

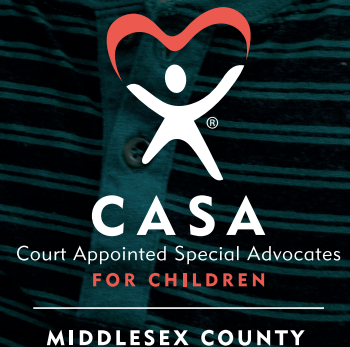


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CASA of Middlesex County

# FY 2020 Annual Report

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## **Our Mission**

CASA of Middlesex County is a non-profit organization dedicated to serving abused and neglected children who are living in out-of-home placements. CASA recruits and trains volunteers to advise the courts and advocate for the children's best interests.



Who We Are

Board Officers

Sharon Hoffman-Manning,  
Chair

Suzanne M. Sicora-Ludwig,  
Vice Chair

Jacqueline Rivera,  
Secretary

Dennis Doll,  
Treasurer

Ellen Clarkson,  
Member-at-Large

Board Members

William Berlin

Edina Brown

John Downs

Amy Jumbelic

Alton Kinsey

Susanne Peticolas

Tracie Stewart

Board Members Emeritus

Midge Golin

Gerald Pomper

Board Liaisons

Betsy Capp

Judith Martin Waterman

Staff Members

Stephanie Brown,  
Executive Director

Felicia Davidson,  
Outreach Coordinator

Alba Holguin,  
Program Coordinator

Maame Offei,  
Administrative Assistant

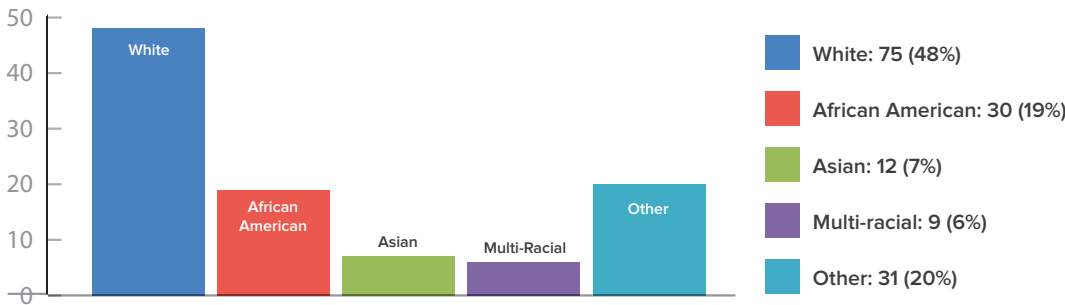
Colette Scozzafava,  
Senior Program Coordinator

Nora Siklosi Szabo,  
Outreach & Program  
Coordinator

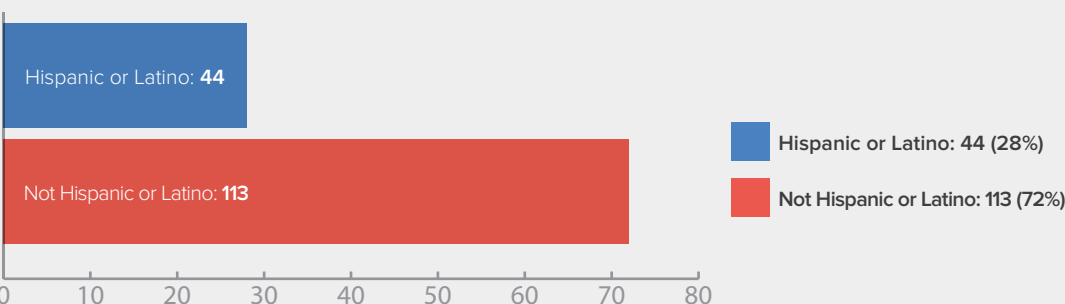
The Children

CASA served 157 children in FY 2020, which equates to 45% of the 352 children from Middlesex County who were in foster care during that time. This represents a 25% increase from the number of children served during the prior year.

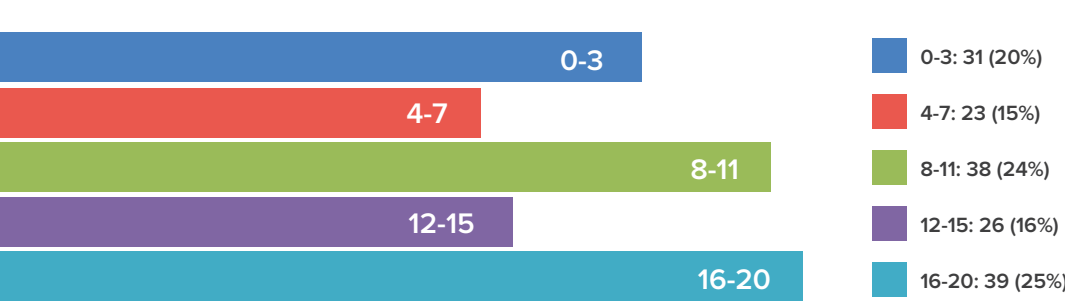
Race of Children



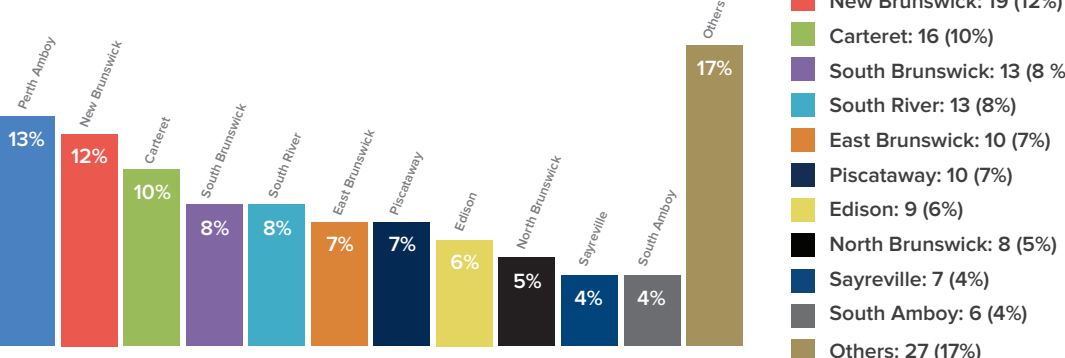
Ethnic Origin of Children



Age of Children



Origin of Children



The Fundraisers

**Holiday Ask:** The Holiday Ask raised \$19,029.

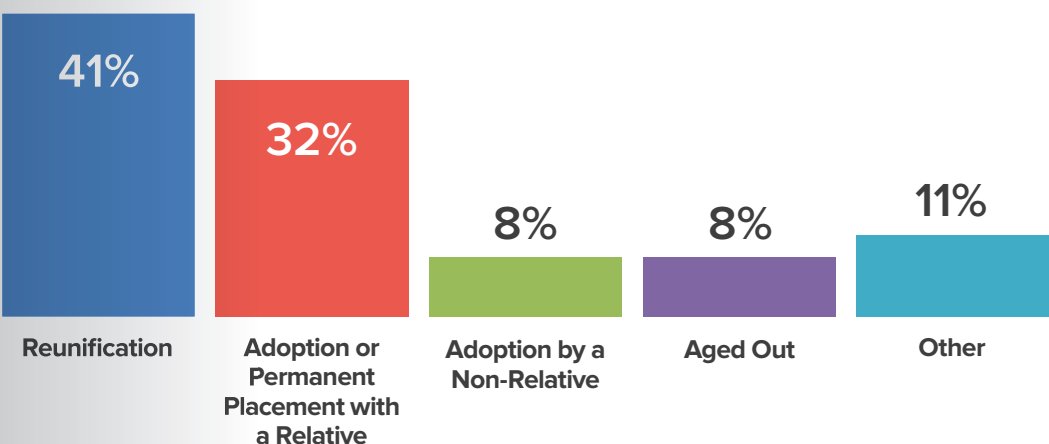
**Walk-a-Thon:** The Kicks for Kids Walk-a-Thon raised \$6,133 to purchase a new pair of shoes for every child served in order to help them stay active during isolation.

**Toast:** Toast 2020 honoring John E. Harmon, Sr. was postponed until FY2021 due to the COVID-19 crisis.

The Volunteers

CASA worked with 83 volunteers appointed to 157 children during the year. Volunteers donated a total of 4,529 case-related hours valued at \$133,560. They also drove 17,854 miles to visit children and gather information about them.

Closed Cases (37 total)



A few words from our volunteers

“Everyone I met from CASA is upbeat, is positive, is loving and caring. They love doing what they’re doing And that’s really hard to find these days. If you don’t know what CASA is, please find out, because they’re there to help. They’re awesome, really awesome.”

— Rose O’Hara, Adoptive Parent

“The case was very rewarding. I made sure to represent the child and have her interests be considered in court to make sure that everything worked out the best that it could for her. I was able to be part of the process of helping a child.”

— Susan Meuse, Advocate

Top Middlesex Donors:

Dr. Wanda Blanchett

Marilyn Chetrancolo

Claudia Dolan

Dennis Doll

William and  
Kathleen Hoffman

Amy Jumbelic

Douglas Lieb

Nancy Lottinville

Greg Ong

Christopher Paladino

Susanne Peticolas

Sayreville Middle  
School PTO

Judith and Harvey  
Waterman

Barton Ford

Milton Heumann

Jacob Foundation

New Brunswick Bar  
Association

New Brunswick  
Parking Authority

New Brunswick  
Performing Arts Center

Harry Pozyski

David Redlawsk

Schwab Foundation

UBS Financial Services, Inc.

# A Child's Story



Robert entered the DCPD system shortly before his 18th birthday. His mother was locking him in the house, preventing him from attending school or working. Robert was moved in with his older sister after he left his mother's home. CASA got assigned to the child at the beginning of his case.

Robert expressed interest in technical training, welding specifically. CASA accompanied the youth to a welding training program twice, once for an interview and then for a meeting about financial aid. CASA and the Division of Child Protection and Permanency (DCPP) helped put the petition together for financial aid and Robert enrolled. CASA also helped Robert and his sister manage and, in some cases, reduce their bills, as they were struggling to pay everything in full, on time.

Eventually Robert became more self-efficient and responsible and moved out from his sister's apartment and rented a small place on his own. Robert still has more to learn, but with his CASA's help he accomplished a lot

## Sources of Income:

