Prokids



2018 Report to the Community

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Our Vision

A safe, permanent and nurturing home for every child.

Our Mission

What: ProKids mobilizes our community to break the vicious cycle of child abuse and neglect.

How: ProKids helps our community to discover the power of investing in the promise of our children. We recruit, train and support community volunteers to speak up for children who have been abused and neglected and help guide them into safe environments where they can thrive. ProKids creates alliances within the child protection system to maximize outcomes for our children.

Why: To create a new cycle of growing up safe and secure, fundamentally changing the future for our children and our entire community.

Our Volunteers

At ProKids, Court Appointed Special Advocates – known as CASA Volunteers – look out for the best interests of individual children in the child protection system. CASA Volunteers work with ProKids CASA Managers/Guardians ad Litem (GALs) and ProKids staff attorneys in and out of Hamilton County Juvenile Court to make sure children are safe and secure. By working with others in the community, such as county case workers, therapists and teachers, CASA Volunteers make ProKids outcomes possible.

Bob McMahon

ProKids Board President



I cannot imagine a child *not* having a home and a family. It's the most basic building block of our society. Without the security of home, a child faces obstacles and disadvantages that will last their whole life.

That's why I, like so many others, am a part of ProKids. We bring the vision of a safe, permanent, nurturing home to children's lives.

You'll see our accomplishments and those who made it happen, here and at www.prokids.org/2018.

In 2018, we advocated for 887 children, thanks to 267 dedicated volunteers who are trained and supported as Court Appointed Special Advocates or CASA Volunteers. This was possible because of volunteers, donors and staff who understand the power of this advocacy.

Thank you for envisioning a community that can be different. Thank you for being a part of ProKids.

Tracy CookProKids Executive Director

A child needs you.

A child who has been abused and neglected. An infant born with heroin in their system. A teen trying to find food for their siblings. A 9-year-old carrying the terrible secret of sexual abuse and a 16-year-old, having been labeled as a "problem," moving between foster homes.



All of them have experienced trauma. And it is not a single agency or a system that cares for our children. It is a committed community.

Since ProKids began in 1981, people like you have shown us what is possible. And we continue to work toward a day when every child has the advocacy they need, breaking the vicious cycle of abuse and neglect and creating a new cycle of growing up safe and confident.

Thank you for being there for a child who needs you.

In 2018, ProKids Advocacy Teams, including 267 trained CASA Volunteers, with staff CASA Managers and Attorneys, advocated for 887 Greater Cincinnati children.



Children in foster care are **30%** more likely to be abused than other children.

99% of ProKids' children were free from abuse and neglect.



On average, 17 – 18 year olds in foster care read at a **7th grade** level. **99%** of our children received appropriate educational placement or achieved developmental milestones.



The average foster child changes homes **two times** a year.

88% of ProKids' children experience stability during their case.



More than **half** of foster children are separated from a sibling.

78% of ProKids' children were placed with their brothers and sisters.



70% of foster children are diagnosed with a mental health issue and60% have a chronic physical illness.

97% of our children have access to the interventions and services they need.



Up to **half** of youth who age out of foster care have unstable housing.

94% of ProKids youth aging out of foster care have a place to live.

Why ProKids?



Scott's advocacy helped two sisters get settled pretty quickly with a relative, but their brother had more complex needs. He can be violent and suffers from PTSD after years of abuse from his mother's boyfriend in a home filled with chaos. Scott won't give up on the boy with the big smile.

www.prokids.org/2018-chaos



Carmen advocated for K.J. when she seemed alone in the world. The teen had a medical condition that took away her abilities and led her to life in a nursing home. Even when K.J. died at only 19, Carmen didn't stop advocating, making sure K.J. was remembered with a service and a eulogy. www.prokids.org/2018-remember



Adrianne is an attorney and thought she knew what a CASA Volunteer did. But since she joined ProKids, she's learned a lot. "We learn things that no one else can take the time to learn," she says.

www.prokids.org/2018-learn



CASA Volunteer David thought there wasn't much hope for Micah; his father had left him at a hospital with a note that said he didn't want the 8-year-old anymore. But thanks to David's advocacy and some research, an aunt was located who couldn't wait for Micah to make a home with her. www.prokids.org/2018-hope



As a CASA Volunteer, Marla has been advocating for Jack through a number of placements, including inpatient psychiatric care. All the little boy wants is a forever home. Marla sees him regularly to reassure him of her commitment in a world where it must seem like everyone leaves.

www.prokids.org/2018-forever

Why ProKids?

Visit www.prokids.org/2018 to learn more about our kids, volunteers and supporters.

Chip, a ProKids board member, shares his family's own difficult story and says the uncertainty of a foster child's life, not knowing where they will go next or what might happen, is worse than what he's experienced because they need the presence and love of family.



www.prokids.org/2018-love

Leslie began volunteering at the ProKids front desk. But she saw the numbers of children coming into the child protection system and felt she had to step up. As a CASA Volunteer, she appreciates the support of the advocacy team every step of the way.



www.prokids.org/2018-advocacy

Amy has been a part of ProKids nearly since the beginning. She's been a Friends of Children Society Member and a board member. She then became a CASA Volunteer, appreciating the power of the role even when quietly watching "Cars" with a hospitalized child. www.prokids.org/2018-power

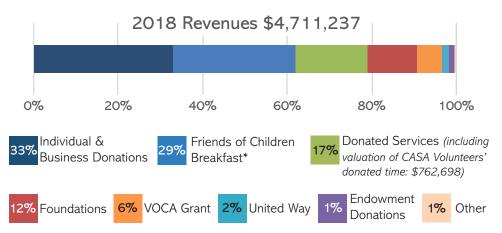


Janet says as a CASA Volunteer she sees how children can suffer trauma. "None of us have a say in who we are born to," she says. Sometimes, this trauma can mean they push others away with their behavior. But CASA Volunteers don't give up.

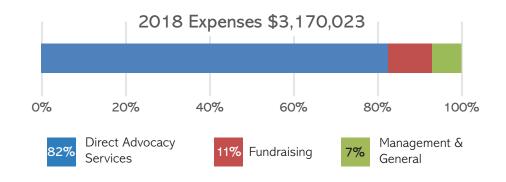


www.prokids.org/2018-stability

Audited Financials



*Includes future promises to give. For a list of our 2018 Friends of Children Society Members, visit www.prokids.org/2018.



Change in Net Assets \$1,540,889 (includes Loss on Investments of \$404,614) End of Year Net Assets \$7,848,867



Who will speak for our children? Make it you. Make a difference.

There are many ways you can be an active part of ProKids.

Make a difference not only for abused and neglected children,
but for our entire community.

Learn. Attend a one-hour, in-person Snapshot information session, regularly presented at ProKids. Make a reservation at www.prokids.org/Snapshot.

Serve. You can become a CASA Volunteer by starting with a Snapshot. Then you can begin our flexible and supportive training which prepares you to work directly with the children ProKids serves. Find out more at www.prokids.org or by contacting Stephanie at (513) 487-4961 or skuzma@prokids.org.

Contribute. Your financial support enables ProKids staff and volunteers to speak up for abused and neglected children in Hamilton County. Donate online anytime at www.prokids.org. While you're there, find out about helping ProKids through Amazon Smile or Kroger Community Rewards.

Create. By making a gift to an endowment or by including ProKids in your estate planning, you create a legacy for the future well-being of our community. For more information on these options, please contact Jennifer at (513) 487-6445 or jmckettrick@prokids.org.

Join. You can be part of the ProKids Young Professionals and help raise awareness of child abuse and neglect and support ProKids. Find out more at www.prokids.org/pkyp or by contacting Stephanie at (513) 487-4961 or skuzma@prokids.org.

Share. Subscribe to our monthly eNews by visiting www.prokids.org. Be a part of our social media outreach and help us build awareness throughout our community.



Looking for another way to help? Need more information? Visit www.prokids.org and click "Contact Us" or call us at (513) 281-2000.



