



**2018 ANNUAL REPORT TO OUR COMMUNITY** 

# Changing Lives. Building Families. Strengthening Communities.

Letter from our CEO



Dear Friends,

We are so grateful to our community of support for helping Children's Aid Society of Alabama meet the critical needs of Alabama's children, youth and families. Since 1912, CAS has focused on the well-being of Alabama's children. While the types of needs and services continue to change, our focus is on the best possible interventions and pathways to change lives, build families and strengthen communities.

While the following pages reflect some key statistics, it is the values of Children's Aid Society of Alabama that guide our work:

Enabling children of all ages to grow in families. Building strong families to make strong communities. Embodying trauma informed practice as the strength-based foundation of all services. Positively impacting the lives of children, youth and their families, and our communities. Embracing and incorporating diversity. Partnering with individuals and families when assessing, planning, and delivering services. Seeking input from all stakeholders to improve services and response to changing needs. Providing ethical, responsible, and professional services. Being accountable to all stakeholders. Demonstrating service effectiveness through outcomes. Faithfully stewarding resources.

We invite you to learn more about the critical needs facing our youth and families throughout the state. Perhaps you or someone you know may be in need of one or more of our services. To request or refer to CAS services call 205-251-7148 or visit our website: childrensaid.org/request.

And if you would like to support the work of Children's Aid Society of Alabama, you may make your gift online at childrensaid.org/donate or use the envelope provided inside this report.

With gratitude,

Jape Watts

### **Who We Served**

OCTOBER 2017-SEPTEMBER 2018



22,312

participants in CAS programs

### 8,697

additional individuals and families received community outreach from CAS programs and staff at 39 events, statewide.

#### **Our Funding Partners**







of Central Alabama, Inc.







## **How We Served**

#### APAC (Alabama Pre/Post Adoption Connections)

Finding, Preparing, and Supporting Alabama's Adoptive Families

- -Served 4,585 adoptees, adoptive parents and prospective adoptive families:
  - •Recruited and trained adoptive families for Alabama's children waiting in foster care
  - •Hosted Camp APAC for adopted youth and their siblings
  - •Provided counseling support and advocacy for families post-adoption
- —Presented live and digital trainings for 12,048 pre/post adoptive families and the professionals who serve them.
- Provided over 2,200 resources through our adoption library including books, audios and DVDs for parents, children and clinicians throughout the state.

#### **Family Partners**

Keeping Families Together

- -Served 3,761 individuals in families at risk of losing their children, by providing intensive in-home support and aftercare.
- -Successfully reunified 90% of referred families whose children had been removed for safety concerns.

### EPIC (Effective Parenting Instruction Course)

Teaching Skills that Build Stronger Parents

- -Offered year round free classes in English and Spanish with curriculum tailored for age of child(ren).
- Led parenting classes for 214 parents and caregivers.
- -Served 1,710 households through community outreach.

#### Independent Living

Preparing Youth in Foster Care for Independent Adulthood

- -Served 854 youth preparing to leave the foster care system. Provided 280 youth with age-appropriate life skills training through Camp Life sessions.
- —Facilitated regional events that included mentors, speakers, life skills training, team building and respite activities for youth in care and the professionals that serve them.

#### **Project Independence**

Ending Homelessness for Young Families

- Provided temporary housing and support for 39 young mothers and their 18 children.
- Provided 200 pregnant/parenting homeless youth with referrals, counseling, parenting skills, education and workforce training, financial education, community connections and aftercare.
- -Prepared and distributed 500 personal care backpacks to locations serving runaway and homeless youth.



#### **Adoption Support**

Navigating the Lifelong Adoption Journey

- -Addressed 835 adoption hotline requests for assistance.
- -Supported adults previously placed for adoption by CAS.\*
- Provided assessments, home studies and counseling for families seeking to adopt, adult adoptees and birth parents.
- -Provided 488 participants with adoption training through ATOL (Adoption Training Online).
- \*CAS served as an adoption placement agency until 1993.

"What is home? My favorite definition is 'a safe place,' a place where one is free from attack, a place where one experiences secure relationships and affirmation. It's a place where people share and understand each other. Its relationships are nurturing.

The people in it do not need to be perfect; instead, they need to be honest, loving, supportive, recognizing a common humanity that makes all of us vulnerable."

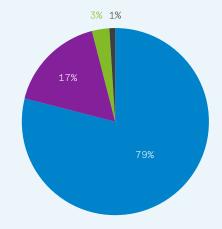
-GLADYS M. HUNT

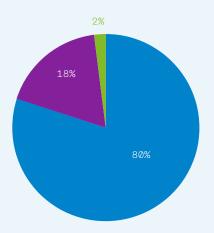
### 2017-2018 Operating Budget

\$5,577,447

### Revenue 79% Federal & State Grants

and Contracts 17% United Way 3% Contributions & Grants 1% Program Fees & Misc Income





#### **Expenses**

80% Program Services18% Operations2% Development

Source: Derived from audited financial statements. Complete IRS Form 990 may be viewed at childrensaid.org/financials.

## Leaving a Legacy

#### We are Grateful for Our Legacy Leaders

In 2018, CAS launched a legacy giving initiative to ensure the future of Children's Aid Society of Alabama. These individuals (as of February, 2019) have made a Legacy gift commitment:

Meredith Calhoun Joyce Greathouse Ben Holmes Will Gaines Holmes\* Heyward Hosch III Dottie King Patti Hendrix Lovoy Cathy Miller Michael Mims Annie Ricks\* Bob Straka Gayle Watts Alice Williams Anonymous \*DECEASED

Please consider including Children's Aid Foundation, our 501(c)(3) supporting organization, which supports the mission of Children's Aid Society of Alabama, in your Will or estate plan, or by some other means and let us know when you do! All contributions are tax deductible to the fullest extent of the law. For more information call Patti Lovoy at 205-943-5333.

## **Our Leadership**

#### 2018 Board of Directors

Steve Walker, President Dottie King, Pres. Elect Michael Latta, Vice Pres. Bob Mitchell, Treasurer Donny Donald, Secretary Delpha Bartley-Jones Beth Beaube Amanda Brasher Black William Carroll Martha Chitwood Leigh Davis Kelly Thrasher Fox Cassandra Greer Becci Hart Jenny McCain Carl E. Miller III Walter Monroe Amy Myers Teresa Zuñiga Odom Christy Stewart Robert Straka Tracy Thompson Alice Williams

#### Staff Leadership

Gayle Watts, CEO Jeff McGee, COO Jon Coupland, CFO Denise Cone, VP of HR Caron Sandefur, Dir. of Service Advancement and Excellence

#### 2018 Foundation Board of Directors

Mary Elliott, President Dottie King, Ex-Officio Nancy Kane Robert Glaze Joyce Greathouse Heyward Hosch III Creig Hoskins Mark Jackson Bailey Knight Cathy Miller Michael Mims Bob Mitchell Charlotte Murdock Myra Roberts Alice Williams