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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### **Becky Nunnally of CASA of the Appalachian Judicial Circuit Awarded as 2022 CASA Volunteer of the Year in Georgia**

**Atlanta, August 13, 2022** – Becky Nunnally, CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocate) volunteer with CASA of the Appalachian Judicial Circuit, has been chosen as the 2022 Karen N. Sibley CASA Volunteer of the Year in Georgia. (The award is named in honor of the late founding board chair of Georgia CASA.) Becky was officially awarded at the Georgia CASA Conference in Atlanta on August 13th.

A retired teacher and education administrator, Becky has been a CASA advocate since 2014 and has been assigned to 13 cases and advocated for 23 children and their families during her tenure. Her extensive education background working with youth with learning and emotional disabilities has been invaluable as a CASA volunteer.

On one of her cases, Becky advocated for six years for an intellectually and developmentally disabled youth. She ensured appropriate services to meet the youth's needs were always in place at each foster home and school. As the time approached for the youth to age out of foster care, Becky worked alongside the local Department of Family and Children Services (DFCS) to diligently search for programs and services to ensure proper care. Additionally, Becky was instrumental in recommending that Georgia's Independent Living Program (ILP) develop a more focused transition program for medically fragile, intellectually, and developmentally disabled foster children.

On another case, Becky had a pivotal role in reuniting a family by ensuring the parents received the necessary training to overcome cultural barriers and provide proper nutrition for their child who had been diagnosed as 'failure to thrive.'

Becky is a master at collaborating with other agencies to provide quality best-interest advocacy for the children and youth she serves. A local DFCS case manager who has worked with Becky states, "She is an incredible asset as a CASA volunteer on any case she is assigned...she is willing to help wherever she is needed. Some of my toughest cases have been worked with her beside me as a CASA volunteer...never once has she opted out of participating. She truly has the best interest of our children at heart."

In addition to her CASA volunteer service with CASA of the Appalachian Judicial Circuit, Becky is also involved in other community organizations including Snack in a Backpack and Toys for Tots. In all she does, Becky is diligent, compassionate, and dedicated to serving children and families.

Georgia CASA, Inc., strengthens and supports court-sanctioned, affiliate CASA programs that empower community volunteers who advocate for abused or neglected children and contributes to advancements within the child welfare system. CASA volunteers provide compassionate, one-on-one attention, offering

children experiencing foster care the opportunity to thrive and reach their full potential with the support of permanent connections to family.

Last year, 2,700 CASA volunteers served over 10,000 children in Georgia. Currently, 44 affiliate programs are located across Georgia, serving 156 counties. To contact CASA of the Appalachian Judicial Circuit, visit [www.appalachiancasa.com](http://www.appalachiancasa.com) or call 706-276-2272. For more information about CASA in Georgia, visit [www.gacasa.org](http://www.gacasa.org) or call 404-874-2888 or 800-251-4012.

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