



# CASA & El Dorado County: A Private/Public Partnership



John Adams, Child Advocates of El Dorado County



# Public-Private Partnership of Success

- Child Advocates of El Dorado County (CASA)
  - 22 year history of success & measurable results
  - Recruit, screen, train and support 150 Advocates; serve 300+ kids
  - CASA Advocates = Better Outcomes
    - 50% less recidivism
    - 50% less likely to experience long-term foster care
    - Reduced number of foster placements
    - Better in school performance & conduct
  - 98% do NOT re-experience abuse or neglect





## Public-Private Partnership Success

- Local recidivism study done in 2014
- CASA rate of 6% mirrors national cited studies
  - **Half as many kids reenter foster care**
- Program perspective
  - Based on 350 kids served = \$1.3M savings
  - \$700,000 volunteer services value
  - \$2M per year savings on these 2 factors
  - *Entire CASA program cost \$550K*





# 2014/15 Contract = 50 Children

## Who are they?

- Newborn to 21 years old
- 75% < 10 years old
- 70% Western Slope
- 30% Tahoe Basin
- 76% Caucasian
- 14% Hispanic
- 3% Black
- 2% Native American
- 2% Asian
- 3% Other



## Circumstances

- 88% Suffered Neglect
- 7% Physical Abuse
- 1% Sexual Abuse
- 80% Drugs core family issue
- 20% Second or third time detained by the court
- 50% Multiple placements
- 25-30% Placed outside county
- 70% Mental health issue
- One or both parents incarcerated



# Why CASA?



- We alone can serve these children...
  - Mandate: Federal, State W&I Code & Local Rule of Law
  - 400+ counties across the US
- Alignment of values: Safe & permanent home for 50 additional kids
  - Goals of County: Improved efficiency through CBO partnership
  - \$210,000 Return on investment through reduced recidivism
- Long term prevention & cost avoidance:
  - Keep kids out of jail & institutions: 70% of CA prison population!
  - 1/3 of these kids will commit abuse and neglect with their own kids
  - 80% meet diagnostic criteria for significant mental health issues



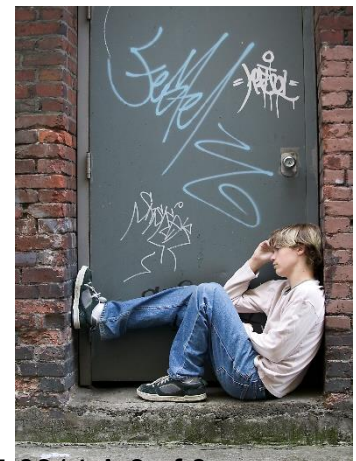
## ***H&HS: Needs Our Partnership Increased!***

- El Dorado County

- Out of synch with positive state Child Welfare trends
  - 10 Year **new entry** trend: California (**10%**) ED County 0%
- Once we get them in the system, we are below state averages when it comes to:
  - Keeping them in **stable placements**
  - Placing them **close to their homes**
  - **Minimizing** the number that are placed in **Group Homes**
  - **Maximize** the number in **Kinship Care**

- ★ New County Initiatives: CASA partnership

- CSEC Task Force & Dual Status Youth





# A Story of One





# Over 116 Children Currently On the Wait List Thank You For Your Continued Support!

