

Georgia Court Appointed Special Advocates, Inc.



Annual Report 2018 - 2019

Dear Supporters,

Thank you for your investment in the mission work of Georgia CASA! We are in this work together as we improve the well-being of children currently experiencing foster care in Georgia through the powerful, best-interests advocacy of CASA volunteers across the state. Your support is vital to the provision of a vast array of high quality support services to local affiliates, enabling the recruitment, screening, training, and supervision of CASA volunteers who provide children the highest quality advocacy.

Please take a moment to read over our 2018 – 2019 annual report, which includes pertinent information and highlights from our most recent fiscal year.

We are pleased to report that in fiscal year 2019, over 11,000 children were served by over 2,700 CASA volunteers in the state. Successes from our first generation three-year statewide growth plan continue to inspire and drive progress as we tackle new endeavors and strengthen advocacy efforts statewide.

Thank you again for your investment in Georgia CASA and the children in foster care in our state. We look forward to continuing our partnership with you!

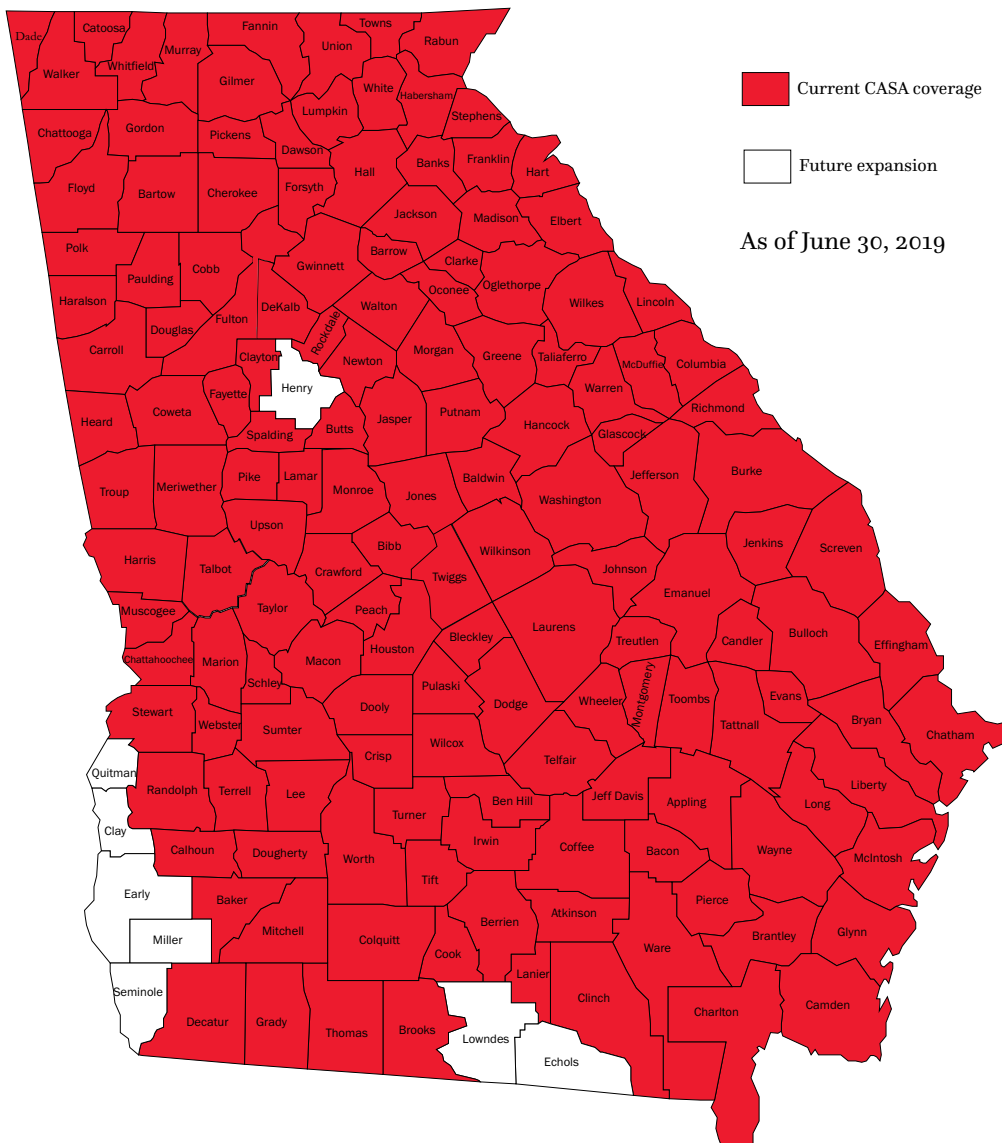
Sincerely,



Kip Lynch
Board Chair



Jen King
Executive Director





1988 - 2018

150,000 children served over 30 years

33,000 CASA volunteers over 30 years

- **1989:** First official swearing-in of CASA volunteers
- **1990:** First CASA state legislative appropriation
- **1993:** First Georgia CASA state conference
- **1995:** First CASA Volunteer of the Year award
- **1998:** First CASA Day at the Capitol event
- **2005:** First Luncheon & Fashion Show signature fundraiser
- **2007:** House Bill 270 passed to include CASA roles and duties in state law
- **2013:** Comprehensive rewrite of the juvenile code passed with further clarification of the GAL/CASA role
- **2018:** First 3-year statewide growth plan completed



Pictures from
Cheers to 30 Years Celebration,
September 2018

Financial Information

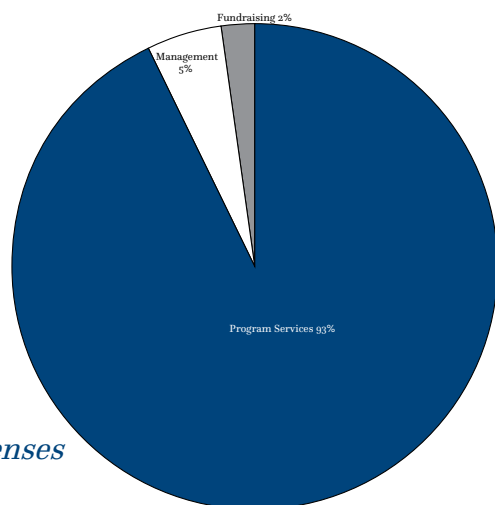
June 30, 2019 and 2018

ASSETS

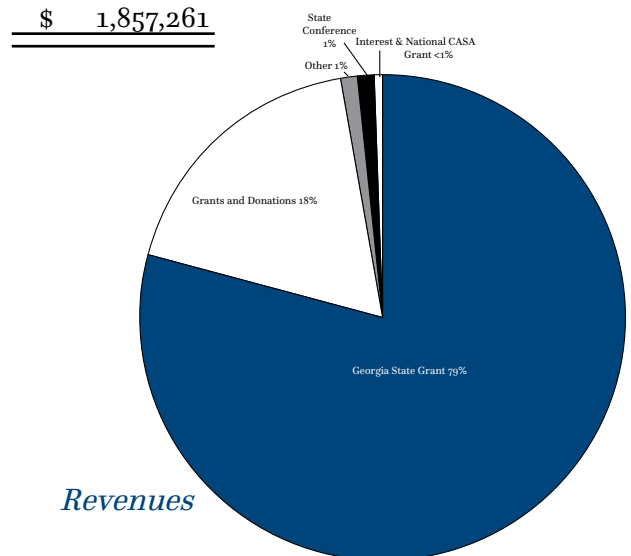
	2019	2018
<i>Current assets</i>		
Cash & cash equivalents	\$ 720,731	\$ 956,251
Receivables from grants & contracts	927,216	861,250
Prepays	<u>4,262</u>	<u>4,259</u>
<i>Total current assets</i>	1,652,209	1,821,760
Long term grants receivable	15,000	---
Furniture & equipment, less accumulated depreciation of \$28,832 and \$18,103 respectively	28,091	30,563
Security deposit	<u>4,938</u>	<u>4,938</u>
<i>Total assets</i>	<u>\$ 1,700,238</u>	<u>\$ 1,857,261</u>

LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS

<i>Current liabilities</i>		
Accounts payable	\$ 782,515	\$ 837,489
Accrued expenses	9,014	20,089
Deferred revenue	3,350	80
Deferred rent, current	<u>331</u>	<u>---</u>
<i>Total current liabilities</i>	795,210	857,658
Long-term deferred rent	<u>16,921</u>	<u>16,046</u>
<i>Total liabilities</i>	<u>812,131</u>	<u>873,704</u>
<i>Net assets</i>		
Without donor restrictions	<u>729,800</u>	<u>854,278</u>
With donor restrictions		
Purpose restrictions	128,307	129,279
Time restrictions	<u>30,000</u>	<u>---</u>
	158,307	129,279
<i>Total net assets</i>	<u>888,107</u>	<u>983,557</u>
<i>Total liabilities and net assets</i>	<u>\$ 1,700,238</u>	<u>\$ 1,857,261</u>



Expenses

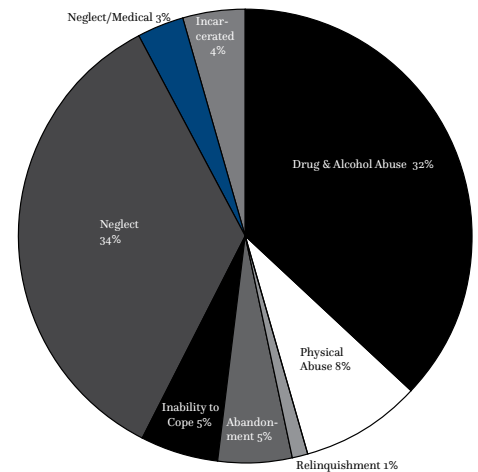


Revenues

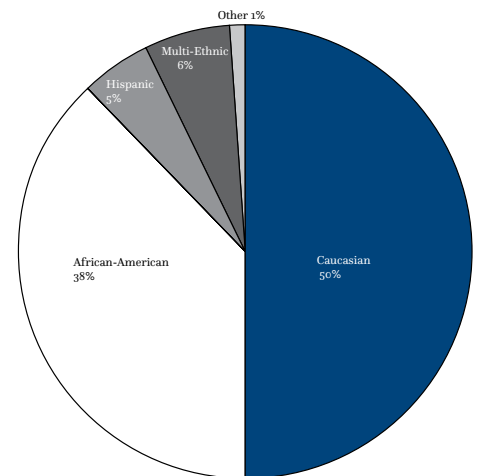
Advocacy Across the State

	Children Served	New Assignments	Closed Cases	Active Cases	CASA Volunteers
Advo-Kids	82	40	27	55	24
Alapaha	57	23	20	37	25
Alcovy	148	34	52	94	46
Appalachian	259	76	111	148	69
Athens-Oconee	223	91	48	175	89
Atlantic	168	56	7	161	24
Augusta	497	149	138	353	110
Bartow	313	128	122	191	76
Carroll	177	65	56	121	51
CASA Kids	243	68	71	172	78
Central Georgia	110	31	32	78	30
Chattahoochee	271	87	79	182	75
Cherokee	333	103	108	221	108
Children's Voice	128	24	34	82	45
Clayton	564	108	117	119	102
Coastal Plain	102	41	33	69	43
Cobb	338	176	93	237	101
Coweta	208	105	57	151	82
DeKalb	496	196	114	382	95
Dougherty	256	45	14	242	56
Enotah	358	117	84	193	89
Floyd	99	28	25	74	22
Forsyth	246	49	67	128	110
Fulton	381	135	151	278	162
Glynn	392	125	105	269	90
Gordon	35	14	17	18	11
Gwinnett	80	26	29	32	35
Hall-Dawson	471	123	169	240	90
Houston	89	36	40	47	25
Lookout Mountain	102	35	52	50	20
Murray/Whitfield	189	60	68	120	41
Northeast Georgia	318	135	124	194	73
Ocmulgee	258	60	52	206	61
Ogeechee	155	39	74	82	45
Paulding	196	64	51	145	74
Piedmont	218	55	73	145	61
Polk & Haralson	227	86	79	148	41
Rockdale	205	39	60	140	66
Savannah/Chatham	260	101	66	197	79
Southeast Georgia	140	79	11	128	22
SOWEGA	665	138	112	436	95
Southwest Georgia	222	100	69	153	21
TLC	468	143	216	231	34
Toombs	33	3	---	---	7
Towaliga	119	32	50	44	27
Tri-County	122	36	60	57	15
Troup	165	32	65	87	29
TOTALS	11,186*	3,536	3,302	7,112	2,774**

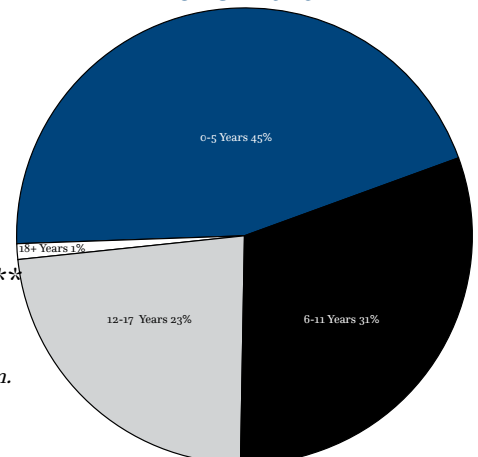
Types of Dependency



Ethnic Background of Children



Ages of Children



Note: Statistics for new assignments, closed cases, and active cases include total number of children.

*10,477 children served were in the legal custody of the state

**Reflects highest number of CASA volunteers assigned for a quarter

Georgia CASA

Through *individualized attention*, CASA volunteers advocate for the best interests of children who have experienced abuse or neglect in Georgia. *Bringing urgency to a child's needs*, both in and out of the courtroom, CASA volunteers promote *safety, permanency and well-being* through *independent recommendations*.

As *community partners in the child welfare system*, CASA volunteers increase abused and neglected children's *access to services (including educational and health needs)*, *promote safety, and advocate for timeliness and permanency* for children involved in juvenile court proceedings. CASA volunteers are *independent advocates* and provide *individualized attention* for children in a massive state system.

Our Vision

Each abused or neglected child involved in juvenile court proceedings shall have a safe and permanent home.

Our Mission

Georgia CASA develops and supports court-sanctioned, community-based affiliate programs that provide trained and supervised volunteers to advocate for the best interests of abused or neglected children involved in juvenile court dependency proceedings.

Our Purpose

Georgia CASA is committed to maintaining a network of well-administered affiliate programs that operate independently with mutual accountability, resulting in the highest level of advocacy for all of Georgia's dependent children.

2018 CASA Volunteer of the Year

Pamela Curley of Enotah CASA Selected as State Volunteer of the Year



Pam Curley commended by Gov. Nathan Deal for her CASA volunteer award; pictured (l-r): Duaine Hathaway (former Georgia CASA Executive Director), Pam Curley, Gov. Nathan Deal and Jennifer King (Georgia CASA Executive Director)

Pamela "Pam" Curley has been chosen as the 2018 CASA Volunteer of the Year in Georgia. Pam, a resident of Blairsville, has been a CASA volunteer advocate with Enotah CASA for nearly a decade. She previously served as an advocate in Florida and North Carolina. Pam has advocated for nearly 50 children in Towns and Union counties, while giving over 5,000 hours and driving more than 30,000 miles. Pam is a CASA volunteer who never gives up, stands her ground, and doesn't assume "no" means the end.

Pam possesses an uncanny ability to work with everyone involved in child welfare, from attorneys to community partners to foster parents to case managers and beyond. She helps other CASA volunteers troubleshoot their cases and is always eager to enhance her child advocacy skills, regularly participating in CASA volunteer peer groups and trainings. Additionally, each December, she works with the foster child enrichment program in Towns and Union counties to ensure children in foster care have joyful holiday celebrations.

With tenacity, Pam successfully helped to ensure that two 17-year old youths would not age out of foster care. One youth was adopted, just weeks before she turned 18, due to Pam's unwavering advocacy over a five-year period. Due to Pam's attention to detail, the other youth reached permanency in a relative guardianship. By having trusted adults in their lives, these young people have bright futures.

Highlights From the Year

Legislative



CASA Day at the Capitol was held on February 14, 2019. About 300 CASA staff, board members and volunteers met with state legislators to thank them for their support of the CASA network in Georgia and to ask for their continued support for CASA and child welfare issues. CASA was recognized for 30 years of advocacy for children. The event concluded with an appreciation luncheon for legislators.

The General Assembly *increased CASA's state funding* by \$250,000.

Communications, General Awareness & Volunteer Recruitment

Our first three-year growth plan (2015-2018) concluded with *an 18% increase in children served annually, a 24% increase in CASA volunteers in the state, and a 45% increase in CASA volunteers trained annually.*

Highlights also included:

Nearly *60% of local affiliates now have designated staff positions leading local recruitment efforts*, compared to 10% prior to the growth plan.

An increase from \$10 million in funding in 2015 for the entire state network to *almost \$15 million* at the end of 2018.

More than \$900,000 raised through foundations, donors, and supporters, allowing local affiliates to advocate for more of Georgia's children in foster care.



A Swearing-in Ceremony of CASA Volunteers



Georgia CASA's *Facebook* page has over 5,300 'likes' to date.



Georgia CASA's *Twitter* page (@GeorgiaCASA) has over 2,000 followers to date.



Georgia CASA began an *Instagram* page with nearly 500 followers to date.



Georgia CASA's *YouTube* channel has over 50 subscribers to date.

Quarterly e-newsletters and *e-news tidbits* were circulated to all our supporters.

The *CASA network e-newsletter* was sent to our affiliates.

Affiliates

47 affiliates were present in *48 judicial circuits*, serving *151 counties* in the state.

Coweta CASA expanded service to *Meriwether County*.

Highlights From the Year

Affiliate Program Operations and Training

A variety of trainings, both in-person and online, were offered throughout the year to enhance staff skills and knowledge in the following areas:

- Managing a CASA program
- Training and supervising volunteers
- Using data in program planning and evaluation
- Strengthening courtroom advocacy
- Enhancing the educational advocacy provided to children served by CASA volunteers

Affiliate site visits and courtroom observations were conducted in conjunction with affiliates to strengthen and improve volunteer advocacy and program operations.

Technical assistance was provided in all aspects of affiliate program management, including advocacy assistance on various child welfare topics, via phone consultation and in-person trainings, as requested.



Training of the Facilitator, November 2018



Georgia CASA Staff at All-Volunteer Coordinator Meeting, January 2019



Volunteer Supervisor Training, June 2019



Affiliate Leadership Meeting (Council of Programs) 'go blue' for National Child Abuse Awareness Month, April 2019

Highlights From the Year

Events and Fundraising

Preview Party and Luncheon & Fashion Show February 27 and March 27, 2019

The 15th annual Luncheon & Fashion Show fundraiser raised over \$80,000! The event, held at a private club in Buckhead, honored Roya Irvani. Keynote speaker was Jennifer King. Prior to the event, a Preview Party was held, hosted by the Preview Committee.



Jennifer Dunaway, Event Co-Chair; Jennifer King, Executive Director and Keynote Speaker; Roya Irvani, Honoree; Kip Lynch, Board Chair; Deidra Dukes, Emcee; Sandy Day, Event Co-Chair



Georgia CASA State Conference August 4, 2018

The state conference, held in Atlanta, had over 600 attendees - the largest audience to date - who participated in dynamic workshops and heard inspiring speakers. A special tribute and video was shown for outgoing Executive Director Duaine Hathaway.

Awards of Excellence Winners: CASA Kids (Thomasville) for Established Affiliate, CASA of the Augusta Judicial Circuit (Augusta) and Rockdale CASA (Conyers) for Innovative Affiliates

Rod Walker, Immediate Past Board Chair; Michaela Pereira, Keynote Speaker; Jennifer King, Incoming Executive Director



Charm McCall of Piedmont CASA (Winder) receives the Board Leadership Award; pictured with Georgia CASA representatives (l-r): Jennifer King, Mandira Mehra (board) and Duaine Hathaway



CASA Kids



Rockdale CASA (left); CASA of the Augusta Judicial Circuit (above)

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In memory of Ms. Marcia Hammons
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In memory of Mr. George T. Hedgespeth Jr.
By Ms. Portia M. Hedgespeth

In memory of Mr. Russ Sarner
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In honor of Mrs. Katherine Bennett

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In honor of Ms. Kathy Burke

By Anonymous

In honor of Mrs. Ethel Ware Carter

By Mr. Shepard B. Ansley

In honor of the children of Georgia

By Anonymous (9)

In honor of Honorable Terry Denton

By Don and Cyndi Galli

In honor of Ms. Peggy Elder and Mrs. Lauren Hyatt

By Jan Pylant and Judi Jenks

In honor of Ms. Caroline Everson, Ms. Jamiallah Jackson and Ms. Kellie King

By Atlantic Area CASA

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In honor of Mrs. Marie Hannon

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Ms. Judy O. Zaban

In honor of Ms. Paulette Ivey

By Ms. Diane Sitton

In honor of Ms. Jennifer King

By Mrs. Dianne H. Scoggins

In honor of Ms. Janice Latoza

By Ms. Wendy Jacobson

In honor of Ms. Kathryn Lee

By Ms. Lynn Tompkins

In honor of Ms. Sarah Lee

By Mr. Robert Hagler

In honor of Ms. Nancy Ludwig

By Ms. Alicia Blodgett

In honor of Dr. Kip Lynch

By Mr. and Mrs. Taylor F. Mefford

In honor of the marriage of Beth and Dave Malone

By Anonymous

In honor of Mrs. Marcy McTier

By Mr. David S. Dimling

In honor of Mrs. Ann Rotroff

By Mrs. Jane Woodruff Blount
Dr. and Mrs. G. Lee Cross III
Ms. Peggy Elder

In honor of Ms. Mia Savage

By Ms. Linda McCord

In honor of Mr. Andy Sayles

By Dr. Kip Lynch

In honor of Mr. Jim Sibley

By Mr. and Mrs. Gary Pannell

In honor of Ms. Carol Smith

By Anonymous

In honor of Ms. Nadine Sprinkle

By Ms. Carol Smith

In honor of Ms. Heather Steen

By Ms. Nancy Wood

In honor of Mrs. Charlotte Ros Terrell

By Ms. Patsy Dickerson
Ms. Amanda DiResta

In honor of Ms. Nancy Wood

By Ms. Kathy W. Day

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Georgia CASA Staff

Affiliates

Visit gacasa.org for complete contact information for each affiliate

(Listing as of June 30, 2019)

Action Pact CASA (Southeast Georgia)
Bacon, Brantley, Charlton, Coffee Pierce & Ware Counties

Carlos Nelson, Executive Director

Advo-Kids CASA, Inc.
Fayette, Pike, Spalding & Upson Counties

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Alcovy CASA Program
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Bartow County

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Program of the Berrien County Collaborative, Inc.

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CASA of the Appalachian Judicial Circuit

Program of the Juvenile Court of the Appalachian

Judicial Circuit

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CASA of the Augusta Judicial Circuit

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Program of The Children's Haven, Inc.

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Forsyth County

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CASA Glynn, Inc.

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Houston County

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Program of Family Enrichment Group, Inc.

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Paulding County

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Polk & Haralson Counties

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Bibb, Crawford & Peach Counties

Susanna Patterson, Executive Director

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Program of Twin Cedars Youth Services, Inc.

Chattahoochee, Harris, Marian, Muscogee, Talbot & Taylor Counties

Keagan Clark, Program Coordinator

Children's Voice CASA, Inc.

Douglas County

Katy Hilbert, Executive Director

Affiliates

Visit gacasa.org for complete contact information for each affiliate

(Listing as of June 30, 2019)

Clayton County CASA
Program of Clayton County Juvenile Court
Clayton County
Concilia Chillumuna, Chief of Child Welfare

Coastal Plain CASA, Inc.
Irwin, Tift, Turner & Worth Counties
Kristin Morrison, Executive Director

Coweta CASA, Inc.
Coweta County
Amanda Camp, Executive Director

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Program of Child Advocate Network, Inc.
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Linda Banks, Executive Director

Dougherty CASA
Program of The Lily Pad SANE Center, Inc.
Dougherty County
Charlene Maldonado, Program Director

Enotah CASA, Inc.
Lumpkin, Towns, Union & White Counties
Della Lago, Executive Director

Floyd County CASA Program
Program of Northwest Georgia Child Advocacy Center, Inc.
Floyd County
Sue Lagermann, Program Coordinator

Fulton County CASA, Inc.
Fulton County
Robbyn Ingram, Executive Director

Gordon County CASA Program
Program of Gordon County Juvenile Court
Gordon County
Anne Pitts, Program Coordinator

Gwinnett County CASA
Program of Juvenile Court of Gwinnett County
Gwinnett County
Ericka McClam, Program Director

Hall-Dawson CASA Program, Inc.
Dawson & Hall Counties
Janet Walden, Executive Director

Juvenile Court of Cobb County/CASA
Cobb County
Maricruz Garcia, Program Coordinator

Lookout Mountain CASA
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Karan Albritton, Program Director

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Program of TLC Children's Services, Inc.
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Butts, Lamar & Monroe Counties
Mary Ann Leverett, Program Director

Tri-County CASA, Inc.
Appling, Jeff Davis & Wayne Counties
Pam Holmes, Executive Director



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