



Annual Report

"KEEPING PURPOSE
AT THE **CENTER**"



2024

adoptionsupport.org

Welcome Letter from Board Chair + CEO

"Keeping Purpose at the Center"

Dear C.A.S.E. Friends and Supporters,

As we reflect on the past year, we are proud to share how C.A.S.E. continues to stay grounded in our purpose while driving innovation in adoption-competent care across the nation. Our 2024 theme, "Keeping Purpose at the Center," speaks to our unwavering commitment to the children, families, professionals, and communities we serve.



Richard K. Devaney
Chair, Board of Directors

This year marked the first full year of two transformative initiatives launched in Fall 2023: the National Center for Adoption Competent Mental Health Services (National Center) and the C.A.S.E. Academy for Elevating Clinical Practice in Permanency (Academy). In just over a year, the **National Center** has become a powerful catalyst for change, strengthening cross-system collaboration between child welfare and mental health to ensure families impacted by adoption, foster, and kinship care can access the support they deserve, wherever they are.

The **C.A.S.E. Academy** continues to grow its impact across the country, equipping more professionals with the deep knowledge and practical skills to effectively serve adoptive, foster, and kinship care families. Through evidence-informed coursework taught by nationally renowned faculty, immersive simulations, and learning cohorts led by an adoption-competent expert, the Academy is not just delivering professional development — it's raising the national standard of care and increasing retention in the workforce by helping professionals feel more competent, confident, and connected to the families they serve.

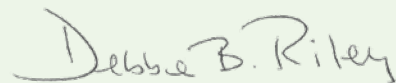
We also expanded our **Training Institute** to meet the growing demand for adoption-competent education across disciplines. In 2024, we strengthened new learning opportunities specifically for **school-based professionals**, ensuring that the educators, counselors, and psychologists who spend the most time with children in adoption, foster, and kinship care are equipped to support their unique experiences.

As the heartbeat of our organization, our **clinical and case management services** embody the integration of research, best practice, and direct care. From therapy sessions to post-adoption support, our clinicians deliver adoption-competent interventions that address complex needs, meet record demand, and achieve measurable outcomes in preventing dissolutions and sustaining permanence and well-being.

With 2,295 individuals receiving mental health services, thousands of professionals trained, and powerful youth voices leading through our Emerging Leaders Advisory Council, we are witnessing transformation — both personal and systemic. Together, these efforts reflect C.A.S.E.'s unwavering commitment to transforming systems, empowering professionals, and supporting families from every angle, all while keeping purpose at the center.

We remain deeply grateful to our dedicated staff, Board of Directors, partners, supporters, and community members who make this work possible. Your belief in our mission fuels our ability to innovate, uplift lived experiences, and build lasting permanency and healing for families nationwide.

With heartfelt appreciation,



Debbie Riley, LCMFT
Chief Executive Officer

Our Impact

Making Permanence Possible

When you support C.A.S.E., you're joining a nationwide movement to improve the well-being and permanence of children and their families. In 2024:

8,645

individuals registered for 10 Strengthening Your Family Webinars and 4 additional webinars offered to the public

2,295

individuals received mental health services

283

individuals participated in 7 support group series for parents or adult adoptees

2,322

child welfare and mental health professionals enrolled in the National Adoption Competency Mental Health Training Initiative (NTI) trainings

1,277

school-based mental health professionals enrolled in the School-Based Mental Health Professionals Training

442

on-demand webinars accessed by parents and professionals

15,264

individuals reached through C.A.S.E.'s direct services and trainings in 2024



At the Center for Adoption Support and Education (C.A.S.E.), we work across every level of the permanency ecosystem to ensure families stay together and thrive.

Our Vision:

A world where every child and family connected to adoption, foster, and kinship care thrives.

Our Mission:

To improve the well-being and permanence of children and their families by providing adoption-competent mental health services, advancing learning to build a responsive national network of professionals, and transforming policy and practice through research and advocacy.

adoptionsupport.org

Navigating Unique Challenges

At C.A.S.E., we create a safe, supportive space for nurturing a therapeutic relationship rooted in trust, respect, open communication, and collaborative decision-making using an adoption-competent, trauma-informed approach.

Our clinicians are equipped to understand and help navigate the unique vulnerabilities and emotional challenges that individuals and families encounter when seeking mental health support.

Since 1998, you have made it possible for C.A.S.E. to provide adoption-competent mental health services to more than 9,000 children and their families. In 2024 alone, we supported the families below through 6,157 treatment sessions.

In 2024 alone

Individuals directly participating in our mental health services:

Individuals	589
Family Members	1,706

Total 2,295

Individuals benefiting by Type of Service:

Adoptive Family Recruitment 27

Psychiatric Services

Individuals	21
Participating family members	79

C.A.S.E. Management

Individuals	214
Participating family members	718

Individual/Family Therapy

Individuals	411
Participating family members	1,269

***Total** 2,712

*This number does not account for our various support group/group therapy participants and is inclusive of the broader impact on the family's overall mental health and well-being.



With tireless dedication and unshakable compassion, C.A.S.E. staff are the driving force behind every success story — turning challenges into breakthroughs and hope into lasting change. Scan the QR Code to Meet our Team!





Meet Kristiana

Kristiana's adoption journey began when she and her birth mother were taken in by the family that would later become her adoptive family. At age 5, Kristiana, her sister, and birth mother were living with a supportive family who welcomed them into their home for two years. After a brief time when Kristiana, her birth mom, and sister lived independently, the girls then entered foster care and returned to the same family that had formerly provided them with support, the Sullivans. The Sullivans later adopted Kristiana in 2018 when she was 9, and her youngest sister, Kamrynn, the following year.

Since entering foster care, Kristiana has worked hard in trauma processing therapy with a trauma-informed, adoption-competent therapist to heal from experiences of anxiety, grief, and loss. Once a quiet girl who often stayed hidden under a hoodie, she's grown into a confident teen who lights up every room she enters.

Now 15 and in 9th grade, Kristiana is the seventh of nine children in her adopted family. She loves geography, cooking, and learning about different cultures. She's a swim coach, enjoys singing and video games, and adores her pets — especially the family goldendoodle, Xanny.

At the 2024 Gala, Kristiana was honored with the C.A.S.E. Star Award. She was deeply grateful to celebrate the moment surrounded by her family, friends, and her counselor, Ms. Mari, all of whom have supported her every step of the way.

In 2024 through our Fund-A-Family Scholarship Program, 94 families, with 309 family members participating in services, engaged in more than 1,000 treatment sessions to heal and develop better coping skills to manage adjustment disorders, anxiety, depression, ADHD, and other diagnoses.



Centering Lived Experience

The Emerging Leaders Advisory Council, made up of young adult adoptees, advances C.A.S.E.'s mission through close collaboration with the C.A.S.E. Board of Directors and staff to strengthen the organization's impact locally and nationally within adoption, foster, and kinship care communities.

The Emerging Leaders provide valuable advice and recommendations, engage in public speaking, advocacy, and special fundraising events, and work with the intent to eventually assume leadership roles within the organization. In 2024, our Emerging Leaders led programming at C.A.S.E. events and support groups, and represented C.A.S.E. on various panels, including:



→ Kids' Adoption Network (KAN) Conference

→ Denim & Diamonds Gala

→ Panels at RICA in Rockville, Georgetown Day School, and TAC

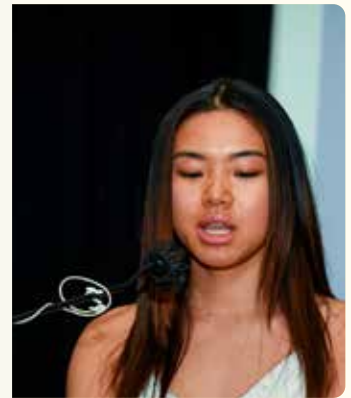
→ C.A.S.E. teen identity groups (both virtual and in-person)



We are deeply committed to this Council and look forward to sharing their continued impact for the adoptive, foster, and kinship community.

To learn more about the Emerging Leaders Council, visit: adoptionsupport.org/emerging-leaders and scan the QR code to meet our Emerging Leaders!





Meet Zoe

Zoe was born in Huanggang, China and adopted at 18 months old in 2004, after spending her early months with a foster family connected to the local orphanage. Her exploration of identity began in middle school with a class project called "Where I'm From," which led her to research China's geography and history, interview family members, and reflect deeply on her adoption story.

Although she was initially hesitant to open up in therapy, Zoe credits her therapist with helping her embrace vulnerability and strengthen communication within her family — leading to more honest, meaningful

conversations. Her personal growth sparked a passion for connection and advocacy. She was soon nominated to lead a student adoption group in Washington, D.C., and has continued exploring her identity through academic writing, visual art, and storytelling — often using symbolism and color to express the nuances of being an adopted, Asian American woman.

Now, a college student majoring in Social Work, Zoe is committed to supporting youth and families navigating adoption-related experiences. She was moved by the honesty and strength of adoptee speakers at the 2024 C.A.S.E. Gala, which inspired her to step into a leadership role herself. Now as an Emerging Leader, Zoe is dedicated to raising awareness, shifting perspectives on adoption and mental health, and creating inclusive spaces where others feel seen, heard, and empowered.

As an Emerging Leader, Zoe hopes to raise awareness, shift perspectives on adoption and mental health, and create spaces where others feel welcomed, heard, and empowered.

Advancing Learning To Drive Systemic Change



National Center for Adoption Competent Mental Health Services

Building Bridges to Improve Mental Health

National Center for Adoption Competent Mental Health Service

In 2024, the National Center advanced three core goals: expanding access to adoption-competent mental health services, strengthening child welfare + mental health collaboration, and promoting widespread use of NTI training and resources. The year marked a maturation of the National Center's strategies and systems, with intensive, no-cost capacity-building launched in partnership with three States and one Tribal Nation. Through tailored technical assistance, the National Center supported key leaders in addressing critical challenges facing youth and families with child welfare experience. In addition to state- and Tribal-level support, the National Center provided universal technical assistance to professionals nationwide, including: six live webinars reaching nearly 1,500 professionals and parents; 400+ new resources added to the Knowledge Hub; presentations at five national conferences; and ongoing dissemination through blogs and original content.

C.A.S.E.'s leadership through the National Center reflects a bold shift from service delivery to national systems transformation—strengthening the web of support for those navigating the lifelong impact of trauma, separation, and loss.

bridges4mentalheath.org

In addition to professional development, C.A.S.E. offers webinars, publications, and tools that empower parents with practical strategies for navigating the complexities of adoption, foster, and kinship care. Through these integrated efforts, we are advancing adoption-competent care across systems — and ensuring that both professionals and families are equipped to thrive.



Academy

Elevating Clinical Practice In Permanency

C.A.S.E. Academy

The C.A.S.E. Academy supports mental health professionals at all levels in building adoption, foster, and kinship care expertise. After successful pilots with C.A.S.E. interns and Oklahoma University — where 100% of participants reported satisfaction and workforce readiness — the Academy launched its first Advanced Coursework in Fall 2024. These courses help experienced therapists deepen skills in areas like adoption-competent assessments and inclusive, family-centered care. By integrating this learning into practice, the Academy strengthens clinical impact and supports talent retention across the national mental health workforce.



Training Institute

Empowering Professionals and Parents

C.A.S.E. Training Institute

C.A.S.E. continues to lead in adoption-competent care through our nationally recognized, evidence-based Training for Adoption Competency (TAC)[™] and the National Adoption Competency Mental Health Training Initiative (NTI). These programs strengthen the capacity of mental health and child welfare professionals nationwide.

Expanding into the education sector, our web-based School-Based Mental Health Professionals Training (SBMHP), equips school personnel to better support youth connected to adoption, foster, and kinship care.

To date, 1,277 professionals across 47 states have enrolled. Among those who completed the training:

- 91% were satisfied with the training
- 98% found it relevant to their role
- 93% reported increased effectiveness with youth and families

Investing in Permanency



Maryland Post Adoption Program

Maryland Department of Human Services

Through a transformative grant partnership with the state of Maryland, we were able to ensure permanency for finalized adoptions, providing 1,433 treatment sessions serving 305 Maryland residents in 2024.



Montgomery County Post Adoption Program

Montgomery County Department of Health & Human Services

This program is one of our longest standing collaborations providing education and therapy to families before and after adoption of children from foster care. In 2024, we served 47 families through 688 sessions, helping the MC Dept of Health and Human Services support families as they move toward permanence and ensure adoption stability by providing support when they need them, regardless of what age the adoption was finalized.



NPAC

Thanks to a generous grant from the Virginia Department of Social Services, C.A.S.E. leads the Northern Post Adoption Consortium (NPAC) in partnership with enCircle and Children's Home Society of Virginia — providing case management services to 148 families, clinical services to 46 families, crisis intervention for 22 families, family fun events attend by 47 families, a drop off event for families attended by 11 children, and additional services such as drop-in parent support groups and teen identity support groups in 2024.



Wendy's Wonderful Kids

C.A.S.E. is a proud partner of the Dave Thomas Foundation for Adoption for their signature Wendy's Wonderful Kids program. Two dedicated WWK recruiters focus on a caseload of 25 youth that may be harder to place because of their age, special needs, or sibling status, ensuring they receive the time, resources, and support needed to find permanency. In 2024, our recruiters were able to complete one planned adoption and successfully matched six youth with adoptive families.



Jockey Being Family

Through our long-standing partnership with Jockey Being Family, committed to ensuring families nationwide have access to C.A.S.E. support, 7,158 people registered in 2024 for webinars on timely topics for the adoption, foster, and kinship community. Each month, our "Strengthening Your Family" webinars are offered free to the first 600 registrants, thanks to this incredible support.



Financial Overview

2024 Revenue

Grants and Contracts	\$8,809,259	73%
Contributions	\$1,680,055	14%
Special Events	\$407,820	3%
Training for Adoption Competency	\$363,484	3%
Counseling	\$357,921*	3%
Training and Publications	\$268,962	2%
Other	\$124,819	1%

Total

\$12,012,320



2024 Operating and Program Expenses

Program Services	\$10,617,831	88%
General & Administrative	\$930,975	8%
Fundraising	\$473,698	4%

Total

\$12,022,504

2024 Net Assets Total \$3,372,449

Net Assets Without Donor Restrictions	\$961,985
Net Assets with Donor Restrictions	\$2,410,464

Total

\$3,372,449

*This number only includes private pay clients.

Visit our "Annual Reports" page online for our complete audited financial statements and IRS Form 990.

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We are deeply grateful to our Board of Directors for their unwavering guidance, vision, and dedication. Their leadership strengthens C.A.S.E.'s mission, ensuring we can continue transforming the lives of children, youth, and families. Scan the QR Code to Meet our Board of Directors!





Scan to Make
a Donation

Your belief in our mission fuels our ability to innovate, uplift lived experiences, and **build lasting permanency** and healing for families nationwide.



All images featured throughout this report showcase real C.A.S.E. families – their courage, resilience, and love are the true inspiration behind our mission.

adoptionsupport.org

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