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COURT APPOINTED SPECIAL ADVOCATES



# CHRONICLES

SPRING/SUMMER 2018 NEWSLETTER

## KY: HIGHEST RATE OF CHILD ABUSE IN U.S.

The 1988 Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (CAPTA) directed the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services to collect and analyze data on child abuse and neglect across the country. This collection effort is done by the National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System (NCANDS).

All 50 states, including the District of Columbia and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, submit child abuse and neglect data voluntarily. "NCANDS collects case-level data on all children who received a CPS agency response in the form of an investigation response

or an alternative response. Case-level data (meaning individual child record data) include information about the characteristics of screened-in referrals (reports) of abuse and neglect that are made to CPS agencies, the children involved, the types of maltreatment they suffered, the dispositions of the CPS responses, the risk factors of the child and the caregivers, the services that are provided, and the perpetrators."

In March 2019, NCANDS compiled all the data and released the 28th Child Maltreatment Report. In the report, Kentucky ranked first

among all states and more than double the national average of 9.1 victims per 1,000 children. Kentucky had an estimated 22,410 child abuse victims, almost a 30% increase from 2013.

Nationally, 74.9 percent of victims are neglected, 18.3 percent are physically abused and 8.6 percent are sexually abused. The report noted victims may suffer one type of "maltreatment" or a combination of several types of maltreatment. Kentucky's child fatalities from abuse/neglect is one child per 100,000, a decrease from 2013.

Parents were the vast majority of perpetrators of child abuse nationally with nearly 410,000 parents representing about 78 percent of all child abusers. (See page 3 for highlights)

SAVE THE DATE

**BOURBON BY THE BRIDGE**  
 Save the date for CASA's annual bourbon tasting event under the 2nd Street Bridge.  
**JUN 8**

**BACK TO SCHOOL SUPPLY DRIVE**  
 Collect new school supplies & backpacks to ensure kids start the school year right.  
**JUL 1-26**

**SUPERHERO 5K WALK/RUN**  
 Join us at Sawyer Hayes Community Center to celebrate our volunteers.  
**FALL TBD**

**ST. JAMES ART SHOW VIP PARTY**  
 Get entry into CASA's annual party with a purpose at the St. James Court.  
**OCT 4**

IMPACT

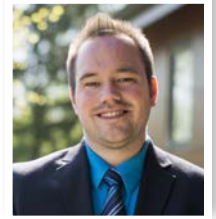


BE A VOICE.  
BE THE  
DIFFERENCE.  
BECOME  
A CASA.

CEO/PRESIDENT

Dear Friends and Supporters:

We are all stories. Each of us is made up of our experiences and people who encouraged us, challenged us, and made a difference in our lives. Hopefully your stories are mostly good ones.



For CASA kids, this isn't always the case. That's why we train advocates to make their stories happy ones. We believe every child deserves a good story. Unfortunately, the work load is large. Kentucky is now the state with the highest child abuse rate in the country. Yet, we believe that story by story and child by child we can change the narrative. We have the support of amazing volunteers, a dedicated Board and staff, and generous donors like yourselves to help us change the narrative. I hope you will continue to support CASA and our work of making changing stories for the better.

Sincerely,

William Myers, JD, MBA

### 2019 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Ruth Reid, Board Chair

Heather Metts, Finance Chair

Ashlyn Ackerman, Secretary

Drew Brown

Amy Caudill

Emily Digenis

Philip Hawkins

Carl Heick

Barbara LaMaster

Carol Lomicka

Leon Mooneyhan

Ambrose O'Bryan

Susan Ochs

Kellie Sheryak

Jessica Wissing

“When I was first paired with the case, I was worried the kids wouldn’t trust me. The older child is autistic, so his communication is very limited & his younger sister didn’t want to speak to anyone. Around Christmas, the children were moved into a foster home in a different county. Despite the distance, I stayed on. I wanted them to see that at least one, caring adult was there for them. It’s been a few months, but their new home has had a positive impact. The older child’s teacher thinks he may be able to navigate regular kindergarten for a few hours every day. His sister has begun speaking to the foster parents more each day. Despite the 5-hour round-trip drive, I believe it is worth every second of my time to be able to see the progress these two children have made in just a few short months.”

Volunteer Perspective



## BOURBON

BY THE BRIDGE

Guests will have access to a wide variety of distilleries and spirits offering all-you-can-taste pours and cocktails.

Participating distilleries: Barton 1792, Boone County Distilling, Buffalo Trace, Bluegrass Distillers, Corsair Distillery, Dueling Grounds, Four Roses, Jim Beam, Heaven Hill, Jefferson’s, Limestone Branch, Michter’s, New Riff Distilling, Rivulet, Town Branch, Wild Turkey, Woodford Reserve...

**\$65 EARLY BIRD TICKETS**  
(Until May 18/Sold out)

[www.bourbonbythebridge.com](http://www.bourbonbythebridge.com)

UPCOMING EVENTS

## 28TH CHILD MALTREATMENT REPORT HIGHLIGHTS

Some other highlights of the report: (continued from Page 1)

- Children in their 1st year of life have the highest rate of victimization at 25.3 per 1,000 children of the same age in the national population.
- American Indian or Alaska Native children have the highest rate of victimization at 14.3 per 1,000 children in the population of the same race or ethnicity; & African American children have the second highest rate at 13.9 per 1,000 children of the same race or ethnicity.
- Seventy-two percent of all child fatalities were younger than 3 years old.
- Boys had a higher child fatality rate than girls.
- The rate of African-American child fatalities is 2.6 times greater than the rate of White children and 3.1 times greater than the rate of Hispanic children.

I've never met my dad before. My mom doesn't talk about him, but she just got a new boyfriend so I don't see her all the time. I also don't see her because I have to take two TARC buses to get to the stop for my school bus. I don't love school. My grades aren't that great. I'm not a big talker and sometimes I get really sad. People started to get worried because I stopped talking to anyone. There would be days that I felt invisible. Like life was just going by like a movie I was watching. I was so sad that the school asked a social worker to check in on me. That's when John started visiting too. He's my CASA. John helped me find a tutor & gives me a ride there every week. My grades are getting a lot better and it's nice having a grown up around more. It was nice to know that I wasn't invisible. It was nice to know that somebody cared.

Sandra, 15 years old

## GET TO KNOW THE CASA STAFF

# MEET THE FOLKS BEHIND THE SCENES



### BRAD ADAMS | ADVOCACY SUPERVISOR

Brad joined in 2018. He ensures children's cases are properly documented and entered.



### EMMA BAMBA | ADVOCACY SUPERVISOR

Emma joined CASA in 2017. Prior to joining CASA she worked for the Family Court system and uses that knowledge now with CASA.



### AMABELLE CAMBA | DIR. OF DEVELOPMENT

Amabelle has been with CASA for 5+ years & has 20 years of nonprofit communications experience. She handles marketing, fundraising & events.



### SHARI CHRISTOFF | ADVOCACY SUPERVISOR

For 24+ years Shari has managed supervisors and volunteers. She brings extensive knowledge & experience to the program



### JOSETTE GOCELLA | ADVOCACY SUPERVISOR

Josette is a former CASA volunteer and joined the staff in 2011. Her background is in parish ministry & grief work.



### SUSI MURRAY-SCHMIDT | ADVOCACY SUPERVISOR

Susi joined CASA in 2012. Her prior experience was as a CPS social worker for the Cabinet.



### MELISSA NELSON | ADVOCACY SUPERVISOR

Melissa joined CASA in 2018. Melissa's experience is in family support systems and the community.



### LISA POLEGA | ADVOCACY SUPERVISOR

Lisa joined CASA in 2016. Prior to that her work was in ministry and social justice programs.



### TARA TRUCKOR | ADVOCACY SUPERVISOR

Tara joined CASA in 2019. Tara's background includes work with families and community partnerships.



### KAREN WILDER | ADVOCACY SUPERVISOR

Karen joined CASA in 2019. Her prior work has been in social services, case management, and teaching.



### PEG PETERSON | TRAINING MANAGER

Peg is a CASA volunteer and joined CASA in 2019. Previously she worked in the corporate world in training and preventing human trafficking.



### MEREDITH SLATER | COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT MANAGER

Meredith started in 2018 and works to recruit new volunteers into the community to become CASA advocates.

**PROGRAM  
UPDATE**  
STATISTICS FOR  
JAN-DEC 2018



**211** ACTIVE VOLUNTEERS  
# VOLUNTEER HOURS  
**43,888**  
NEW CHILDREN SERVED  
**286**

**67** VOLUNTEERS COMPLETED TRAINING + TOOK A CASE  
**32,106** MILES DRIVEN BY VOLUNTEERS  
**627** CHILDREN SERVED  
**148** #CASA Children who received holiday gifts

CASA VOLUNTEER ADVOCATES ACTIVE JAN 2018-APR 2019

# THANK YOU!

**15+ YEARS**

Ashley, James  
Buechler, Peggy  
Drescher, Diane  
Norris, Janie  
Staudter, Lee

**10 TO 14 YEARS**

Garner, Carolyn  
Garner, Tony  
Ilnick, Linda  
Lepping, Kathie  
Lindsay, Betsy  
Reichert, Walter

**5 TO 9 YEARS**

Aiple, Susan  
Bright, Michael  
Burke, Marty  
Dalton, Steve  
Dye, Donna  
Finlinson, Sharon  
Galbraith, LuAnn  
Hubbard, Liz  
Kiesel, John  
League, Rebecca  
McKinney, Phyllis  
Metcalf, Judy  
Metsker, Scott  
Michael, Douglas  
Ostwalt-Whitfield, Rita  
Peariso, Sharon  
Scott, Rosalind  
Shipley-Foster, Dorothy  
Stenger, Robert  
Stroud, Ashley  
Temple, Nick  
Voss, Joyce  
Waldman, Bobbi

**2 TO 4 YEARS**

Ackman, Melissa  
Arbough, Melinda  
Asher, Norm  
Barrineau, Hannah  
Brown, Dustin  
Byrne, Jonathan  
Carroll, Mike  
Duffy, Jenny

Dukes, Doug  
Fitzgerald, Annie  
Garrett, Ray  
Gillespie, Kimberly  
Grubbs, Frank  
Hale, John  
Heick, Mimi  
Heidel, Justin  
Holland, Carla  
Houchell, Jamie  
Howard, Christina  
Kang, Kyung  
Kelly, Tara  
Koch, Rachel  
Leyderman, Mariya  
Lockhart, Dorothy  
Loughran, Sandra  
Magnuson, Julie  
Marquart, Jules  
Mason, Enid  
McWilliams, Joe  
Meyer, Patti  
Miller, Doreen  
Miller, Judy  
Miller, Paula  
Morris, Julianna  
Mullins, John  
Phelps, Terri  
Pike, Sr., Thomas  
Pollard, Jennifer  
Plyman, Jennifer  
Price, Susan  
Radasch, Dolores  
Riggs, Carmen  
Rowe, Alicia  
Schulten, Michelle  
Schulz, Caroline  
Schumer, Joan  
Smith, Sarah  
Thomas, Stephanie  
Thompson, Gordon  
Timmerberg, Carissa  
Tucker, Christina  
Via, Cheryl  
VonTrapp, Stephanie  
Wagoner, Ruth  
Watts, Dorothy  
Weisbach, Eric  
Werner, Diane  
Willen, Rebecca  
Withers, Ashley  
Workman, Ashlee

**1+ YEAR OF SERVICE**

Aaron, Linda  
Abell, Nancy  
Adams, Timothy  
Allman, Tim  
Alonso, Mallory  
Amerman, Taylor  
Ankenbrand, Jay  
Anna, David  
Arvin, Lisa  
Barnett, Alicia  
Beeson, R  
Bell, Malissia  
Beville, Laura  
Bole, Suzette  
Boomer, James  
'Sandy'  
Bornstein, James  
Bradshaw, Lianne  
Brown, Jennifer  
Brucker, Cassidy  
Busse, Suzanne  
Caperton, Adam  
Caravona, Denise  
Cates, Christy  
Chang, Judith  
Clark, Denise  
Condict, Sue  
Cooper, David  
Cruet, Margaret  
Diggs, Cherell  
Donald, III, Robert  
Downey, Carolyn  
Drake, Sarah  
Ellis, Jeffery  
Ensch, Melissa  
Escobedo, Cheryl  
Eve, Shawn  
Faith, Sharron  
Fleck, Lisa  
Fries, Paul  
Fuller, Jennifer  
Geier, James  
George, Mark

Gordon, Anne  
Gordon, Jessie  
Graham, Chelsea  
Graham, Nancy  
Hall, Donna  
Hart, Patricia  
Hawthorne, Meghan  
Hayden, Michelle  
Heitz, Stephen  
Hobbs, Laurie  
Hock, Sister Chris  
Howard, Amy  
Hume, Jessica  
Jarett, Kim  
Johnson, Mark  
Jones, Cheryl  
Jones, Jeremy  
Jones, Robin  
King, Kylie  
Kipp-Sutton, Kerri  
Larger, Caitlin  
Locke, James  
Logsdon, Kelley  
Makowski, Peggy  
Maldonado, Mara  
March, Barbara  
'Lynn'  
Mathew, Annie  
May, Renae  
McCallion-Christner, Michele  
McDevitt, Holly  
Merz, Lynda  
Montgomery, Elizabeth  
Moore, Sonnie  
Morrison, Martha  
Mudd, Marynan  
Muldoon, Sean  
Muldoon, Susan  
Naik, Kuntesh  
Nelson, Patricia  
Ospital, Laura  
Pence, Sallye  
Petersen, Lissi

Peterson, Peg  
Phillips, Vicki  
Phinney, Devin  
Pierce, Jay  
Pope, Tracy  
Rearden, Rachel  
Reck, Gottfried  
Reece, Miranda  
Roberts, Rita  
Rogers, Margaret  
Rosenberg, Alan  
Russell, Caroline  
Schlegel, Jocelyn  
Schmidt, Kelli  
Self, Kimberly  
Sensenbrenner, Karen  
Shepherd, Tawnya  
Smiley, Jason  
Smith, Sarah  
Stermer, David  
Streich, Denise  
Taylor, Mary Lee  
Taylor, Matthew  
Todd, Brandia  
Turley, Rebecca  
Underwood, Nancy  
Valenti, Kelly  
VanArsdale, Therese 'Kay'  
Warrier, Maya  
Wesslund, Deborah  
Whitaker, James  
White, Brooks  
Wick, Martha  
Willis, Nancy  
Winters, Amanda  
Winters, Barbara  
Wood, Kelsey  
Young, Ann  
Zaricki, Stephen  
Zimmer, Jennifer

# CASA

## PHOTO ALBUM

### EMBRACE A CHILD BREAKFAST

THE OLMSTED | APRIL 12, 2019



Thank you to the 250 people who came out early for CASA's annual Embrace A Child Breakfast. Thanks to our impact donors: Texas Roadhouse, Kosair Charities, Terri Bass, US Framing Holdings, Kindred, Duncan Galloway Egan Greenwald PLLC, and Dee Dee McLeod.

It was an inspiring morning hosted by WHAS11 Anchor Juliana Valencia. CEO Will Myers opened the program, followed by Judge Dee McDonald. CASA volunteer Doug Dukes proudly invited former CASA child to share his experience. duPont Manual's YPAS kids were on-stage to share their peers' stories of trauma and triumph. The program closed with long-time CASA friend Bart Greenwald and CASA Board Member Abe O'Bryan.

All the funds raised supports the training of volunteers and the pairing of trained volunteers with abused and neglected children in the community.

**CHALLENGE:** Guests and friends were invited to participate in a challenge of raising \$1,000 from now until December 31. Be part of the challenge.

[www.casarr.org/embrace-a-child-breakfast](http://www.casarr.org/embrace-a-child-breakfast)

# SUPERHERO 5K OCTOBER 27, 2018



# ST. JAMES PREVIEW PARTY OCTOBER 5, 2018



# JUDGE MYLES HOLIDAY PARTY DECEMBER 11, 2018



VIEW ALL EVENT PHOTOS: [FACEBOOK.COM/CASARIVERREGION](https://www.facebook.com/casariverregion)



982 Eastern Parkway, Box 9  
Louisville, KY 40217

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Website: [CASARiverRegion.org](http://CASARiverRegion.org)  
Phone: (502) 595-4911

Ways to Give:

- 1 Mail Contribution
- 2 Give Online
- 3 Call Us
- 4 Donate Stock

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