. There is once again healthy communication with her grandparents. She has a positive outlook on life, and is back in school. Before M. left she came in, thanked the staff; "This would not have happened without you."

SUPPORTIVE HOUSING

**Number of Young Adults
Housed**

18

**Percentage of Tenants
Reporting Employment**

93%

**Average Number of
Months Employed**

7.8



**In fiscal year 2021-2022, 1st Place Supportive Housing:
Service**

Savings

166 combined months of supportive housing

\$ 365,200

(Based on emergency shelter and service cost savings per tenant over 12 months)

Reduced the number of criminal charges to zero

\$ 53,820

(State and national statistics show that 69% of youth coming out of foster care or homeless will have one criminal charge in a year)

Increased average employment rate

\$ 102,006

(Reducing demands on social welfare)

Improved Educational Outcomes

\$ 83,340

(5 tenants complete HS/GED, 3 tenants complete Voc. Certificate, 2 Tenants enroll in college)

Reduction in Emergency Room Visits

\$ 24,750

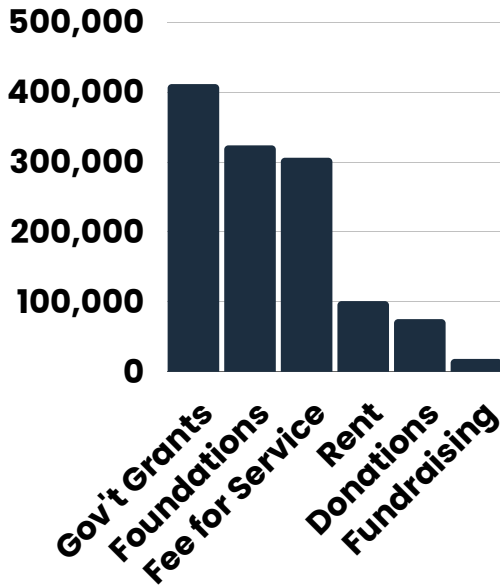
Reduction in State funded Rental Assistance

\$ 60,064

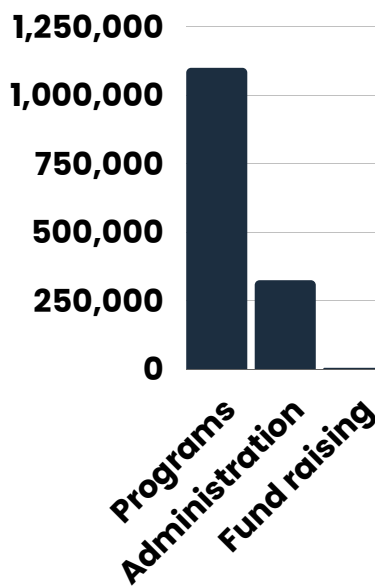
(Represents a 43% increase in tenant earnings)

FINANCIAL POSITION

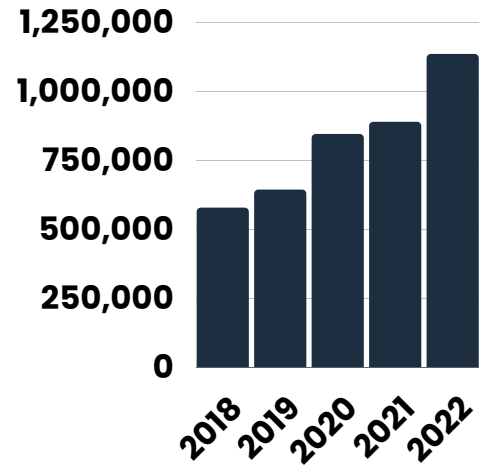
Revenue



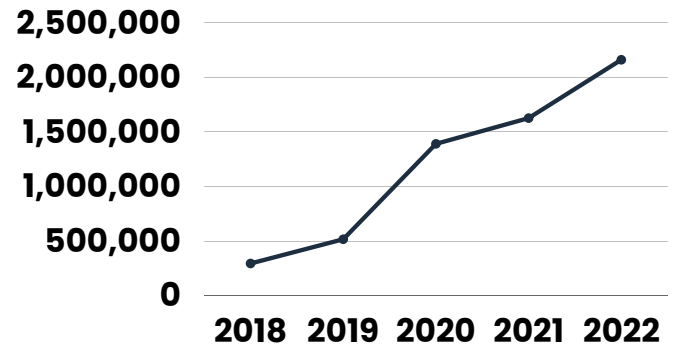
Expense



Budget Year to Year



Net Assets

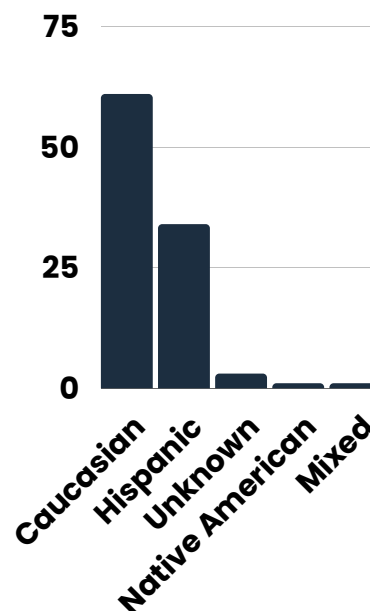


"...thank you for providing 1st Place with an excellent clothes line. Jose did a wonderful job setting it up by making sure to pick a place that gets the most sun. He set it over grass instead of the dirt in case anyone's clothes fell, they wouldn't get dirty....As I was walking home from work today, there were sheets spread over the line in many different colors swaying in the wind. I suddenly felt an extra sense of home that I haven't felt in a very long time. It reminded me of the times I used to go out in the sunshine with my dad to help hang heavy sheets so they could dry. Now the little kids growing up here can have those special memories with their kids too."

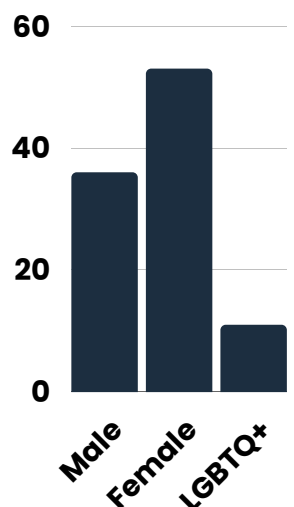
Tenant

1st Place Housing

Race/Ethnicity (%)



Gender (%)





Board of Directors

Susan Welk-Valdez – Pres.

Larry Dupper – V. Pres.

Mick Francis – Treas.

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Aixa Powell CRO

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Stacy Harbaugh

Property Manager

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Supervised Exchange & Parenting Time

Mercedes Wright, Manager

Stasia Allyn, Manager

Daxton Bushee

Tom Carrasco

Idania Perez

Youth Services

Alex Gray

Chantel Martinez

Kaycee Maurer

Our heartfelt thanks to the Foundations & Communities supporting our work:



Youth & Family Advocacy Services / CASA of the 7th Judicial District

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