



## Friends of CASA of Franklin County, Ohio Update January 2022

### **CASA GUARDIANS AD LITEM (GALs) CONTINUE TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE ...**

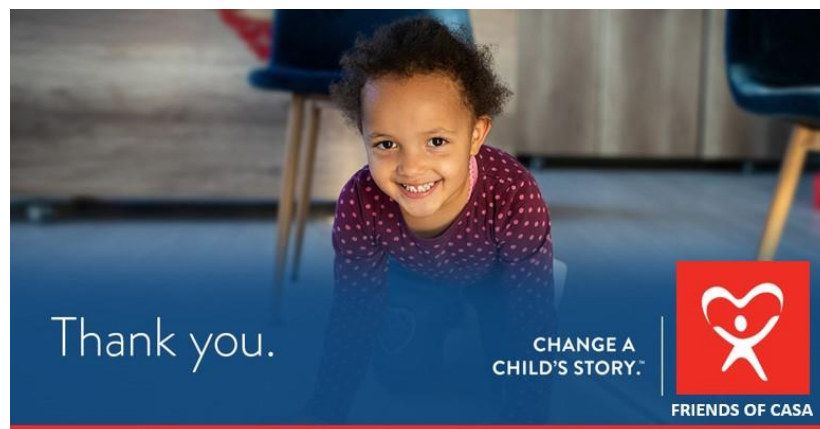
In 2021, 682 children from 326 family units were served by volunteer GALs. In addition, 84 new volunteers underwent extensive training and were sworn in, bringing the total number of active CASA volunteers to 335.

### **YOU HELPED MAKE A DIFFERENCE TOO ...**

The 2021 Speak Up For Children Challenge Appeal that ran from October through the end of December 2021 was a tremendous success – and we could not have done it without you!

Our goal for this fundraiser was \$60,000 and we **surpassed that with more than \$65,000 raised!** These funds will be used in support of CASA of Franklin County, Ohio and the compassionate services provided hundreds of abused and neglected children by CASA volunteer Guardians ad Litem each year.

We thank you for your generosity – and for your compassion to others. Your support continues to give hope to so many of Franklin County's most vulnerable children.



### **DID YOU KNOW ...**

That when shopping at Kroger or AmazonSmile, you can support Friends – and it doesn't cost you anything other than the cost of your purchase.

When you designate Friends as your preferred non-profit with each merchant, a percentage of your purchase amount is allocated to Friends, which is a registered non-profit with both Kroger and AmazonSmile, and distributed quarterly.

If you haven't already designated Friends as your charity, here's how you can easily do so:

#### Kroger Community Rewards

Simply register your personal Kroger Shoppers Card online [here](#) and follow the prompts – and be sure to also select the preferred Kroger store that you shop at. To support Friends, search for Friends of Franklin County Ohio or by our assigned number, BT 486.

## AmazonSmile



Click onto AmazonSmile using the Friends designated link, <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/31-1322198> – then simply log in using your usual Amazon log-in and password. Please note, however, that in order for a percentage of your online purchases to benefit Friends, you must log-in to the specific smile.amazon page as shown above.

## WE APPRECIATE YOU

As it did for so many other non-profit organizations, the coronavirus forced Friends to cancel its annual breakfast fundraiser in 2020 and 2021. Despite this, our supporters responded to the need and calls for action in other ways – and we cannot thank you enough for caring and for giving!

In addition to support from individual and corporate donors, as well as from numerous designated family funds/foundations, Friends received grant awards from several grant-making organizations in 2021. We thank and acknowledge these donors for their commitment to helping improve the lives of so many children in Franklin County who have been abused and neglected – and to enhancing the training of the GALs who serve these children.



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