

Center for Adoption
Support and Education

2021 Annual Report



Vision

A world where every child and family connected to adoption, foster, and kinship care thrives, embracing our individual and collective diversity.

Mission

Improving the well-being and permanence of children and their families by delivering adoption competent mental health services, training a national network of professionals, and informing the field through research and advocacy.

Visit
adoptionssupport.org

From the Board Chair and CEO

We are pleased to present our 2021 Annual Report, summarizing the achievements and successes from January 1 to December 31, 2021.

Dear C.A.S.E. Friend,

The work we do at C.A.S.E. is more important now than ever.

In October 2021, the American Academy of Pediatrics, American Academy of Child & Adolescent Psychiatry, and the Children's Hospital Association came together to declare a National Emergency in Children's Mental Health, citing the serious toll of the pandemic on top of existing challenges.

This was quickly followed by the U.S. Surgeon General issuing an urgent Advisory on Protecting Youth Mental Health in December 2021, with emphasis on helping children who have or are experiencing foster care.

Even before the COVID-19 pandemic, mental health challenges were the leading cause of disability in young people, with 1 in 5 children ages 3 to 17 in the U.S. having a diagnosed mental health disorder.

We know that due to traumatic life experiences and compromised beginnings, many children who are adopted, being raised by relatives (kinship care), or who have experienced foster care have higher risks for developmental, health, emotional, behavioral, and academic challenges.

In addition, there are oftentimes complex racial, ethnic, and cultural issues inherent in families who adopt transracially or transculturally. Understanding and addressing the impact of these experiences is vital to positive outcomes.

For almost 25 years, C.A.S.E. has met this challenge with an array of direct services and educational resources for parents and professionals. Our current strategic plan, highlighted on the next page, will ensure our work continues to support families and build a network of skilled professionals.



3-Year Strategic Plan

At C.A.S.E., we remain committed to providing high quality adoption competent mental health services to all children and families and to building a national network of adoption competent professionals. We have refined our Vision and Mission (see cover) and embarked on a 3-year strategic plan to better serve adoptive, foster, and kinship networks based around four strategies:

1) Mental Health Services

Deliver best-in-class adoption competent care, psycho-education, and consultations globally, which are research-supported, evidence-based, family-focused, and trauma-informed.

2) Workforce Development and Practice

Grow our network of partners to advance adoption-competent practice in child welfare, mental health, and allied professions using state-of-the-art, accredited, and evidence-based curricula through our National Training Institute. Elevate professionals' practice with direct clinical experience, coaching, and a vibrant learning community through our National Demonstration and Teaching Clinic.

3) Research

Evaluate outcomes and impacts to develop and disseminate knowledge that improves treatment methods and educates the field.

4) Advocacy

Expand public awareness to inform and change public policy through clinical practice, research, training, and thought leadership.

You'll be hearing more about these strategies in the coming months, and we will highlight all we have achieved as we celebrate C.A.S.E.'s 25th anniversary in 2023. It will be a year to reflect upon our first 25 years of growth while looking forward to our next 25 years of creating a world where every child and family connected to adoption, foster, and kinship care thrives, embracing our individual and collective diversity.

On behalf of C.A.S.E.'s Staff, Board of Directors, and Emerging Leaders, thank you for your continued support.

In Gratitude,



Kathleen C. Ravenscroft

Kathleen Ravenscroft, LMSW
Chair, C.A.S.E.
Board of Directors



Debbie B. Riley

Debbie Riley, LCMFT
C.A.S.E. CEO



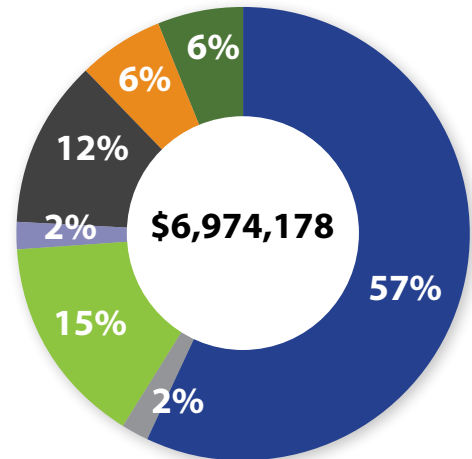
2021 Financial Overview

C.A.S.E. maintains the highest standards of financial accountability as stewards of your trust and financial support.

*C.A.S.E. 2021 Masquerade Gala Co-Chairs:
Maria Garcia Anderson, President & CEO, Anderson Fire Protection and C.A.S.E. Board Member, and Philip Gibbs, President, Hamel Builders.*

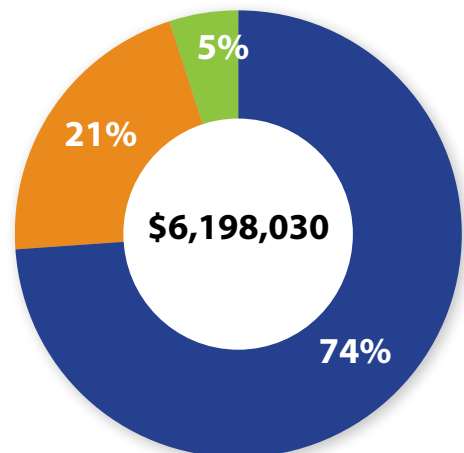


Revenue



■ Grants & Contracts	\$3,969,770
■ Contributions	\$1,071,118
■ Counseling	\$ 810,185
■ Special Events	\$ 422,491
■ Training for Adoption Competency (TAC)	\$ 414,815
■ Training & Publications	\$ 166,292
■ Other	\$ 119,507

Operating & Program Expenses



■ Program Services	\$4,596,696
■ General & Administrative	\$1,273,590
■ Fundraising	\$ 327,744

Visit the Annual Reports page of our website for our complete audited financial statements and IRS Form 990.

Growing Together Campaign

Our 4-year Growing Together Campaign concluded December 31, 2021. We created an Endowment Fund, Planned Giving Program, and raised growth capital to increase access to our services, extend our reach, and sustain our impact.

Your Impact

With support from more than 800 donors, we exceeded our \$5M goal by \$278,000. Your generosity allowed us to:

- **Open two new offices** in the Baltimore-Washington metro area
- **Improve** our telehealth capacity
- **Secure accreditation** of our Training for Adoption Competency program
- **Adapt the NTI curricula** for school-based mental health professionals
- **Begin development** of a National Demonstration and Teaching Clinic

RAISED
\$1,159,000

Planned
Giving

RAISED
\$2,005,467

Growth
Capital

RAISED
\$2,113,533

Endowment
Fund

Visit the Growing Together Campaign page of our website to learn more.

Campaign Donors

C.A.S.E. appreciates all generous donors who contributed to our Growing Together Campaign. Thank you!

SUSTAIN (\$150,000 and above)

Anonymous
Mary Catherine Bunting
Meri and Phil Gibbs

GROW (\$75,000 – \$149,999)

Anderson Fire Protection, Inc.
The Bender Foundation
Bernard Family Foundation
CareFirst Blue Cross Blue Shield
Carol M. Jacobsohn Foundation
Pamela and Stephen Krooth
Ellen and Hank Libby
Debbie and Michael Riley

SUPPORT (\$50,000 – \$74,999)

Garland and James C. Alban, IV
Lois Fried
Goldman DeMarco Family Charitable Fund
Hamel Builders, Inc.
Gayle and Frank Kelly, III
The Aaron and Lillie Straus Foundation
Whiting-Turner

EMPOWER (\$25,000 – \$49,999)

Jack and Meryl Abel
Battle Resource Management, Inc.
David and Maria Anderson
DAVIS Construction
The Pedersen Family
Sanford and Doris Slavin Foundation, Inc.

INSPIRE (\$10,000 – \$24,999)

Aegon Transamerica Foundation
Anonymous
Camp-Younts Foundation
The Cecelia and Mike Battle Family
France-Merrick Foundation
Freestate Electrical Companies
Bobbie and Grant Grasmick
Greater Chesapeake Charitable Foundation
Harman Cain Family Foundation
The Kay Family Foundation, Inc.
Catherine and Ike Leggett
Mead Family Foundation
Kathy and Paul Ravenscroft
Phyllis and Richard Sharlin
Heather Quinn and Laura Shores
Kathleen and Matt Strottman
Volkswagen Group of America, Inc.

1998 LEGACY SOCIETY MEMBERS

Donors committed to C.A.S.E.'s future by making a gift through their will, trust, or a bequest.

Meri and Phil Gibbs
Colleen and Ron Luzier
Debbie and Michael Riley
The Joan Gay Whiting Trust

Visit the Partnerships page of our website for a complete list of all of our valued partners.

Adoption

Competent Mental Health Supports & Services

C.A.S.E. clinicians use a trauma-informed, family-focused, adoption competent approach and a wide range of therapeutic tools to help individuals and families overcome a variety of challenges.

C.A.S.E. 2021 Star of Adoption: The Stribling Family.



Who We Serve



Clients and participating family members through therapy, case management, post-adoption services, and Wendy's Wonderful Kids recruitment programs.

77%
of therapy clients
were children
under age 18

\$140K
in C.A.S.E. financial
assistance for 76
clients and family
members

641
Primary
Clients

843
Family
Members

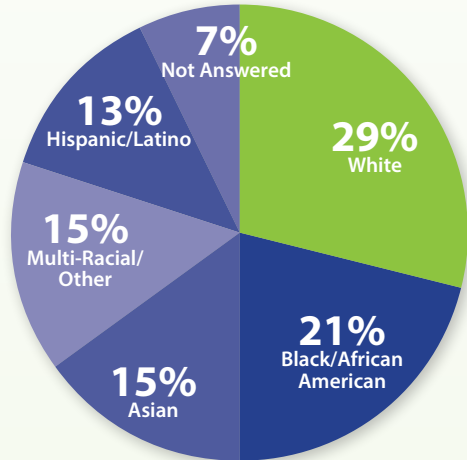
**People Served
Total 1,484**

"Learning that my kid wasn't giving me a hard time, he's having a hard time."

"The trauma and adoption informed knowledge of our counselor has been tremendous. They have used that knowledge to encourage us and help us interpret what we are experiencing in a productive way."

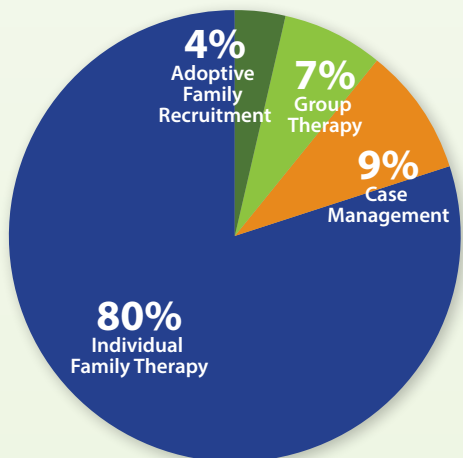
Therapy Client Demographics

Clients were asked "What did you/your family like MOST about C.A.S.E. Services?"
Their responses appear throughout the report.



Diversity of Therapy Clients

"How well our therapist understands our situation and how affirming she is of the struggles we are facing. She normalizes this for us and provides good advice and action steps."



Clients by Service Type*
Total 714

* Clients receiving more than one service are counted for each service.

Client Impact

"My son really enjoys his sessions and likes to talk about what he's thinking and feeling with his therapist. He likes when the issues he is dealing with are explained to him and it starts to make sense to him."

Experience with C.A.S.E.

Percent of respondents who agree or strongly agree.

I would recommend C.A.S.E. to others.

84%

I will return to C.A.S.E. in the future, if needed.

83%

C.A.S.E. is a safe & supportive place for my family.

91%

My C.A.S.E. therapist is knowledgeable.

91%

"C.A.S.E. is supportive, encouraging, and really wants our family to grow stronger. They also want to teach parents so we can be better parents to our children."

Our Partners



signature program

Dave Thomas
Foundation for Adoption.

Our two Wendy's Wonderful Kids recruiters do child-focused recruitment to find families for children experiencing foster care with no identified adoptive families. Some of the youth we serve have complex needs including medically fragile conditions, autism, and significant developmental delay, with many non-verbal. Our recruiters have an active caseload of **12-15 children**. Due to the pandemic, their interactions with children, families, courts, and caseworkers were virtual. In 2021, our recruiters completed 1 adoption and 3 reunifications.

NORTHERN *Post Adoption* CONSORTIUM

PARTNERSHIP FOR STRONG ADOPTIONS

C.A.S.E., with our partners Children's Home Society, enCircle, and North American Council on Adoptable Children, served **128 children** and **99 families** with post-adoption services including case management, support groups, and respite events. These free services are available to adoptive families in Northern Virginia thanks to generous funding from the Virginia Department of Social Services.



Education **Training & Resources for Professionals & Families**

C.A.S.E. offers a wide variety of on-demand and live stream webinars for both families and professionals.

Rudi Jackson (right), C.A.S.E. staff member, delivering backpacks for adoptive families.



Strengthening Your Family

Live Monthly Webinar Series

In 2021, 4,718 people registered for the monthly Strengthening Your Family webinars and parent support groups featuring a wide array of topics for the adoptive, foster, and kinship community.

Thanks to Jockey Being Family, the first 600 registrants each month are free.



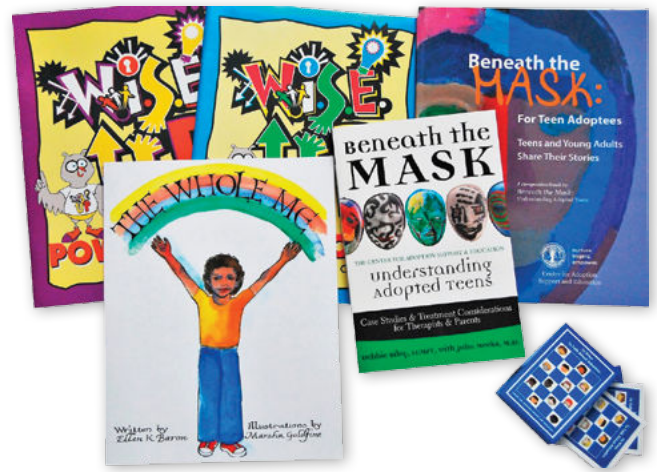
"I especially liked the compassion and heartiness of the information and ideas. There were, as someone said, SO many good nuggets."

Publications Distribution

Books and Merchandise

17,242
Publications
distributed

C.A.S.E. offers a wide selection of books and other merchandise specifically created for and tailored to youth and families in the adoption, foster, and kinship community.



Jockey Being Family Backpack Program



6,558

New adoptive families received C.A.S.E. publications through the Jockey Being Family Backpack Program, a

12%
increase over
2020!



National Adoption Competency Mental Health Training Initiative

NTI is a free, web-based training to enhance the capacity of child welfare and mental health professionals to better understand and address the mental health needs of youth in adoptive, foster, and kinship families.

C.A.S.E. 2021 Star of Adoption: Theo B.

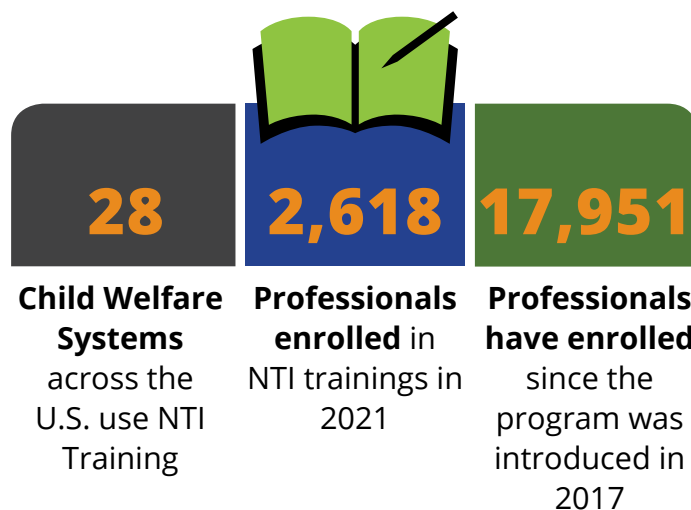


About NTI



National Adoption Competency
Mental Health **Training Initiative**
Advancing Practice for Permanency & Well-Being™

"NTI explored in greater depth issues around grief/loss, trauma, identity formation, and post-adoption needs. The resources are wonderful! I loved the "conversation starters" and supervisor role-plays."



NTI is funded through the Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Children's Bureau



"NTI has definitely added to my skill set as I have been doing this for 22 years and learned a lot that I didn't realize while doing this training."

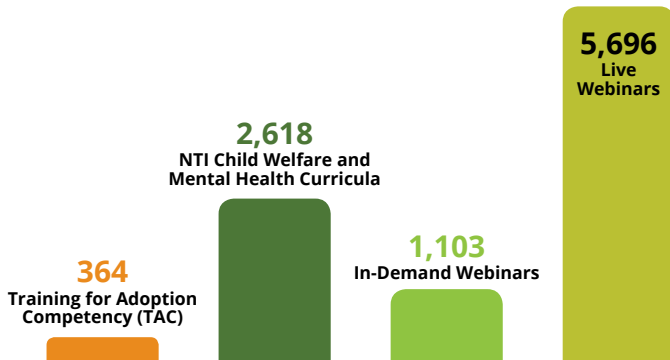
Visit the NTI page of our website to learn more.

Training for Adoption Competency



TAC is a 72-hour, 10-month curriculum for post-master's clinicians that includes both classroom and clinical case consultation.

C.A.S.E. Training Registrants: Total 9,781



TAC is the only accredited, assessment-based certificate program on adoption competency in the United States.

C.A.S.E. 2021 TAC Star of Adoption: Shadell T. Quinones, LSW, MLSP



252
New graduates from 20 cohorts completed the training in 2021



115
Professionals passed the exam & earned the TAC digital badge

18
TAC sites with new sites in OH, OR, & LA

4
Virtual cohorts offered

C.A.S.E. Board of Directors

Officers

Kathleen Cook Ravenscroft, LMSW, *Chair*

Richard K. Devaney, *Vice-Chair*

Rick Powell, *Treasurer*

Beverly J. Woodard, *Secretary*

C.A.S.E. 2021 Star of Adoption: Jayra R.



nurture.
inspire.
empower.

TM

Members

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Mike Battle

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Kathleen Dugan

Michael Dugan

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Carol J. Shoemaker

Sara van Geertruyden

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Elizabeth Barnes

Tony Parsons

Michaela Battle

Keith Sciarillo

Daniel Leonard

Rachel Shifaraw

Young adult adoptees who are passionate about C.A.S.E.'s mission and collaborate with C.A.S.E.'s board and staff to enhance the organization's presence locally and nationally

Visit

adoptionssupport.org

