

Tennessee CASA Association  
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[www.tncasa.org](http://www.tncasa.org)



**CASA**

Court Appointed Special Advocates  
**FOR CHILDREN**

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**TENNESSEE**

*2019*  
**Annual Report**

## 2018-2019 Tennessee CASA Board

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Agency Representative

Executive Director, Williamson County CASA

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Attorney

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Agency Representative

Executive Director, CASA Monroe

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Shift Leader

General Motors

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Attorney

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Deputy Commissioner/Chief of Staff

TN Department of Transportation

### **Joe Walker**

Williamson County Regional President

First Tennessee Bank

### **Wib Evans**

President

FB Ventures

## *Greetings From* **The Board President**

Welcome to the 2019 Tennessee CASA Annual Meeting. This is a time that we want to celebrate the accomplishments of Tennessee CASA as well as all of our partners in child welfare. Your support of our mission is truly appreciated. The collaboration we share ensures the best results for children and families.

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 children who have been abused and neglected.

Tennessee CASA has been growing! With a staff of six, Tennessee CASA is prepared to meet the needs of a growing network. There are now 31 CASA programs serving 56 counties, with more counties developing CASA programs. Over 1,500 volunteers advocated for over 5,000 children who have been abused and neglected. While that is a significant accomplishment, we are still very aware that over 20,000 children need a CASA volunteer in Tennessee.

Tennessee CASA is constantly providing quality training and technical assistance to the network. There is a very vibrant and active website and social media presence that has been successful in recruiting volunteers this past year. Please visit our websites, [www.tncasa.org](http://www.tncasa.org) and [www.BeForTheChild.org](http://www.BeForTheChild.org), as well as Facebook, Instagram, Twitter and LinkedIn to follow Tennessee CASA.

Thank you for being with us today. While there is always much work to do, it is good that we take the time together to reflect on all we have accomplished. Let us continue to work together to share our vision that every child that has been abused and neglected in the state of Tennessee is given the opportunity to thrive in a safe and loving home.



Marianne Schroer  
Board President, Tennessee CASA  
Executive Director, Williamson County CASA

# Tennessee CASA Association, Inc.

Annual Meeting | October 22, 2019 | Nashville Public Library | Nashville, Tennessee

## Welcoming Remarks

Marianne Schroer

Tennessee CASA Board President

Executive Director, Williamson County CASA

## Annual Report

Lynne Farrar

Executive Director, Tennessee CASA Association

## Awards Presentation

### Light of Hope Award

Mackenzie Johnston

Volunteer State Community College

### Champion For Children

Jim Henry

Former Deputy Governor/Chief of Staff

### Legacy Award

Randy McNally

Lieutenant Governor of Tennessee

## CASA Leadership Awards and Tennessee CASA Board Recognition

## Closing Comments



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**TENNESSEE**

# Light of Hope Award



**Mackenzie Johnston** was born and raised in Georgia. After much difficulty in her relationship with her biological family, she was sent to live with her grandmother in Franklin, TN. Mackenzie struggled in her grandmother's home as well. She found herself involved with people who were not a positive influence and exhibited acting out behaviors that were leading her down a bad path.

On October 26, 2016, her grandmother made the decision that she could no longer provide a home for Mackenzie. A dependent and neglect petition was filed with the Williamson County Juvenile Court and Mackenzie went into DCS custody. She remembers feeling scared, alone, and powerless when she went into custody. Mackenzie was in five placements in 11 months, several of which were residential facilities. Her

last placement was the foster home where she remains today. While in care, Mackenzie met her CASA volunteer and recounts how both CASA and DCS helped her learn more about herself, who she wanted to be and where she wanted to go in life. She calls them her amazing team! In her foster home, Mackenzie caught up from being a year behind in school to graduating with her high school class. She has remained with her foster family and still has contact with her CASA volunteer.

Mackenzie has just finished her first year at Volunteer State Community College and has maintained her current job for one year at Mister Car Wash. She has plans to finish college, majoring in communications. In her free time, she loves to get outside in nature, whether it be exploring national parks or jumping off cliffs.

Mackenzie recently spoke at the Williamson County CASA Voices for Children fundraising event with her CASA volunteer. She received a standing ovation when she talked about all she has accomplished. She has a strong desire to dedicate her time as an adult to supporting children who find themselves in the foster care system.

# Champion for Children Award



**Jim Henry** was appointed by Governor Haslam as Chief of Staff/Deputy to the Governor on June 30, 2015, after serving two years as commissioner for the Department of Children's Services. Henry was previously the first commissioner of the Department of Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities and served as the commissioner for both departments simultaneously for one year.

While commissioner for the Department of Children's Services, Henry developed a safety measuring system, brought the Memphis Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) program to a state-wide level, revamped the child abuse hotline, and received several awards, including the National Childhelp Voice of the Children Award in 2015. After 18 years of court appearances and many upgrades

to previous policy and practice at DCS and DIDD, Henry's tenacity brought Tennessee's programs into compliance with the Brian A. federal lawsuit and two other lawsuits affecting both departments. Hundreds of millions of dollars in savings have been redirected to services helping kids.

Prior to joining the administration, Henry served as president and CEO of Omni Visions, Inc., a company serving adults with developmental disabilities and children and families in crisis. The company has operations in Georgia, Kentucky, North Carolina and Tennessee.

A former mayor of Kingston, Tennessee, Henry served 12 years as a state representative and six of those years as the minority leader.

Henry, a Vietnam veteran, attends First Baptist Church in Kingston.



# Legacy Award



**Lt. Gov. Randy McNally** is Tennessee's fiscal conscience. He is only the second Republican Tennessee Senate Speaker in modern history and the first from Anderson County in nearly 150 years.

As chairman of the Senate's Finance, Ways and Means Committee for a decade, McNally oversaw the General Assembly's only constitutionally prescribed duty: the passage of a balanced budget. Recognized across the state as a finance and budget expert, McNally's leadership has been critical in keeping Tennessee budget in balance and its credit "Triple-A" rated.

In addition to his 26 years on the Senate Finance Ways and Means Committee, McNally also served as chairman of the Senate Education Committee in the 102nd and 103rd General Assemblies.

McNally has a long history of strong support for CASA including his influence to secure funding to develop new CASA programs, for existing local CASA programs, and for Tennessee CASA to provide training and technical assistance to the network.

A legislative leader for over 40 years, Lt. Governor McNally has been recognized for his work in the General Assembly and his community. McNally counts among his many achievements the American Conservative Union Conservative Achievement Award, NFIB's Guardian of Small Business Award, the Tennessee Association of Chiefs of Police Legislative Award and the Tennessee Press Association Open Government Award.

McNally received his B.S. from Memphis State University in 1967 and graduated from the University of Tennessee College of Pharmacy in 1969. He served as a hospital pharmacist at Methodist Medical Center in Oak Ridge from 1979 until his retirement in 2010. Lt. Governor McNally and his wife Janice have two adult daughters, Melissa and Maggie, three grandchildren, Haley, Morgan and Trent, and one great-grandchild, Malachi.

# Tennessee CASA Association, Inc.

## Statement of Activities

For the year ended June 30, 2019 | Audited

### Revenue

Grants	\$314,713
Dues and Fees	\$12,032
State Marriage License Tax	\$108,239
Contributions	\$21,699
Interest	\$30

**Total Public Support** **\$456,713**

### Expenses

Salaries and Wages	\$248,623
Employee Benefits	\$19,265
Occupancy Expense	\$32,757
Telephone	\$8,726
Office Expense	\$2,749
Travel	\$5,715
Public Relations	\$14,681
Publishing and Publications	\$12,741
Small Equipment	\$3,193
Dues	\$1,034
Training and Technical Assistance	\$108,485
Expansion Expenses	\$233
Professional Services	\$1,319
Insurance	\$2,847

**Total Expenses** **\$462,368**

<b>Increase (Decrease) in net assets</b>	<b>(\$5,655)</b>
<b>Beginning of Year Net Assets</b>	<b>\$95,622</b>
<b>End of Year Assets</b>	<b>\$89,967</b>



# Tennessee CASA's Year in Review

Training of Facilitators	August 2018
New Website Launched	September 2018
Annual Meeting and Leadership Training	October 2018
2019 - 2021 Strategic Plan Adopted	November 2018
New Director Orientation	January 2019
CASA Day on the Hill	March 2019
7th Annual Tennessee CASA Conference	April 2019
Resilience for Success	June 2019

## 31 Programs Serving 56 Counties

**1,581**  
CASA Volunteers

**5,361**  
Children Served

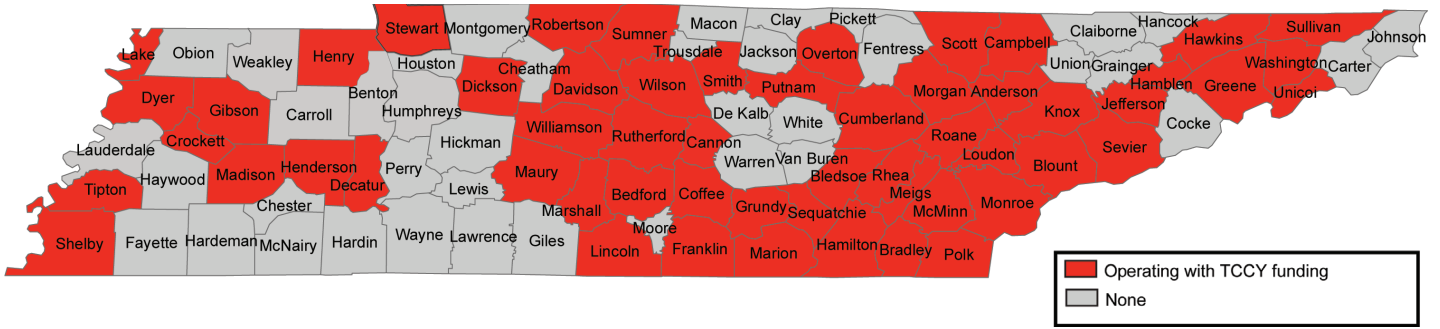
**\$842**  
Median Cost  
Per Child

**156,617**  
Volunteer Hours

Based on a \$22.67 value of volunteer time per hour in Tennessee, according to [independentsector.org](http://independentsector.org)

# Tennessee CASA Network

As of October 2019



CASA for Kids, Inc.  
(Sullivan, Hawkins)  
Mary Kilpatrick

**CASA of Northeast Tennessee**  
(Washington, Greene, Unicoi)  
**Whitney McLaughlin**

CASA of East Tennessee  
(Knox)

Lakeway CASA  
(Hamblen, Jefferson, Sevier)  
Denise Aludo

## CASA of Campbell County

CASA Monroe  
Alisa Hobbs

Williamson County CASA  
Marianne Schroer

CASA of Maury County  
Jeanine Denney

CASA of the Tennessee  
Heartland  
(Anderson, Scott, Blount)  
Kesha Waters

CASA of the Tennessee Valley  
(Roane, Morgan, Loudon)  
Heather Moore-Francis

CASA Corridor  
(Meigs, McMinn, Rhea)  
Frances Witt-McMahan

CASA of Bradley County  
(Bradley, Polk)  
Chris Janetzko

Hamilton County CASA  
Tracy Taylor

**UCHRA CASA**  
(Putnam, Cumberland, Overton,  
Smith)  
**Heather Brown**

Madison County CASA  
Hannah Snowden

CASA of Henderson County  
Annie Searock

Sumner County CASA  
Sonya Manfred

Wilson County CASA  
Cathey Sweeney

CASA of Rutherford County  
Kassie Davis

**CASA Works, Inc.**  
(Bedford, Coffee, Franklin)  
**Wanda Strayhorn**

CASA of Robertson County  
Kristin King

CASA, Inc. of Davidson County  
Julieanna Huddle

Decatur County CASA  
Diana Montgomery

**Dyer/Lake CASA**  
(Lake, Dyer, Crockett, Gibson)  
**Wendy Smith**

Juvenile Court of Memphis &  
Shelby County CASA  
Kim Weiss

Tipton County CASA  
Nina Smith

Junior's House  
(Marshall, Lincoln)  
Crystal Guess

CASA of Dickson County  
(Dickson, Stewart)  
Christie Arnold

**SETHRA CASA**  
(Bledsoe, Grundy, Marion,  
Sequatchie)  
**Margie Clemmer**

Henry County CASA  
Tas Smith

CASA of Cannon County  
Kamille Smith

Tennessee CASA Association  
Lynne Farrar

# THANK YOU

To the following directors on their year(s) of service to  
CASA and their commitment to the children they serve.

**5** *years*  
SONYA MANFRED  
SUMNER COUNTY CASA

**5** *years*  
NINA SMITH  
TIPTON COUNTY CASA

**5** *years*  
WANDA STRAYHORN  
CASA WORKS, INC

**1** *year*  
JEANINE DENNEY  
CASA OF MAURY COUNTY

# CONGRATULATIONS

To the following local programs on their program anniversary.

**35** *years*  
CASA NASHVILLE

**15** *years*  
ROBERTSON  
COUNTY CASA

**10** *years*  
CASA OF THE  
TENNESSEE VALLEY

**10** *years*  
TIPTON COUNTY CASA

March 11, 2020

# **CASA DAY ON THE HILL**

Nashville, Tennessee

## *Save The Date!*

Tennessee CASA Conference 2020

## **APRIL 17, 2020**

Murfreesboro, Tennessee







## About Us

The Omni Family of Services is a multi-state human services agency serving adults and children. At the heart of our organization we employ an Omni-developed trauma competent model of care focused on bridging the gap between behavioral and physical health services and social services to help keep kids, families and the communities they live in strong and healthy.

### > Omni Visions

Established in 1991, Omni Visions was founded on the idea that every child deserves to thrive in a family setting. Omni Visions' foster and adoption programs serve children in placement due to abuse, neglect and the resulting behaviors from exposure to trauma. Services include therapeutic foster care, medically fragile foster care, reunification, and adoption. The organization provides services to more than 3,000 children in Kentucky, North Carolina, and Tennessee.



### > Omni Community Health

Omni Community Health is a comprehensive outpatient behavioral health organization providing innovative, quality programs to heal children, families, and adults. We offer state-of-the-art, evidence-based approaches all designed to acknowledge life's adversities, honor resiliency, and empower clients to find the next step in their ongoing journey to healing. The organization provides services in Kentucky and Tennessee.



### > OmniCare Institute

Sharing state-of-the-art, evidence-based approaches employed by Omni Visions and Omni Community Health, OmniCare Institute provides best-in-class training and professional development to human services professionals nationwide. Through our combination of trainings, consultation, and other services, the OmniCare Institute team helps agencies discover and implement innovative practices that can be used to improve client care and outcomes.



### > 3LS

The parent company to the Omni Family of Services, 3LS specializes in providing administrative and advisory services to social service organizations. Services include finance and accounting, human resources, payroll, marketing communications, and information technology.





# Thank You

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  
Office of Criminal Justice Programs--VOCA Funding  
Tennessee Bar Foundation-- IOLTA Program  
Tennessee Employees Charitable Campaign  
First Tennessee Bank  
GM Foundation  
Individual Donors

# Special Thanks

Nashville Public Library  
Photographer-- Deandra Green  
Brunch provided by Crave Catering



Government Relations

Meagan Frazier with Harris Frazier Government Relations for donating her legislative advocacy services at a value of \$30,000 for the past year.



**Presenting Sponsor for  
the 2019 Annual Meeting**

This project is funded under a grant contract with the state of Tennessee.



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**TENNESSEE**



**KEEP UP WITH US ONLINE!**

[www.tncasa.org](http://www.tncasa.org)