

A close-up photograph of a young child's face, looking slightly to the right. The lighting is dramatic, with a strong light source from the right side, casting the left side of the face into deep shadow. The child's eyes are dark and expressive. The background is dark and out of focus, with some hints of a patterned fabric.

Opportunities to Give

childadvocates[®]

why support child advocates

We realize how many incredible organizations and noble causes there are out there. And we realize that you have a choice when it comes to which ones you get involved with and support. We hope you'll consider giving to Child Advocates – and hope we can help by providing you with a few reasons to do just that.

Our children. Children of all ages, races and socio-economic backgrounds. Children with irresistible grins, vivid imaginations and incredible potential. All of them sharing one unfortunate commonality – each one has been a victim of life-threatening abuse or neglect.

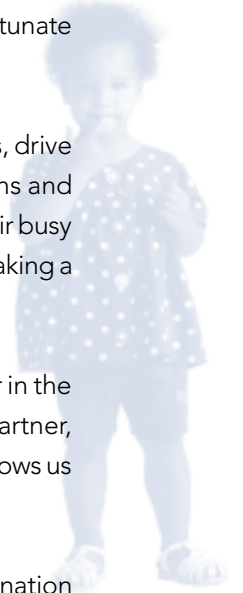
Our volunteers. Busy would be an understatement. They make dinner, entertain clients, drive carpool, walk the dog, go to the gym, coach soccer, manage employees, take vacations and watch reality television. Just like everybody else. What sets them apart is that, despite their busy lives, they still make time to volunteer as court-appointed advocates with our program, making a direct impact on the lives of abused children.

Our reputation. Since our inception in 1984, Child Advocates has emerged as a leader in the ongoing fight against child abuse. We have built a solid reputation as a community partner, friend and diligent steward of your funds. Our cost-effective volunteer advocacy model allows us to provide necessary services to children in custody at a very low cost.

Our need. Child Advocates is a private non-profit organization. This means that your donation is absolutely critical to the existence of our program. We receive minimal federal & local funding and we are not a United Way agency.

OUR MISSION

Child Advocates, Inc. mobilizes volunteers to break the vicious cycle of child abuse. We speak up for abused children who are lost in the system and guide them into safe environments where they can thrive.

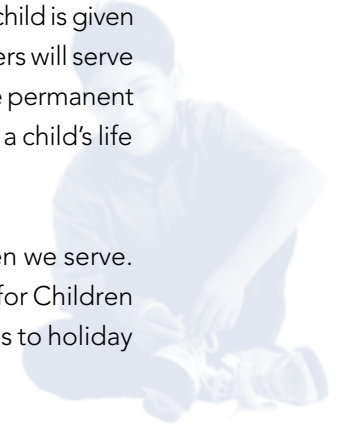


how will my donation make a difference

“Every dollar counts.” A statement both over-used and a bit cliché. But also true. Your contribution to Child Advocates – whether monetary or in-kind – will truly make a difference in the life of an abused child.

Very simply, donations allow for the recruitment, training and support of nearly 500 court-appointed advocate volunteers each year. So how does this translate to the children? Those volunteers will be assigned to the cases of children in custody of the state – serving a critical role in ensuring that no child slips through the cracks of an overburdened system. And they’ll see to it that each child is given the rights and opportunities he or she deserves while in the state’s care. Those volunteers will serve as a dedicated set of eyes and ears to a family court judge who will ultimately decide the permanent placement for a child. Maybe most importantly, those volunteers will be a ‘constant’ in a child’s life during this most tumultuous and unstable time.

Donations also allow us to provide necessary programs and activities for the children we serve. Initiatives like our Special Needs Program, Santa’s Wish List and Young Professionals for Children provide our kids with everything from diapers, toys, books and back-to-school clothes to holiday gifts, free afternoon activities and field-trips.



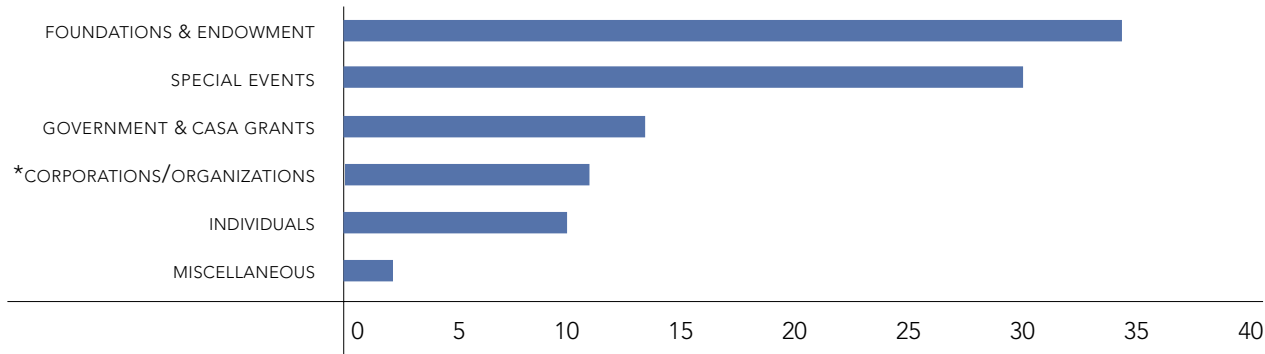
who else supports child advocates?

There isn't one specific demographic or organizational profile when it comes to the many individuals, companies and private foundations that make it possible for us to do what we do.

They're people like you. Doctors, educators, accountants, students, social workers, attorneys, stay-at-home parents and retirees. People willing to commit their time, money and resources to provide hope for our community's abused and neglected children.

And they're companies and organizations like yours. From the city's corporate giants to the neighborhood fast-food franchises, big and small companies alike support our kids with their funds and resources.

OTHER SOURCES OF INCOME



individual giving opportunities

We rely on the generosity of so many to fund critical advocacy services to the children we serve – and we could not exist without the support of our corporate sponsors and other very significant donors, especially in these difficult financial times. But it's often our *individual* donors whose selflessness touches our hearts and whose belief in our cause makes a difference to our kids.

Donating to Child Advocates is easy and you may select any number of options when making a gift. Child Advocates, Inc. is a 501(c) 3 Not for Profit organization and contributions are tax deductible to the fullest extent of the law. Following are some of the many ways that an individual can give to the program:

Monetary and In-kind Donations

We're often surprised by the sentiment that because an individual donor cannot give much, their donation is insignificant to us. On the contrary, each contribution – large or small – brings us a step closer to fulfilling our mission. In-kind donations can offset our costs for recruiting, training and supervising volunteers – ultimately allowing for us to better serve the children.

Honorarium and Holiday Cards

It's an age-old question - what do you get the girl who has everything? Consider honoring the birthdays and anniversaries of your loved ones with a gift to Child Advocates in their name. Celebrate the holidays with a friend by contributing to the gifts of an abused child in that friend's honor or participating in our holiday card program, in which we'll send your holiday cards for you!

Memoriam

Keep the giving spirit of a friend or loved one alive through a donation in their name. In place of flowers, consider giving to Child Advocates in memory of a loved one – continuing that person's legacy by making a difference in the life of abused children.

Individual Memberships

Looking for an easy way to make a financial contribution? Join one of our membership-driven groups - the



individual giving opportunities

(CONTINUED)

Friends of Child Advocates or the Young Professionals for Children. Your membership dues help offset the costs associated with the group's activities - allowing us to continue building a strong base for our supporters.

Community Giving

Give – without actually “giving” at all. Child Advocates benefits from several community giving programs, and we need your help to make them successful! Both Kroger and Randall's grocery stores plus the web's Buy for Charity program will donate back a portion of any purchase you make. No-brainers, right? We agree. Ask us for details.

Many employers have matching-gifts programs – does yours? Employers will often match any monetary gift an employee makes or make a monetary donation for each volunteer hour the employee gives to the community. Just by letting us know if your company offers any such programs, you will help.

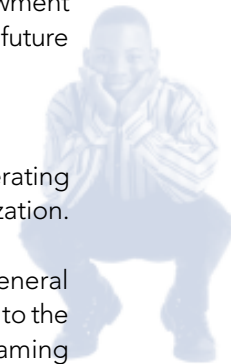
Planned Giving

A planned gift to Child Advocates – by way of your will, estate, stocks and financial holdings or endowment gifts – will help ensure the services and programs we provide to abused children will continue into the future - and may even further your financial goals.

Foundation Donations

Each year, grants from foundations account for approximately 30% percent of Child Advocates' operating budget. This represents not only a substantial – but also a critical – source of funding for our organization.

Foundations have the opportunity to support our court program, volunteer training program or general operating support. Trustees interested in endowment opportunities may prefer to restrict their grant to the Child Advocates' Endowment, making a gift that lasts in perpetuity. Child Advocates also offers naming opportunities and welcomes challenge grants.



corporate and organizational sponsorship opportunities

Whether your company or organization has \$2,000 or \$200,000 charitable dollars set aside – we have an opportunity for you to get involved with Child Advocates as a community partner.

Become a title sponsor for one of our annual fundraising events. Provide a year's worth of funding for the training manuals used during Advocacy University volunteer training. Underwrite our program services for a sibling group in foster care. Or let us tailor a specific program to your company's budget and philanthropic needs. We welcome the opportunity to sit down with you to discuss potential sponsorship possibilities.

CHILD ADVOCATES PROGRAMS AND EVENTS

Following is a sampling of programs and events that would benefit from your company's generous support:

- **Pull for Kids Classic** – One of the most fun and successful charity sporting clay tournaments of its kind, the Pull for Kids Classic is a great way to spend time with friends or entertain business clients.
- **Angels of Hope Luncheon and Fashion Presentation** – This luncheon marks the unofficial start of the holiday social season each year. Make sure you reserve your runway-side table!
- **Houston Children's Festival** – Houston's premiere family event – this dazzling array of exciting activities is designed to entertain, educate and enhance the quality of family life. There's a reason the event is endorsed by the Mayor as *Houston's Official Family Celebration!*
- **Santa's Wish List Program** – Sponsor a child or group of children and make sure their holiday wishes come true.



corporate and organizational sponsorship opportunities

- **Special Needs Program** – Your support will make a direct impact on an abused child by helping to provide everything from eye glasses and bunk beds to prom dresses and summer camp scholarships.
- **Houston Marathon** – Sponsor a corporate run team to benefit Child Advocates or sponsor individual runners already registered.

“BENEFITING CHILD ADVOCATES”

From restaurant grand opening celebrations to the recent Hike for Kids initiative, many generous businesses, organizations – and even individuals – have chosen Child Advocates to benefit from their self-organized special events and efforts. If you have an idea for a fundraiser to be held by your group and are looking for a great beneficiary, consider helping to provide court appointed advocates for some of Houston’s least fortunate citizens by selecting Child Advocates to receive the proceeds. “ ”

