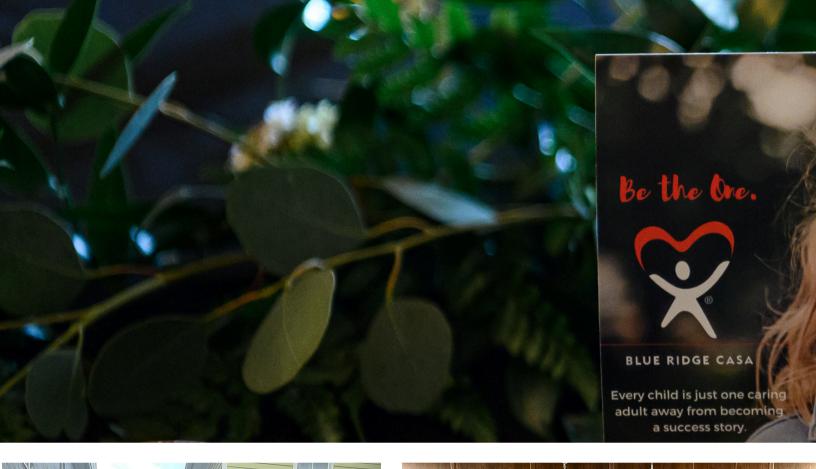
BLUE RIDGE CASA FOR CHILDREN

# IAPACT REPACT 2024











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# OUR MISSION

Blue Ridge CASA for Children is a nonprofit organization advocating for children who have experienced abuse and/or neglect through recruitment, training, and supervision of community volunteers.

# **Our Vision**

Every abused and neglected child will have a trained volunteer advocating for their best interest.

### **Our Values**

Blue Ridge CASA for Children draws on the differences and experiences of board members, staff, and volunteers representing diverse backgrounds. races, cultures, talents, and perspectives, including LGBTQI+ individuals and those with lived experience. We believe in including everyone and are committed to building a safe, inclusive culture of trust, candor, and respect. We strive to strengthen our relationships and build partnerships with people, organizations, and businesses who reflect the children and families we serve. We believe bringing more voices to the table to influence our policies and practices will help us provide better advocacy and arrive at better outcomes for our youth.

#### FROM OUR CEO

As we celebrate 30 years of advocacy for the most vulnerable children in the Shenandoah Valley, I am filled with both pride and gratitude for how far Blue Ridge CASA for Children has come. Since 1994, our mission has remained steadfast—to provide a voice for children in our communities who need it most. In 2024, we continue to build on this legacy of service, and I'm excited to share some significant milestones from this year.

One of the most impactful achievements of 2024 has been our expansion into Shenandoah and Page counties. This expansion is a reflection of our unwavering commitment to reach more children who deserve the advocacy and support of a CASA volunteer. With this growth, we are able to serve even more children, ensuring they have a dedicated advocate standing by their side in the court system and beyond.

To support this expansion and further our impact, we restructured our program team to maximize efficiency and service delivery. This new structure allows us to streamline our operations while providing enhanced support to our volunteers and staff. Our team has never been stronger or more prepared to meet the growing needs of the children we serve.

Our theme this year, Growing our Impact, is especially meaningful as we celebrate three decades of advocating for children. Blue Ridge CASA has come a long way since its inception, and none of this would be possible without the incredible support from our volunteers, staff, donors, and community partners. Together, we have built something remarkable—an organization that not only changes the lives of the children we serve but strengthens the very fabric of our communities.

As we look to the future, we remain dedicated to expanding our reach, increasing our impact, and continuing to be a voice for children in the Shenandoah Valley. The next 30 years hold so much promise, and I look forward to all that we will accomplish together.

Thank you for your unwavering support, and here's to another year of growth, service, and advocacy for the children who need us most.

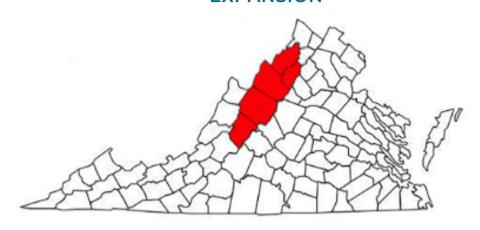
Angela Crawford



# **2024 IN REVIEW**

# SHENANDOAH & PAGE COUNTY

**EXPANSION** 











IN FY24, BLUE RIDGE CASA PROUDLY EXPANDED ITS REACH TO SHENANDOAH AND PAGE COUNTIES, PROVIDING CRUCIAL SUPPORT TO LOCAL CHILDREN IN NEED WITH THE HELP OF OUR NEWLY APPOINTED ADVOCATES. THIS MILESTONE WOULD NOT HAVE BEEN POSSIBLE WITHOUT THE GENEROUS SUPPORT OF OUR DONORS AND COMMUNITY PARTNERS. WE LOOK FORWARD TO CONTINUING OUR GROWTH IN THESE AREAS AND MAKING AN EVEN GREATER IMPACT IN THE LIVES OF THE CHILDREN WE SERVE.

#### BY THE NUMBERS

# A YEAR OF IMPACT

66
ADVOCATES

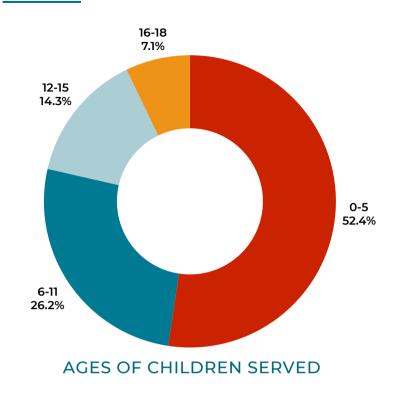
126
CHILDREN SERVED

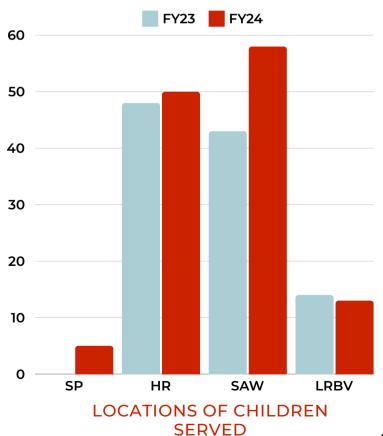


"ONE OF THE MOST
IMPORTANT THINGS YOU
CAN DO ON THIS EARTH IS
TO LET PEOPLE KNOW THEY
ARE NOT ALONE."
— SHANNON L. ALDER

**3,173**HOURS SPENT

**30,077** MILES DRIVEN

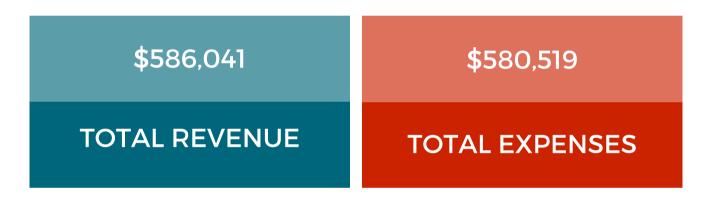


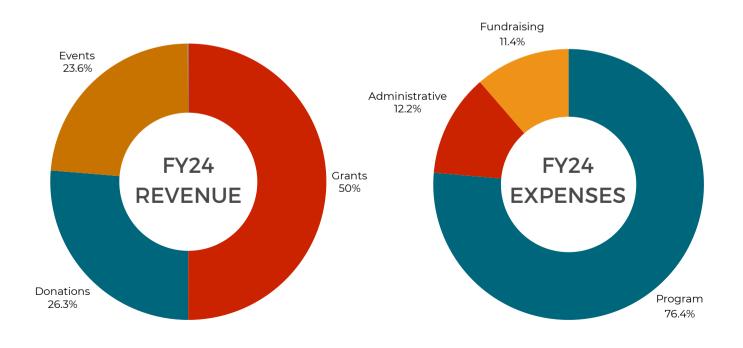




# FINANCIAL REVIEW

In FY24, we remained committed to diversifying our revenue stream through a combination of grants and fundraising activities to ensure long-term financial sustainability. We are proud to highlight several key successes that have strengthened our work. Our signature event, Top Chef Harrisonburg, saw record-breaking attendance and raised more funds than ever before. Additionally, we launched a new initiative, Mustaches for Kids - Blue Ridge, in the SAW and LRBV areas, which will continue to grow in the coming years. Even with rainy weather, our annual Firebolt 5K was a tremendous success, generating crucial support for our mission.







#### **CELEBRATING**

# **30 YEARS OF CASA**

1994

Official organization incorporation on July 22

1998

Janet Cleveland becomes Executive Director 2008

Expansion into Lexington/Rockbridge

2010

Michael Nay named the new Executive Director

**1993** 

Teresa Creef contacted National CASA about needing a program in the SAW area. 1999

Inaugural Playhouse Raffle 2011

CASA moves in to our current location on Frederick St in Staunton

1995

The first 12 volunteer advocates are inducted

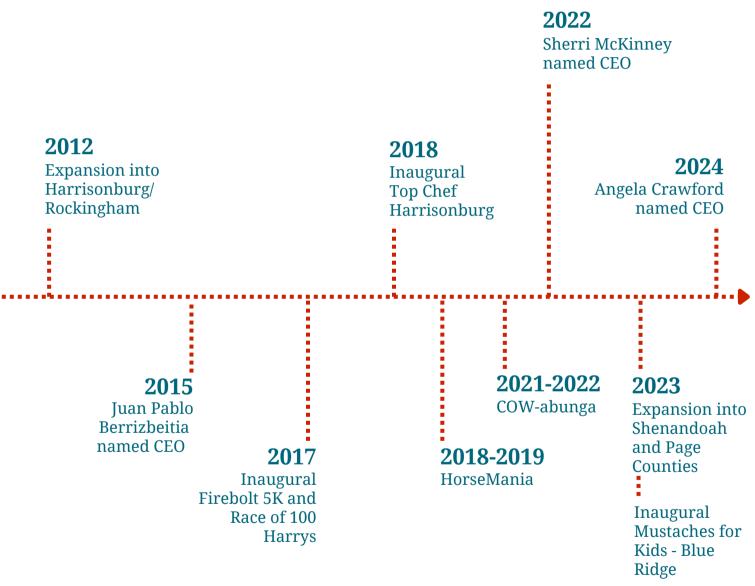
2002

Ribbon cutting for new location on N. Augusta St in Staunton

1,230

THE NUMBER OF CHILDREN SERVED BY A BLUE RIDGE CASA ADVOCATE SINCE 1994





# 360 ADVOCATES INDUCTED SINCE 1994

# **OUR STAFF**

#### **ANGELA CRAWFORD**

**Chief Executive Officer** 

#### **CINDY AVVENIRE**

Shenandoah/Page Advocate Manager

#### **EMILY CASTLE**

Lead Advocate Manager, 25th District

#### **TONYA DUNLAP**

Lead Advocate Manager, 26th District

#### **ALI GALLAGHER**

Outreach and Training Manager

#### **CHELSEY HUGHES**

**Development Manager** 

#### **HEATHER MATTOX**

**Case Coordinator** 

#### **MEGHAN SEVIER**

**Grants & Communications Manager** 











# **OUR BOARD**

#### **KARI-LYN HENKEL**

Past-President

#### **ANDREW SQUIRES**

President

#### **GRETCHEN ARMENTROUT**

Vice-President

#### **CATHY BAGWELL MARSH**

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Director



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Molly Zarski

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you.

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# **OUR ADVOCATES**

As we reflect on the impact of Blue Ridge CASA for Children over the past year, we want to extend our deepest gratitude to the extraordinary individuals who make our work possible—our advocates. Their unwavering commitment and tireless efforts ensure that the most vulnerable children in our community have a voice and the support they need to thrive. This report highlights the transformative work accomplished this year, but it is our advocates who are the heart and soul of our mission. We are honored to recognize their dedication and the profound difference they make every day.

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