A Letter from the Board President...

Welcome to the 2017 Tennessee CASA Annual Meeting. Your support of our mission is truly appreciated.

The mission of Tennessee CASA is to support, develop, expand, and unite local CASA programs in recruiting and training volunteers to advocate for Tennessee’s abused and neglected children. In order to fulfill this mission, we rely on and collaborate with people like you who want to influence better lives for the children we serve. Our stakeholders - legislators, advocates, staff, judges, and state agencies -- empower us to ensure that every abused and neglected child in the volunteer state has a voice.

Over the past year, we were able to provide support to 30 local CASA programs serving 52 counties in Tennessee. Collectively, 1,673 volunteers gave 133,142 hours to advocate for 5,208 abused and neglected children. While this is a great accomplishment, there is more work to do. There are still 43 counties that do not have a CASA program.

Every year, 20,000 vulnerable children in Tennessee are waiting for a CASA Volunteer to speak up for their best interests. For this reason, Tennessee CASA launched a statewide volunteer recruitment campaign entitled, “Be For the Child.” There is a dedicated website for prospective volunteers, www.BeForTheChild.org that has resulted in over 100 inquiries. Every local program has a social media and press toolkit for customizing the campaign for their local community.

Together, we can make a difference in the lives of children and families in Tennessee! Let us share our vision that every abused and neglected child in the state of Tennessee is given the opportunity to thrive in a safe and loving home. This shared vision is what brings us together today.

Help us share the message:
Someone has to be for the child...
Why not you?

Thank you for being here today and for your continued support of Tennessee CASA!

Maggie Bahou
Board President | 2017 - 2018
Tennessee CASA Association, Inc.
Annual Meeting | October 17, 2017
Nashville Public Library | Nashville, TN

Welcoming Remarks
Maggie Bahou
Board President | Tennessee CASA Board of Directors

Annual Report
Lynne Farrar
Executive Director | Tennessee CASA

Message from National CASA
Blondean Jones
State Development Officer | National CASA Association

Awards Presentation

Legislator of the Year
Senator Ferrell Haile
District 18 - (Sumner, Trousdale, & part of Davidson counties)

Light of Hope
Annemarie Rainwater
Middle Tennessee State University Student &
Youth Board Member, Tennessee Commission on Children and Youth

CASA Leadership Awards &
Tennessee CASA Board Recognition

Keynote Speaker
Judge Michael Meise
Dickson County Probate & Juvenile Court Judge

"Be For The Child" Video
Tennessee CASA & Hall Strategies

Closing Comments
Michael Richard Meise, the son of German immigrants, was born in Teaneck, New Jersey. His family moved to Dickson, Tennessee in 1964 when he was five years old. Meise graduated from Dickson County Senior High School in 1976. He went on to earn a Bachelor of Science degree in Music Education and a Master of Arts degree in Language and Literature from Austin Peay State University.

Meise earned his law degree from the Nashville School of Law in 2007 and was admitted to the Tennessee Bar the same year. He served as an Assistant Public Defender in the 23rd Judicial District and was elected to the bench of the Dickson County Juvenile and Probate Court in 2014.

Meise has been a public school teacher for 35 years, still teaching two classes at his high school alma mater, and his wife of 37 years, Cindy Freeman, has been the director of choral activities at Dickson County High School for the past 44 years.

Blondean Jones serves as the State Development Officer for the National Court Appointed Special Advocates Association (National CASA). In her role with National CASA, Blondean provides leadership, facilitates, supports, and oversees in the development and establishment of strong state CASA/GAL organizations. She collaborates with State Directors and the National Training and Network Development Officers to design and implement innovative practices, models, and ideas to strengthen state organizations within the network.

Prior to joining National CASA, Blondean served as the State Director of the South Carolina Cass Elias McCarter Guardian ad Litem Program in Columbia, South Carolina for three of her thirteen years with the program. Before her position as State Director, Blondean worked in human services, banking, retail, childcare, human resources, management, parent education, and the healthcare industry. Blondean is a 1989 graduate of North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University. She completed the Dale Carnegie Skills for Success, and received a certificate of achievement in Non-Profit Management from the College of Business Administration of Winthrop University in 2012.
Legislator of the Year

Senator Ferrell Haile

Having been fortunate enough to spend over 40 years as a small business owner, pharmacist, and farmer in Sumner County, Senator Ferrell Haile has learned first-hand about families, small businesses, farms, and the healthcare system.

Born and raised in Sumner County, he attended public school before attending Lipscomb University and then graduating from the University of Tennessee with a Bachelor of Science in Pharmacy. After getting his graduate degree, Sen. Haile returned home to help run the farm and serve patients as a pharmacist for 42 years. He has co-owned Perkins’ Drugs, Springfield Drugs and South Side Drugs, Gallatin Drugs, McHaile Drugs, and Atrium Pharmacy.

Sen. Haile has done his best to help better healthcare as Chairman for the Tennessee Pharmacy Coop, Vice Chair for the American Pharmacy Cooperative Inc., board member of the Sumner County Health Department, member of the Tennessee Pharmacist Association, and member of the National Community Pharmacists’ Association.

Aside from being a pharmacist, he has owned Haile Farms, a cattle farm serving middle Tennessee, since 1975. During this time, he was also a member of the Tennessee Cattleman’s Association and the Tennessee Farm Bureau.

In addition to being a farmer and pharmacist, Sen. Haile has been blessed to be able to serve the community in a variety of roles: as a church elder, board member of Christian Towers, board member of World Christian Broadcasting, Paul Harris Fellow Rotarian, President of the Gallatin Morning Rotary Club, President of the Gallatin Rotary Club at Noon, Leadership Sumner alumnus, President of the Southeast Sumner Community Fire Department, and an Eagle Scout.

In 2010, he was unanimously appointed by the Sumner County Commission to fill the vacant 18th District Seat. During Sen. Haile’s three-month service, he was able to influence the debate in Nashville in a positive way.

As a Senate member of the 110th General Assembly, he serves as the First Vice Chairman of Senate Health & Welfare Committee and a member of the following committees and subcommittees: Senate Education Committee, Senate Finance, Ways, and Means Committee, Investigations & Oversight Subcommittee, and Revenue Subcommittee.

Sen. Haile is married to wife, Kay, and has four children and seven grandchildren.
Annemarie Rainwater is committing her life to helping foster children, because she was in foster care for four years, both in Michigan and Tennessee. Annemarie was adopted by Rick & Phyllis Rainwater who she is proud to call her forever family. She graduated from Cascade High School in Bedford County and is currently a student at MTSU studying social work.

While Annemarie had a very difficult childhood, she is using her experience to help others which demonstrates her emotional resilience. Annemarie is a frequent speaker on behalf of CASA programs across Tennessee to tell the value of CASA in her experience in foster care and finding a forever family. She is featured in a developing TN CASA Volunteer Recruitment Video that will be launched by every local program statewide. Her testimony about CASA being instrumental in her having an adoptive family and her early success is the theme of her presentations.

Annemarie was selected by National CASA to be the Youth Voice at the annual convention in Las Vegas for Jewelers for Children, a national foundation that supports CASA. She also spoke to the Governor’s Launch of the TN Fosters Initiative through the faith community. As a scholar and mentor for Youth Villages, Annemarie gives support to other young people who were in foster care. Annemarie maintains this position by keeping her GPA, participating in community service, as well as working a part-time job.

Most recently, Annemarie has been appointed by Governor Haslam to be a Youth Board Member for the Tennessee Commission on Children and Youth.
Tennessee CASA Association, Inc.
Statement of Activities
For the year ended June 30, 2017 | Audited

Revenue
 Grants $ 172,696
Dues and fees 9,993
State Marriage License Tax 108,125
Contributions 29,788
Interest 21
Total Public Support $ 320,623

Expenses
 Salaries and Wages 188,629
Employee Benefits 14,619
Occupancy Expense 14,488
Telephone 3,413
Office Expense 1,196
Travel 8,536
Public Relations 18,348
Small Equipment 18,198
Dues 973
Training & Technical Assistance 66,587
Expansion Expenses 1,189
Professional Services 1,337
Insurance 2,858
Total Expenses $ 340,371

Increase (decrease) in net assets $ (19,748)
Beginning of year net assets $ 101,167
End of Year net assets $ 81,419

*All amounts rounded to nearest dollar

Grants & Contracts
National CASA Association
State of TN Victims of Crime Act (VOCA)
Tennessee Bar Foundation (IOLTA Funds)
Tennessee Commission on Children & Youth

Donors
General Motors (GM) Foundation
Tennessee Employees Charitable Campaign
Tennessee CASA Board of Directors
The Community Foundation of Middle Tennessee - The Big Payback
Adam J. Liff
Individual Donors
Tennessee CASA's Year in Review

Fostering Futures Training of Facilitators & National CASA Training of Facilitators - July 2016
Annual Meeting & Leadership Training - September 2016
Highly Effective Governance Training - October 2016
New Director's Training - December 2016
Board Retreat: Development & Fundraising - January 2017
Children's Advocacy Days & CASA Day on the Hill - March 2017
5th Annual Tennessee CASA Conference - May 2017
Circles of Leadership Training - June 2017

Tennessee CASA Network (as of June 30, 2017)
30 local CASA programs serving 52 counties

Tennessee CASA Network Program Statistics:
Number of Children Served: 5,208
Median cost per child served in Tennessee: $842
Number of CASA Volunteers: 1,673
Number of Volunteer Hours: 133,142 hours
  (valued at $2,950,427)

Based on a $22.16 value of volunteer time per hour in Tennessee,
according to independentsector.org
Tennessee CASA Network

CASA, Inc. (1984)
Serving Davidson County
Julieanna Huddle, Executive Director

Hamilton County CASA (1985)
Tracy Taylor, Program Director

CASA of Northeast Tennessee (1985)
Serving Green, Unicoi, & Washington Counties
Whitney McLaughlin, Executive Director

CASA of Memphis/Shelby County (1986)
Daphni Ishak, Program Director

CASA of East Tennessee (1987)
Serving Knox County
Britney Sink, Executive Director

Wilson County CASA (1987)
Cathey Sweeney, Executive Director

CASA of the Tennessee Heartland (1988)
Serving Anderson, Blount, & Scott Counties
Kesha Shippe Waters, Executive Director

CASA for Kids (1991)
Serving Hawkins & Sullivan Counties
Mary Kilpatrick, Executive Director

Sumner County CASA (1991)
Sonya Manfred, CEO

Williamson County CASA (1993)
Marianne Schroer, Executive Director

Madison County CASA (1996)
Dayton Brown, Executive Director

CASA of Rutherford County (1997)
Kassie Davis, Executive Director

UCHRA Putnam County CASA (1999)
Serving Cumberland, Overton, Putnam & Smith Counties
Kelly Arnold, Program Director

CASA of Robertson County (2004)
Stephanie Mullins, Executive Director

CASA of Maury County (2006)
Denise Cox, Executive Director

CASA of Campbell County (2007)
Amanda Allen, Executive Director

CASA Corridor of East Tennessee (2007)
Serving Meigs, McMinn, & Rhea Counties
Frances Witt-McMahan, Executive Director

CASA of Henderson County (2007)
Annie Seabrook, Executive Director

CASA Monroe (2007)
Alisa Hobbs, Executive Director

Dyer-Lake CASA (2008)
Serving Crockett, Dyer, & Lake Counties
Wendy Smith, Executive Director

CASA of Tipton County, Inc. (2009)
Nina Smith, Executive Director

CASA of the 9th Judicial District (2009)
Serving Loudon, Morgan, & Roane Counties
Heather Moore-Francis, Executive Director

CASA Works, Inc. (2010)
Serving Bedford, Coffee, & Franklin Counties
Wanda Strayhorn, Executive Director

CASA of Bradley and Polk Counties (2010)
Holly Carroll, Executive Director

Decatur County CASA (2011)
Diana Montgomery, Executive Director

Lakeway CASA (2012)
Serving Hamblen, Jefferson, & Sevier Counties
Denise Aludo, Executive Director

Junior’s House (2013)
Serving Lincoln & Marshall Counties
Crystal Guess, Executive Director

CASA of Dickson County (2016)
Rachel Spencer, Executive Director

SETHRA CASA (2016)
Serving Bledsoe, Grundy, Marion & Sequatchie Counties
Margie Clemmer, Program Director

Tennessee CASA Association (1988)
Lynne Farrar, Executive Director
Thank You

to the following directors on their year(s) of service to CASA and the children they work hard to serve:

10 years of service
Frances Witt-McMahan
CASA Corridor of East Tennessee

5 years of service
Alisa Hobbs
CASA Monroe

1 year of service
Margie Clemmer
SETHRA CASA

Heather Moore-Francis
CASA of the 9th Judicial District

Julieanna Huddle
CASA Inc. of Davidson County

Whitney McLaughlin
CASA of Northeast Tennessee

Rachel Spencer
CASA of Dickson County

Kesha Shipe Waters
CASA of the Tennessee Heartland

&

Congratulations

to these local CASA programs on their program anniversary

CASA of East Tennessee
30 years
CASA of Memphis/Shelby County
CASA of Maury County
Wilson County CASA

Sumner County CASA
25 years
CASA of Campbell County

Madison County CASA
20 years
CASA of Maury County

Rutherford County CASA

CASA of Henderson County
10 years
CASA Corridor of East Tennessee

Lakeway CASA
5 years
We would like to recognize the following individuals and organizations for their support:

- Tennessee CASA Board of Directors
- National Court Appointed Special Advocates Association
- Tennessee Commission on Children and Youth
- Tennessee Bar Foundation - IOLTA Program
- Tennessee Employees Charitable Campaign
- Victims of Crime Assistance Program
- General Motors (GM) Foundation
- Staples Foundation

Special thanks goes out to the following...

Meagan Frazier, with Smith, Harris & Carr, for donating her services at a value of $20,000 for this last year.

Thank you for your dedication, expertise, and vision in developing the statewide volunteer recruitment campaign for Tennessee CASA.

Nashville Public Library
Photographer - Karin Ruiz
Tablecloths - CASA Works, Inc.
Brunch provided by CRAVE Catering

This project is partially funded under an agreement with the state of Tennessee.