



# Turning Points

child**advocates**®

2015 Stewardship Report



Dear friends,

I often take time to reflect and each year, I look back at the previous year to think about the impact we have made. In 2015, I was struck by the realization that the work we do truly creates a turning point in the lives of the children we serve. Children like Lily...

Four-month-old Lily was taken into the care of Child Protective Services the day she was born. Her three older brothers were already in custody because of various forms of neglect and abuse. It was clear that her parents were not in a place to care for her. The consistent drug use by her mother and suspected gang affiliation of her father prompted the judge to request that Lily have a court appointed advocate assigned to her. She needs someone to speak on her behalf and help her find a new path to follow. She needs a safe and permanent home where she can thrive.

There is no doubt in my mind that Child Advocates makes an impact on Lily and others like her. Though they have seen unbelievable struggle, children who have an advocate on their case are more likely to graduate high school and have healthy, stable families of their own. They are also less likely to continue the cycle of child abuse into the next generation than those without an advocate by their side.

Last year, Child Advocates mobilized 711 court appointed advocate volunteers to speak up for 2,148 of Houston's abused and neglected children. Our volunteers gave 53,475 hours of their time on 1,200 cases. Furthermore, we were able to train 221 brand new volunteers to begin their journey and raise over five million dollars to aid in our efforts. We saw the Child Advocates family work together to get us one step closer to our mission of breaking the cycle of child abuse. Each day they created turning points, shaped new futures and made Houston look a little different by changing the lives of children right here in our community.

This year, we will continue to see even more lives changed. With the help of her advocate, Lily will find a permanent, loving home that will help her grow to be a thriving young woman, and thousands of other children will do the same. I am certain I will look back on 2016 and, without a doubt, be amazed at the work that was done.

With gratitude for the work we do and for the support from all of you who make it possible,

*Sonya Galvan*

Sonya Galvan  
Chief Executive Officer



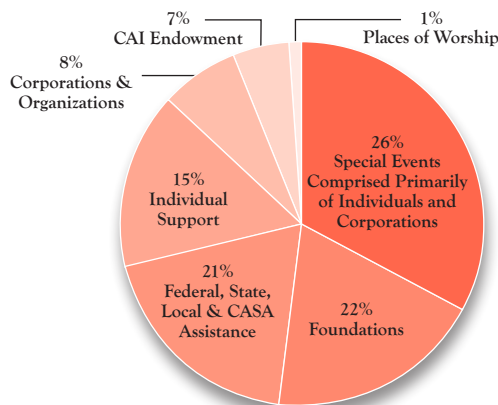
**221** new court appointed advocate  
volunteers were trained in 2015.



**80¢** of every dollar Child Advocates raises goes directly to serving abused and neglect children.

Over **\$5 Million** raised

More than 70% of our annual budget comes from donations made by individuals, companies, organizations and foundations. Child Advocates is not a United Way agency and we rely heavily on private giving from the community.



#### 2015 REVENUE, GAINS AND PUBLIC SUPPORT \*

Contributions	\$ 2,457,743
Financial Assistance	\$ 1,008,436
Memberships	\$ 40,689
Special Events (net of \$261,907 in event expenses)	
Houston Children's Festival	\$ 212,532
Pull for Kids Classic	\$ 574,706
Angels of Hope Luncheon	\$ 247,533
Other Events	\$ 223,272
Other	\$ 6,912
<b>Total Revenue, Gains &amp; Public Support</b>	<b>\$ 4,771,823</b>

#### EXPENSES\*

Community Services	\$ 2,914,465
Professional Education and Training	\$ 673,176
Management and General	\$ 448,304
Fundraising	\$ 457,412
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 4,493,357</b>
<b>Net Surplus / (Deficit)</b>	<b>\$ 278,466</b>
<b>Ending Net Assets</b>	<b>\$ 2,332,397</b>

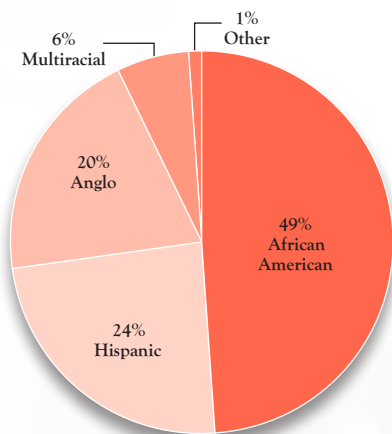
\* Revenue and expenses do not include in-kind contributions and expenses: Christmas gifts - \$159,375, donated furniture - \$37,438, advertising - \$50,000 and volunteer services \$1,233,668. All data as of December 31, 2015 unaudited financial statements.



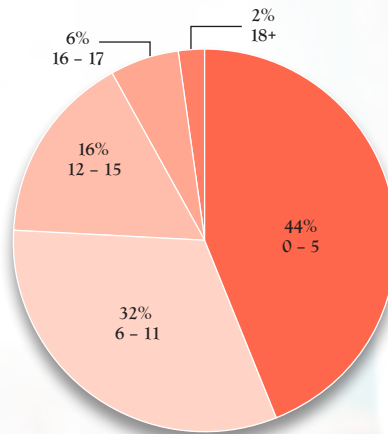
People who have six or more harmful childhood experiences, such as abuse and neglect, have a reduced life expectancy of **two decades** shorter than those who had none. #



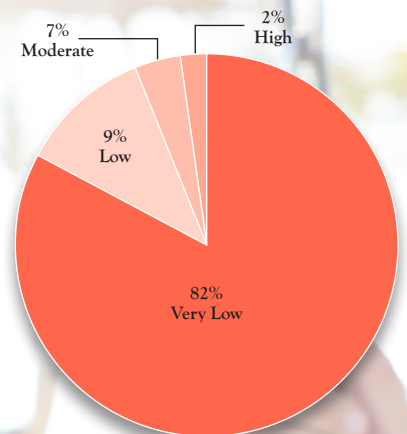
**2,148** children's lives impacted in 2015; **22,800** children have been served by Child Advocates since 1984.



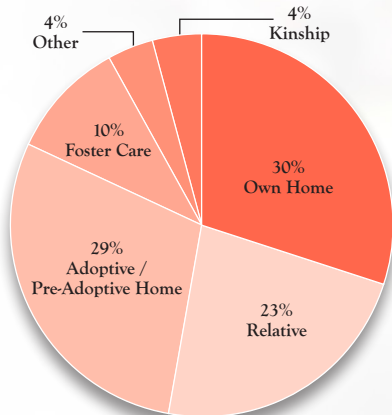
CHILDREN BY ETHNICITY



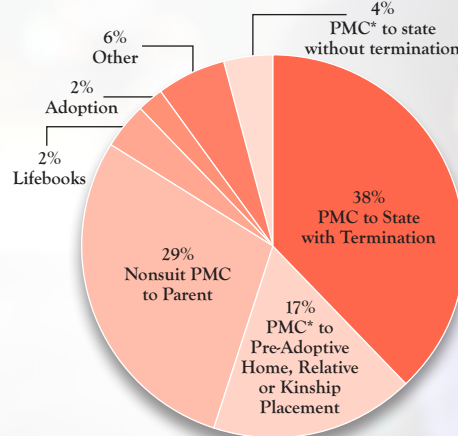
CHILDREN BY AGE



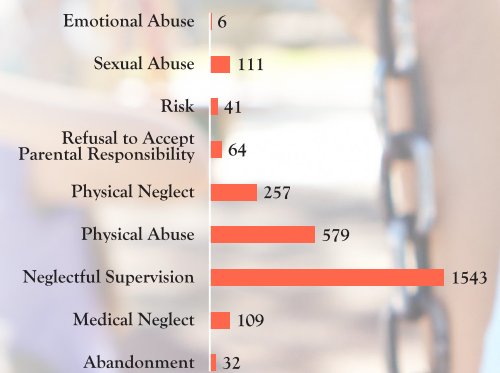
CHILDREN BY INCOME



PLACEMENT OF CHILDREN AT CLOSE OF CASE

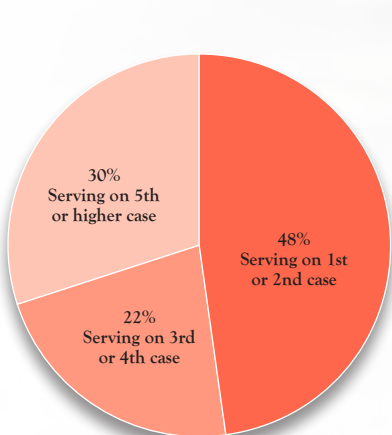


OUTCOME OF CLOSED CASES

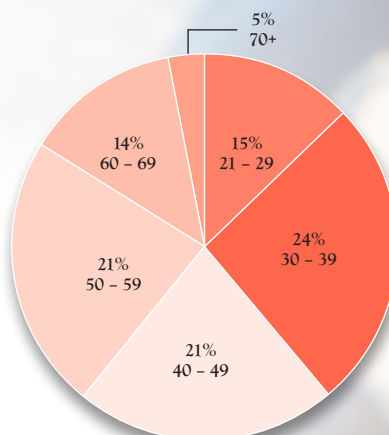


TYPES OF ABUSE\*

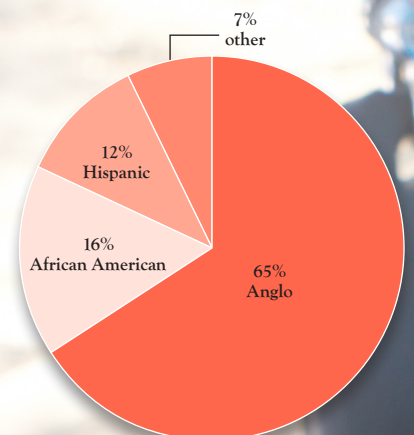
**711** advocates gave a total **53,475** hours last year.



VOLUNTEERS BY TENURE




VOLUNTEERS BY AGE



VOLUNTEERS BY ETHNICITY



A close-up photograph of a young boy with short brown hair, smiling broadly. He is wearing a light blue polo shirt and is sitting on a swing, with his hand resting on the chain. The background is a bright, out-of-focus outdoor setting, likely a park.

**3.1 Million** children were reported as abused or neglected in the U.S.\*

A report of child abuse is made every **10** seconds.\*\*

**\$125 Billion** is the direct and indirect cost of child abuse annually in the U.S.\*\*\*

**6,360** children were victims of abuse or neglect in Harris County in 2015.\*\*

Child Advocates has become one of the most effective programs of its kind, offering support and guidance at a pivotal point in a child's life.

Around **80%** of child maltreatment fatalities involve at least one parent as perpetrator.+++

Approximately **5** children die every day in the U.S. due to abuse and neglect, about **71%** of these fatalities are children under the age of three.++



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Child Advocates, Inc. mobilizes court appointed 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.

## childadvocates®

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[www.childadvocates.org](http://www.childadvocates.org)

CHILD ADVOCATES, INC. IS A MEMBER OF THE TEXAS COURT APPOINTED SPECIAL ADVOCATE ASSOCIATION AND THE NATIONAL COURT APPOINTED SPECIAL ADVOCATE ASSOCIATION.

**PHOTO CREDITS** Inside right page, top to bottom: Walking the balancing plank at a children's event; Darnell, a child we helped, throwing out the first pitch at Child Advocates' Astros Day; 2015 Superhero Run participant. Inside left page, top to bottom: Children playing at a children's event; All smiles at the Houston Children's Festival; 2015 Pull for Kids Classic honorees, the Heeg Family, with Brendon, a child helped by Mark Heeg. Back page: Learning about fire fighting at the children's When I Grow Up Event; Face painting at the Houston Children's Festival.

\* source: [www.nationalchildrensalliance.org](http://www.nationalchildrensalliance.org)

\*\* source: Texas Department of Family and Protective Services, 2015 Data Book.

\*\*\* source: [www.childhelp.org](http://www.childhelp.org)

+ This statistic reflects multiple types of abuse that are often reported in one case.

++ U.S. Dept. of Health & Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Child Maltreatment 2014.

+++ [www.kidscount.org](http://www.kidscount.org)

# Brown, D. et. al. Adverse Childhood Experiences and the Risk of Premature Mortality; Am. J. of Preventative Medicine (2009) Vol. 37, Iss. 5