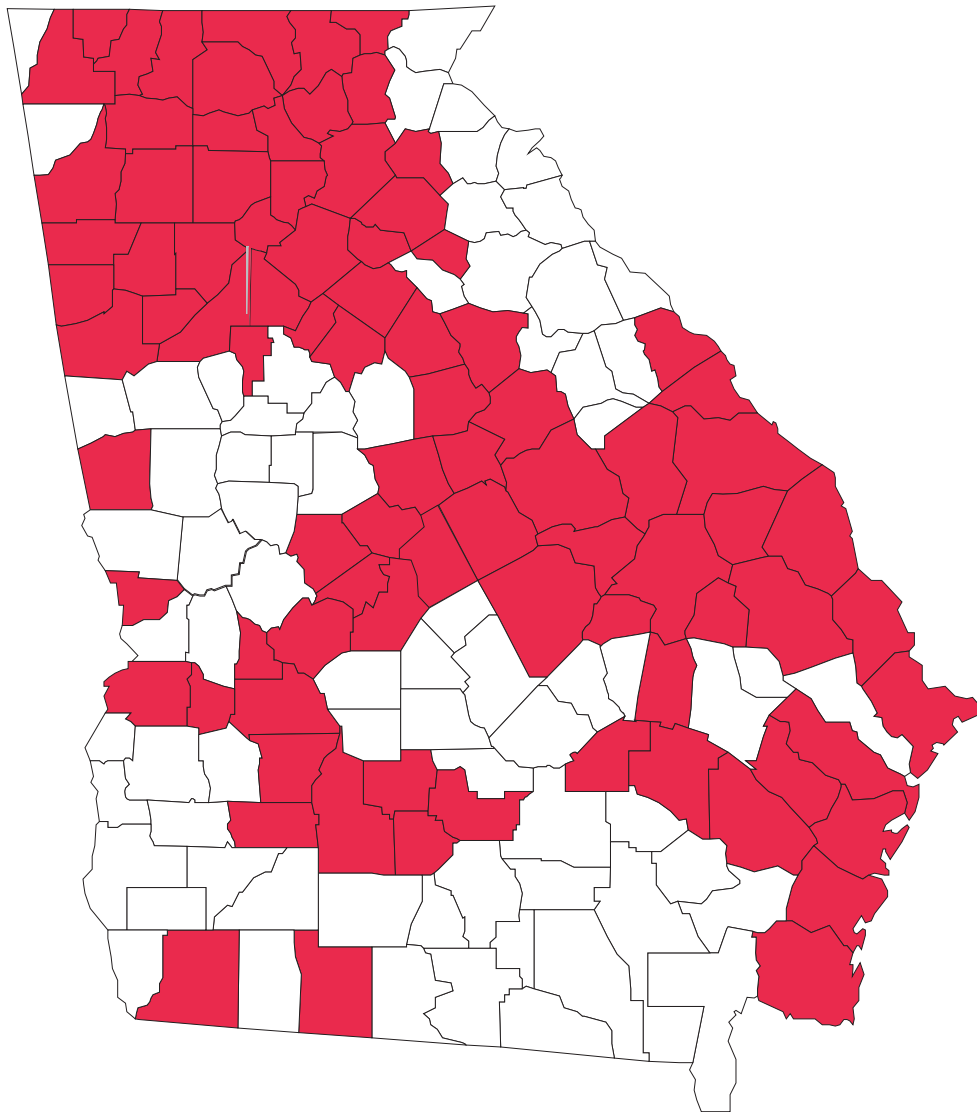


Georgia Court Appointed Special Advocates, Inc.

Annual Report 2002-2003

Celebrating 15 Years



A POWERFUL VOICE IN A CHILD'S LIFE.™

Fifteen Years of 1988 - 2003

CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocate) volunteers are everyday people, from all walks of life, who share a common goal - to help ensure abused and neglected children have a safe, permanent home as quickly as possible. A CASA volunteer, appointed by a juvenile court judge, gathers information about the child's situation, attends court proceedings and makes an independent recommendation to the judge to help the court make a sound decision about the child's future.

The vision of Georgia CASA is to have a CASA volunteer available for every child involved in deprivation proceedings in Georgia by June 30, 2005.

1988

Kids of Georgia Need Volunteers, Inc. (KGNV) formed to establish volunteer Guardian ad Litem program in Georgia

Start-up grants from the Atlanta Junior League, Georgia Bar Foundation & the National CASA Association

1989

First CASA volunteers in Georgia sworn in, making Georgia the 46th state with an active CASA program

Georgia General Assembly passed joint Senate House Resolution recognizing Georgia CASA

1990

Georgia General Assembly appropriated funds for statewide expansion of CASA under public/private partnership

Kappa Alpha Theta Alumnae in greater Atlanta area selected CASA as one of their philanthropic beneficiaries

1992

KGNV converted its independent, nonprofit status to Georgia CASA, Inc.

CASA programs transitioned to local governance & became affiliates of Georgia CASA

1993

First Georgia CASA conference held with keynote address by Hon. Charles D. Gill, Connecticut Superior Court Judge & founder of the National Task Force for Children's Constitutional Rights

Council of Programs launched to help Georgia CASA respond to programs' needs & to encourage quality & two-way communication

1996

Georgia CASA implemented annual site visits to programs to verify compliance with standards and guidelines

Programs' statistical reports refined to better measure effectiveness of CASA



Kathryn Gannon, Founder



Karen Sibley, Founder



Nicki Vaughan, Founder

Celebrating **15** Years

CASA in Georgia

1988 - 2003

1998

First "CASA at the Capitol Day" held

Georgia General Assembly included court appointed special advocates in the law to be assigned alone or with an attorney to advocate for the best interests of children in juvenile court deprivation proceedings

Kappa Alpha Theta Alumnae in greater Atlanta area held first playhouse fundraiser; held 4 consecutive years and raised over \$80,000 for CASA

1999

Georgia became fourth state in nation to establish a statewide CASA/DFCS (Division of Family and Children Services) protocol

Mrs. Marie Barnes, Georgia's First Lady, became Honorary Chairperson of Georgia CASA

2002

CASA performance improvement study conducted by Applied Research Services, Inc.; results used to strengthen programs, better serve children, prepare for program expansion & collect necessary data to measure success of CASA

2003

CASA in Georgia celebrates its 15th anniversary

15-Year Milestones

- 16,397 children have been served by CASA programs in Georgia (since fiscal year 1992, when recording began)
- 3,724 CASA volunteers have been a part of the CASA program in Georgia (since fiscal year 1993, when recording began)
- CASA programs are currently present in 78% of the judicial circuits in Georgia
- 54% of Georgia's counties are currently served by a CASA program
- Georgia has the 5th highest number of CASA programs among the 50 states and the Virgin Islands



Kappa Alpha Theta Alumnae



1998 "CASA at the Capitol Day"



Mrs. Marie Barnes as Honorary Chair

Celebrating **15** Years

To Our Supporters

Dear Supporters,

Thank you for what you have helped us accomplish during the past 15 years! As we celebrate the 15th anniversary of Georgia CASA, it is amazing to realize that CASA began in Georgia in 1988 with only one program. The three founders – Karen Sibley, Nicki Vaughan and Kathryn Gannon – were instrumental in providing guidance and inspiration to start an organization that now has 40 programs providing CASA volunteers to serve abused and neglected children throughout Georgia.

How did all of this happen? Credit must be given to those who have served on the Board of Directors and provided great leadership. High honors must be given to the donors and supporters of Georgia CASA, without whom none of this could have been achieved. High marks must also be given to former and current Georgia CASA staff members who carry out the day-to-day operations of the organization.

The backbone of the CASA program is the work of the local programs that recruit and train our volunteers. Those who have served as CASA volunteers are the true heroes of our organization. Without them, the CASA organization could not exist. During the past year, several CASA programs in Georgia expanded to serve additional counties and a new CASA program began, helping to increase CASA volunteer capacity. For fiscal year 2002-3, 1,248 CASA volunteers served 7,003 children. CASA programs were present in 38 of Georgia's 49 judicial circuits and in 86 of 159 counties. Since the inception of CASA in Georgia, 3,724 CASA volunteers have served 16,397 children.



For the future, many exciting initiatives have been included as part of Georgia CASA's work plan. Our mission remains focused. We will continue expanding the CASA program throughout the state until all counties in Georgia are served by CASA. Several counties, especially in

rural areas, have been targeted as CASA expansion counties during the next year. Look for the CASA program to keep expanding.

We will continue to improve our various training sessions to meet the needs of CASA volunteers, staff and boards from across the state. Fundraising training/assistance is one area in particular that is underway now. In the immediate future, Georgia CASA will rollout a statewide marketing campaign to increase the name recognition of CASA, leading to more CASA volunteers, charitable donations and an interest in having a CASA program to serve each community in Georgia.

A high priority of Georgia CASA is to create a standardized data collection system and a database for outcome evaluation. Once completed, Georgia CASA and the local programs will have substantive results to illustrate the effectiveness of the CASA program. We believe this information is essential for effective state and local fundraising. In conjunction, a national quality assurance process will be launched for the local CASA programs. The process includes a self-assessment, along with an outside assessment and review, to measure a CASA program's operations in relation to set standards.

In closing, we thank all of you who have been a "champion" for CASA during the past 15 years. With your continued support, CASA volunteers will serve as "champions" for abused and neglected children in Georgia for 15 more years and beyond. Thank you for helping these children find safe, permanent homes where they can thrive.

Sincerely,

Richard Childers
Chair, Board of Directors

Duaine Hathaway
Executive Director

(Pictured above (l-r) are Duaine Hathaway and Richard Childers)

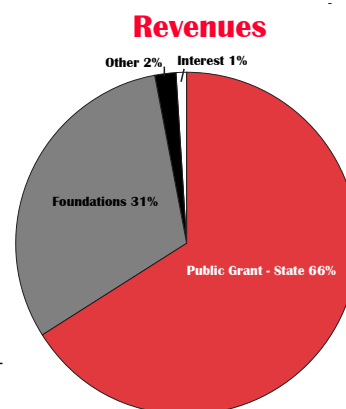
Celebrating **15** Years

Statement of Financial Position

June 30, 2003 and 2002

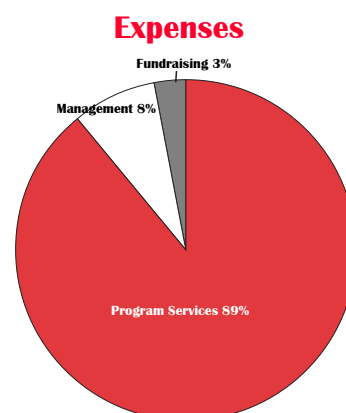
ASSETS

	<u>2003</u>	<u>2002</u>
Current Assets		
Cash	\$1,342,345	\$1,651,673
Grants receivable	50,000	50,000
Receivables from government agencies	273,750	271,750
Unconditional promises to give	<u>517,010</u>	<u>112,920</u>
Total current assets	<u>2,183,105</u>	<u>2,086,343</u>
Furniture and equipment		
Office equipment	63,060	70,489
Less: accumulated depreciation	<u>(49,886)</u>	<u>(49,621)</u>
Net furniture and equipment	<u>13,174</u>	<u>20,868</u>
Other Assets		
Long-term unconditional promises to give	245,000	1,500
Deposit	<u>1,717</u>	<u>1,717</u>
Total other assets	<u>246,717</u>	<u>3,217</u>
Total assets	<u>\$2,442,996</u>	<u>\$2,110,428</u>



LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS

Current liabilities		
Accounts payable	\$13,797	\$294,214
Accrued expenses	16,401	17,062
Deferred revenue	<u>0</u>	<u>45,000</u>
Total current liabilities	<u>30,198</u>	<u>356,276</u>
Net assets		
Unrestricted	1,595,788	1,621,417
Temporarily restricted	<u>817,010</u>	<u>132,735</u>
Total net assets	<u>2,412,798</u>	<u>1,754,152</u>
Total liabilities and net assets	<u>\$2,442,996</u>	<u>\$2,110,428</u>



Celebrating **15** Years

2002-2003 Highlights

*Georgia CASA's three strategic initiatives are to **Increase Volunteer Capacity**, **Support CASA Programs** and **Promote the Integrity of CASA**. Highlights from the year include activities that support each initiative.*

Increase Volunteer Capacity

April: National Child Abuse Prevention & Awareness Month/"CASA Day in Georgia"

CASA programs all over the state celebrated the 'hope' CASA gives to abused and neglected children by holding various community events, CASA volunteer recognition/swearing-in ceremonies and fundraisers to increase the awareness of CASA and its mission. Many of these activities were held on April 3rd, officially proclaimed by Governor Sonny Perdue as "**CASA Day in Georgia.**" In addition, a public service announcement aired on Atlanta's FOX5 (WAGA-TV) throughout the month.



CASA programs in Georgia had **1,248 CASA volunteers** who served **7,003 children**. CASA programs were present in **38 of 49 judicial circuits** and **86 of Georgia's 159 counties**.

Amy Mulkey, Miss Georgia 2002, supported the mission of CASA throughout the state during 2003 until her reign ended in June. She attended several events at CASA programs and spoke on behalf of CASA.



A new CASA program, **CASA of the Ogeechee Judicial Circuit, Inc.**, was started to serve Bulloch, Effingham, Jenkins and Screven counties and the following CASA programs expanded:
Atlantic Area CASA, Inc. to Long and McIntosh counties
Sowega CASA, Inc. to Lee and Webster counties
Ocmulgee CASA, Inc. to Morgan County

Support CASA Programs

Regional program director meetings were held in 6 regions across the state for CASA program directors.

Celebrating **15** Years

2002-2003 Highlights

David Wall received the 2002 Karen N. Sibley Volunteer of the Year Award. A CASA volunteer with Clayton County CASA in Jonesboro, David was chosen from 22 CASA volunteers throughout Georgia for his outstanding skills in representing the best interests of 11 abused and neglected children. David received his award in October at the Child Placement Conference.

Pictured at right are Presiding Judge Karlton Van Banke (Clayton Circuit), David Wall and Justice P. Harris Hines (Supreme Court of Georgia)



Training sessions included the following:

Managing Training - held 3 times for new CASA staff

Taught new staff the CASA volunteer training curriculum

COMET (CASA Outcomes, Management & Evaluation Tool) - held 4 times for CASA staff

Taught staff how to use the COMET software

Council of Programs - held 2 times for directors of affiliate CASA programs

Training on issues and concerns affecting CASA programs and the children served; opportunity to network and share best practices

Promote the Integrity of CASA



“**CASA at the Capitol Day**” was held on February 12th as part of “United Against Child Abuse Week.” CASA volunteers, Board members and staff from around the state heard Judge Peggy Walker (Juvenile Court of Douglas County) as keynote speaker. Melinda Gregg, a youth from the Youth Leadership Council (YLC) also spoke. (The YLC includes current and former foster youth ages 14-22 whose mission is to develop an effective voice for children in state care.) Participants met with legislators to talk about the issues facing abused and neglected children and advocated for the support of **Senate Bill 236**, which improves procedures and placement opportunities for foster children moving through court and gives foster parents the right to appear and testify in court.

Pictured at left are Rep. Edward “Mickey” Stephens, Rep. Tom Bordeaux and Sen. Regina Thomas with constituents from Savannah/Chatbam Co. CASA; Judge Peggy Walker; and Sen. Jack Hill with constituents from CASA of the Ogeechee Judicial Circuit

CASA was represented on the **Child Placement Project (CPP) Implementation Committee**. (Created by the Supreme Court of Georgia, the CPP assesses and evaluates court proceedings involving deprived children as they move through Georgia’s superior and juvenile courts.)

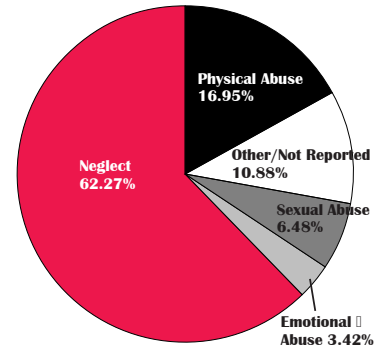
CASA was represented on both **local and state committees of the Model Courts Project (MCP)**. (The MCP assists juvenile courts in developing model practices in deprivation cases in keeping with guidelines developed by the Georgia and National Council of Family and Juvenile Court Judges.)

Celebrating **15** Years

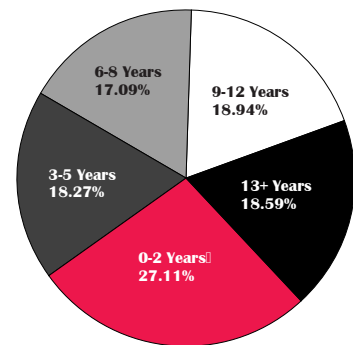
Report of Children Served by CASA

CASA Program	Children Served	New Children	Closed Children	Active Children*	CASAs**
Alcovy	111	41	61	50	20
Appalachian	185	112	87	97	21
Athens-Clarke	126	65	22	100	40
Atlantic	88	54	37	68	16
Augusta	302	151	103	193	47
Bartow	89	36	38	51	17
Camden	60	23	25	35	17
Carrroll	89	47	39	50	21
CASA for Children	335	127	123	218	93
Central Georgia	167	89	38	127	43
Chattahoochee	272	75	39	132	16
Children's Voice^^	68	25	10	-	-
Clayton	193	64	84	109	50
Coastal Plain	135	60	33	101	26
Cobb	207	92	46	167	89
DeKalb	252	101	60	128	76
Dougherty	31	31	4	28	9
Enotah	263	91	75	202	32
Floyd	60	30	14	46	13
Four Points	157	90	83	74	11
Fulton	416	73	189	105	45
Glynn	224	86	105	119	41
Gordon	37	25	25	12	5
Gwinnett	53	47	2	59	22
Hall-Dawson	483	164	184	283	105
Houston	132	42	74	58	23
Laurens	202	90	92	110	25
Middle	45	25	28	15	4
Murray/Whitfield	114	49	87	43	25
Ocmulgee	167	86	24	127	29
Ogeechee^	16	16	6	10	4
Piedmont	59	23	30	24	8
Rockdale	325	105	74	152	55
Savannah/Chatham	700	261	299	401	78
Sowega	13	10	2	14	7
SW Georgia	77	14	11	62	12
Tallapoosa	432	139	60	280	56
Thomas	121	41	42	75	15
Tri-County	55	9	9	-	-
Troup	142	94	20	122	32
Totals	7,003	2,803	2,384	4,047	1,248

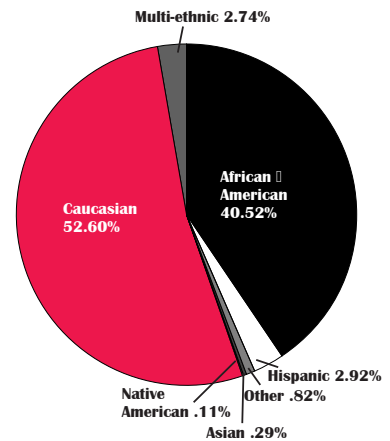
Type of Deprivation of Children



Ages of Children



Ethnic Background of Children



^Program only operational for a partial year

^^4th quarter information not reported

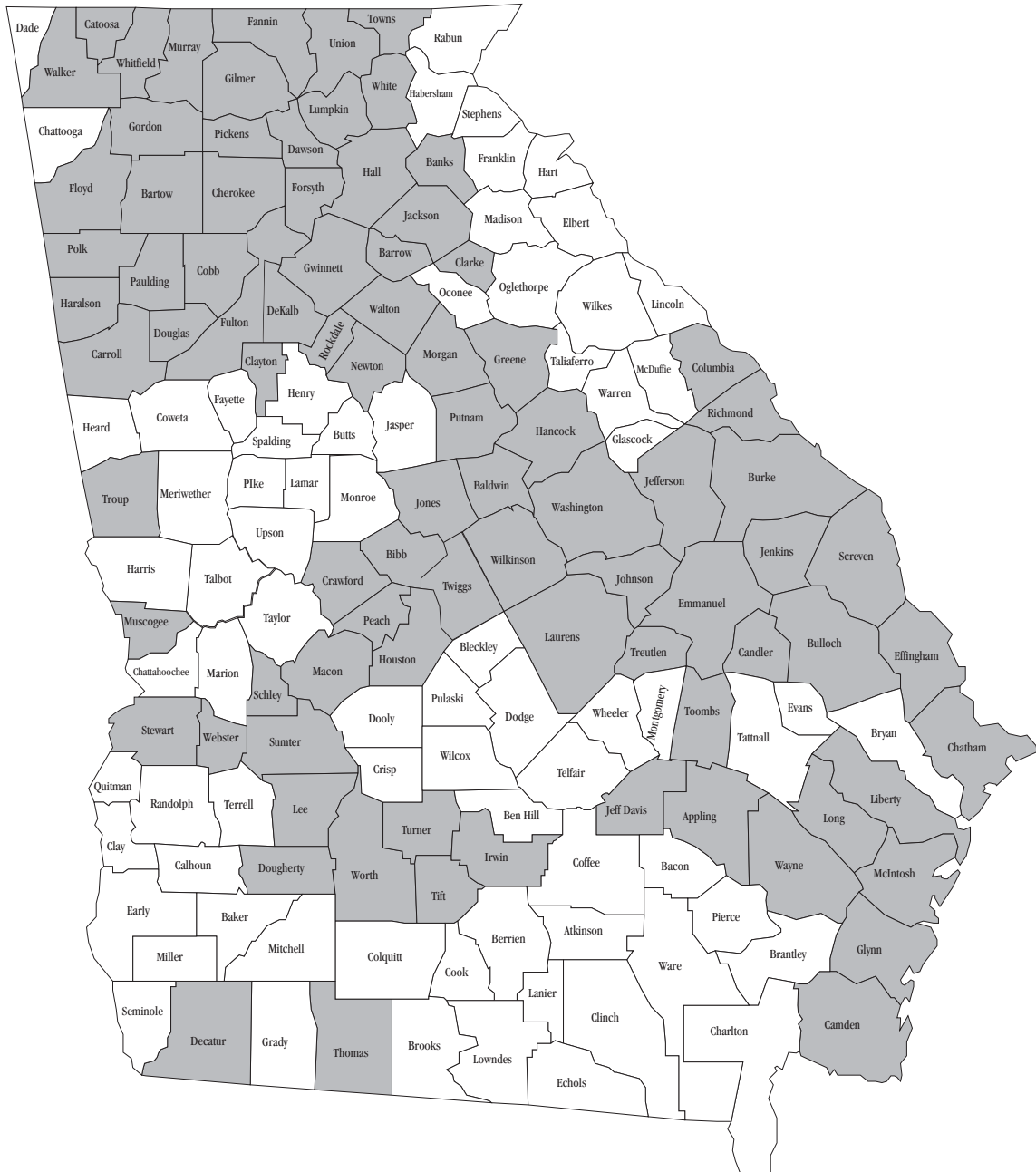
*As of 6/30/2003

** Only includes CASA volunteers assigned to cases (previous years included all CASA volunteers, assigned and otherwise)

Celebrating **15** Years

Map of Affiliates

CASA programs serve shaded counties as of June 30, 2003



Celebrating **15** Years

Directory of Affiliates

Alcovy CASA Program • Estb. FY90

Choices for Children, Inc.
Serving Newton & Walton Counties
Elizabeth McClure, Executive Director

Athens-Clarke CASA Program, Inc. • Estb. FY91

Serving Clarke County
Adria Wilson, Executive Director

Atlantic Area CASA, Inc. • Estb. FY99

Serving Liberty, Long & McIntosh Counties
Irene McCall, Executive Director

Bartow County CASA • Estb. FY01

Advocates for Bartow's Children, Inc.
Serving Bartow County
Ava Lipscomb, Program Director

Camden County CASA Program, Inc. • Estb. FY97

Serving Camden County
Marty Klumpp, Program Director

Carroll County CASA, Inc. • Estb. FY99

Serving Carroll County
Amanda Camp, Program Coordinator

CASA of the Appalachian Judicial Circuit • Estb. FY93

Appalachian Juvenile Court
Serving Fannin, Gilmer & Pickens Counties
Dianne Scoggins, Director

CASA of the Augusta Judicial Circuit • Estb. FY94

Child Enrichment, Inc.
Serving Burke, Columbia & Richmond Counties
Kenya Beard, Program Director

CASA for Children, Inc. • Estb. FY93

Serving Cherokee & Forsyth Counties
Pam Collins, Executive Director

CASA Glynn, Inc. • Estb. FY94

Serving Glynn County
Lara Martin, Executive Director

CASA of Houston County, Inc. • Estb. FY92

Serving Houston County
Terry DiDiego, Interim Director

CASA of the Ogeechee Judicial Circuit, Inc. • Estb. FY03

Serving Bulloch, Effingham, Jenkins & Screven Counties
Jodi Chase-Shaner, Executive Director

CASA of Southwest Georgia, Inc. • Estb. FY98

Serving Decatur County
Dan Provence, Interim Executive Director

CASA of Troup County, Inc. • Estb. FY98

Serving Troup County
Tracy Jones, Executive Director

Central Georgia CASA, Inc. • Estb. FY97

Serving Bibb, Crawford & Peach Counties
Stephanie Owens-George, Executive Director

Chattahoochee CASA • Estb. FY98

Urban League of Greater Columbus, Inc.
Serving Muscogee County
Tom Kearns, Interim Program Director

Children's Voice: Douglas County CASA, Inc. • Estb. FY92

Serving Douglas County
Meredith Warner, Program Director

Clayton County CASA • Estb. FY98

Clayton County Juvenile Court
Serving Clayton County
Gerald Bostock, Program Coordinator

Coastal Plain CASA, Inc. • Estb. FY00

Serving Irwin, Tift, Turner & Worth Counties
Don Harris, Executive Director

DeKalb County CASA Program • Estb. FY91

DeKalb Juvenile Foundation, Inc.
Serving DeKalb County
Ann Eagerton, Executive Director

Celebrating **15** Years

Directory of Affiliates

Dougherty County CASA Program • Estb. FY02

Open Arms, Inc.
Serving Dougherty County
Rita Ellis, Program Coordinator

Enotah CASA, Inc. • Estb. FY94

Serving Lumpkin, Towns, Union & White Counties
Stacy Davy, Executive Director

Floyd County CASA Program • Estb. FY99

NW Georgia Child Advocacy Center, Inc.
Serving Floyd County
Brooke Hold, Program Coordinator

Four Points CASA Program • Estb. FY00

Four Points, Inc.
Serving Catoosa & Walker Counties
Tracy Wimberly, Program Director

Fulton County CASA, Inc. • Estb. FY95

Serving Fulton County
Julia Neighbors, Executive Director

Gordon County CASA Program • Estb. FY99

Gordon County Juvenile Court
Serving Gordon County
Anne Pitts, Program Coordinator

Gwinnett County CASA • Estb. FY02

Juvenile Court of Gwinnett County
Serving Gwinnett County
Steve Gill, Program Coordinator

Hall-Dawson CASA Program, Inc. • Estb. FY89

Serving Dawson & Hall Counties
Connie Stephens, Executive Director

Juvenile Court of Cobb County/CASA • Estb. FY91

Serving Cobb County
Eddie Slay, Judicial Program Coordinator

The Laurens County CASA, Inc. • Estb. FY95

Serving Johnson, Laurens, Truetlen & Twiggs Counties
Sherri Howard, Executive Director

Middle Judicial Circuit CASA • Estb. FY02

Juvenile Court of Middle Judicial Circuit
Serving Candler, Emmanuel, Jefferson, Toombs & Washington Counties
Gail Carter, Interim Program Coordinator

Murray/Whitfield CASA Program • Estb. FY96

Whitfield County Juvenile Court
Serving Murray & Whitfield Counties
Danielle Jones, Program Coordinator

Ocmulgee CASA, Inc. • Estb. FY98

Serving Baldwin, Greene, Hancock, Jones, Putnam & Wilkinson Counties
Lori Muggridge, Executive Director

Piedmont CASA, Inc. • Estb. FY00

Serving Banks, Barrow & Jackson Counties
Ashlee Williams, Executive Director

Rockdale CASA, Inc. • Estb. FY96

Serving Rockdale County
Lynn Wetzel, Executive Director

Savannah/Chatham County CASA, Inc. • Estb. FY91

Serving Chatham County
Renée Gresham-Crawford, Executive Director

Sowega CASA, Inc. • Estb. FY02

Serving Lee, Macon, Schley, Stewart, Sumter & Webster Counties
Patricia Brunson, Program Director

Tallapoosa CASA, Inc. • Estb. FY96

Serving Haralson, Paulding & Polk Counties
Martha Carver, Executive Director

Thomas County CASA, Inc. • Estb. FY91

Serving Thomas County
Asuncion Ellis, Executive Director

Tri-County CASA, Inc. • Estb. FY97

Serving Appling, Jeff Davis & Wayne Counties
Denise Graham, Executive Director

Celebrating **15** Years

Donors

Georgia CASA gratefully acknowledges those who have made contributions. Thank you for helping CASA advocate for a safe, permanent home for every child.

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Combined Federal Campaign
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By Mary & Russ Sarner
In honor of Richard S. Childers
By Mr. & Mrs. Peter K. Kintz, Jr.
In honor of Terri Gabrielson & Debbie King
By Mrs. Peggy Gallagher
In honor of the Georgia CASA Board of Directors
By Robert H. Gunn, Jr.
In honor of Solveig Harden
By Ms. Heather Fenton, Ms. Charlotte Walbert
In honor of The Honorable George J. Hearn, III
By Mr. & Mrs. Bruce Williamson
In honor of Caroline McKnight
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In honor of the staff of the Roswell United Methodist Church
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In honor of Esther Russell
By Dr. James P. O'Neal
In honor of Mrs. Karen Sibley
By Mrs. Charles Bethea, Mrs. Joseph E. Birnie,
Mrs. Mary Bailey Iazard, Dr. & Mrs. James T. Laney
In honor of Suzanne Spillman
By Ms. Dinah McClymonds
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In memory of Dick Gray
By Mrs. Catherine T. Porter
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By Mrs. Catherine T. Porter
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By Mrs. Catherine T. Porter, Mrs. Karen N. Sibley
In memory of Mr. Reginald Kearton
By Mrs. Karen N. Sibley
In memory of Anne T. Row
By Mr. & Mrs. Clinton McKellar, Jr.
In memory of Mr. Jack Spalding
By Mrs. Karen N. Sibley
In memory of Williams Dreese Sudarshan
By Mr. & Mrs. Robert Boozer

Celebrating **15** Years

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