The Growing Together Campaign

For over two decades, C.A.S.E. has improved the lives of children who have been adopted or in foster care and their families through counseling, lifelong education, and a growing national network of trained professionals. C.A.S.E. is a leading 501(c)(3) nonprofit provider of pre- and post-adoption support, directly serving more than 6,500 counseling clients to date through our six offices in the Baltimore and Washington, D.C. metro areas. We strive to serve all families regardless of their ability to pay.

Through our national programs, we have trained over 16,000 mental health professionals and child welfare workers in 31 states, expanding the use of best practices, and raising national awareness and understanding of the unique challenges associated with adoption and foster care.

To celebrate our 20th anniversary in 2018, C.A.S.E. launched the $5 million Growing Together Campaign to increase access to our high-quality services, extend our reach and sustain our impact.

Campaign Goals (2018-2021)

- **Planned Giving** - legacy giving through wills and trusts
- **Growth Capital** -
  - **Increase Access to Therapy for Vulnerable Children** by expanding C.A.S.E.’s presence through new offices and telehealth services to reach underserved communities.
  - **Help Professionals Better Meet Families’ Needs** by extending the reach of C.A.S.E.’s national training programs for child welfare and mental health professionals.
  - **Improve Children’s Mental Health and Academic Outcomes** by reaching more families and school staff with online training to guide them through the unique challenges children face.
- **Endowment Fund** - to ensure future sustainability of C.A.S.E. services

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<th>Goal</th>
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<td>Planned Giving</td>
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The Unique Challenges of Adoption and Foster Care

Nearly half of all children, particularly teens, have struggled with mental, emotional and behavioral disorders. Children who are adopted may be at even higher risk. As a result, adoptive families use clinical services at triple the rate reported by families formed by birth.

Why might children who are adopted or in foster care be at higher risk?

- Poor prenatal care
- Prenatal exposure to toxic substances
- Early childhood breaks in attachment
- Maltreatment and trauma
- Institutionalization including multiple caregivers
- Genetic vulnerabilities

Teens who are adopted are twice as likely to be diagnosed with a behavioral disorder as non-adopted teens.

The prevalence of substance abuse was 43% higher among adoptees than non-adoptees, according to a 2012 study published in the journal PLOS One.

All children who are adopted are affected by loss and grief as a result of the process.

For more information visit adoptionsupport.org/growingtogether or contact Tamara Arsenault, Director of Development, arsenault@adoptionsupport.org or (301) 476-8525.

Sadly, the 26,000 youth who age out of foster care each year struggle with many of these same issues and more, too often resulting in homelessness, unemployment and jail. The consequences are devastating for the youth and costly for taxpayers, requiring an estimated $7.8 billion in annual costs for public assistance, incarceration and lost wages.

C.A.S.E.’s counseling and specialized support improves outcomes for children and youth who are adopted or in foster care and their families, turning these statistics into success stories.

“We floundered and no one could really help us with her trauma issues and it wasn’t until we came to C.A.S.E. that we got the help we needed.” - Adoptive parent