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*Newsletter of Georgia Court Appointed Special Advocates, Inc.*

**Communities offer a solid foundation to advocate for abused and neglected children.**



**Winter/Spring 2004**

**Inside This Issue**

<b>Feature:</b> Where Are We Going? How Will We Get There?	Page 3
Thanks for Fifteen Years of Support	Page 4
10th Statewide Training Conference to be Held in April	Page 5
Statewide Marketing Campaign to Kick-off	Page 7
Nonprofits Gain Expertise from Emory Consulting Project	Page 9



*Georgia Court Appointed Special Advocates, Inc. develops and supports court-sanctioned, community-based programs which provide trained and supervised volunteers to advocate for the best interest of abused and neglected children involved in juvenile court deprivation proceedings.*

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Member of the National Court Appointed  
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## From the CASA Board

I am happy to report that 2003 was a great year for the CASA organization in Georgia! During our 15th year of service in Georgia, CASA programs expanded to currently include 41 programs serving 95 counties and 39 of the 49 judicial circuits in the state. We were able to provide a CASA volunteer for even more children than in the previous year, with 7,003 children served for fiscal year 2003.

While the CASA organization in Georgia continues to expand, it is important for us to develop a long range plan for the future in order to continue our success and help ensure that every child who needs a CASA volunteer has one. As you will read in the feature article on page three, the Long Range Planning Committee of Georgia CASA is developing a plan for the years following 2005. The committee has already developed a list of questions to focus on and we look forward to sharing with you the end results.

Mark your calendars - Georgia CASA is excited to host the 10th statewide training conference, geared towards CASA volunteers, staff and board, on Saturday, April 17th in Atlanta. Page five will give you more details.

Georgia CASA, along with the local CASA programs, are hard at work launching the statewide marketing campaign. The initial campaign will include billboards, newspaper ads and radio public service announcements (PSAs). You can read more about the campaign on page seven.

I want to express thanks to all of you who have contributed to the CASA movement in Georgia during the past 15 years. Your donations and support have made the CASA organization a success! I look forward to your continued support.

I hope you sense both the challenges and excitement that we have going on at CASA these days. I am encouraged by the care and passion that is the hallmark of those involved with CASA, and am confident this year will be another good year for our organization. I look forward to reporting to you on our progress!

John P. Adams, Jr.

### ADDRESS CHANGE?

Please email your address change to [info@gacasa.org](mailto:info@gacasa.org).

## Feature

# Where Are We Going? How Will We Get There? A Report from the Long Range Planning Committee

*Lee Kintzel*

*Georgia CASA Board Member and  
Chair of Long Range Planning Committee*

**W**hat role should Georgia CASA take to ensure the quality of work done by the affiliate programs? How does Georgia CASA arrive at a balance of autonomy and accountability in regard to the affiliates? How does Georgia CASA measure its own success? These are some of the issues being considered by the Long Range Planning Committee of the Georgia CASA Board as it looks to the future.

Georgia CASA is in the fourth year of its current five-year plan, and the Long Range Planning Committee (LRPC) convened in the fall of 2003 to begin strategizing for the years following 2005. Jon Abercrombie, a consultant with Common Focus, a non-profit organization devoted to community building, is assisting the committee.

The questions the LRPC has focused on are as follows:

- ◆ How do we measure our success (Georgia CASA board and staff; local affiliates and boards)?
- ◆ What will Georgia CASA do?  
What will its responsibilities be?  
What should its limitations be?  
What can we/should we do?  
What can we/should we not do?
- ◆ What accountability exists between Georgia CASA and the affiliates?  
What can Georgia CASA be accountable to its funders for?

- ◆ How does Georgia CASA arrive at a balance of autonomy and accountability? Does Georgia CASA serve as an “enabler” that provides support for affiliates? Does Georgia CASA create a system of rewards and incentives to improve accountability and quality of work and to ensure that a CASA volunteer will be available for every eligible child? Do we have the tools and the mandate to ensure accountability?
- ◆ How do we ensure that we remain flexible and innovative?
- ◆ How do we sustain our work in the future?  
What new ways of working could keep us economically viable?  
Do we need to consolidate services?  
How do we get across the message of who we are and what we do?

Underlying these questions are the mission and vision of Georgia CASA, to develop and support community-based CASA programs, and to ensure that a CASA volunteer will be available for every child involved in deprivation proceedings who needs one.

The goal of the committee is to complete its work prior to the May Georgia CASA Board meeting and to have a plan ready to present to the Board at the meeting.

Members of the committee include Georgia CASA board members, two local program directors, and a local board member: Lee Kintzel, Chair; John Adams, Ethel Ware Carter, Richard Childers, Stacy Davy, Hon. Martha Glaze, Donna Shapiro, Dr. Charles Stafford, Connie Stephens, Duaine Hathaway, Executive Director, and Jon Abercrombie, Consultant. Also attending the meetings are Georgia CASA staff members Ann Barrett, Becky Carter, Lori Derhammer, Katherine Hunter and Jennifer King.

*Lee Kintzel has been a member of the Georgia CASA Board of Directors since 1999. She previously was a board member and board president of Travis County, Texas, CASA and practiced law in Texas, handling many cases in the area of family law. Lee is currently involved on the board of Camp Twin Lakes and the Fred M. Roddy Foundation. She has been active in the Piedmont Park Conservancy and the Morningside Lenox Park Association.*

# Thanks for Fifteen Years of Support

*Ann Barrett, Resource Development Director*

**G**eorgia CASA started with the involvement of three women - Karen Sibley, Kathryn Gannon and Nicki Vaughan - in bringing the CASA program to Georgia. On November 4, 2003 they got together again to appreciate those who have supported their initial efforts. Roya and Bahman Irvani graciously hosted an appreciation reception for Georgia CASA donors and our founding chairman, Karen Sibley. It was a very special evening for all who have been involved in advancing volunteer child advocacy through CASA.

A brief program opened with a welcome by John Adams, Board Chair, and a brief update by Duaine Hathaway, Executive Director. David Wall, 2003 Karen N. Sibley Volunteer of the Year and the Fire Chief for the City of Morrow in Clayton County, linked his profession to his volunteer work in his comments. David reminded us that our society focuses on preventing fires more easily than preventing child abuse and neglect. If a fire starts, fire prevention has failed; if a child is abused or neglected, there have been multiple failures as recent news stories have shown. The same prevention principles apply: protect children, make sure their basic needs are met and ensure a future that nurtures their potential rather than exposing them to further abuse or neglect. He reminded us that CASA volunteers are there every step of the way - giving judges the facts they need to make the decisions that affect each child's future.

From two pilots to 41 local programs, a handful of volunteers to 1,300, a few children served to 7,000 - it's been a true statewide effort. The rapid growth of CASA across the state has been made possible by the judges willing to invite CASA into their courts, by citizens willing to volunteer as CASAs and as Board members, by individuals and foundations who have helped bear the cost, and by the ongoing commitment of the Georgia Legislature. We thank all of those who have made the CASA movement in Georgia possible through their donations and support.



*Roya Irvani, Host and Karen Sibley, Founding Chairman as Georgia CASA Board members in 1992*

# First Lady Launches *Our Children Campaign* August Summit on *Our Children* Held in 8 Georgia Cities

**F**irst Lady of Georgia Mary Perdue launched a new initiative, the *Our Children Campaign*, with a statewide summit on August 27, 2003. The summit was designed to energize community resources on behalf of Georgia's abused and neglected children.



*Mary Perdue, First Lady of Georgia*

With Atlanta as the anchor site and satellite connections in seven other cities across the state, the summit focused on ways citizens can help in four key areas: prevention, courts, foster/adoptive parents and housing & services. The summit's plenary speakers included Governor and First Lady Perdue, corporate and community leaders, and former foster child Shane Salter, now Deputy Mayor of Washington, D.C. Summit participants could attend workshops about the four key areas. In addition, exhibit booths from various child welfare organizations were present at each site.

The CASA organization was represented at each location. Workshops included information about the role of a CASA volunteer in helping abused and neglected children. A CASA exhibit booth was also set up at each site with information for potential CASA volunteers.

In addition, Mrs. Perdue will include remarks about the campaign when she speaks at the informational briefing for "CASA and Foster Youth Day at the Capitol" on February 4th at the Capitol Rotunda in Atlanta.

The goal of the *Our Children Campaign* is to urge a new statewide collaboration among Georgia's many communities - individuals, corporations, nonprofit organizations, foundations and the faith-based community - to help protect our children.



# 10th Statewide Training Conference to be Held in April

Jennifer King, Program Operations Director

**O**n Saturday, April 17<sup>th</sup>, CASA volunteers, board and staff will converge in Atlanta for a statewide training and recognition event. The volunteer training conference will consist of over 15 workshops covering basic, intermediate and advanced topics relevant to the advocacy of CASA volunteers. Participants will choose from workshops such as the following: Effective CASA Advocacy; the Effects of Maltreatment on a Child's Development; Understanding DFCS Programs and Practices; ASFA Timelines and Best Court Practices; Conducting Home Visits and Home Visit Safety; Growing Up in Foster Care; CASA Success Stories; and Termination of Parental Rights.

The volunteer appreciation luncheon will recognize the efforts of over 1,200 CASA volunteers statewide who advocate on behalf of over 7,000 children in foster care. In addition, the CASA Volunteer of the Year nominees and recipient will be recognized and introduced to the state. A special keynote presentation will also take place during the luncheon session.

The conference will provide participants with an opportunity to learn from experts in the child welfare field and meet other dedicated CASA volunteers from across the state. Not only will the training provide useful and up-to-date information, but it will inspire and re-invigorate those who participate. **This is the training conference you don't want to miss!**

The conference will be held at the Loudermilk Conference Center in downtown Atlanta from 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Registration and hotel information will be available in early spring. A small refundable registration fee will be required for CASA volunteers and staff. Check with your local CASA program staff for more information.

**VOLUNTEERS...**  
the foundation of the  
CASA program!



# Tracking Volunteer Mileage and Hours

Ewansiha Simmons, Technical Support Manager

**H**ello CASA volunteers! As CASA volunteers, sometimes keeping track of so many different aspects of a case you are assigned to can be difficult. One of the often overlooked areas involves tracking your mileage and hours. I'm sure many of you may wonder, "What difference does it make if I track this information?" There are several reasons why you are asked to track your mileage and hours.

The first reason CASA volunteers are asked to track their hours and mileage is to determine the average number of hours it takes to complete a case. We cannot do this without your information. Knowing how much time it takes for CASA volunteers to complete a case makes a difference to CASA staff in how cases are assigned.

The next reason for tracking is to make sure you are not overworking yourself while on a case. We care about your well-being and do not want you to become burned out by working too many hours on CASA cases in addition to handling your job, family and other activities.

We also need your mileage and hours information to report to certain funders who may request this information. If we can quantitatively show funders how hard CASA volunteers work to help children and illustrate the value of CASA, it makes it easier to receive and maintain grants.

The last reason I will mention is for your benefit. There are certain tax advantages to keeping track of the miles you drive as a volunteer. You may be able to deduct these from your taxes in certain situations. Please check with your tax preparer or the Internal Revenue Service for more details.

It is not difficult to track your miles and hours, either. All you have to do is keep a log sheet with your other CASA files. You can staple it to the inside cover of your folder and note your miles, hours and the activity you complete right after you complete them so you do not forget to notate later. If you need a log sheet, please ask your volunteer coordinator or another CASA staff person. At the end of each month you can call in your information or email the log sheet directly to the CASA office. It's that easy!

We appreciate all of your efforts to assist the abused and neglected children of Georgia and want to make sure we note all of your hard work and accomplishments. We can only do this with your help. Thank you for everything you do to help those who may not otherwise have a voice!

# CASA Success Story

**M**any times the road to permanency for children in foster care can lead to a straight and narrow path where children are reunified with their parents or adopted. Sometimes the road can be bumpy, however, where permanency is not achieved in a timely manner. The “bumpy roads” are places where CASA volunteers really have to continue their advocacy and not give up, even though they may feel their advocacy has not made a difference in the life of the child.

Dusti Baldwin, CASA volunteer with CASA of the Augusta Judicial Circuit, experienced a “bumpy road” recently. She continued to travel the road, never giving up, and in August of 2003, the two children she had been advocating for since 1997 found permanent homes! Dusti’s perservance is an exceptional quality to have as a CASA volunteer. She was the ‘light of hope’ in what sometimes seemed to be a hopeless situation. Thank you to Dusti and all other CASA volunteers across Georgia who stay focused on the mission - to advocate for a safe, permanent home for each child, no matter how long it may take to reach permanency.

*Attention CASA programs and CASA volunteers: Do you have a CASA success story you’d like to share? Please email your story to [lderhammer@gacasa.org](mailto:lderhammer@gacasa.org).*

## STATISTICS

CASA programs in Georgia **SERVED 7,003 CHILDREN**, an increase of over 600 more children than the previous year

**1,248 CASA VOLUNTEERS** were assigned to serve the children

**1 NEW CASA PROGRAM** began in Georgia and **CASA EXPANDED TO 5 ADDITIONAL COUNTIES**

Currently, **41 CASA PROGRAMS ARE SERVING 39 OF THE 49 JUDICIAL CIRCUITS** in Georgia

FISCAL YEAR 2002 - 2003

## CASA...

trains volunteers to help abused and neglected children in the juvenile court system. A CASA volunteer assesses the child’s situation and reports to the judge what is in the best interests for the child.

Our goal is to advocate for a safe, permanent home for each child.

**A POWERFUL VOICE IN A CHILD’S LIFE.™**

# February Kick-off Set for Statewide Marketing Campaign

CASA's statewide marketing campaign will kick-off on February 4th to coincide with "CASA and Foster Youth Day at the Capitol." The initial phase of the campaign includes the roll out of full color billboards (black and white sample pictured here) in various locations of the state, newspaper ads and radio public service announcements (PSAs). The printed ads include the roll out of the new CASA logo. Georgia CASA is working with the local CASA programs to roll out the three initial components of the ad campaign. Several companies donated their services to Georgia CASA during the development of the marketing materials. U1 Design in Atlanta designed the billboards and newspaper ads and Hothouse, Inc. of Atlanta gave creative input.



Catspaw Productions in Alpharetta edited and produced the radio PSAs. Jackson Spalding, a public relations agency in Atlanta, agreed to help develop a press release about the kick-off and provide media contacts for "pitching" the release.

Another exciting component of the statewide marketing campaign will be the development of a television PSA specifically for Georgia featuring Judge Glenda Hatchett, star of the courtroom TV show *Judge Hatchett* and spokeswoman for the National CASA Association. Hothouse, Inc. will write the PSA and WAGA-Atlanta, FOX5, has agreed to produce the PSA. The PSA will be part of the second phase of the campaign, as well as the continuation of billboards, newspaper ads, radio PSAs and other initiatives to market CASA across the state.

## Redesigned Web Site Launched

Georgia CASA launched its redesigned web site on August 15, 2003. Be sure to visit the site to find a new look and content, including a calendar of state and local trainings and events, a program map to locate CASA programs, state staff and board listings, success stories from Georgia, a donation form and an Intranet section for local CASA programs.

Also **visit the site to sign up for the email update list**, which will notify you of additions to the site and other important information regarding Georgia CASA.

[www.gacasa.org](http://www.gacasa.org)

Congratulations to the web site contest winners:

Gary Adams, <i>Dahlonega</i>	<u>Program Directors:</u>
Loraine DeMaio, <i>Canton</i>	Patricia Brunson, <i>Sowega</i>
James Goforth, <i>Milledgeville</i>	Ann Eagerton, <i>DeKalb Co.</i>
Steve Hahn, <i>Dallas</i>	Ava Lipscomb, <i>Bartow Co.</i>
Jaylen Katzman, <i>Savannah</i>	Meredith Warner, <i>Douglas Co.</i>
Melissa Lang, <i>Woodstock</i>	
Judith O'Kelley, <i>Athens</i>	
Quintus Sibley, <i>Milledgeville</i>	
Susan Simonton, <i>Cartersville</i>	
Kathy Yarbrough, <i>Cartersville</i>	

# Mercer Law Interns Spend the Summer with CASA

*Ann Barrett, Resource Development Director*



*(L-R): Brooke Cottingham, Brandon Jones, Sarah Upshaw and Larry Brox*

The Children's Justice Act (CJA) has funded the internship program that provides law students to local programs and their judges for a practical experience in child advocacy. In 2003, Brandon Jones worked with the Ocmulgee CASA Program, Robert Price, the Guardian ad Litem (GAL) attorney and Judge Philip Spivey. Brandon's project looked at ways CASA and GAL attorneys can work together to give judges the information they need. Brooke Cottingham spent her summer at Fulton County CASA working with CASA cases (which are assigned with Child Advocate Attorneys) and customizing the Georgia CASA volunteer training manual with Fulton County examples. This project provides hands-on experience for law students and gives CASA programs more hands and bright minds to better serve children.

Two additional law interns from Mercer worked in this program although they were not funded by the CJA grant. Larry Brox completed an internship at the Office of the Child Advocate, with Allyson Anderson. Sarah Upshaw continued her work with the Central Georgia CASA program. She had been a CASA volunteer there during the previous school year. Sarah continues to be a dedicated volunteer.

## Georgia Author's Latest Book Includes a Personal Word About CASA

Patricia Sprinkle, author and CASA volunteer with the Cobb County CASA Program in Marietta, has included "A Personal Word" about CASA in her latest book, *Who Let That Killer in the House?* The fictional novel, which includes the issue of child abuse, was released in October 2003 and has been a best seller for Barnes & Noble, Amazon and the Independent Booksellers of America. Sprinkle hopes her readers will have a stronger commitment to make a difference for children after reading the mystery.

Sprinkle was trained as a CASA volunteer in early 2003 while she was writing the book. "A Personal Word" includes information about the CASA program and why CASA is so important to the child welfare system. Also listed is contact information for the National CASA Association, which directs interested people to local CASA programs in their communities.

For more information about Patricia Sprinkle and her books, visit [www.patriciasprinkle.com](http://www.patriciasprinkle.com).



# Nonprofits Gain Expertise and Emory Students Gain Experience

One of the recommendations from the 2002 Performance Improvement Study, completed by Applied Research Services, Inc. in Atlanta, was for CASA in Georgia to standardize data collection with clear goals and objectives in order to demonstrate the effectiveness of the CASA program.

When the Goizueta Business School at Emory University asked for nonprofit organizations to submit projects for a consulting class, Georgia CASA jumped at the chance to have a team of consultants focus on demonstrating the difference a CASA volunteer makes in a child's life. We asked that the consultants identify appropriate outcomes; define a process for standardized data collection; and recommend a plan for implementation of outcome measurements.

We were very fortunate to be one of three nonprofit organizations chosen as class projects. Jordan Hornstein led the 438 Consultants - Nader Filsoof, Kristen Parcell, Benamina Sheena and John Wasilewski. The class was taught by Atlanta consultants Alf Nucifora and Toby Bloomberg, who gave their expertise and enthusiastic leadership to the teams. Alf Nucifora worked to match the needs of our organization with the student team's expertise.

438 Consulting did extensive research, including communicating with all CASA offices in Georgia, three other state offices and National CASA, as well as the San Francisco Foundation. Afterward, they recommended that all programs in Georgia utilize the CASA Outcome Measurement Effectiveness Tool (COMET), the database program developed for National CASA. Although some programs in Georgia use the database extensively, others do not use it at all. They identified the obstacles to universal use, benchmarked how others use COMET and set up a standard protocol for collecting and processing data.

The obstacles were identified as training, communication and direction, conveying the importance of COMET and technology restrictions. 438 Consultants recommended extensive training including traditional hands-on classroom training, an open forum for discussing COMET issues and a mentoring program. The team wrote a condensed manual for frequently asked questions and trouble shooting and also provided a COMET Guide to Standardized Fields and suggested that offices that met the criteria for standardized data collection should be recognized and rewarded. To address technology restrictions, they suggested partnering with local technical colleges and networking the computers in every office.

Finally, the consultants suggested four areas that could be unique to CASA: lower re-abuse rates; shorter time in the child protection system; whether or not the placement is permanent; and how much money CASA saves taxpayers.

In January, the CASA Effectiveness Committee, a group of CASA staff from across the state, convened to begin the process of identifying the fields for COMET use in Georgia so that every program can demonstrate the difference a CASA volunteer can make in a child's life. The work of 438 Consulting has moved this project forward. Having such a talented and committed group of students sharing their time and expertise has energized us to implement their recommendations. We greatly appreciate the contributions of the students and professors from the Goizueta Business School.

*"The process and results of the Goizueta Business School consulting project far exceeded my expectations. Their work gives us a focused objective as we continually strive to improve CASA effectiveness."*

*--Duaine Hathaway, Georgia CASA Executive Director*

*"The 438 Consulting team was extremely professional and demonstrated a great understanding of Georgia CASA's operations. This allowed the team to assess our strengths and weaknesses accordingly and suggest appropriate solutions helping us better serve children more effectively."*

*--Ewansiha Simmons, Georgia CASA Technical Support Manager*

# 41st CASA Program Begins

## *Newest CASA Program is Mountain Circuit CASA*

**M**ountain Circuit CASA, located in Demorest in the Northeast Georgia mountains, is the newest CASA program to begin in Georgia. The program, part of the umbrella organization FAITH (Fight Abuse in the Home) in Clayton, began in November 2003, and serves Habersham, Rabun and Stephens counties.

Kristin Johnson is the Program Director. She previously worked with Prevent Child Abuse Habersham as coordinator of First Steps, a child abuse prevention program. She has also worked in the public school system as a one-on-one tutor with remedial readers both on elementary and high school levels.

Kristin stated that she is "very excited about this program. The CASA program is so needed in this area, where many people have already heard about CASA. In addition, there is great community support in place for the program."

Mountain Circuit CASA began training 15 potential CASA volunteers at the end of January and plans for its first swearing-in ceremony to take place in March.



## Program Highlights

**Lori Muggridge**, Executive Director of **Ocmulgee CASA, Inc.**, has been appointed to the newly formed child welfare advisory committee of the state Division of Family and Children Services (DFCS). The 21 members of the committee were invited to serve based on their expertise and experience in child welfare and social service issues. The committee also includes representatives from the legal and judicial systems.

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**Virginia Wood**, CASA volunteer with the **Cobb County CASA Program**, was honored as one of 12 TBS SuperStation Pathfinders. Virginia received the award in the Family and Children area. As a Pathfinder, she was profiled on a primetime TV special and will appear in CASA public service announcements.

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**Children's Voice: Douglas County CASA, Inc.**, has partnered with Jittery Java, the local coffee shop in Douglasville, on a fundraiser. The shop has a CASA bookshelf with books donated by supporters of CASA. Each book sells for a flat rate of \$3, with all proceeds going to the CASA program.

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At the Child Placement Conference held in Atlanta in November 2003, **Enotah CASA Volunteer Diana Smith** won the Volunteer of the Year Award and **Judge Michelle Vaughan, Juvenile Court Judge with the Enotah Circuit**, won the Public Service Award. Both recipients were recognized for their outstanding commitments and contributions to children and families in the foster care and juvenile justice systems.

# Resources

## BOOKS

### Getting Together

Icebreakers and Group Energizers

By Lorraine L. Ukens

### Out of the Darkness

The Story of Mary Ellen Wilson

By Eric A. Shelman and Stephen Lazoritz, M.D.

### Say What You Mean and Mean

#### What You Say

7 Simple Strategies to Help Our Children Along the Path to Purpose and Possibility

By Judge Glenda Hatchett

Books are available for check-out from Georgia CASA's resource library.

## WEB SITES

[www2.state.ga.us/Courts/supreme/cpp/](http://www2.state.ga.us/Courts/supreme/cpp/)

Site of the Supreme Court of Georgia Child Placement Project; includes information on assessments of deprived children in Georgia's court system and implementation plans for improvement

[www.acf.dhhs.gov/programs/cb/](http://www.acf.dhhs.gov/programs/cb/)

Home of the Children's Bureau, a federal agency that seeks to provide for the safety, permanency and well-being of children, this site provides information about Bureau programs, federal laws and major data collection efforts

[www.afpag.org](http://www.afpag.org)

Site of the Adoptive and Foster Parent Association of Georgia

[www.childtrendsdatabank.org](http://www.childtrendsdatabank.org)

Provides the latest trends on over 80 indicators of child and youth well-being, with frequent updates; plain language summaries are provided for the indicators and cover health, social/emotional development, income/work, education, demographics and family/community

[www.georgiavoices.org](http://www.georgiavoices.org)

Site of Voices for Children, an organization created in 2003 by advocates, volunteers and funders to elevate public awareness, public information and public advocacy for children and families in Georgia; goal is to insure that every child is safe, healthy and nurtured by their families and the community

If you know of a valuable book, video or website for child advocates, please email the information to [lderhammer@gacasa.org](mailto:lderhammer@gacasa.org)

## Can you help CASA advocate for children?

I'd like to volunteer

I'd like to make a donation to Georgia CASA or my local program: \_\_\_\_\_

\$250   \$100   \$50   \$25   Other amount \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Anonymous

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

This gift is in honor or memory of \_\_\_\_\_

Please notify \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Make check payable to Georgia CASA and mail to: 1776 Peachtree Road, Suite 219 South, Atlanta, GA 30309

# ● Calendar of Events ●

## THURSDAY, APRIL 1, 2004

"CASA Day in Georgia" occurs in conjunction with "Light of Hope Day" set by the National CASA Association. CASA programs throughout the state will hold local events to increase community awareness about the problem of child abuse and neglect and the 'light of hope' CASA offers abused and neglected children.

The National CASA Association hosts a "Light of Hope" event at Bryant Park in New York City.

## SATURDAY, APRIL 17, 2004

The 10th Statewide Training Conference, hosted by Georgia CASA, takes place from 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. at the Loudermilk Conference Center in downtown Atlanta for CASA volunteers, staff and board members. In addition to workshops and networking opportunities, a volunteer appreciation luncheon will be part of the day. For more information, see p. 5.

## SATURDAY, JUNE 5 - TUESDAY, JUNE 8, 2004

"Stand Up! Speak Out!" takes place in Washington, DC, at the Omni Shoreham Hotel as the 23rd annual conference of the National CASA Association. Visit [www.casanet.org/conference](http://www.casanet.org/conference) for additional information and/or to register.

## THURSDAY, JUNE 10, 2004

The annual Celebration of Excellence takes place at The Fox Theatre in Atlanta at 6 p.m. The Celebration honors the achievements of Georgia's foster care youth who are graduating from high school, college or vocational programs. Visit [www.celebrationofexcellence.org](http://www.celebrationofexcellence.org) for more information.

## APRIL 2004

National Child Abuse Prevention & Awareness Month

## APRIL 18 - 24, 2004

National Volunteer Week  
[www.pointsoflight.org](http://www.pointsoflight.org)

## MAY 2004

National Foster Care Month

## SATURDAY, JULY 10 - WEDNESDAY, JULY 14, 2004

The 20th Annual Symposium of Prevent Child Abuse Georgia, with APSAC Advanced Training Institutes, takes place at the Crowne Plaza Ravinia in Atlanta. Visit [www.preventchildabusega.org](http://www.preventchildabusega.org) for more information.



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