



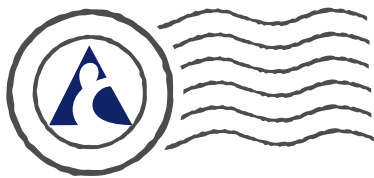
our Mission in Action

Highlights of our Accomplishments in 2007

The mission of Foster Care Alumni of America is to connect the alumni community and to transform policy and practice, ensuring opportunity for people in and from foster care.

- In 2007, FCAA established chapters in 3 states—Arizona, Florida, and Ohio. In early 2008, we added Texas! Our chapters have quickly become influential in their states, providing alumni expertise as trainers, as members of child welfare committees, and as leaders in improving foster care practice and policy. Through our chapters, members are joining together as extended families for one another and using our expertise to improve the lives of those who come after us in foster care.
- FCAA hosted our first national advocacy event, Thanksgiving dinner at the United States Capitol. We went to the home of our 'parents'—the government—to bring attention to our more than 500,000 younger brothers and sisters who spent the holiday in foster care this year, still waiting for a forever family.
- FCAA engaged our members across the country in opportunities to volunteer with organizations serving youth in care, build public awareness about foster care by talking with the media, work with organizations to influence the activities of child welfare professionals, and get involved in state and federal child welfare policy by contacting members of congress to advocate for specific bills.
- FCAA launched our Alumni Leadership Institute and began training our members in public speaking, writing and influencing public policy. Members of our Alumni Leadership Institute have presented workshops, keynote addresses, and media interviews around the United States, for local, state and national audiences.
- FCAA's national community art project, Exploring the Culture of Foster Care, now has received more than 1500 postcards from people in and from foster care.

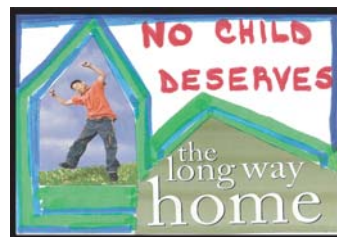
Our postcards have been a powerful tool in recruiting and training foster parents, influencing social work and public policy, and building our alumni community by sharing our experiences, insights, and dreams. Our poster has been sent to the child welfare directors in every state and has been featured at many state and national events.



Exploring the Culture of Foster Care

a Community Art Project

See more postcards at www.FosterCareAlumni.org



FCAA's Thanksgiving Dinner on the steps of the United States Capitol Building
photo: Gedyon Kifle



FCAA Members speaking with the press on the steps of the United States Capitol Building
photo: Gedyon Kifle

In Appreciation...

of our Members

National Nonprofit Members

American Youth Policy Forum
Annie E. Casey Foundation
Casey Family Programs
Casey Family Services
Jim Casey Youth Opportunities Initiative
National Resource Center for Youth Services
National Youth Advocate Program
National Youth in Care Network
Orphan Foundation of America
The Pew Charitable Trust

Local Nonprofit Members

Adoptions Together
Advocates for Children - CASA
AZ Department of Economic Security
Berea Children's Home & Family Services
Cambridge Family and Children's Service
Casey Family Programs - AZ Field Office
Children and Family Research Center, School of Social Work, U of IL at Urbana Champaign
Florida Coalition for Children
Florida's Children First
Footsteps to the Future, Inc.
Friends of Clayton County CASA
Guardian ad Litem Program
IN Department of Child Services
Kern Bridges Youth Homes, Inc.
Kids Matter, Inc.
Lutheran Family Services of VA
Mockingbird Society
Montgomery Co. Jobs/Family Services - Div. of Children Services
People Places, Inc.
Phillips Programs
Public Children Services Association of Ohio
Student Assistance Foundation
Turtle Nest Village
YMCA of Greater Seattle, Young Adult Services
YMCA of Greater Seattle, Young Adult Services
Youth Communication/NY Center, Inc.

Corporate Members

Belmont, Inc.
Child Welfare Insurance Services
Clarke & Sampson, Inc.
For A Song, Inc. d/b/a The Birchmere
Mullen

FCAA members are the heart and soul of our organization. By joining FCAA, our members have shown their commitment to our mission and work of connecting foster care alumni, and transforming foster care policy and practice. We extend our sincerest thanks to our more than 1,000 individual members, as well as these organizational members, who are now part of our growing and vibrant movement of foster care alumni.

Individual Member Spotlight: Kevin Brown

Kevin Brown, a 23 year old alumnus and recent graduate of Clark Atlanta University, found FCAA in 2007. He heard that the It's My Life conference was being held in his town and he wanted to help. FCAA participated in planning, leading workshops, and hosting the youth and alumni hospitality suite. Kevin shared his talents and energy as a volunteer, and left with a new extended family network of alumni.

"We embraced each other like brothers and sisters from the start. It is an automatic icebreaker to share that common background of foster care," said Kevin.

Kevin participated in Alumni Leadership Institute training and congressional visits, and was one of 25 alumni who shared Thanksgiving dinner at the US Capitol. "It was amazing to be together," Kevin says, "There were alumni from different places and of all ages, and everybody was okay—we were not the stereotypes about foster care."

As a younger alumnus, Kevin joined FCAA through our waiver program and said, "Thank you to those members who contribute to the waiver program. You made it possible for me to be able to join and to find all of these people and opportunities."



Local Nonprofit Member Spotlight: Turtle Nest Village

After ten years as a social worker, Elizabeth "Liz" Brown was well aware that homelessness and despair were often the unintended consequence of emancipating foster care youth at age 18. When she founded Turtle Nest Village, she made a commitment to provide foster care youth with the resources and training they need to live and thrive on their own.

Turtle Nest Village joined FCAA in December 2007 because the organization was also committed to repairing the system. Says Liz "As important as it is to deliver direct services, I think it is also important to be an advocate for change at the local, state, and federal levels. The more hands we have joined together, the stronger we can be." Through their membership in FCAA, Liz and her colleagues stay engaged in FCAA's work to transform state and federal policy and practice. Her organization also encourages all its young clients to join FCAA and connect with the larger foster care alumni community.

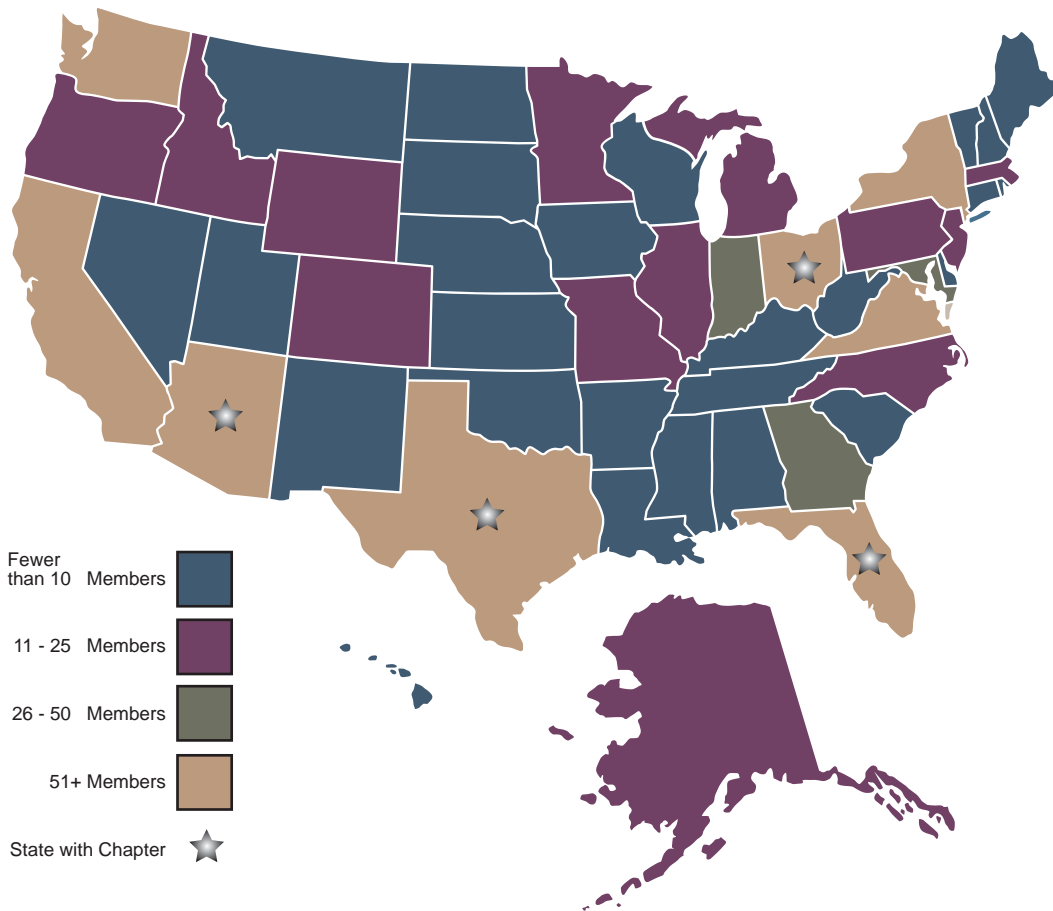
Looking to the future, Liz identifies the larger, national network of FCAA as a particularly valuable asset of her membership. "It will be great to have direct lines of communication with other members, and share service models or advocacy strategies that are working."

We couldn't agree more.

Turtle Nest Village was created to fill the space between childhood and adulthood with a safe place former foster kids can call home. For more information, contact www.turtlenv.org.



National Membership



Chapter Highlights

We established 3 chapters in 2007, and added Texas in early 2008. One day there will be a chapter of FCAA in every state! Chapters of FCAA are working to Connect Today...Transform Tomorrow in ways that make sense in their own communities. Members from all of our chapters have been part of our Alumni Leadership Institute, including public speaking and writing training, advocacy skills-building, and media training.

Arizona Chapter

Our Arizona Chapter has been contracted as experts for child welfare conferences around the state. The AZ State Supreme Court worked with the chapter to train new dependency court judges, and our chapter also was featured at the annual Children Need Homes conference. The chapter has also focused on building the community through service and recreational activities.

Ohio Chapter

The Ohio Chapter of FCAA has distinguished itself as a leader in child welfare. The chapter has presented at statewide conferences, has served on the planning and facilitation teams for the state Independent Living conference for young people, and have been active in advocacy efforts by sharing insights, concerns and recommendations with state and federal legislators.

The chapter is building an extended-family network for alumni where every member has a permanent place to belong.

Florida Chapter

The Florida Chapter presented the "Making a Difference Award" to a Lake County detective who made it his personal mission to find a missing little girl from foster care in the state. They have also worked with the statewide advisory group of foster youth, FL Youth SHINE to educate and influence the state legislature.

Corporate Member Spotlight: Belmont, Inc.

President and founder of Belmont, Inc., Dennis Belmont, has a personal interest in FCAA as an alumnus of the strife-ridden Los Angeles County foster care system. Overcoming his challenging background, Dennis continuously sought ways to facilitate the success of organizations serving youth in high-risk situations. So when FCAA and Dennis met through the Alexandria (VA) Chamber of Commerce in 2007, it was the beginning of a personal and professional relationship that we expect to last a long time.

Belmont Inc. analyzes builds and manages brands that generate a social impact. FCAA approached Belmont in January seeking help on a redesign of the FCAA web look and feel. Belmont responded generously, not only offering to help, but also by donating its Belmonster web content management system as an in-kind contribution, saving FCAA valuable resources.

We are grateful to alumni like Dennis, whose commitment to FCAA as both a corporate member, and a generous donor, are helping us build a dynamic movement of foster care alumni.

For more information about Belmont Inc. visit www.belmontinc.com.



In Appreciation...

of our Donors

We also rely on the individuals and organizations that have made an investment in building the capacity of FCAA with a contribution to the organization. We are grateful for their generosity and hope all our 2007 donors will share our pride in the impact our community is having for the foster care alumni family, and for the more than 500,000 youth currently in care.

Founding Member

Casey Family Programs

Champion Circle

(Gifts of \$1,000 or more)

Annie E. Casey Foundation
Deborah Elvins
Ruth W. Massinga
Sharon McDaniel-Lowe
Natalie McGee
Nathan Monell and Shepherd Faught
The Pew Charitable Trusts
Cynthia and Gregory Scheiderer
Washington Workplace – John
Murphy
Harvey J. Winter

Advocate Circle

(Gifts of \$250 - \$999)

Marilyn B. Benoit
Paul Beriault
The Birchmere d/b/a For A Song, Inc.
Renee Kaplan
Mullen
Rhonda Nichols
Stephen W. Rideout
Misty Stenslie



Over 400 members volunteered their time to FCAA last year. Thank you.

Supporter Circle

(Gifts up to \$249)

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Marvena Twigg
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Latrice Ware

Saul Wasserman
Susan A. Weiss
Herbert K. Williams
Fran Young

These gifts do not include membership dues paid by our members.

If we have omitted or incorrectly listed your name, we apologize. Kindly notify us promptly at asheldon@fostercarealumni.org so we can make corrections. This list includes all donations through December 31, 2007.

Audited Financial Statement...

FOSTER CARE ALUMNI OF AMERICA AUDITED STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES AND CHANGE IN NET ASSETS FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2007 WITH SUMMARIZED FINANCIAL INFORMATION FOR 2006

	2007 Total	2006 Total
REVENUE		
Contributions	\$ 12,408	\$ 8,670
Foundation grants	690,000	600,000
Interest/dividend income	927	88
Loss on disposal	(3,912)	-
Other revenue	<u>16,096</u>	<u>1,981</u>
Total revenue	<u>715,519</u>	<u>610,739</u>
EXPENSES		
Membership	315,510	357,638
Governance	127,510	118,719
Public Policy	62,394	-
Supporting services	<u>157,065</u>	<u>140,118</u>
Total expenses	<u>662,427</u>	<u>616,475</u>
Changes in net assets	53,092	(5,736)
Net assets at beginning of year	<u>(5,174)</u>	<u>562</u>
NET ASSETS AT END OF YEAR	<u>\$ 47,918</u>	<u>\$ (5,174)</u>



Foster Care Alumni of America: Board of Directors

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FCAA and Casey Family Programs:

Partners Together

The history of Foster Care Alumni of America is closely tied to the history of the national alumni movement. Both were inspired by the vision and generous support of Casey Family Programs.

In 1999, Casey Family Programs began extensive interviews with over 1800 alumni of the foster care system from across the country for the National Alumni Studies. As researchers talked with alumni, they heard over and over "I want to do something to improve foster care. How can I get involved?" Recognizing that alumni brought passion, insight, and expertise that could only be gained by living in foster care, Casey Family Programs created an Alumni Relations department in 2000.



casey family programs

fostering families. fostering change.

During its first two years, the Alumni Relations department made connections with alumni from all over the country. The department found that alumni were active in work on behalf of people in and from foster care in various ways: foster parents, kinship caregivers and adoptive parents; social workers, researchers, legal professionals and advocates. Alumni were participating in foster care program development, legislative advocacy, training for care providers and professionals and speaking publicly about their experiences.

With generous support from Casey, alumni began to meet one another and work together. From our first meetings, we found incredible strength in each other - a feeling of belonging and kinship that so many of us had grown up without ever knowing. We discovered that we share a culture - the culture of foster care - that gives us an understanding of each other across the ages, across geography, across ethnicities. Our shared culture and experiences form the basis for a community of alumni with a common voice.

Casey Family Programs listened to our voices and responded to our needs. In 2004 Casey made a significant investment in the alumni movement by supporting the creation of FCAA. Since that time, Casey has continued to invest in our mission, helping us to build FCAA as a constant source of support, information, inspiration, and action. We are grateful for their vision, for their willingness to listen and respond, and for knowing that in the end, we are all in this together.

Casey Family Programs, whose mission is to provide, improve – and ultimately prevent the need for - foster care, is proud to be the Founding Member of Foster Care Alumni of America. For more information visit www.casey.org.



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