



CASA

Court Appointed Special Advocates
FOR CHILDREN

CASA OF TERREBONNE, INC.

2014
Annual Report

www.casafterrebonne.org



Message from the Executive Director

Nicole Wesley

In 2014, the Board of Directors, staff, volunteers, and supporters of CASA of Terrebonne continued in our 13-year long commitment to serving the abused and neglected children of Terrebonne Parish who are in foster care. I am confident in declaring that the children our program has served have reaped life-long benefits in the forms of permanent, safe, and stable homes in which they can thrive. CASA's role is, without question, needed and clearly beneficial to our kids.

Reflecting upon our achievements throughout 2014, many come to mind:

- ◆ Increased volunteer recruitment, training, and retention;
- ◆ Swore-in 40 new volunteer advocates, increasing the number of children with a voice;
 - ◆ 79 volunteers advocated for 143 children;
- ◆ Developed new and maintained outstanding community partnerships;
- ◆ Enhanced CASA of Terrebonne's visibility in the community;
- ◆ Increased child abuse awareness via radio, newspaper, and social media;
- ◆ Two successful fundraisers: Draw Down raffle and 7th Annual Crawfish Boil-off;
&
- ◆ 2nd place winner of The Courier & Daily Comet's 2014 Reader's Choice Award for Terrebonne Parish Non-Profit Organizations.

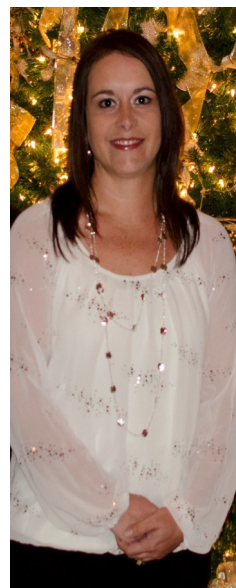
We also said a well-deserved "Thank you for your service!" to Laci Melancon for leading our program as the Executive Director for almost three years. Laci lovingly passed the baton to me and I am grateful for this opportunity to lead CASA of Terrebonne into additional heights of success. Our program's focus will not detour from the main reason that we exist, which is to advocate for the abused and neglected children of Terrebonne Parish. CASA of Terrebonne is committed to: providing the most skilled staff to support our volunteers, recruiting, training, and retaining volunteer advocates whose determination is to ensure our children receive a safe and stable home as quickly as possible, and seeking out and fully embracing the community's support in our attempt to serve every child who enters foster care in Terrebonne Parish.

With your support, we press forward in excelling at our mission. Thank you!

MISSION

The mission of CASA of Terrebonne, Inc. is to be an independent and objective presence in the courts by speaking for the best interest of abused and neglected children of Terrebonne Parish.

2014 CASA of Terrebonne Staff



Pictured from left to right: Darcus Landry, Nicole Oncale, Corinn Ferriss, Nicole Wesley, Jenny Sapia, Jeri Thompson, & Laci Melancon

Laci Melancon
(6/2011- 9/2014)
Executive Director

Nicole Wesley
(1/2014 - 9/2014) (9/2014 - 12/2014)
Lead Advocate Supervisor & Executive Director

Corinn Ferriss
(9/2014 - 12/2014)
Advocate Supervisor

Nicole Oncale
Community Relations Coordinator

Darcus Landry
Advocate Supervisor

Jenny Sapia
(1/2014 - 9/2014) (9/2014 - 12/2014)
Advocate Supervisor & Lead Advocate Supervisor

Jeri Thompson
Office Manager

2014 Board of Directors



Leo Pitre, *President*



Adam Triplett
Vice President



William Bordelon, Jr.
Treasurer



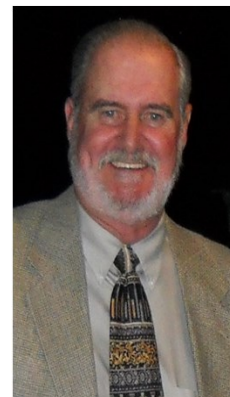
Sarah Brooke
Secretary



Charles Brown, Sr.



Jennifer Cobb



Merkle "Skipper" Kornegay



Martin Majewski, III



Carl "Buddy" McNabb



Kathryn Richard



R. Don Ross

Statement of Activities for the Year Ending December 31, 2014

Revenue & Other Support

Grant Income	\$264,218.98
Fundraisers	\$68,854.00
Patron Letter Contributions & Donations	\$30,255.71
Misc. Revenue	\$17,740.87
TOTAL	\$381,069.56

Expenses

Program Services	\$128,003.55
Management	\$202,191.88
Fundraising	\$12,373.30
TOTAL	\$ 342,568.73



Donation from
The UPS Foundation



Donation from
Coastal Commerce Bank



Donation from
Coastal Commerce Bank

2014 HIGHLIGHTS

CASA served **143 children**.

Advocates dedicated **5,666 hours** on their CASA cases.

Advocates drove **37,047 miles** to spend time with their CASA children.

CASA held **3 volunteer training classes** & swore-in **40 new advocates**.

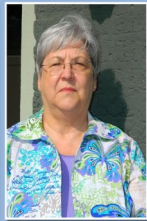
79 volunteers committed to advocate for the best interest of a CASA child.

Advocates devoted **1,960 hours** to **continued education training**.

ADVOCATES OF THE MONTH



JANUARY
Catherine
Schwab-Coreil



FEBRUARY
Linda Fleniken



MARCH
Jennifer Trahan



APRIL
Brandy Randolph



MAY
Jonathan Russo



JUNE
Daniela Picou



JULY
Pat Motley



AUGUST
Charlene Wallace



SEPTEMBER
Paula Voisin



SEPTEMBER
Corinn Ferriss



OCTOBER
April Beasley



NOVEMBER
Mary Donnes



DECEMBER
Dean Schouest

2014 AWARDS



Mosely/Courville Award *Mark Mabile*

Mr. Mark Mabile was chosen as the recipient of the 2014 Mosely/Courville Award. He was honored for his significant role in the success of the Annual Crawfish Boil-off held on May 17, 2014 at Southdown Pavilion in Houma, LA. With Mr. Mabile's help, Amos Mosely and the Courville family (in memory of Herman Courville) raised over \$42,000 in their continued support of CASA of Terrebonne.



From left to right:

Terrill Theriot, Jennifer Courville-Theriot, Chad Courville (*middle row*), Cindy Courville (*front*), & Christine Courville (*middle row*), Nicole Wesley (*front*), Amos Mosely (*back row*), & Scott Courville

Board Member of the Year *Merkle "Skipper" Kornegay*



From left to right:

Skipper Kornegay & Nicole Wesley

Mr. Merkle "Skipper" Kornegay serves dual roles as a board member and current volunteer advocate. He goes above and beyond petitioning donors to financially support CASA of Terrebonne. He assists with planning and helping with fundraising events. In 2014, he raised \$7,200 for the program. He ensures that CASA of Terrebonne's name remains forefront throughout the community.

2014 AWARDS

5-Year Service Award *Jason Griffin*

Mr. Jason Griffin became an active volunteer with CASA of Terrebonne on March 11, 2009 and accepted his first case on March 25, 2009. This compassionate volunteer has advocated for 6 CASA children in his 5 years of service. To this day, our honoree maintains contact with his first two CASA kids, and their case closed in 2009. Jason was also CASA of Terrebonne's January 2010 Advocate of the Month.



10-Year Service Award *Emily Elmore*



Mrs. Emily Elmore became an active volunteer with CASA of Terrebonne on March 1, 2004, immediately accepted her first case on March 5, 2004, and has maintained a child's case (sometimes multiple children and cases at one time) since then to present. This exceptional volunteer has advocated for 21 CASA children in her 10 years of service. She was also CASA of Terrebonne's 2007 Advocate of the Year and November 2012 Advocate of the Month.

From left to right:
Emily Elmore & Darcus Landry

2014 Advocate of the Year



From left to right:
Jenny Sapia & Eddie Olivier

Edward Olivier

Mr. Edward “Eddie” Olivier has been instrumental in four children achieving permanency. He was our typical male recruit. When he was first approached about volunteering for CASA his reaction was, “I went to say ‘No’, but ‘Yes’ came out of my mouth.” Thank goodness he is a man of his word because for the last three years he has changed the lives of his CASA children! Not only is Eddie a wonderful advocate for CASA of Terrebonne, he is an amazing family man.

He is a devoted husband and father of adult twins. He was a stay-at-home dad with his children for the first five years of their lives.

Eddie was sworn-in on July 12, 2010 as a CASA volunteer. He was appointed to his first case, which was a sibling group of three children, on September 16, 2010. The case was not always an easy one. He had to endure not being welcomed into a relative placement for one of the children. Through his dedication to the child and his respectful persistence, Eddie eventually gained the trust of this relative. Once that was accomplished, the relative would turn to Eddie with any questions or concerns pertaining to the child. On his current cases, it is not uncommon for Eddie to be on the floor playing with his CASA children. If they want to play, you better believe he will be on the floor playing cars, making puzzles, or reading books to them. He is not afraid to and often does go above and beyond CASA’s minimum requirements. This includes excessive distance visits with the biological mother who lives out of town, weekly communication with all involved parties, and multiple visits a month with his CASA children. Eddie has remained an active advocate since he took his CASA oath in 2010. He currently advocates on two cases and is highly anticipating another adoption of his CASA toddler. His advocacy yields productivity and permanency for children! ***Edward “Eddie” Olivier is a perfect example of a CASA worthy of the title Advocate of the Year!***

2014 Angels of the Year



Foundation & *Charlene Wallace*



Pictured above: Executives of UPS (back row & ends), Charlene Wallace (center w/ award) & Jenny Sapia

Some businesses reward their employees for volunteering in the community. United Parcel Service (better known as UPS) and The UPS Foundation is one of these companies. Due to Charlene Wallace, an employee of UPS and CASA volunteer, turning in her volunteer hours, CASA of Terrebonne was honored with grant funds. In October 2013 Charlene turned in her hours for the Global Volunteer Month at UPS. Little did she know that CASA of Terrebonne would be selected as one of only 13 organizations worldwide to receive a monetary donation from The UPS Foundation. For their generous support, ***The UPS Foundation*** was selected as our **2014 Co-Angel of the Year**.

Yes, Co-Angel of the Year. That is because without Charlene our program would not qualify to receive that grant from UPS. Charlene is an amazing advocate! She is devoted to her CASA children and their well-being. A multitude of compliments from collaterals are received about Charlene. She has been the changing factor in her cases. When all focus was lost, she was able to bring focus back to the child. For being the link to UPS and her unwavering dedication to CASA of Terrebonne, **Charlene Wallace** earned the title and award as our **2014 Co-Angel of the Year**.

Snapshot of 2014





CASA DRAW DOWN

Sponsored by The Patio

Featuring: *BABY BEE*



VOLUNTEER
speak up for an
Abused
Child.



www.casaofterrebonne.org



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Nicole Wesley

Barbara Williams

Donell Williams

Steve Williams

Juana Woodard

Thanks for your support!



**"A hero is someone
who has given his or
her life to something
bigger than oneself"**

Joseph Campbell



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