



CASA

Court Appointed Special Advocates
FOR CHILDREN

Chattahoochee CASA

FY 2023 ANNUAL REPORT

SERVING THE
CHATTAHOOCHEE
JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

**OUR LIVES
BEGIN TO
END THE
DAY WE
BECOME
SILENT
ABOUT
THINGS
THAT
MATTER.**

Martin Luther King, Jr.



A program of

Twin Cedars
YOUTH AND FAMILY SERVICES, INC.

Affiliate of National
CASA/GAL & GA CASA
Associations



CHATTAHOOCHEE CASA FY 23 ANNUAL REPORT

SERVING THE CHATTAHOOCHEE JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

171

TOTAL SERVED

85

ACTIVE
VOLUNTEERS

231

COURT REPORTS

3,957

HOURS

32,587

MILES

GRANTS & FUNDRAISERS

GA CASA:	\$66,787
VOCA:	\$118,878
ARPA:	\$104,324
United Way of the CV:	\$87,200
Red Shoe Party:	\$32,880
Individual Donors:	\$3,400

CHILDREN STATS & DEMOGRAPHICS

Age	Race	Gender
0-5: 61	W: 48	Male: 93
6-11: 65	AA: 107	Female: 78
12-17: 41	H: 0	
18+: 4	Multi: 10	
	Other: 6	

VOLUNTEER STATS & DEMOGRAPHICS

Age	Race	Gender
21-29: 15	W: 42	Male: 7
30-39: 21	AA: 36	Female: 78
40-49: 22	H: 2	
50-59: 19	Multi: 1	
60+: 8	Other: 4	

PERMANENCY OUTCOMES

Reunifications:	12
Adoptions:	10
Guardianships:	9
Living w/ Relatives:	4



35 children who experienced juvenile court intervention because of abuse or neglect achieved permanency in FY 2023.



CHATTAHOOCHEE CASA VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR

Tierra Watkins





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CHATTAHOOCHEE CASA

SERVING THE CHATTAHOOCHEE JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

ADVOCACY in ACTION

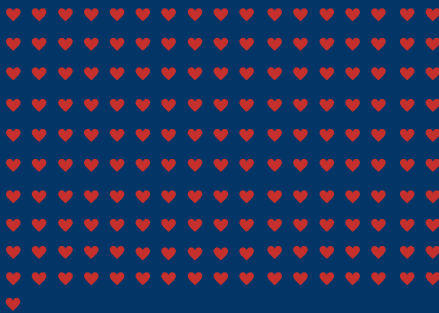
5 paid staff supporting



85 Volunteers providing
advocacy for



171 children in the Muscogee,
Harris, Talbot, Taylor,
Chattahoochee, and Marion
County child welfare system



FROM OUR PROGRAM COORDINATOR

To the Twin Cedars Youth and Family Services, Inc. Board and Foundation members, Leadership team, and Staff, Friends of CASA, community partners, funders, and program supporters,

Thank you for your continued support of Chattahoochee CASA. We are proud to be serving the children of the Chattahoochee Judicial Circuit.

We acknowledge and celebrate our partnerships with all of you who so graciously believe in the CASA mission and provide us with ongoing support. THANK YOU to United Way of the Chattahoochee Valley, Criminal Justice Coordinating Council, Georgia CASA and National CASA/GAL Associations, GA Power Foundation, Red Shoe Party sponsors and ticket holders, Department of Family and Children Services, and community members who contribute their time, talents, resources, connections, influence, and financial resources as Friends of CASA. We get the privilege every day to show up for the children who need us most and we could not do it without your support.

Beginning with a heart for children in need and a desire to impact the community, CASA volunteers are community members who have been carefully screened, trained, and sworn-in by the Juvenile Court. Once appointed, CASA Volunteers are change-makers for children in foster care advocating for their health, safety, wellbeing, and permanency. It is our mission to be advocates for children across all barriers to break the cycle of child abuse and neglect and build a stronger, more resilient future generation for our community.

To our Volunteer Advocates,
Our program would simply not exist without you and your selfless commitment to the children you serve. Thank you for sharing your heart to support the CASA mission.

Whether you give of your time to advocate for a child in foster care or support the program through community awareness and funding, it takes a village and we are so glad you're in it with us!

Keagan Clark 

**BEHIND EACH NUMBER IS A CHILD, A PROMISING
FUTURE, AND A CASA VOLUNTEER COMMITTED TO
MAKING A DIFFERENCE.**



ANNUAL ACTIVITIES

CASA Staff Development

CASA staff participated in GA CASA Council of Programs, GA CASA All-Volunteer Supervisor Meeting, GA CASA Training of the Facilitator, GA CASA New Volunteer Supervisor Training, CPR/1st Aide, Stewards of Children: Darkness to Light, GA Conference on Child Abuse and Neglect, Mandated Reporter training, GA CASA Recruiter Meet-Up and Legal Advocacy Convening, GA CASA State Conference, Juvenile Court 101, MD-CANI, The Impact of Trauma and Building Resiliency, International Conference on Child and Family Maltreatment, Cultural Humility, Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, TCYFS Supervisor training, NADCP R.I.S.E. conference, Trauma 101, Victims Comp 101/102, Differences are Good, Recognizing and Managing Secondary Traumatic Stress, Juvenile Court hearings, staff meetings, bi-weekly case reviews, and other trainings relevant to child welfare, trauma, advocacy, and working with families.

Recruitment/Awareness

Recruitment and outreach efforts include Instagram and Facebook accounts, monthly e-newsletter, over 40 speaking engagements or vendor opportunities with local churches, schools, civic groups, and events, 2 fundraiser billboards and virtual opportunities to stay engaged with the community and offer support. Combined efforts reached almost 10,000 people.

Volunteer Training

CASA screened, trained, and had sworn-in 20 new volunteers and completed 5 virtual training sessions. Through volunteer retention and 20 new CASAs, 39 new children had a CASA Volunteer appointed to them.

Events & Fundraiser

CASA celebrated National Volunteer Appreciation Week with recognition of all our Volunteers; hosted a Holiday Party for Volunteers and stakeholders; collected holiday toys and gifts for local children; participated in CASA Day at the Capitol; supported/participated in Child Abuse Awareness campaigns and events; and planned and hosted the 6th annual Red Shoe Party raising awareness and \$32,880 for the program.



Community Involvement

CASA is an active member of United Way Emerging Leaders United, Tri-Community Directors of Volunteer Services, Non-Profit Development, Children's Treehouse Child Advocacy Center: Multi-Disciplinary Team (MDT), Child Fatality Review Board, Domestic Violence Roundtable, Muscogee County Family Treatment Court, Child Abuse Protocol Committee, Harris County Attendance Protocol, attends Harris and Muscogee County Family Connections, and is a proud community partner of the United Way of the Chattahoochee Valley.

2023 VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR



With a desire to learn more about legal advocacy and a heart for the vulnerable, **Tierra Watkins** was sworn in as a CASA Volunteer on May 5, 2019. Shortly after, she was appointed to a sibling group of two and wasted no time speaking up for their needs. Over the course of three years, Tierra remained consistent, even through the COVID-19 pandemic, by ensuring the older child continued virtual counseling and both children succeeded in learning from home. After 1,243 days, the children were adopted by their one and only placement!

Tierra had already reached out to CASA staff about starting a new case when she was requested by the adoptive parent from her previous case to be assigned to the new child placed in her home. After the Judge also requested CASA, Tierra was appointed and dove back in without hesitation. Based on the trust she had built with the foster parent, Tierra was able to maintain her relationship with the previous CASA children in the home while also building a relationship with the baby boy and mom on her new case.

In her role as a CASA Volunteer, Tierra has continued to show commitment through adversity and hardships. When she applied to be a volunteer advocate, Tierra stated that she "wanted to be a voice for children who, because of their life experiences, feel as though their voice doesn't matter" and she has certainly done that. Tierra does not shy away from sharing the truth and is confident in speaking up in the best interest of the child. She is reliable, kind, warm, knowledgeable, persistent (in the best CASA way) and has a smile that lights up the room. Tierra embodies what it means to be a CASA through her compassion for children in need, tenacious advocacy, and consistency on her cases. She is making a difference every day, and we are thankful she chooses CASA as a way to give back!

CHATTAHOOCHEE CASA

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THANK YOU TO OUR FY 23 PROGRAM SUPPORTERS

\$2500 and up

Georgia Power Foundation, Inc.
LOGOS - Andy Young
Twin Cedars Youth and Family
Services, Inc. Foundation
James and Margaret Clark

\$1000-\$2499

LifeWorks Counseling Group
Heritage Timber Company, LLC
Amerigroup
North Highland Church
Andy Redmond
Nickie Lopez
Loudermilk Family Christian
Foundation, Inc.

\$500-\$999

AACR, Inc.
Gary and Emily Byrd
W.C. Bradley Co. Char-Broil
Rivertown Pediatrics
The Simple Greek
Mike and Yanci See
Attorney Ken Nugent
Gregory and Lori Auten
Richard and Pamela Huckaby
Jeremy and Melissa McCormick
Todd and Bethany Smith

\$250-\$499

Ankerpak, LLC
North Park Family Dentistry
Grace Church DeRidder
Days Gone By Properties, Inc. -
Nancy Burgin
Gay and Tom Solomon
Jay Gemes State Farm
ACJ Improvements, Inc.
Grandma Tempie Books
Jamie Williams, Realtor
Judge Andrew and Lisa Dodgen
Dawn Hightower
Jennifer Odom
Morgan Scarbrough

\$250-\$499 continued

Wade and Kalen Sieck
Ben and Marjorie Simms
Jim Catlin and Alex Steinwachs
Symantha Cook
Chris and Lena Johnson

\$1-\$249

Troy Amos
Eye Candy Visual Arts
Jessica Bankston
Sam & Kimberly Bishop
Keagan & Skylar Clark
David & Denise Coburn
Sheryl Cody
Effie Davidis
Antonio & Stephanie Dunston
Carol Eason
Paul Formby
Boyd & Alice Giles
Stuart & Kathleen Gulley
Clarissa Hallman
Doug & Carol Harvey
Ed Horne & Kathy Vidal
Bre'Ann James
Gwendolyn Jefferson
Matt & Ali Jordan
Patricia Kelly
Chris & Dana Kirkland
Laura Lowe
Estin & Kaylee Martin
Judge Gil & Betsy McBride
Kim McWilliams
Karen Moore
Calvin & Michelle Morant
Mr. & Mrs. James Pearce
Alex & Brittany Riddle
Kelly Rouzan
Barbara Rome
Kimberly Rozycki
Matt & Erin Sizemore
William & Amanda Sizemore
Jason & Missi Smith
Walker & Brittney Smith
Patty Taylor
Nicole Thompson
Carolyn Todd
Patricia Vance
Richard & Lorna Valentine
Tierra Watkins
Steve & Julie Westmoreland
Melanie Whitten

In-Kind

219 Southern Market
4th Avenue Carwash
Aglow Apothecary
American Girl Doll
Animal Farm
Artistic Therapy
By Invitation
Callaway Gardens
Caravail's
Carol Kline
Chancellors
Char-Broil Grills
Charred Oaks
Cheers Beverage Shop
Clean Eatz
Coca Cola Space
Science Center
Colga, LLC
Council Studio
Crumbli Cookies
Divine Dinners
GA Aquarium
Golden Donuts
Haley Borin Creative
High Pines Outfitters
Highland Galerie
Jessica Kennedy Art
Just Breathe For Kids
Launch Trampoline Park
Laura Lowe
Let's Graze and Wine
Libbie Rothschild

Maltitude
Midtown Coffee House
National Infantry Museum
Old School Barber Shoppe
Parker's Pantry
Pat-a-Cakes Bakery
Pedal Pub Columbus
Pop yoga
Posh Peach
Pure Barre
Pursona
River Road Pharmacy &
Gifts
Rivercity Swingsets
Riverflow Yoga
Rocket Fizz
Rumor Salon
Southern Straws
Springer Opera House
Stumpy's Hatchet House
Sydney's on First
The Bottle Shop
Uptown Float
Uptown Life Group - The
Loft
Uptown Nail and Beauty
Uptown Wine and Spirits
Wild Animal Safari
Your Pie
Zoo Atlanta

FY 23 GRANTORS



CHATTAHOOCHEE CASA

FY 23 ANNUAL REPORT



THANK YOU TO OUR FY 23 VOLUNTEER ADVOCATES

Ja'Lisa Adams
Pam Aldridge
Jan Allen
Jessica Bankston
Brenda Bannister
Lori Barnett
Jessica Boulware
Amanda Boyer
Brooke Brantley
Sierra Brooks
LaChandra Brundage
Charlotte Burton
LaShana Dabney
Brittany Davenport
Effie Davidis
Antonio Dunston
Monica Echols
Amy Edge
Sonja Esteras
Lorena Fernandez
Traci Gary

Jay Gemes
Karen George
Clark Gillett
Scott Grady
Connie Gustafson
Erica Hall
Clarissa Hallman
Joyce Harris-Stokes
Holly Heck
Jamesia Hicks
Sonja Holmes
Anita Holt
Sidney Houck
Gwendolyn Jefferson
Akira Jones
Julie Jordan
Megan Kelley
Jana Kelsey
Sandra Kimbrough
Elizabeth Langbo
Julia Lawyer

Matthew Lehman
Rachel Lee
Alexandra Leighton
Danny Lockhart
Laura Lowe
Taneshia Lyles
Jessica Maney
Kathy Marable
Samantha McDonald
Tatyana Marshall
Callie Martin
Ashley Marquez
Laelah McEntire
Deborah McMillon
Sarah Miller
Cecilia Moore
Emily Moore
Karen Moore
Maria Mullins
Ambra Napier
Julie Nuckols

Deborah Pitts
Kelsey Rochefort
Sbrena Randall
Barbara Rome
Corey Salzman
Dacia Sheffield
Kayla Shepard
Porshia Sexton
Antoinette Smith
Ansley Strickland
Eboni Thomas
Gabriella Thompson
Barbara Tidwell-Strickland
Samantha Walker
Joy Walton
LaTangela Washington
Tierra Watkins
Melanie Whitten
Todd Wilson
Delores Woodberry
Wendi Wyatt
Vickie Young

CASA STAFF

Keagan Clark Program Coordinator
Kenya Patterson Volunteer Coordinator
Stephanie Redmond Volunteer Supervisor
NaEisha Owens Volunteer Supervisor/Trainer
Bailey Bishop Volunteer Supervisor/Recruiter
Tiffany Manning-Hunter Volunteer Supervisor/Trainer

FY 23 Friends of CASA

Andy Redmond
Antoine Patterson
St. Francis Emory Healthcare
William and Julie Nuckols
Haley Borin of Haley Borin Creative
The Loft Columbus





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**Court Appointed Special Advocates
FOR CHILDREN**

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A program of
Twin Cedars Youth and Family Services, Inc.

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www.twincedars.org

