

# Children's Aid Society of Mercer County

350 West Market Street  
Mercer, PA 16137  
724-662-4730  
[www.casmercerc.org](http://www.casmercerc.org)

Children's Aid Society of Mercer County (CAS) is a private, non-profit, 501 (c) (3) multi-service agency whose programs are designed to change the lifestyles of children and families for the better.



Never underestimate your ability to make someone else's life better- even if you never know it.

## Annual Report – 2018

## Mission Statement

Children's Aid Society is dedicated to support and strengthen children, families and communities by providing multiple, creative and collaborative services.

## Vision Statement

Children's Aid Society is a promoter of family permanency and self-sustainability.

## Director's Message

While maintaining its commitment to providing quality services to children and families in 2018, Children's Aid Society (CAS) experienced a year of preparation and change. After 32 years of leading and guiding CAS, the executive director ended 2018 with her retirement. Staff prepared for new leadership and a shift in some program supervision. CAS administration and staff remained dedicated to the agency mission and focused on the quality of service delivery that this community expects.

CAS recognized the growing needs of children and families and, in an effort to meet those needs, new staff was hired, existing staff hours were increased and programs were re-evaluated and updated to meet the demand. We continue to rely on community support to help us meet the needs of the children and families with whom we work. I look forward to maintaining valuable relationships with existing stakeholders and establishing and nurturing new connections with members of the community.

I am excited to be a part of an agency that has endured, progressed and provided crucial services to the community, without interruption, for 130 years! With the help of experienced and passionate staff and a committed Board of Directors, CAS looks forward to continuing to provide services to children and families through our diverse and quality programming.

*Deborah Judy*  
Executive Director

Through contracts, agreements and partnerships with several agencies and organizations the Staff of CAS provided services to 3,336 individuals in 2018.

Adoption & Permanency - 552

Birth Parent Counseling, Adoptive HomeStudies,  
Independent Adoptions, SWAN Services,  
Search & Reunion Services

Adoption & Teen Groups - 348

Teen Group-second Thursday of each month,  
Family Groups-fourth Thursday and one Saturday  
each month.

Christmas Family Referral Program – 942

Gifts and food for families in need at Christmas

Creating Foundations - 44

Mentoring for transition age youth

Jumpstart Day Care - 195

Child Care for ages 6 weeks to 12 yrs.  
6:30 AM to 6:00 PM, M-F

Family Focus - 108

Family-based, in-home Mental Health Services

Family Life Education - 927

Anger Management, Life Skills, Parenting,  
Injection Drug Use prevention and intervention.

Foster Care - 7

Foster Care to Adoption Services

SCORE - 213

## Funding Sources

CAS receives funding for its programs from various sources including but not limited to the following:

- Grove City Area United Way
- Budd Trust
- Donations
- Fundraisers
- Grants
- Karl Smith Trust
- Keystone Stars
- Landis Trust
- Mercer County Behavioral Health Commission
- PA County Contracts
- United Way of Mercer County
- Value Behavioral Health of PA
- 80% of CAS funding was from county contracts and programs funded by Medicaid



**Revenue in 2018:** \$3,283,198

The Board of Directors and Staff would like to thank all of the donors who have generously given to our programs through the year. All monetary donations and donations of food, clothing, toys, books, etc. throughout the year have made it possible for our programs to provide extra services to the children and families with whom we work. The yearly outpouring of gifts and donations during the Christmas holidays enabled CAS to provide a very happy holiday for children in the community. So many wonderful organizations, companies, churches and individuals have made it possible for our programs to meet the needs of our consumers and “give a little extra” when needed.

Please see our website or Facebook Page for the list of donors who made Christmas possible for so many children and families in our community.

## **Board of Directors in 2018:**

Mr. John Campbell  
Atty. Brenda McBride

Mr. Hugh Ringer  
Atty. Joseph Gula

Mrs. Becky May  
Atty. Michael Muha

Mrs. Edith Myers  
Mr. David Reimold

Mr. James Sankey  
Mr. Norm Swiger

Mrs. Patricia Wilson  
Mr. Dennis Ziccardi

Ms. Diana Neel – Budd Trust Representative

President  
First Vice President  
Second Vice President

**“The achievements of an organization are the results of the combined effort of each individual.”**

- Vince Lombardi



## CAS is a Member/Affiliate of:

- Keystone Stars
- Mercer Chamber of Commerce
- The North American Council on Adoptable Children (NACAC)
- StateWide Adoption & Permanency Network (SWAN)
- The Human Services Council of Mercer County
- The Pennsylvania Council of Children Youth and Family Services (PCCYFS)
- The Pennsylvania Department of Human Services
- Value Behavioral Health of PA/Beacon Health
- United Way of Mercer County
- Grove City Area United Way
- PA Association of Non-Profit Organizations (PANO)
- Society for Human Resource Management (SHRM)
- PA Childcare Association (PACCA)

## CAS is licensed by:

The PA Department of Human Services, Offices of:

Adoption

Child Day Care

Foster Care

Mental Health and Substance Abuse

Administration of Private Children & Youth Services

**Your job is not to judge.  
Your job is not to figure out if someone deserves something.  
Your job is to lift the fallen, to restore the broken,  
and to heal the hurting.**

## **Staff Members in 2018:**

Susan Adams	Susan Morrill
Heather Alt	Tina Norris
Karissa Armour	Holly Panazzi
Susan Bordonaro	Dottie Quillen
Sonia Bradshaw	Amber Reese
Ashley Canfield	Becky Rodondi
Leah Christy	Patti Ryder
Ashley Eck	Jessica Schuster
Kayla Emery	Conor Scullin
Nikki Greene	Terri Seidel
Michelle Hammer	Anna Shoaf
Matt Hazi	Elizabeth Smith
Deborah Judy	Vicki Styers
Ken Laaks	Justin Townsend
Claudia Leyde	Ashley Uiselt
Joe Macri	Don White

**“A workplace filled with and driven by employees with positive attitudes- vibrates continually to the tune of service excellence and passionate team success.”**

-Ty Howard

## Testimonials from Consumers:

*"This program has helped me find a wonderful family. I thank everyone."*

*"This program really helped me with a better perspective on nurturing my children."*

*"Thank you for helping me be a better Dad, son, brother and grandson."*

*"This is the best thing that has happened to our family."*

*"If it was not for your agency, I would have not found the help I needed."*

*"I'm not alone."*

*"I love prep because it helps me calm down."*

*"I had so much fun today learning new team building exercises and being able to lose without getting angry."*

*"I had a very good experience...I was able to communicate openly about my life/future without judgement and received great advice and structure."*

**One...**

**One tree can start a forest;  
One smile can begin a friendship;  
One hand can lift a soul;  
One word can frame the goal;  
One candle can wipe out darkness;  
One laugh can conquer gloom;  
One hope can raise your spirits;  
One touch can show you care;  
One life can make a difference.  
Be that one today.**