THE INVISIBLE BOY

Lynna and Julian Means had worked several cases for CASA but never one like the case they called ‘the invisible boy.’ This young man, Greg, had lived on the streets for 13 years without being noticed. Besides being on the autism spectrum, he had never gone to school, was completely non-verbal and had no concept of hygiene.

Lynna used her insight developed over the years as a teacher to relate to Greg and was able to get him into a school that worked hard to help him grow and develop. Having been a CASA since 2010, Lynna knew the child welfare system well, and with that knowledge, she was prepared for what kind of fierce advocacy it would take for this child to thrive.

Nobody had ever seemed to notice Greg until he began shoplifting to feed himself. Police were called one day as he was clearing the shelves at a 7-Eleven. He had eaten 3 potato chips that morning and did not know where his next meal was coming from or where he would sleep that night. Thanks to Lynna and Julian’s work for 2 years as Greg’s Advocates, this young man began attending school and soon learned enough to do kindergarten-level work.

Greg moved into a developmental center and learned to get along with the other children there. He went from speaking no words at all to greeting everyone he met with, ‘Hello, Sweetheart!’ Thanks to the love and perseverance of his CASA volunteers, Lynna and Julian Means, Greg is invisible no more.
OUR CHILDREN
534 of our community’s children were served by a trained, caring Advocate

56% boys
44% girls
50% ages 0-5
21% tweens & teens

Types of abuse* suffered?
74% victims of neglect
19% victims of physical abuse
7% victims of sexual abuse

*Most cases involve more than 1 type of abuse.

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44% girls
50% ages 0-5
21% tweens & teens

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How long in foster care?
15% - less than 12 months
34% - 12-18 months
25% - 18-24 months
26% - 25 months or more

How did they find a safe, stable home?
36% of children returned to their home
35% adopted by relative or new family
4% aged out of the system
24% of cases closed through dismissal or nonsuit

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OUR VOLUNTEERS
247 community folks served on at least one case
50 new volunteers joined the CASA family

What did they do?
They gave 22,555 hours of service (that's 42 hours for EVERY child)
They did 1,600 hours of in-service training
They drove 254,075 miles (farther than the moon!)

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Who are they?
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38% were 60 and over
41% were employed full time
24% were retirees
84% were female

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SERVING OUR COMMUNITY
Our children and our volunteers come from all over Denton County

Children came from
Argyle • Aubrey • Carrollton • Dallas • Denton
Flower Mound • Frisco • Justin • Krum • Lake Dallas
Lewisville • Little Elm • Pilot Point • Ponder • Prosper
Roanoke • Sanger • The Colony

Advocates came from
Argyle • Aubrey • Bartonville • Benbrook • Carrollton
Coppell • Dallas • Decatur • Denton • Double Oak
Fairview • Flower Mound • Fort Worth • Frisco
Hickory Creek • Highland Village • Irving • Justin
Krum • Lake Dallas • Lantana • Lewisville • Little Elm
Northlake • Oak Point • Pilot Point • Ponder • Prosper
Providence Village • Roanoke • Sanger • Savannah
Shady Shores • Southlake • The Colony

COMMUNITY IMPACT
Where Our Funding Comes From

Federal and State Grants
Fundraising
Contributions
United Ways
Corporations, Foundations, Organizations
Denton County & Local Governments

How We Use Our Resources

Program Services
Fundraising
General and Administrative

“We work as a team on each CASA case and so far, have been assigned to cases involving young children who can’t speak for themselves. We feel that the fresh eyes and open minds we bring to each situation give us a tremendous voice for the child.”

Vicki & John Graham
CASA Advocates since 2017

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