



Court Appointed Special Advocates of
Grayson County

Impact Report

<p style="text-align: center;">CASA Mission</p> <p>CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates) of Grayson County is a non-profit organization dedicated to training and equipping our community volunteers to protect children, empower families, and advocate for positive outcomes for children involved in the child welfare system.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">CASA Values</p> <p>Be The</p> <p>Commitment</p> <p>Heart</p> <p>Advocate w/honesty and integrity</p> <p>Needed Consistency</p> <p>Guidance</p> <p>Empowered Volunteer</p> <p>Every child needs</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">CASA Vision</p> <p>CASA envisions a community of healthy children and families on a positive trajectory for a brighter future.</p>	

Since 1993, Volunteer Advocates in Grayson County have continued to impact the children and families in Grayson County. With their unwavering commitment and passion for the children in our community, CASA of Grayson County has affected the lives of thousands of children and families. Court Appointed Special Advocates are ordinary people with the desire to make an impact. We like to call them our Humble Heroes.

CASA Guiding Principles

CASA of Grayson County recognizes the importance of family preservation and/or reunification:

- It is in a child's best interests to remain with their family of origin when safely possible.
- Acknowledges that children experience trauma when separated from their family of origin.
- If a child is removed from their family of origin, it is in the child's best interests to be reunified with their family of origin as soon as safely possible.
- If a child is removed from their family of origin, the child should be placed with a relative whenever safely possible and in the child's best interests.
- Strengthening families, through recommendations for services, supports, visitation and communications, is in the child's best interests to achieve stability and/or reunification.
- Requires and demonstrates respect for the parents and all parties associated with the case.
- Ensures that information regarding the family's strengths is incorporated into reports to the court.
- Ensures that information regarding the child's wishes is incorporated into reports to the court.
- When a court determines a child cannot be safely reunified with their family of origin consistent with legal mandates, another permanent placement is in a child's best interests.

CASA of Grayson County recognizes the importance of diversity, equity and inclusion:

- All children regardless of age, race, ethnicity, national origin (ancestry), color, religion (creed), gender, gender expression, sexual orientation, disability or physical challenge, or socioeconomic status should be safe, have a permanent home and an opportunity to thrive.
- Acknowledges the existence of implicit bias and takes steps to minimize and/or eliminate implicit bias.
- Demonstrates an understanding of disproportionality impacting children who are in the child protection system due to allegations of abuse or neglect.

CASA of Grayson County

Serving Grayson County

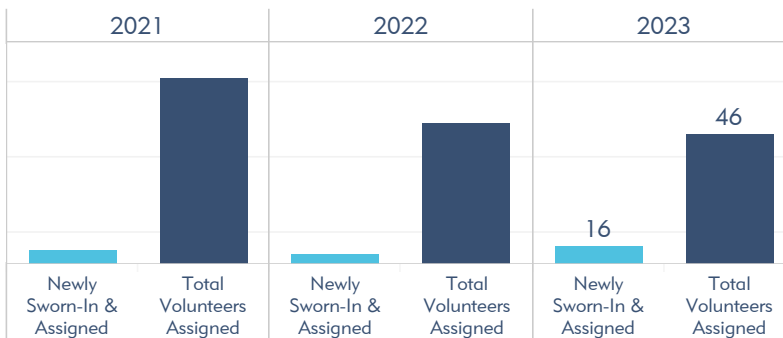
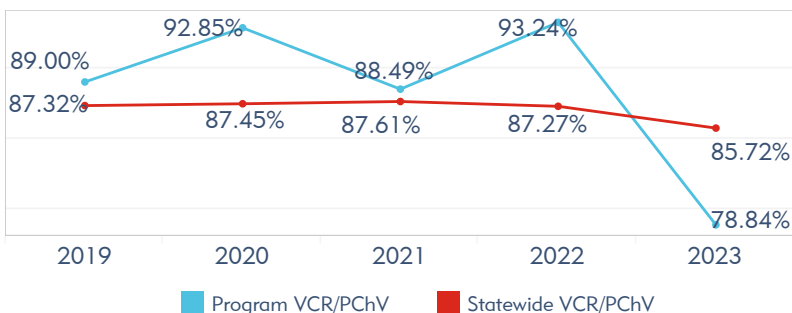
Established in **1993** • Service Area Population: **134,751** • **979** Square Miles of Service Area

VOLUNTEERS

At the core of its mission, CASA exists to recruit, train, and supervise volunteers in best interest advocacy.

Volunteer:Case Ratio (VCR) & Percent Children with Volunteer (PChV) ¹

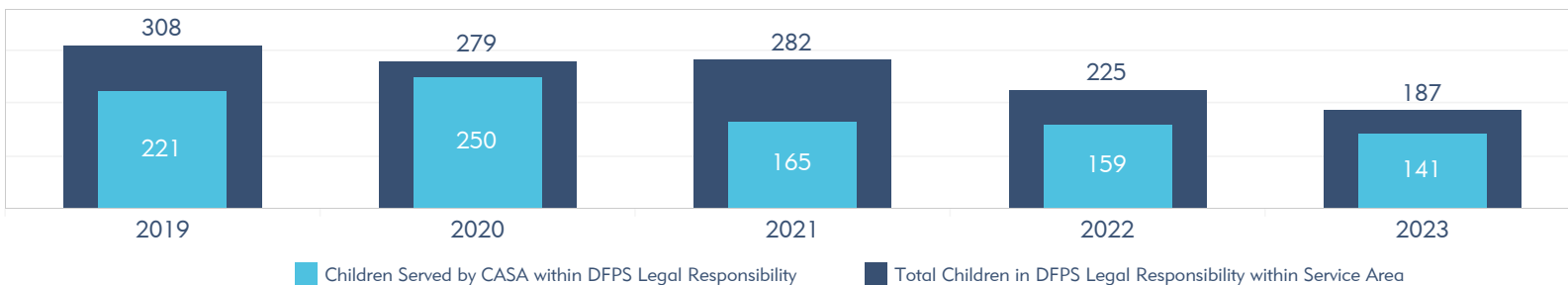
Volunteer Annual Counts



CHILDREN

Through the recruitment, training, supervision, and empowering of CASA volunteers, CASA programs strive toward the common goal of providing a CASA volunteer for every child in DFPS legal responsibility.

Children Served by CASA within DFPS Legal Responsibility ²

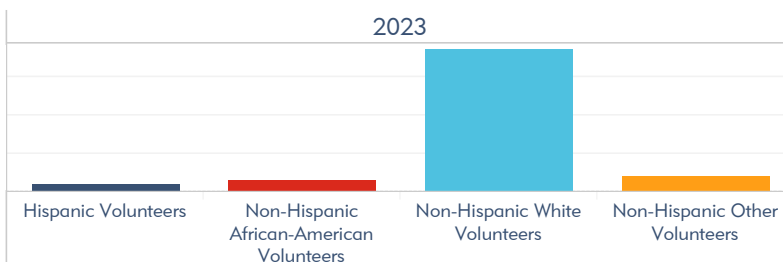
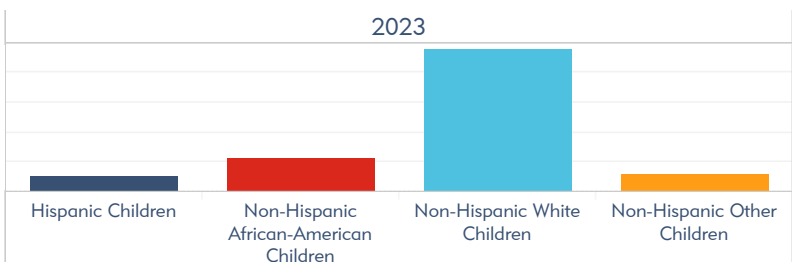


DEMOGRAPHICS

Texas CASA Standard 1.A.5 requires that CASA programs are inclusive organizations whose volunteers reflect the diversity of the children they serve.

Demographics of Children Served

Demographics of Active Volunteers

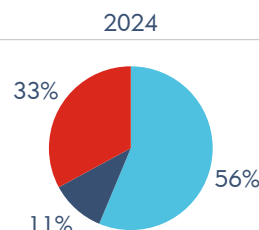
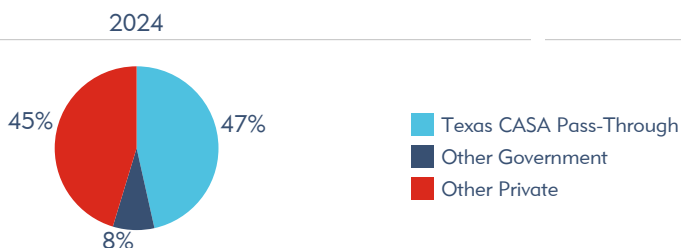


FUNDING SOURCE DISTRIBUTION

Funding sources reported by CASA program to Texas CASA, compared to the average for all programs with a similar operating budget size.

**Program Funding Distribution
CASA of Grayson County**

**Average Funding Distribution
Programs with Operating Budget of \$300,001 - \$500,000**



Data Sources: Performance Measures and Operating Budgets submitted by local CASA program to Texas CASA via the Online Data Manager, CPS 2.3 Children in DFPS Legal Responsibility by County, and CPI 1.1 Texas Child Population. ¹ Percent Children with Volunteer (PChV) replaced Volunteer:Case Ratio (VCR) in FY 2020. VCR was the percentage of cases served with volunteers. PChV is the percentage of children to whom volunteers have been assigned. ² As applicable, Children Served by CASA within DFPS Legal Responsibility excludes children receiving court ordered services, not in legal responsibility of the Texas Department of Family Protective Services and may exceed 100% due to differences in data collection methodologies between Texas CASA and CPS.

CASA of Grayson County

Serving Grayson County

CASA IS OF, AND FOR, THE COMMUNITY

Through the recruitment, training, supervision, and empowering of CASA volunteers appointed by the local court, CASA programs strive toward the common goal of providing a CASA volunteer for every child in DFPS legal responsibility.

Children Served by CASA within DFPS Legal Responsibility¹



CASA VOLUNTEERS ADVOCATE FOR LIFETIME CHILD CONNECTIONS

Permanency for children in care is ultimately determined by orders issued by the court. CASA volunteers advocate for permanency through their recommendations. CASA volunteers first advocate for reunification when safe and possible. If reunification is not safe or possible, CASA volunteers advocate for the child to be adopted by, or live with, other relatives or family friends. If that is also not possible, CASA volunteers work towards adoption by a non-relative. No matter what, CASA volunteers will keep in contact with the support network until the case closes so that everyone continues to put the child's best interests first.

Permanency Type at **CASA Case Closure**

Exit Types for CPS Cases Closed in which CASA was Appointed

Permanency Type at **CPS Case Closure**

Exit Types Reported by the Department of Family and Protective Services

	2023		2023
Family Reunification	27.8%	Family Reunification	22.7%
Adopted by Relative	0.0%	Adopted by Relative	17.5%
Adopted by Non-Relative	38.9%	Adopted by Non-Relative	24.7%
Custody to Relative or Non-Relative ²	31.5%	Custody to Relative or Non-Relative ²	29.9%
Emancipated or Aged Out	1.9%	Emancipated or Aged Out	5.2%
Other	0.0%	Other	0.0%

Notes: ¹As applicable, Children Served by CASA within DFPS Legal Responsibility excludes children receiving court ordered services, not in legal responsibility of the Texas Department of Family Protective Services and may exceed Total Children in DFPS Legal Responsibility within Service Area due to differences in data collection methodologies between Texas CASA and CPS. ²DFPS Custody to Non-Relative and Custody to Relative are combined and therefore mirrored in this presentation of Permanency Type at CASA Case Closure. CASA of Grayson County reported 31.6% Custody to Relative and 5.1% Custody to Non-Relative. Data Sources: Performance Measures submitted by local CASA program to Texas CASA via the Online Data Manager; CPS 2.3 Children in DFPS Legal Responsibility by County; CPS 2.8 Exits from DFPS Custody by Exit Type

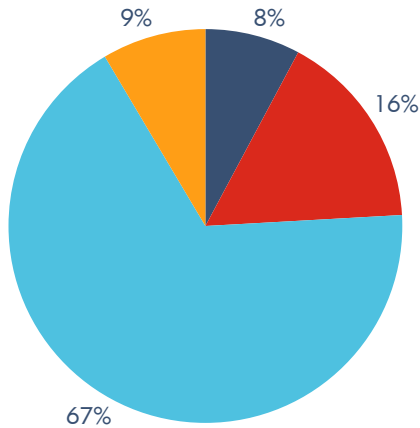
RECRUITING TO REFLECT THE CHILDREN SERVED BY CASA

Texas CASA Standard 3.A. requires a CASA program to diversify its staff, volunteers and governing board to reflect the population and meet the needs of the children served. It is important that CASA volunteers reflect the diversity of the children and families they serve so that they can form deeper, more trusting relationships. Though all CASA volunteers should be equipped to serve any child, it's beneficial when advocates can more fully grasp the experiences of those they serve.

CASA of Grayson County

CHILDREN

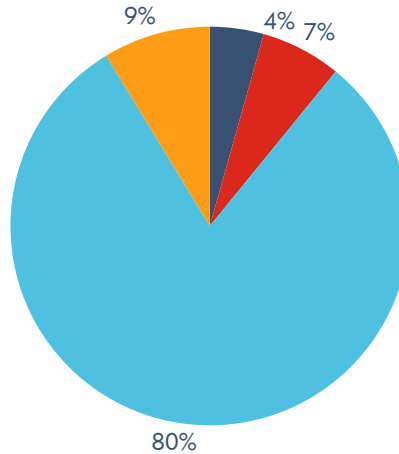
Demographics of **141** Children Served in FY2023



- Hispanic
- Non-Hispanic Black/African American
- Non-Hispanic White
- Non-Hispanic Other

VOLUNTEERS

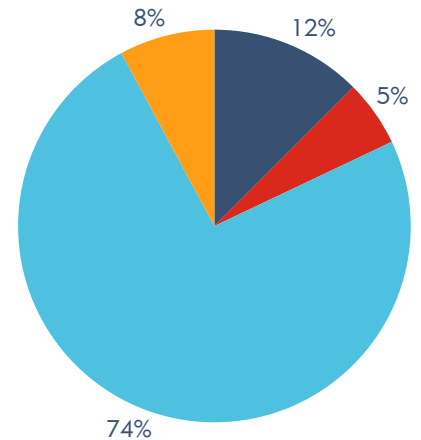
Demographics of **46** Active Volunteers in FY2023



- Hispanic
- Non-Hispanic Black/African American
- Non-Hispanic White
- Non-Hispanic Other

SERVICE AREA

Demographics of Estimated **103,923** Adults



- Hispanic/Latino
- Non-Hispanic/Latino Black/African American
- Non-Hispanic/Latino White
- Non-Hispanic/Latino Other

REFLECTION

How closely are the demographics of the children your program serves represented by the demographics of your volunteers?



OPPORTUNITY

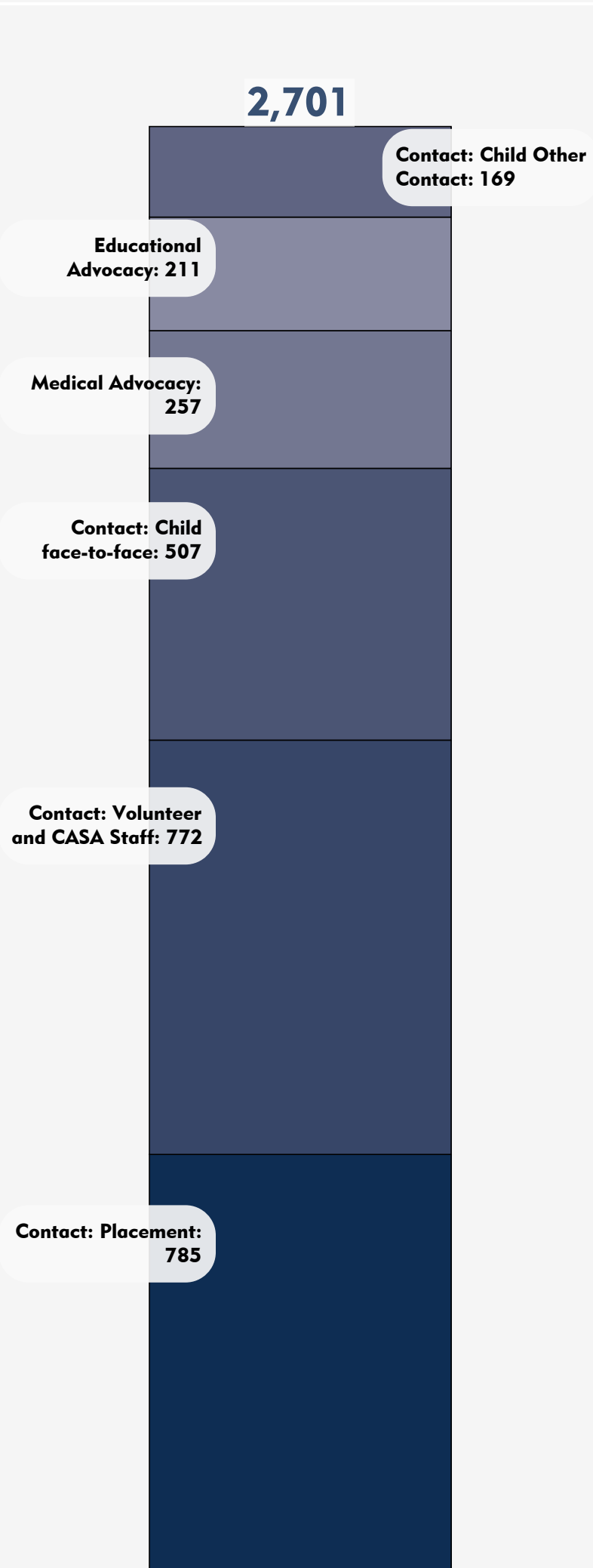
What specific communities or groups within your service area could you target with new recruitment efforts?



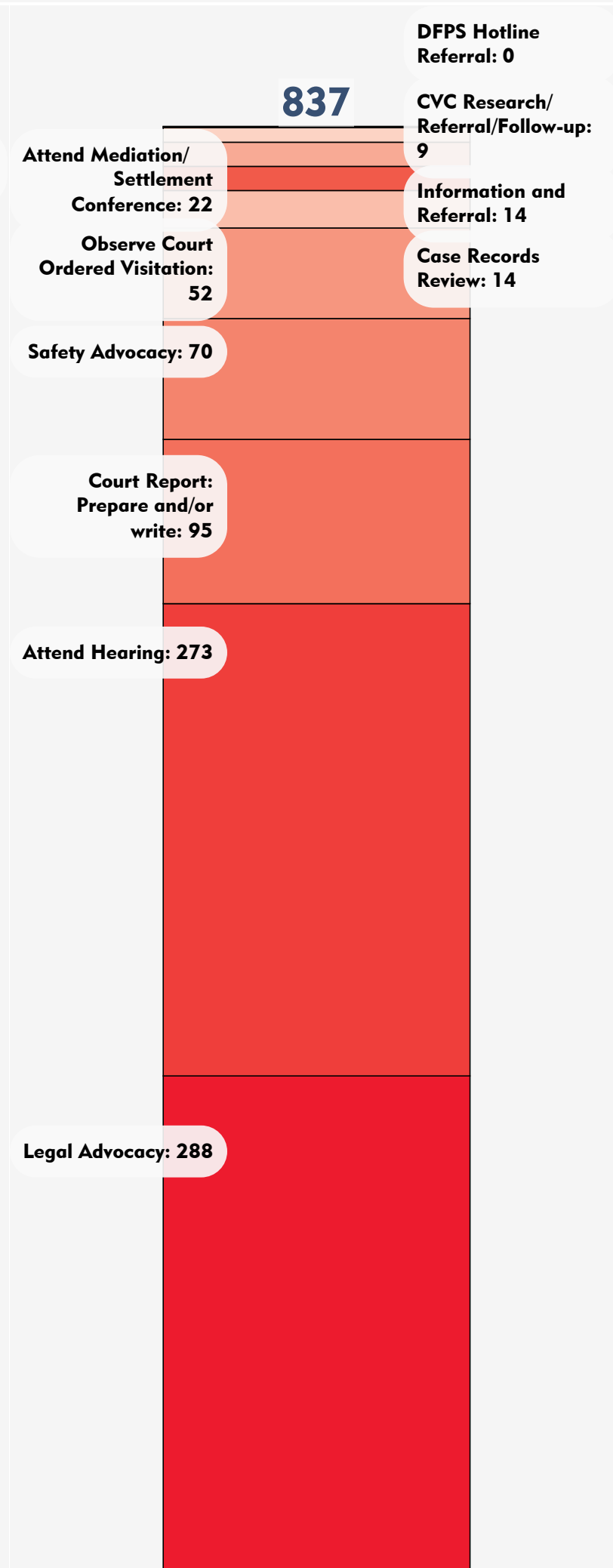
CASA Advocacy Activities

CASA of Grayson County Activity Instances FY2023: 5,290

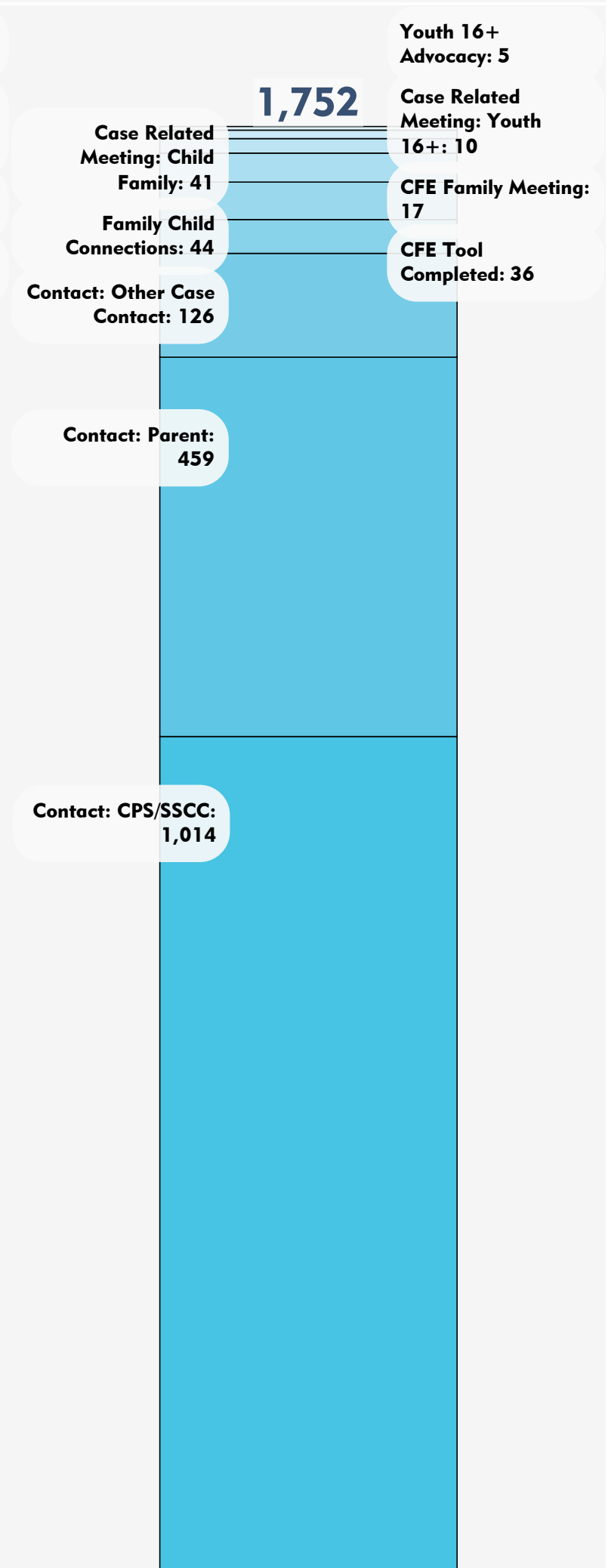
Children's Wellbeing Activity Instances



Legal Advocacy Activity Instances



Connections Activity Instances

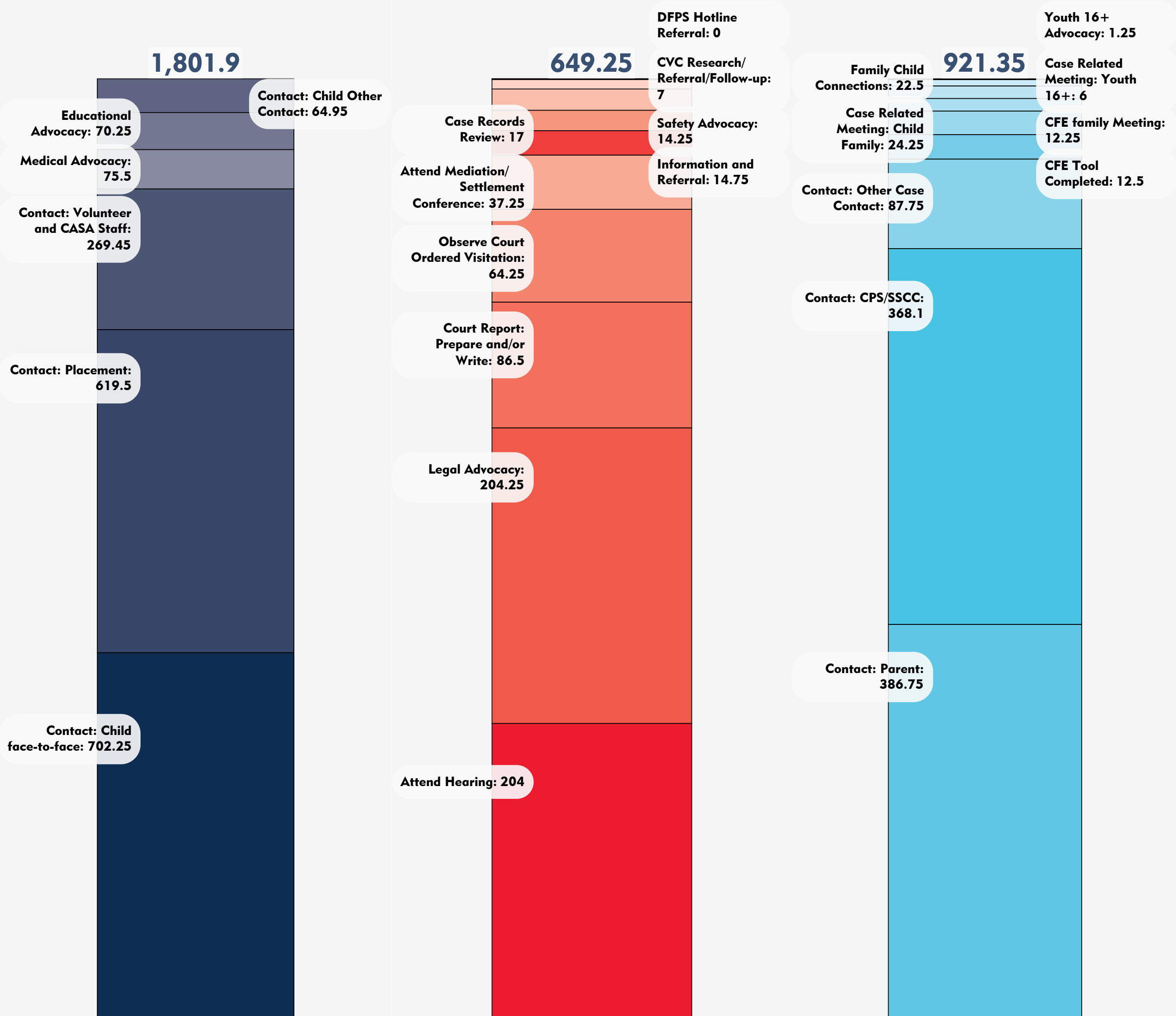


CASA Advocacy Activities



CASA of Grayson County Activity Hours FY2023: 3,372.5

<u>Children's Wellbeing</u> Activity Hours	<u>Legal Advocacy</u> Activity Hours	<u>Connections</u> Activity Hours
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CASA of Grayson County

CFE is a team-based approach between Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA), Child Protective Services (CPS) and Community-Based Care (CBC) providers to identify, locate and engage with family members and fictive kin in the creation and development of a lifetime network for young people in the foster care system, and their parents or caregivers.



COLLABORATE

Greater collaboration between stakeholders to involve families and build networks



CULTIVATE

Access to connection, engagement and searching tools to engage and find family/important relationships



CONVENE

Families and their support network come together for family meetings



CONNECT

A lifetime network of supportive relationships is formed for the child and their family

SUMMARY OF OUR FY2023 CFE IMPACT

459

Parent Contacts

42

CFE Tools Completed

17

Family Meetings Held

44

Family Child Connections

26

Children & Youth Served

14

Families Receiving CFE



Texas Department of Family and Protective Services



CASA

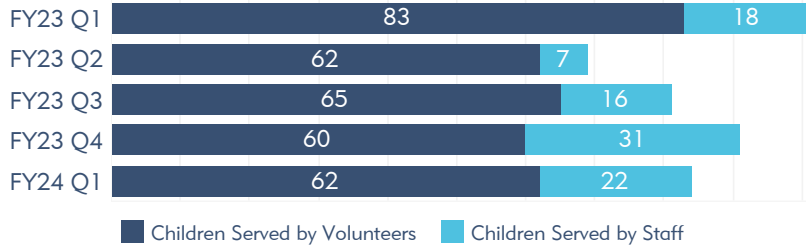
Court Appointed Special Advocates
FOR CHILDREN

CASA OF GRAYSON COUNTY, INC.

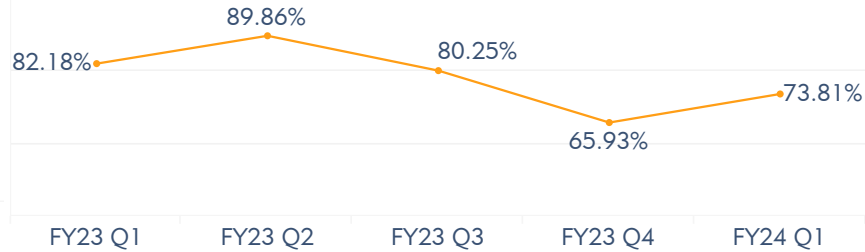
CASA of Grayson County

CONTINUED GROWTH AND DIRECT SERVICES

Number of Children Served by CASA

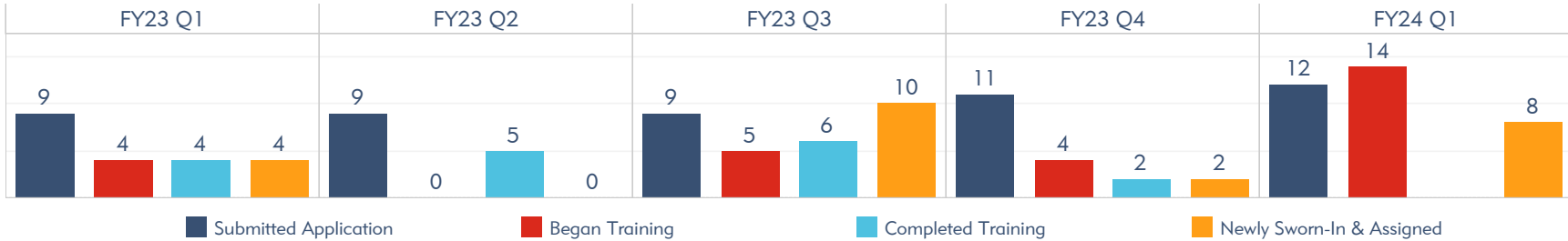


Percent Children with Volunteer (PChV)



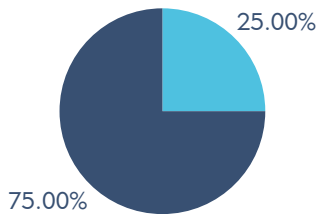
A TRAINED VOLUNTEER FOR EVERY CHILD IN DFPS CARE

Volunteer Recruitment and Training



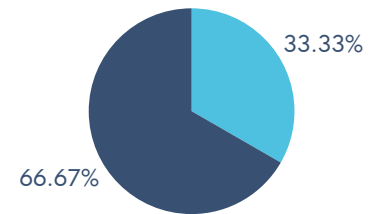
GRANTS MANAGEMENT AND OVERSIGHT

FY2024 Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) Funds as of 1/16/2024



Total Award Amount	\$179,810
Reimbursements	\$44,955
Award Amount Remaining	\$134,855

FY2024 Health & Human Services Commission (HHSC) Funds as of 1/16/2024

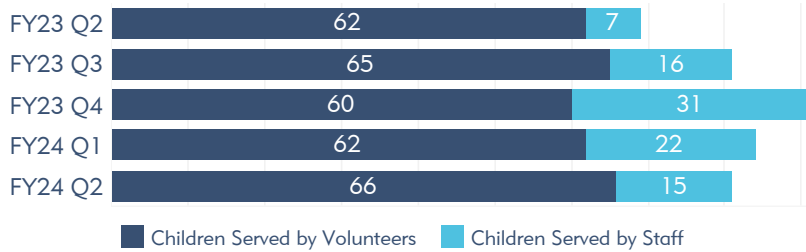


Total Award Amount	\$97,418
Reimbursements	\$32,473
Award Amount Remaining	\$64,945

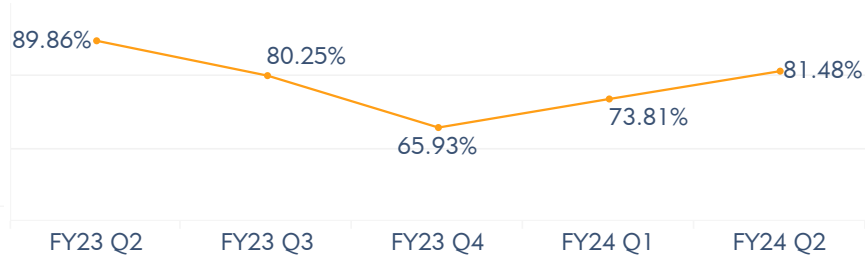
CASA of Grayson County

CONTINUED GROWTH AND DIRECT SERVICES

Number of Children Served by CASA

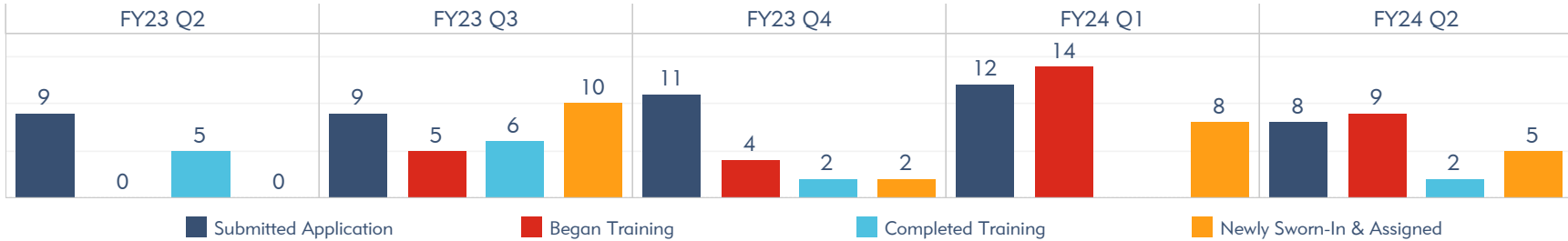


Percent Children with Volunteer (PChV)



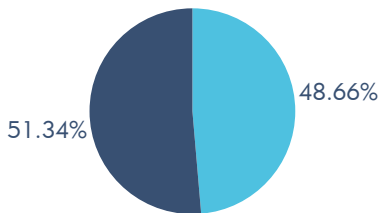
A TRAINED VOLUNTEER FOR EVERY CHILD IN DFPS CARE

Volunteer Recruitment and Training



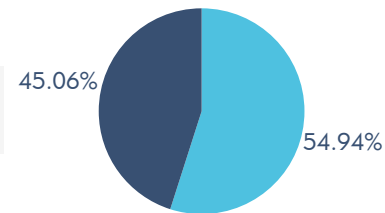
GRANTS MANAGEMENT AND OVERSIGHT

FY2024 Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) Funds as of 4/17/2024



Total Award Amount	\$179,810
Reimbursements	\$87,498
Award Amount Remaining	\$92,312

FY2024 Health & Human Services Commission (HHSC) Funds as of 4/11/2024

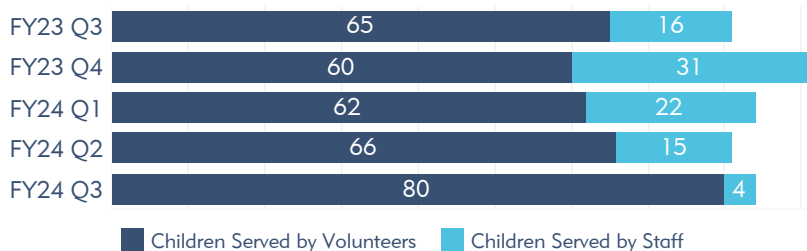


Total Award Amount	\$97,418
Reimbursements	\$53,522
Award Amount Remaining	\$43,896

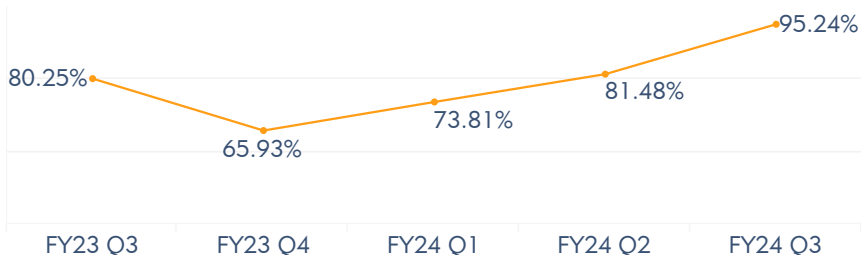
CASA of Grayson County

CONTINUED GROWTH AND DIRECT SERVICES

Number of Children Served by CASA

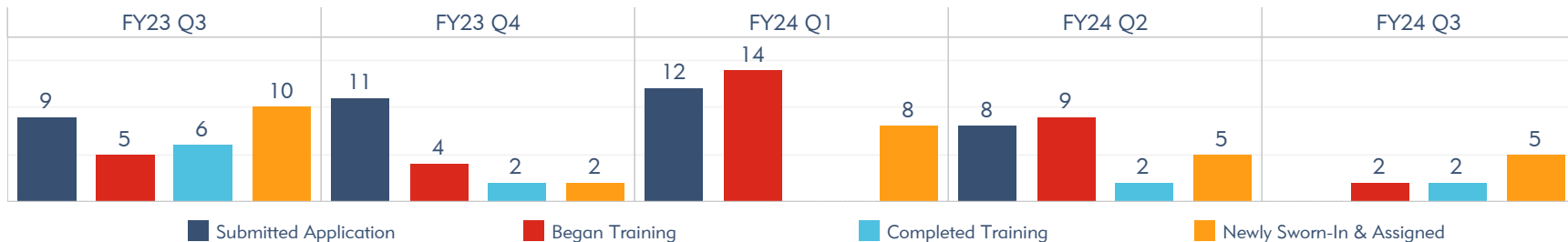


Percent Children with Volunteer (PChV)



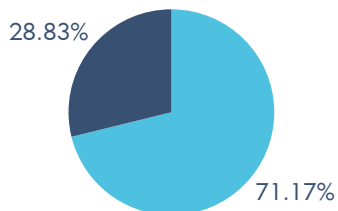
A TRAINED VOLUNTEER FOR EVERY CHILD IN DFPS CARE

Volunteer Recruitment and Training



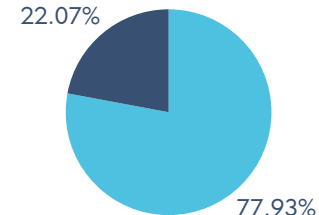
GRANTS MANAGEMENT AND OVERSIGHT

FY2024 Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) Funds as of 7/18/2024



Total Award Amount	\$179,810
Reimbursements	\$127,972
Award Amount Remaining	\$51,838

FY2024 Health & Human Services Commission (HHSC) Funds as of 7/26/2024

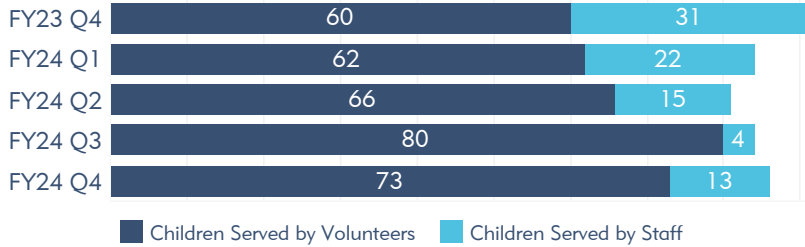


Total Award Amount	\$97,418
Reimbursements	\$75,922
Award Amount Remaining	\$21,496

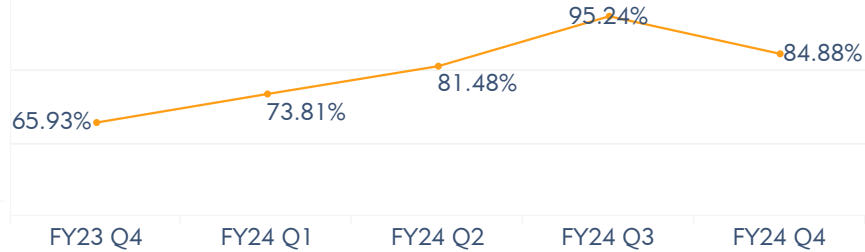
CASA of Grayson County

CONTINUED GROWTH AND DIRECT SERVICES

Number of Children Served by CASA

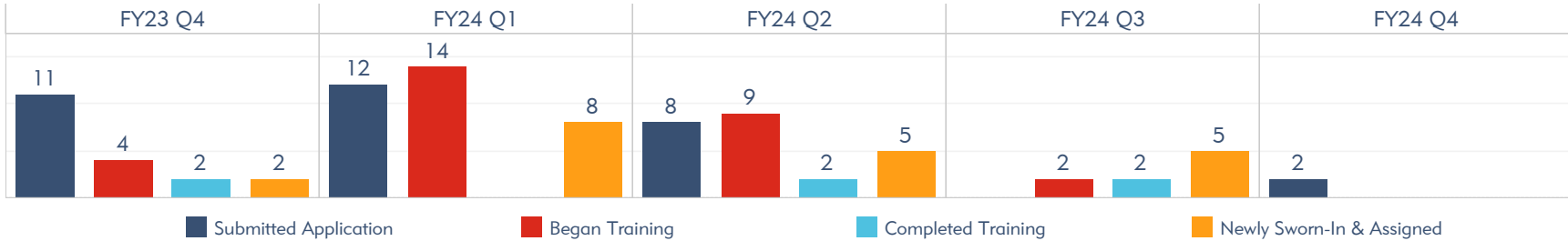


Percent Children with Volunteer (PChV)



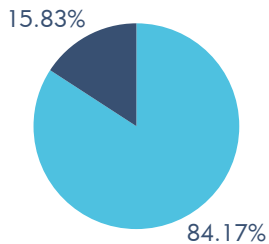
A TRAINED VOLUNTEER FOR EVERY CHILD IN DFPS CARE

Volunteer Recruitment and Training



GRANTS MANAGEMENT AND OVERSIGHT

FY2024 Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) Funds as of 10/8/2024



Total Award Amount	\$179,810
Reimbursements	\$151,348
Award Amount Remaining	\$28,462

FY2024 Health & Human Services Commission (HHSC) Funds as of 9/18/2024

Total Award Amount	\$97,418
Reimbursements	\$97,058
Award Amount Remaining	\$360

