



Changing lives one child at a time.



**CHILD**  
**ADVOCATES**  
of SW Connecticut

| 2013 ANNUAL REPORT



# Our Mission:

Child Advocates of Connecticut recruits, trains and supervises court appointed volunteers who work to ensure that each abused or neglected child has a safe, loving and permanent home.

We are a volunteer-powered organization of committed people who believe society has a fundamental obligation to improve the lives of our most vulnerable children.



CAC Staff, left to right, Stacey G. Sobel, Esq., Marin Marcus, Becky LeGette and Jackie Grundeil, Esq.



CAC Board of Directors, left to right, Georgiana Platt, Marie Dolan, Bradley Purcell, Kate Freeman, Elaine Harris, Scott Hazard, Terri Knight, Nancy Rebold. Not pictured: John Peyton



## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- Elaine Harris  
President
- Scott Hazard  
Treasurer
- Nancy Rebold  
Secretary
- Marie Dolan
- Kate Freeman, Esq.
- Terri Knight
- John Peyton
- Georgiana Platt
- Bradley Purcell

## ADVISORY BOARD

- Honorable  
Mary E. Sommer  
State Representative
- Gerald Fox III
- Paule Couture, MD

## STAFF

- Stacey G. Sobel, Esq.  
Executive Director
- Jackie Grundeil, Esq.  
Program Director/Stamford
- Marin Marcus  
Program Director/Danbury
- Becky LeGette  
Program Assistant
- Pro Bono Attorney  
Marisa F. Schafer, Esq.,  
Schafer & Schafer, LLP



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Designed by Seth Johnson  
[www.thedesignfish.com](http://www.thedesignfish.com)



# 234,000

234,000 abused and neglected children nationwide had a volunteer speak up for their best interests in the courtroom and the community

# 400,000

400,000 children nationwide are waiting for a volunteer to help find them a safe, loving, permanent home



**“** I hoped that volunteering as a Child Advocate would give me the opportunity to help protect the interests of a child in the court system and it does, but I have discovered that there is much more to being a Guardian ad Litem ... I have been able to help a disabled child access school, after school programs, and counseling resources that enabled her to stay with a loving but overwhelmed mom. (Sometimes a bus pass or a homework program can have a big impact!) Now I am working to help a very determined teenager achieve her goal of college and a career, despite extraordinary obstacles of poverty, natural disaster, and family dislocation. I may not be able to change her world but I can be there to encourage her and to try to find resources that will help her achieve her goals.

The wonderful and hardworking CAC staff provides comprehensive ongoing training and support and is always available to help!

It's a privilege to work for CAC! **”**

- Susan Stern, CAC Volunteer



## Thank You

Dear Friend,

It has been an honor to serve you in our new roles as Board President and Executive Director. This has been an exciting year of growth.

In 2012 – 2013, Child Advocates of SW Connecticut (CAC) moved into new office space, became a member of the National CASA for Children Organization, established an Advisory Board, grew the Board of Directors, expanded our volunteer advocacy into the Probate Court, trained new volunteers, and was awarded a two-year contract from the State of Connecticut to provide volunteer advocacy in southwestern Connecticut.

But most importantly, CAC continues to fulfill our fundamental obligation to make sure that a qualified, compassionate adult will fight for and protect a child's right to be safe, to be treated with dignity and respect, and to learn and grow in the security of a loving family.

Thank you to our volunteers and supporters who make this possible.

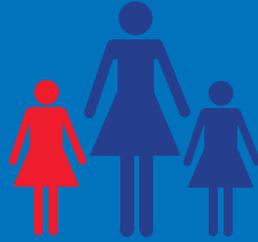
Sincerely,



Elaine Harris  
*President, Board of Directors*



Stacey G. Sobel, Esq.  
*Executive Director*



# 1/2

A volunteer child advocate reduces the number of traumatic transitions for a child by half



# 50%

Research indicates that having a volunteer child advocate reduces by 50% the chance that a child will spend time in long-term foster care

# Our Donors

July 1, 2012 - June 30, 2013

## Grants

Crane Fund for Widows and Children  
Greens Farms Academy  
Lone Pine Foundation  
Near and Far Aid  
NetSuite  
New Canaan Community Foundation  
Starwood Hotels & Resorts  
Worldwide Foundation  
Wells Fargo Community  
Partner Program  
William T. Morris Foundation

## \$25,000+

Cynthia and Evan Goldberg  
Jane and Bradley Purcell

## \$10,000-\$24,999

Patricia and Bernard Goldstein  
Elaine and Charles Harris  
Lucy and Scott Hazard  
Mary Pedersen  
Peer Pedersen, Jr.  
Allison and John Peyton  
Nancy and Matthew Rebold

## \$2,000-\$9,999

Edie Brickell and Paul Simon  
Jeffrey Elliott  
Terri and Kevin Knight  
Elizabeth Schreiber and Andrew Kaplan  
Tricia Vanacore

## \$1,000-\$1,999

Georgia and Charles S. Adams  
Nancy Feldman  
Arlyn and Edward Gardner  
Sue and Peter Gummeson  
Kathe and Susan Shack Sackler

## \$500-\$999

Elizabeth Barney  
Melissa and John Ceriale  
Julie Chandler  
Barbara and William Cronin  
Fairfield Theater Company  
Bethany and Bjorn Forfang  
Honorable Donna Heller  
The Law Offices of Kevin Hoffman  
Shelley and Donald Meltzer  
Lyn Pedersen  
Georgiana and Ira Platt  
Nancy Prial and James Pavlekovsky  
Terex Corporation  
Sharon and Neil Wessan

## \$250-\$499

Evangeline Barry  
Sharon and Douglas Becker  
Jim Brown  
Dawn and Joseph Buthorn  
Denise Caron-Quinn and Terry Quinn  
Kelly and Ted Cook  
Catherine and Elwood Davis  
Kathleen Edmonds  
Vincent Falotico

William D. Fieber  
Mark Goldstein  
Lou and Nelson Heumann  
James Kabikow  
Maryrose and Simon Knott  
Jane and David Preiser

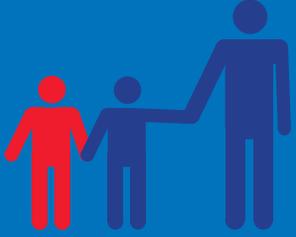
## Up to \$249

Ward Abel  
Carol Abrams  
Lois Amador  
Adele and Albert Aquila  
Mara and David Arzi  
Jeffrey Babushkin  
Lucy and David Ball  
Lauren and Michael Barber  
Marjorie Golden and Russell Baris  
Rena and Daniel Barsanti  
Rick Beispel  
MJ Berrien  
Nancy Bieder  
DeEtta Breitwieser  
Brennan Family  
Forbes Burt  
Cohen Family  
Kersti Crawford  
Davis Family  
Susan Doelp  
Donna and Norman Beretta  
Mary Eckert  
Lisa and Lee Einbinder  
Brenda and Jim Farrell  
Karen and William Faulkner

**“ We are grateful to all CAC. We recognize a individuals, corpora and foundations for heartfelt support. ”**

- Child Advocates of SW Co





A volunteer child advocate increases the likelihood that a child and his or her family receive needed health and therapeutic services



# CAC

CAC provides the highest-level training and continuing education for our volunteers

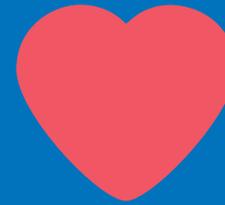


Justine and Chris Fellows  
Victoria Ferrara-Loris  
Jack Feuer  
Judy and David Fisher  
Jane Frank  
Maryellen Frank  
Andrea Friedman  
Daniel Furman  
Sheldon Lee Garner  
Keryn and Bruce Geller  
Susan Harris Gersh  
Penelope Glassmeyer  
Peter Gold  
Amy and Gary Goldberg  
Benjamin Gott  
Cathryn and Matt Greene  
Michael Gregorio  
Ellen Gross  
Carissa and Michael Gulyas  
Hazel Daze Boutique  
Myra Hess  
Patricia and Fred Hill  
Lisa and Adam Hodes  
Mary and Daniel Jay Hoffman  
Ellen and David Horing  
Kathryn Hughes  
Cynthia Izoldi  
Diane and Rady Johnson  
Debra Jones  
Kaplan Family  
Pam and Andrew Karpen  
Kimball Family  
Elizabeth Kleinbeck  
Michael Kondracki

Lawrence Family  
Lennon Family  
Tracy and Patrick Lennon  
Lew Family  
Hillary and David Mandell  
Marcus Family  
Susan Marnell  
Anna Martin  
Monica Mauri-Kordas  
Anne and Hugh McCrory  
Melanie and Tom McGlade  
Michael Mcreech  
Ariane Merinod  
Susan Metcalf  
James Miller  
Jamie Miller  
Susan and William Mirbach  
Janet and Dennis Mittleman  
Mounts Family  
Diana and David Muller  
Kristen and Amer Nimr  
Robert Noonan  
Tessa and Simon O'Regan  
Lynn Olins  
John Pacilio  
Paliotta Family  
Sabina and John Petillo  
Brinda Pola  
Robert Pruet  
Gail and Carlos Ramirez  
Residents of Sniffen,  
Calumet, Loren Roads  
Lisa Rintoul  
James Rothschild

Dawn Ruehle  
Andy Sawyer  
Dianne Schlosser  
Elizabeth Schroeder  
Carla and Edward Sheehan  
Nigel Sheperd  
Janet and Keith Sherin  
Dina and Ken Siegel  
Carrie Silverstein  
Tanya and Robert Smith  
Stacey Sobel  
Stanley Stern  
Susan and Warren Stern  
Jeanne Stewart  
Ruthie Strother  
Lenore Sturm  
Andrea Sullivan  
Swiss Re Matching Gift Program  
Roger Tarika  
Michelle and David Titlebaum  
Madeline Turci and Andrew D. Schau  
Vasuki Setlur  
George N. Venizelos  
Alison and James von Klemperer  
Julie Walsh  
Gayle and Seth Weinstein  
Joan Weinstein  
Charlene Wendell  
Charles Zahringer  
Lauren and Jon Zirn

# OUR VOLUNTEERS



**150+**

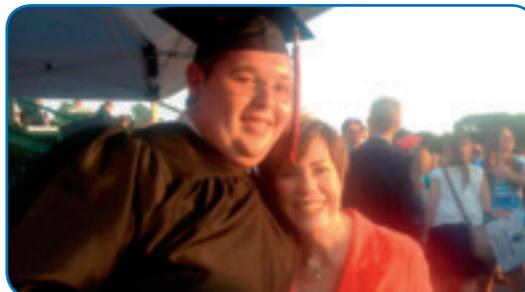
Since 2010, CAC volunteers have assisted over 150 abused or neglected children

## VOLUNTEERS

Georgia Adams	Irene Judge
Kim Ambrose	Richard Liebman
Adele Aquila	Kate Madigan
Peg Atchue	Jean McKeever
Ellen Barkan	Barbie McKelvey
Diane Barston	Steven Mueller
Lesley Bowman	Bob Nalewajek
DeEtta Breitwieser	Miriam Pacheco
Lisa Cannon	Allison Peyton
Julie Chandler	Nancy Rebold
Gail Cohen	Susy Rosato
Patty Cope	Patti Stack
Michele Corrow	Jodie Stanley
Catherine Davis	Ricki Stern
Barbara Epstein	Susan Stern
John Fenton	Ruthie Strother
Sue Frosch	Lenore Sturm
Pam Graber	Susie Swirbul
Michael Gregorio	Kathy Thompson
Ellen Gross	Julie Walsh
Carissa Gulyas	Sheri Warshaw
Adele Handlers	Joan Weinstein
Judy Hart	Charlene Wendell
Lucy Hazard	Sharon Wessan
Tina Healey	Elizabeth West
Myra Hess	Lauren Zirn



*Court Swearing-in of CAC Volunteers*



*CAC Volunteer Advocate, Barbie McKelvey, is part of the team that provided support for a young man to graduate high school.*

## CAC VOLUNTEER CLASS OF 2013

Congratulations to CAC's new volunteers who completed over 35 hours of training to become CAC volunteer advocates.

Nancy Anderson	Mari Flicker	Anne Liebergall
Mara Arzi	Andrea Friedman	Barbara Mandell
Marcella Bianco	Lisa George	Laura More
Eilene Brostoff	Amy Goldberg	Janet Rubel
Rosemary Contreras	Laura Heneghan	Lisa Shanahan
Trish DePhillips	Susie Johnson	Gail Wolff



**“I am taken by the tremendous commitment that the people of CAC give to their cases. This organization is amazing in helping kids who can't help themselves. I am honored to be a part of this wonderful group.”**

**- Lisa Cannon, CAC Volunteer**

# Celebrate & Support



*Cheers for Children cocktail reception*

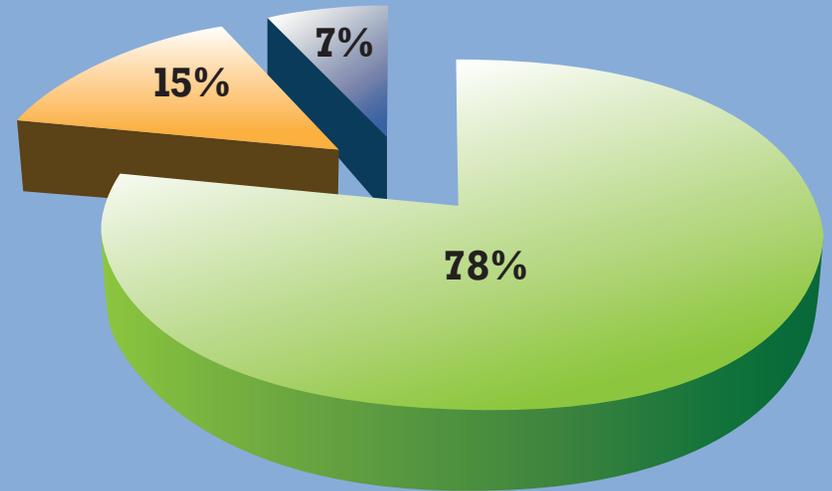


*High school students Jeremy Platt and Liza Rebold, Chairpersons of Kids Love Kids fundraiser benefit for CAC*



# Financial Report

Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2013



**Expense Total - \$304,334**

- Fundraising 7% - \$20,956
- Management & General 15% - \$45,768
- Program Services 78% - \$237,610

**Revenue Total - \$ 294,028**

Foundations, Trust & Grants	<b>\$143,930</b>
Individual, Business contributions	<b>\$85,622</b>
State of CT Contract Income	<b>\$50,000</b>
Special Events	<b>\$14,231</b>
Interest & Misc	<b>\$245</b>



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**Save the Date**  
**THE LOVE LUNCHEON**

May 1, 2014  
Honoring Cathy Malloy  
Connecticut's First Lady  
and others

**Hope.**

Child Advocates of SW Connecticut  
383 Main Avenue, Suite 409  
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Danbury CT 06810

Superior Court for Juvenile Matters  
123 Hoyt Street - 5th floor  
Stamford, CT 06905