



Friends of CASA of Franklin County, Ohio August News Update

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Did you know? CASA Guardians ad Litem are generally assigned the most at-risk and severe cases of child abuse and neglect in Franklin County. They provide one-on-one individual attention to each child and see the children on a regular basis. Through July 31, GALs have worked with **535 children from 270 family units**.

Recent highlights:

- In the first half of 2022, Friends received \$33,000 in grant awards – three are unrestricted and the fourth is for a new GAL training program which addresses educational setbacks abused and neglected children, particularly those placed in foster care, may experience. Reports indicate that on average, Ohio youth in foster care attend five different high schools.
- Friends has funded the cost for CASA GALs to attend and gain additional expertise and skills at a number of external workshops this year – one in particular was designed to enhance their self-care skills. This is especially relevant as those who work in child protective services, both staff and volunteers, often face burnout and additional stressors from ongoing exposure to “vicarious trauma” from repeated exposure to victims of violence.

Thank you to Community Shares of Mid Ohio for the great profile of Friends in their August newsletter! You can check it out [here!](#)



Friends is a member charity with Community Shares of Mid Ohio and will be participating with their **private and public sector combined charitable campaigns**, the first of which begins this week with the [State of Ohio campaign](#). Through this campaign, state employees are encouraged to donate to any of the member charities through payroll deductions or a one-time gift. The State of Ohio campaign runs from August 24 through October 22, 2022.

Other government entities participating in the Combined Charitable Campaign are:

- Franklin County – September 12 through November 4, 2022
- The Ohio State University Buckeyes for Charity Campaign – September 19 through November 4, 2022, and
- City of Columbus – October 3 through November 11, 2022

Employees of any of the participating Combined Charitable Campaigns above can designate a donation for Friends of CASA of Franklin County, and use the **Friends' code number 19022**. If you work for one of the employers above and have questions about how to make a donation or pledge, it is recommended that you contact your respective human resources person to find out how to give.

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Your [support](#) helps Friends help CASA serve more children each year.