
CASA MATTERS

CASA of the Tennessee Heartland, Inc.
Court Appointed Special Advocates for Abused and Neglected Children
Serving Anderson, Morgan, Roane, and Scott Counties

June 2008

How Are the Children?



Photo credit- National CASA Association

Since 1988, our agency has provided advocacy for abused and neglected children in our region. Their stories are varied but always heartbreaking. Often children assigned a CASA have one or both parents in prison or missing. Frequently illegal drug use and manufacturing have taken place in the homes of CASA children. Many CASA children have been left alone for hours or even days before their plight was discovered. Most have not had regular meals and many have been physically or sexually abused. All have experienced horrors no child should endure.

When CASA becomes a part of these kid's lives, they get help. A child with a CASA volunteer has someone who looks after their best interests and who works to see that they get what they need— a secure home, intensive therapy or tutoring. A child with a CASA volunteer has someone who will meet with everyone involved in their life, their foster parents, parents, relatives, teachers, therapists, doctors. A child with a CASA has someone who will give a complete report to the court, so that the judge can make an informed decision about the child's best interests.

Every day, ordinary citizens that have been trained as CASA volunteers, are doing extraordinary things for abused and neglected children, by advocating for them to have safe, permanent homes.

From the desk of our board president...

As you read this, there are more than 400 children in foster care in our four counties, and over 200 abused and neglected children on CASA's waiting list. These children are often shuffled from placement to placement and must constantly adjust to new surroundings and caregivers. CASA is dedicated to providing them with a voice in court, ensuring that they make it to a safe and permanent home as quickly as possible. As board members we set our goals to get CASA's message out and to increase our funding sources so that we can support our staff, recruitment and training efforts and ultimately our program. Our goals can't be achieved without your help. Please check out ways you can help CASA on page 5 and make a commitment today. Childhood doesn't last forever.

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Larry Jones

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Brenda Curtis

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Naomi Asher

Bookkeeping

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Karleen Richter

Editor

Liz Goodlaxson

From our five offices.....

In Anderson County-Since my employment with CASA in February, I have gained significant experience working with juvenile court cases and insight as to the critical need for more volunteer advocates for our many children in the court system due to abuse and neglect. My personal interactions with our current volunteers has assured me of their dedication and I look forward to assisting both experienced and newly trained volunteers in their advocacy for our CASA children. Kat Hall

Morgan County is proud to announce that four new CASAs have been trained, and sworn in by Judge Davis and will be offering up their volunteer services to benefit our children who need advocates. They are: Carol Gilliam, Shelby Melhorn, John Robert Dillon, and Anna Joyce Terry.

Roane County has one new advocate Eva Mae Graves, which brings the total to 14 advocates in Roane County. Both Roane and Morgan Counties had a May in-service for their CASAs. The topic was "The Key to Being a Successful CASA", presented by Jim LaRue. He spoke on increasing the effectiveness of those involved with court advocacy. Jim is a retired army colonel, has extensive experience with the legal system, and serves on the Tennessee Judiciary Review Board.

Scott County is rejuvenating the local steering committee that is comprised of individuals looking to lend a helping hand to ensure that CASA sticks around and that every child who comes into the juvenile court will have an appointed advocate. Would you perhaps be one of those people? If so give the Scott County Office a call. We hope to add one new CASA this month as Laura Clauborn is nearing the completion of her CASA training. You could also join the CASA team and we currently have over 40 children in need of a CASA in Scott County. Again, if you are interested give us a call! The Scott County CASA office is working on a few new and exciting things, so keep your eye on the local newspapers to learn what's going on!

In the Administrative Office- I am very proud to be working for an organization that is making life changing differences each and every day for children in our communities. As I continue work in the administrative office and learn more about the grants we need to continue the mission and what paper work we need to qualify for those grants along with the constant need to be able to access information from our files, I know that my place here is one of value. Naomi Asher, Administrative Assistant

June 2008

A huge thank you to all who have supported us this past year (through May 31st) whether through a personal gift, supporting our special events, United Way designations or any other means. We apologize if we have inadvertently omitted anyone from this gift list.

CASA's Caring Circle

(\$10,000)

Anonymous

(\$1,000-\$9,999)

Anonymous (3)

Michele Brandenburg

Joan Stonecipher

W. H. Swain

George & Janetta Taylor

Patron (\$500-\$999)

Bromma Linville

Anonymous

Larry Jones

Linda Osborne

Robert Pryor

Sponsor (\$250-\$499)

Peggy & Mike Mahoney

Helen Kapral

Elaine Mueller

Brenda Gadd

Marty Adler-Jasny

Brian & Sharon Annis

Cyndy Bailes

Senators Howard & Nancy Baker

Pat Clark

Tom Hill & Joan O'Steen

Wm. Paul & Iva Phillips

Irene Robbins

Mike & Marsha Swain

Advocate (\$100-\$249)

Kay Allen

Lou Arnold

Carl A. Burtis

Cathey Daniels/Patrick Mulholland

Elizabeth Jernigan

Pat & Joe Johnson

Karleen Richter

R. H. Ritchie

Patricia Dail

KC Wright

Margaret & Bill Baldauf

Joycelyn Pope

John D. McKittrick

Mary Elizabeth Alexander

Martin & Betsy Bauer

Betty Beard

Anonymous

Jodi Bishop

Judi Brookshire

Kay Brookshire

Gene Caldwell

Bill M. Campbell

Steve & Shirley Cates

Tom Clary

David & Pat Coffey

Chuck & Nancy Coutant

Charles Crowe

Brenda Curtis

Richard & Jennifer Dawson

Bob & Jinny Dunlap

Erich & Louise Evered

Loretta Friend

Johnny Griffin

Martha & David Hobson

F. Clark Huffman

Gerald Knight

John Kubarewicz

Joe & Peggy LaGrone

Carol & Steve Marcum

Harold & Martha McCurdy

Brenda Mills

Alice Noggle

Victor & Diantha Pare

Randall Pearson

Robert & Elizabeth Peelle

Betty & Ward Plummer

Tom Quaranto

Garland Samuels

Kathryn Schmittling

Mary Schoenberger

Kati Segar

Elaine Smith

Jim & Kim Smith

Theresa-Vay Smith

Don & Pris Stansberry

Don & Tracey Stansberry

Fred Sweeton

Joe Thompson

Jerry Voiles

Vicky White

Robert Wilkinson

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Friend (Up to \$100)

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Marjorie Allen

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Ralph & Belinda Aurin

Tom & Susan Bailey

Fred Barry

Michael Beehan

Nick Bishop

Dennis Bowker

Georgi Bowling

Rev. Howard & Jean Box

Terry & Brenda Brewer

Charles & Marion Burger

George & Janetta Caithness

Matt Caldwell

Jimmy Carroll

Mike & Linda Cates

Herbert & Nona Chambers

Nancy Chrisman

Jean Cole

Chuck & Nancy Coutant

Sarah Davis

Judith Delaney

Marilyn DeVors

Jack & Sue Dongarra

Bob & Betty Dreyer

Allen Ekkebus

Lynn Fortenbery

Charlene Freels

Shirley & R.J.M. Fry

Ruth Gat

Tom Gentry

Carol Grametbauer

Judy Gray

Jane Grossbeck

Melvin L. Halbert

Dean & Eileen Hartley

Wayne K. Henderson

Dolphus & Brenda Henry

Melissa Hevrdeys

Betsy Hodge

Ralph & Jane Hoffman

Rose Holz

Jerried Jeffers

Thomas M. Jelinek

Noah Johnson

Dot & Lewis Jones

Bill & Linda Jones

Mira Kimmelman

David C. King

James & Sarah Kolb

Wayne Kreis

Ken & Barbara Krushenski

Bettie Kurtz

James & Judy LaRue

Robert Lepsig

Nancy Lesesne

Chuck Levenhagen

Clarence & Martha Lowe

Mary K. McAllister

Nancy & John McGinty

Gale Montgomery
 Kathy Moore
 John & Eileen Neiler
 Margaret B Nestor
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 Jessemae Noritake
 Morris & Barbara Osborne
 Steven Pawel
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 Fran Pisano
 Joan & Arvin Quist
 Richard Raridon
 William & Wendy Robinson
 Dr. & Mrs J. P. Ruyl
 Elizabeth Salem
 Jan Shotts
 W. D. Shults
 Brent Sigmon & Nancy Carow
 Bill & Ella Smith
 Valerie Smith
 Don & Jil Smith
 Louise & Paul Spray
 Bear Stephenson
 Grant & Lillian Stradley
 Mark Wayne & Jimmie Sue Strange
 Joan Swift
 Peggy Tague

Peter & Carolyn Todd
 Robin Toth
 Jack Tuberville
 Richard & Thelma Tyndall
 Theresa Venable
 Marie Walsh
 Karen Wilkins-Butz
 Dorothy Wilkinson
 John Witherspoon
 Charles & Carole Yust

In Memory of

Malcolm Smith
 Michele Brandenburg
 Peggy & Mike Mahoney
 Lucy & Don Nickel

In Honor of

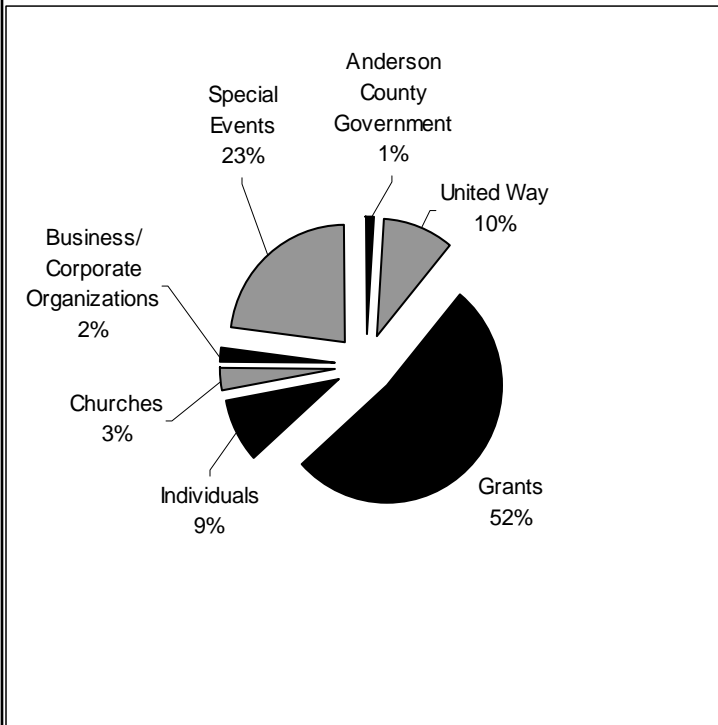
Ricky & Kay Brooks
 KC Wright
 Cyndy Bailes
 Helen Kapral

**Organizations, Corporations,
 Churches, and Grantors**

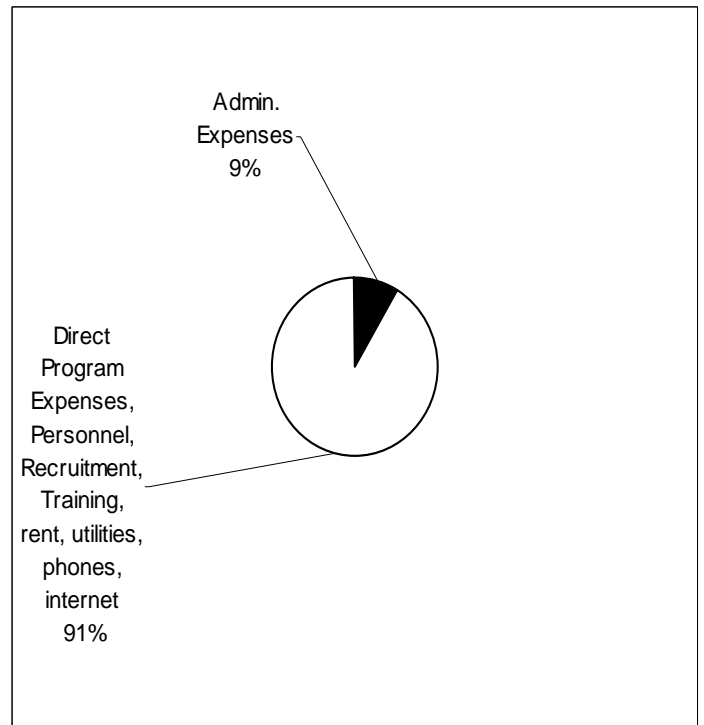
Roane County United Way
 Armstrong Foundation
 Anderson County Government

Scott County Women's Shelter
 St. Stephen's Episcopal Church
 First United Methodist Church
 Anderson County Toy Run
 Volunteer Energy Cooperative
 Wal-Mart
 Oak Ridge UU Church
 First Presbyterian Church
 Norris Religious Fellowship
 Oak Ridge Lions Club
 Scott County Bar Association
 Trinity United Methodist Church
 Ellis Family Dentistry
 Kiwanis Club of Oak Ridge
 Grace Covenant Church
 TCCY
 TN Bar Foundation
 ORNL FCU
 NCASAA
 Variety Foundation
 First Presbyterian Church
 TN Dept of Finance & Admin.
 Community Enhancement Grants
 Senator Randy McNally
 Senator Tommy Kilby
 Reps. Hackworth, Winningham
 and Windle
 Reed Advertising

Where Does CASA's Funding Comes From ?



How is CASA's Funding Spent?



Ways you can Help CASA



Become an advocate for abused and neglected children

“While CASA work has been difficult for me, it has been some of the most rewarding work I’ve done. It has fulfilled my need to help other people deal with the deep pain of their pasts and move towards a positive future. People talk about making a difference—as a CASA I know I have.” Toni Altenburg Roane County CASA



Tell your friends and neighbors about CASA

“I had a mentor who was a CASA. He knew I had recently resigned from my job and had more time to devote to others. He told me about the program knowing children have always had a special place in my heart and I feel it is my calling to help them in times of need.” Telicia Mims Anderson County CASA



Join the Caring Circle or provide financial support at any level

“I am very happy to support this organization in the work they do advocating for the children of our community. Being part of the Caring Circle has given me the satisfaction of knowing I am helping to make a difference in the lives of many children in our community.” Michele Brandenburg



Invite CASA to speak to your church, community groups and workplace

“Dear Liz, How can we say “thanks” for presenting such a fine CASA program to our UMW Agape Circle meeting last week?! We are so grateful for your time and for the service you give to our community. Our circle voted to give you a donation for CASA, enclosed. Blessings,” Kate Allen UM Women Agape Circle



Hang CASA posters or distribute literature in your community

“I needed a few hours of community service to complete my Eagle rank. Hanging CASA posters throughout the community gave me a chance to learn more about what CASA does and to get the word out to others.” MacLean O’Donnell, boy scout and high school senior

Volunteer Now! We'll tell you how!

Contact your local office or our Volunteer Recruiter Heidi O'Donnell at:

(865) 425-0888 Administrative Office P.O.Box 4426 161-D Robertsville Road Oak Ridge, TN 37831

e-mail: heidi@casatnh.org or visit www.casatnh.org

Anderson County CASA Program Anderson County Courthouse Room 115, Clinton (865) 463-6850

Morgan County CASA Program Morgan County Courthouse Room 101, Wartburg (423) 539-5959

Roane County CASA Program Farnham Building, Harriman (865) 882-6111

Scott County CASA Program 308 Court Street, Huntsville (423) 663-8943

CASA of the Tennessee Heartland
P.O. Box 4426
Oak Ridge, TN 37831

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED



Member of the National CASA Association and
the Tennessee CASA Association