Because every child matters
Our Mission:
Child Advocates of SW Connecticut recruits, trains and supervises court appointed Child Advocates of SW Connecticut 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.

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CAC Staff, left to right, Stacey G. Sobel, Esq., Kate Martin, Esq., Becky LeGette and Jackie Grundei, Esq.
CAC Board of Directors with First Lady of CT Cathy Malloy at Love Luncheon 2014, left to right, Nancy Rabold, Bradley Purcell, Kate Freeman, Terri Knight, First Lady Cathy Malloy, Elaine Harris, Scott Hazard, Marie Dolan (past board member), Georgiana Platt. Not pictured: Jonathan Liebergall

CAC has now helped over 176 children and has trained over 150 volunteers. CAC welcomed a new Program Director, continued to expand services into additional Probate Courts, trained new volunteers, attended the National CASA Conference as a member of the National CASA Organization, and honored First Lady of Connecticut Cathy Malloy at CAC’s first Love Luncheon which was attended by over 250 supporters.

CAC Board of Directors and First Lady of CT Cathy Malloy at Love Luncheon 2014, left to right, Nancy Rabold, Bradley Purcell, Kate Freeman, Terri Knight, First Lady Cathy Malloy, Elaine Harris, Scott Hazard, Marie Dolan (past board member), Georgiana Platt. Not pictured: Jonathan Liebergall

When CAC was first assigned to his case in January 2011, Mark* was a 10 year old boy who had been neglected by his mother and had been sexually abused. He was placed in an out-of-state facility for boys and young men (9-22) with difficult behavioral problems, emotional disturbances, sexual abuse issues, and/or learning disabilities. Once a month, the CAC volunteer appointed to advocate for him would drive two hours each way to visit Mark. Sometimes when she arrived Mark would tell her that he did not want to see her. She would say that was fine and that she would be back next month. At first, Mark was surprised when she would arrive the next month as she had said she would. Mark eventually realized that no matter what she said or did, she would count on her to be there for him.

After two years at this facility, Mark’s disruptive behavior was not improving. The decision was made to bring Mark back to Connecticut. He spent time at two different residential facilities in Connecticut. The CAC volunteer continued to visit with him regularly and work with him to help improve his behavior. Slowly but surely, Mark made great strides.

In the meantime, Mark’s mother searched very hard to improve herself. She became drug and alcohol-free, obtained a job, and attended parenting classes and family therapy. This summer, everyone agreed that it was time for Mark to return to parenting classes and family therapy.

This summer, everyone agreed that it was time for Mark to return to his mother’s care. Mark’s mother was ready and able to parent him with outside support as needed and Mark was ready and able to return to the community. When the Judge ordered that Mark’s commitment to DCF be revoked, there were tears and hugs in the courtroom. It was a good day for everyone.

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CAC continues to fulfill our fundamental obligation to make sure that a qualified, compassionate adult will fight for and protect the 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 all our volunteers and supporters who make this possible.

Mark’s story

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Sincerely,

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Sincerely,
The most gratifying volunteer experience was seeing secure housing and a smile. I had been working for a while with a young lady who didn’t smile often … so being able to make her smile was a big deal.

-Jessie Reu

We are grateful to all who contributed to CAC. We recognize and thank these generous individuals, corporations, organizations and foundations for their gifts and heartfelt support.

- Child Advocates of SW Connecticut
Congratulations to CAC’s new volunteers who completed over 35 hours of training to become CAC volunteer advocates.

Georgia Adams
Kim Ambrose
Nancy Anderson
Adele Aquila
Mara Arzi
Diane Barston
Marcella Bianco
Lesley Bowman
DeEtta Breitwieser
Eilene Brostoff
Lisa Cannon
Julie Chandler
Gail Cohen
Rosemary Contreras
Patty Cope
Michele Coup
Catherine Criviz
Tina DePhillips
Mary DePhillips
Mary DePhillips
Barbara Epstein
John Fenton
Mari Flicker
Andrea Friedman
Sue Frosch
Lisa George
Amy Goldberg
Pam Girard
Blair Gross
Carolee Guzzi
Adelle Handler
Julie Hart
Lindy Howald
Tina Hoy
Laura Heneghan
Mary Hous
Sue Johnson
Hern Judd
Anne Liebengold
Richard Liebergall
Kath Madigan
Barbara McDonald
Barbara McDonald
Laura More
Shawn Mueller
Bob MacDonald
Marilyn Pacheco
Allison Peyton
Nancy Raled
Jenifer Ralston
Lisa Robinson
Patti Stack
Jodie Stanley
Ricki Stern
Susan Stern
Ruthie Strother
Lenore Sturm
Susie Swirbul
Kathy Thompson
Julie Walsh
Sheri Warshaw
Joan Weinstein
Charlene Wendell
Sharon Wessan
Elizabeth West
Gail Wolff
Lauren Jim

There are an awful lot of children out there that need help, a lot more than I realized. The hardest part of this work is seeing all the children, and they are hurting and it’s not their fault...

-Irene Judge, CAC Volunteer

I think about the life that she’s had, my heart aches for her. No child should be bounced around. Every child deserves to be loved and have a family. Her strength and her ability to keep going has had such a positive impact on the people around her, which is amazing to me because I don’t think I’d be able to do that...

-Marie Flicker, CAC Volunteer

Our first Love Luncheon, May 1, 2014, honored First Lady Cathy Malloy, Volunteer Kate Madigan, past Board Member John Peyton and past Volunteer Allison Peyton, Young Leaders Lisa Rebold and Jeremy Platt

Celebrate & Support

www.ctchildadvocates.org

Financial Report
Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2014

Expense Total - $291,434

Funding 9% - $25,171
Management & General 11% - $33,365
Program Services 80% - $232,898

Revenue Total - $315,802

Individual, Business contributions
Special Events
Grants
State of CT Contract Income
Interest & Misc

www.ctchildadvocates.org
To give a child a volunteer advocate is to give them a voice. To give them a voice is to give them hope, and to give them hope is to give them the world.

- Pamela, former foster child