

This document includes minutes for the following GAL/CASA Advisory Commission Meetings:

- [February 21, 2025](#)
- [May 16, 2025](#)
- [August 15, 2025](#)
- [November 21, 2025](#)

Date of Meeting: February 21, 2025

Roll Call

Members Present

Katie Hall, Hilary Laughner, Kurt Kiefer, Brenda Matuszkiewicz, Annette Craycraft, Emily Shaw, Deena Hubler, Karen Bowen, Leslie Hendricks-Holt (Chair), Magistrate Jennifer Hubartt, Rich Kosmala, Magistrate Virginia Lawrence, Magistrate Shawna Webster, Judge Ryan King, Magistrate Matt Gruett, Judge Stephanie Campbell

Ex Officio Members Present

Rae Feller, Kelly Bray, Teresa Lyles, Tara Rochford, Stan Piercefield

Members Absent

Therese Miller, Judge Holly Harvey, LeeAnne Owens

Guests Present

There were no guests present for the meeting.

Welcome and Approval of Minutes from Previous Meeting

Chair Leslie Hendricks-Holt called the virtual meeting to order at 10:00 AM (Eastern). She asked for approval of November 15, 2024, minutes that were sent to Members via email in advance of the meeting. Brenda Matuszkiewicz moved that the minutes be approved as written, and Deena Hubler seconded the motion. Hearing no further discussion, all Members voted in favor of accepting the minutes as written.

Committee Reports

State Conference/Training Committee

Katie Hall/Chair, Conference and Training Committee was in court at the time of the Committee report, so Teresa Lyles reported that plans are in the works for both the 2025 Annual Spring Directors' Meeting on April 9 and 10, 2025, at the Renaissance Hotel in Carmel and for the 29th Annual GAL/CASA Conference to be held on September 11-13 at the French Lick Resort.

Public Relations and Legislative Committee

Annette Craycraft/Chair, Public Relations and Legislative Committee reported on the status of the plans for the upcoming CASA Day at the State House scheduled for March 4, 2025. Breakfast with the Legislators will begin at 8:00 AM (Eastern), and the scheduled program will begin at 11:00 AM. Both events will be held in the North Atrium on the main level of the State House. The Chief Justice of Indiana, legislators, and both youth and parents with lived experience will be sharing as we celebrate the 35th anniversary of the existence of the State Office.

Certification Standards and Best Practices Committee

There were no updates from the Standards and Best Practices Committee.

Other Reports

Judge Reports

Magistrate Matt Gruett (Lake County) announced that Christopher Anderson has been named as the new Lake County CASA Program Director. Anderson has served both in the public sector, as well as in the prosecutor's office. Magistrate Hubartt reported that new Family Court Judge Tara Melton has taken the bench in Court D15. Magistrate Hubartt will also be attending a Quarterly Stakeholder Meeting in the near future. Magistrate Virginia Lawrence reported that some courts in Marion County are now returning to hearing juvenile cases in person and that will be discussed more at the upcoming aforementioned Quarterly Stakeholder's Meeting.

Judge Campbell will be part of a panel discussion on "Stumbling Blocks in CHINS Cases" at the upcoming Judicial Conference in April, and Magistrate Lawrence, Rae Feller, Judge Lori Morgan, and Sr. Judge Steve Galvin will be facilitating a session on Family Law GAL at the conference as well. Additionally, Judge King will be hosting a GAL Family Law Training with Kids' Voice in Batesville in March. Judge King, Magistrate Lawrence, and Magistrate Hubartt will also be facilitating a panel discussion for the Indiana CASA Training Academy on March 21, 2025.

State Director Report

Rae Feller reported that the new Family Law GAL Guidelines went into effect on January 1, 2025. She asked Commission members present to convey the information to all local attorneys who file appearances in Family Law cases to visit the website and apply. The application is very brief and should only take about 10-15 minutes to complete. Attorneys who have been practicing as GAL in family law cases for at least three years and have served on ten cases will be waived from taking the initial training. The GAL Guidelines are for new GAL appointments for cases filed after 01/01/2025, and complaints can be made 60 days after a final order is issued by the judge (the official complaint form is still in the process of being completed).

The GAL/CASA Attorneys for the Network (GCAFN) Pilot is up and running. The State Office has approved requests from 13 counties/programs, and has awarded \$40,900.00 to date. We encourage programs to continue to reach out to the State Office to apply for financial assistance to fill the gap in the need for legal services for both children and the programs.

On the topic of the required pre-service/initial training required for all GAL/CASA staff and volunteers, National GAL/CASA has temporarily halted access to both the Flex and Guided Learning versions of the curriculum until they can offer interim guidance regarding various sections of the current training per direction from the OJJDP. Information will be passed on to our network as it is made available. Stan Pierced was asked to provide an update on the ongoing Indiana Pre-Service Curriculum version that can be used specifically by our programs instead of the National curriculum. Stan reported that the Foundational Section of the training is nearly completed, as well as several pieces of the State Section. He is in the process of holding Regional Zoom meeting with all programs to update them on the progress as well.

Rae recently participated in a meeting with Representative Julie Olthoff to share information on the topic of Direct Representation of Children involved in juvenile cases. Potentially, an informal group of local Indiana GAL/CASA directors could form a focus group and meet to offer suggestions in order to

create the tool. Judge King advised that a judicial officer should also be included in the focus group. Emily Shaw advised that creating a screening tool could be limiting because some youth have unique needs and may be the ones who need the resources the most. Hilary Laughner motioned that a focus group be created for this purpose, and Annette Craycraft seconded the motion. Having no further discussion, all voted in favor of creating an informal focus group to discuss the possibility of creating a screening tool and/or for further discussions. House Bill 1605 was also briefly discussed, specifically on the topic of allowing judges discretion as to whether a foster parent should be considered a party to juvenile proceedings. At the present time, part of the language in this section was amended before being put back into the proposed legislation.

Program Coordinator Report

Teresa Lyles provided the following updates from across the Indiana GAL/CASA network:

Regional Updates—Region 1—New Program Director named in Lake County: Christopher Anderson
New Director Training Cohort—January 29-30, 2025: Eight new program directors completed 8 hours of required Leadership Training with the State Office via Zoom:

Region 1: Chris Anderson, Lake County; Sarah Arnold, Porter County

Region 2: Kristi Bachman, Northeastern Indiana CASA, Inc.

Region 3: Anita Reckers, Dearborn/Ohio Counties

Region 4: Tia Arthur, Monroe County; Beth Ficker; Spencer County; Jonna Norris, Owen County; Sarah Reis, Vanderburgh County.

CASA Training Academy This Quarter

- November—Older Youth Initiatives: Rewriting Their Story (396 Registered)
- November—Advocating for Infants and Toddlers (444 Registered)
- January—Situational Awareness and GAL/CASA Volunteer Safety (521 Registered)
- February—Book Club on The Child Catcher (186 Registered)

Adjournment

Annette Craycraft moved that the meeting be adjourned, and Hilary Laughner seconded the motion; all voted in favor. The next meeting will be held virtually on Friday, May 16, 2025, at 10:00 AM (Eastern).

Date of Meeting: May 16, 2025

Roll Call

Members Present

Katie Hall, Hilary Laughner, Kurt Kiefer, Brenda Matuszkiewicz, Annette Craycraft, Emily Shaw, Deena Hubler, Karen Bowen, Leslie Hendricks-Holt (Chair), Magistrate Jennifer Hubartt, Rich Kosmala, Magistrate Virginia Lawrence, Judge Ryan King, Magistrate Matt Gruett, Judge Stephanie Campbell, Therese Miller, Judge Holly Harvey

Ex Officio Members Present

Rae Feller, Kelly Bray, Teresa Lyles, Tara Rochford, Stan Piercefield

Members Absent

Magistrate Shawna Webster and LeeAnne Owens

Guests Present

There were no guests present for the meeting.

Welcome and Approval of Minutes from Previous Meeting

Chair Leslie Hendricks-Holt called the virtual meeting to order at 10:00 AM (Eastern). She asked for approval of February 21, 2025, minutes that were sent to Members via email in advance of the meeting. Annette Craycraft moved that the minutes be approved as written, and Therese Miller seconded the motion. Hearing no further discussion, all Members voted in favor of accepting the minutes as written.

Committee Reports

State Conference/Training Committee

Katie Hall/Chair, Conference and Training Committee reported on the success of the 2025 Annual Spring Directors' Meeting held on April 9 and 10, 2025, at the Renaissance Hotel in Carmel where 64 local program directors were in attendance. She also reminded the Commission that the 29th Annual GAL/CASA Conference will be held on September 11-13 at the French Lick Resort.

Public Relations and Legislative Committee

Annette Craycraft/Chair, Public Relations and Legislative Committee reported on the recent CASA Day at the State House which was held on March 4, 2025. The day started with "Breakfast with the Legislators" at 8:00 AM (Eastern), and program began at 11:00 AM. Both events were held in the North Atrium on the main level of the State House. The Chief Justice of Indiana, legislators, and both youth and parents with lived experience will be sharing as we celebrate the 35th anniversary of the existence of the State Office with approximately 450 in attendance.

Certification Standards and Best Practices Committee

There were no updates from the Standards and Best Practices Committee.

Other Reports

Judge Reports

Judge King reported that proposed Administrative Rule 14 was recently discussed at the Juvenile Judges' Advisory Committee meeting. The Rule would require that all hearings in CHINS cases (except Fact-Finding cases) are presumed to occur remotely. There is a great deal of conversation about this at the present time. This would mean that the judicial officer would have to find good cause to hold CHINS hearings in-person. Currently, Interim Rule 14 is still in place for remote proceedings.

State Director Report

State GAL/CASA Director Rae Feller reported that the Matching and Capacity Grant estimates for 2026 have been sent to the Network. The JC filings for many larger (as well as smaller) programs have increased, with an over increase in JC filings up 29% in 2024. She also reported that the State Office was required to cut 5% from its annual budget, and that will be reflected in distributing \$250,000.00 to local programs in 2025 Third Round Distributions instead of the \$500K originally planned. This will also allow the State Office to reserve funds to give more money to programs in need after budget cuts and the rise in JC filings statewide.

Feller also provided updates on the following:

Family Law GAL Guidelines—The complaint process has been opened and the few that have been received are on GAL/CASAs assigned to CHINS cases (which does not apply). The ongoing continuing education training for GALs currently on the registry (6 hours annually) will begin effectively on 1/1/2026.

GAL/CASA Attorneys for the Network (GCAFN) Pilot—To date, \$45,600.00 has been awarded to local programs requesting GCAFN pilot funds. They have been requested and awarded for retaining best interest counsel for TPR cases, complicated motions, directly representing children in estates, direct representation of children in CHINS/TPR cases, language barriers and more. We continue to encourage local programs to apply for the funds as the legal representation arises for either the program or for direct representation of the children they serve.

Legislative Updates—

- Representative Garcia-Wilburn will be presenting a Concurrent House Resolution to the State Office in recognition of the 35th anniversary of the Office
- As already mentioned, the State Office is among those who were required to reduce our budgets for SFY 2026 and SFY 2027 by 5%
- There was a last-minute addition to take some DCS attorneys and assign them to the local prosecutor's office as a pilot in some counties
- HB1605:
 - parts of the bill will undoubtedly cause delay by making CHINS cases more litigious by adding multiple evidentiary hearings to the docket on nearly every case
 - Hearings with siblings in different placements will take more time as the court will have to decide in what order to hold hearings to avoid disclosure of confidential information
 - Will require extensive training for stakeholders
 - Concerns about cases that are not winnable at a TPR, but also not safe for children to return home, and the timeframe for services has expired
 - Placement to intervene changes—everyone should read it through entirely (it is quite extensive)

- Reminder that this was covered at the Spring Directors' meeting and the State Office will be providing additional training starting with Advocates for Children in July

National CASA Updates—National CASA/GAL has lost its federal funding due to no real fault of their own. They have appealed the decision (on all three of the federal grants they lost) and are awaiting a response.

New Pre-Service Curriculum Update—Rae asked Stan Piercefield to report on the status of the creation and implementation of the new Indiana CASA Pre-Service Training Curriculum:

- The new curriculum is based on micro-learning (short, focused messages using both reading and videos)
- There are 3 “tiers” to the curriculum; National, State, and Local
- 85% of the National and State sections are complete, and the review team will soon be combing through the modules for each tier
- The development of the Local tier is in process
- It is hoped that we will be able to launch a pilot training by late summer 2025

Program Coordinator Report

CASA Training Academy

- March—Answers to Questions You've Always Wanted to Ask the Judge (447 registered)
- April—Suicide Prevention: QPR (330 registered)
- May—A Road Less Traveled: Domestic Violence in Rural Communities (339 registered)

Regional Updates:

Region 1

- Clinton County—Deanne Hunter retiring; Nancy Ward named new Director

Region 2

- Delaware County--Ashley Soldaat resigning effective 5/23

Adjournment

Kurt Kiefer moved that the meeting be adjourned, and Karen Bowen seconded the motion; all voted in favor. The next meeting will be held virtually on Friday, August 15, 2025, at 10:00 AM (Eastern).

Date of Meeting: August 15, 2025

Roll Call

Members Present

LeeAnne Owens, Judge Holly Harvey, Magistrate Matthew Gruett, Therese Miller, Kurt Kiefer, Emily Angel-Shaw, Rich Kosmala, Magistrate Virginia Lawrence, Judge Ryan King, Magistrate Jennifer Hubartt, Sarah Arnold, Nancy Springer, Hilary Laughner, and Magistrate Ashley Colburn

Ex Officio Members Present

Rae Feller, Kelly Bray, Teresa Lyles, Tara Rochford, and Stan Piercefield

Members Absent

Katie Hall, Annette Craycraft, Karen Bowen, and Deena Hubler

Guests Present

There were no guests present for the meeting.

Welcome, Approval of Minutes from Previous Meeting, and Election of New Chair

The August 15, 2025, virtual meeting of the GAL/CASA Advisory Commission was called to order by Rae Feller. New members of the Commission were welcomed (Sarah Arnold, Nancy Springer, and Magistrate Colburn) were noted and all members introduced themselves. Former Chair Leslie Hendricks-Holt rolled off of the Commission at the end of the 2025 State Fiscal year, and Rae signified the need to elect a new Chair. Hilary Laughner signified interest in serving as the Chair and several others voiced their agreement. A vote was taken and all members voted in favor of electing Hilary as Chair of the Advisory Commission.

Committee Reports

State Conference/Training Committee

Chair Katie Hall was unable to attend the meeting, so Teresa Lyles provided an update on the upcoming conference. All speakers and sessions have been solidified and approximately 500 people have registered to attend the conference itself on Saturday, September 13, 2025, in French Lick. There are 50+ registrants to attend both the Director's Round Table and Staff Round Table Discussion on Thursday of the conference, and nearly 200 are registered for the Staff and Directors' Annual Meeting on Friday, September 12, 2025.

Public Relations and Legislative Committee

Chair Annette Craycraft was unable to attend the meeting, so Rae Feller provided an update for this Committee. The first meeting of the committee of the new fiscal year will be held in person in Indianapolis on August 21, 2025, to discuss the 2026 CASA Day event at the State House, and to catch up on legislative changes.

Certification Standards and Best Practices Committee

Chair Nancy Springer reported that the Committee is currently reviewing the suggestions for new or updated Best Practices that were collected at the 2025 Spring Directors' Meeting. The Committee is reviewing the suggestions and breaking off into sub-committees who will be working on recommendations for consideration and approval by the Commission over the next 3 months. These will be presented at the November 2025 Commission meeting.

Other Reports

Judge Reports

Judge King and Magistrate Hubartt will be presenting a session on “The Changing Landscape of Juvenile Law” along with Leslie Dunn at the upcoming Annual Judicial Meeting. They will be focusing on the recent E.K. decision, as well as SB1605 and the impact on the daily business of the juvenile courts in Indiana.

State Director Report

Former State Director Rae Feller provided the Director’s Report for this meeting. Although she left the position on August 1, 2025, to relocate to Colorado, she is working with the State Office of GAL/CASA contractually through the end of December 2025 to assist with the transition to a new State Director, the Annual Conference and the 2026 grant application process. She reported that Melissa Cunyngnam has been named as the new State Director and will begin working on September 2, 2025. Melissa was previously working as a DCS attorney in Clinton County.

The 2026 Matching and Capacity Grant application packets will be sent out to the network in mid-September and will be due in mid-October. As has been the case in previous years, the State Office will offer “Open Office Hour” help sessions for directors who may have questions regarding the completion and submission of the applications.

The GAL/CASA Attorneys for the Network (GCAFN) Pilot is still underway, and more programs have been applying for and receiving the funds. The State Office will be collaborating with the Court Improvement Project in light of E.K. to expand into direct representation for children and youth, and particularly for youth that are at risk of aging out of the system. When this occurs, our local programs may also need to review open and ongoing cases for children and youth who may need an attorney, and not just in new filings.

Rae reported that CASA of Cass County was decertified as a program in June 2025 and will not be receiving any 2025 grant funds. The State Office continues to be open to discussions with the judge there to reactivate and recertify the program in the future.

National CASA/GAL had their federal funding reinstated, but our office is continuing to move forward with the creation of our own Indiana Pre-Service Training Curriculum for staff and volunteers. Stan Piercefield will be sharing a preview of the new curriculum with directors and staff at the upcoming Annual Meeting in September.

Program Coordinator Report

Teresa Lyles reported that St. Joseph County CASA Program Director Brenda Matuszkiewicz will be retiring from her position at the end of August 2025. Current long-time staff member Stephanie Schmaker will be assuming the position of Director on 9/2/2025. Nicola Bosken has been named as the Director of the Delaware County CASA Program. She, too, has served the program as a staff member for several years. A New Director Cohort was also completed this quarter for new directors serving in Clinton, Delaware, and Monroe Counties.

Adjournment

LeeAnne Owens moved that the meeting be adjourned, and Kurt Kiefer seconded the motion. All voted in favor. The next virtual meeting of the Commission will be held on Friday, November 21, 2025.

Date of Meeting: November 21, 2025

Roll Call

Members Present

Judge Holly Harvey, Kurt Kiefer, Emily Angel-Shaw, Judge Ryan King, Magistrate Jennifer Hubartt, Sarah Arnold, Nancy Springer, Hilary Laughner, Katie Hall, Annette Craycraft, and Karen Bowen

Ex Officio Members Present

Melissa Cunnyingham, Rae Feller, Kelly Bray, Teresa Lyles, Tara Rochford, and Stan Piercefield

Members Absent

LeeAnne Owens, Magistrate Matthew Gruett, Rich Kosmala, Magistrate Virginia Lawrence, Therese Miller, and Deena Hubler

Guests Present

There were no guests present for the meeting.

Welcome, Approval of Minutes from Previous Meeting

The November 21, 2025, meeting of the GAL/CASA Advisory Commission was called to order by Commission Chair Hilary Laughner. Minutes from the August 15, 2025, meeting were provided to the members in advance of the meeting. Annette Craycraft moved that the minutes be accepted as written and Magistrate Hubartt seconded the motion; with no further discussion, all members voted in favor and the minutes were accepted. New GAL/CASA State Director Melissa Cunnyham was introduced and provided a brief background about herself. The members of the Commission then introduced themselves to her as well.

Committee Reports

State Conference/Training Committee

Committee Chair Katie Hall shared that the 2025 Annual GAL/CASA Conference was a success with 523 registered to attend the conference on Saturday, September 13, 2025. There were also record numbers in attendance for the Directors and Staff Round Table Meetings on 9/11/2025, as well as the Annual Director and Staff Meeting and Welcome Reception on Friday. The Conference Committee met on 11/7/2025 to debrief on the event and to make notes for 2026. It was announced that the 2026 Spring Directors' Meeting will be held on April 23-24 in Carmel, and the Annual Conference is scheduled for September 24-26, 2026, in Fort Wayne.

Public Relations and Legislative Committee

Committee Chair Annette Craycraft announced that CASA Day 2026 will be held on February 24. The Committee has been meeting to plan what will be a different format in 2026 from previous years. The Chair also spoke briefly about the pending VOCA cuts for FFY 2026, and this topic was discussed in depth later in the meeting by State Director Melissa Cunnyingham.

Certification Standards and Best Practices Committee

Chair Nancy Springer reported that the Committee has been reviewing the many suggestions that were gathered from the Network at the 2025 Spring Meeting. While they are still in the process of considering several of the suggestions, the Committee has prepared one addition to the existing Continuing Education Best Practice, and the creation of a new Best Practice on the topic of Volunteer Safety Guidelines. Members of the Commission were provided with copies of the recommendations for both of these prior to the meeting.

Addition to Existing Best Practice on Continuing Education:

- Under “Other Relevant Training: “Local programs should encourage volunteers to add a note to the training log explaining how the topic pertains to their role as a CASA.”
 - Annette Craycraft moved that the addition to the existing Best Practice be accepted and Judge Holly Harvey seconded the motion
 - Having no further discussion, all voted in favor of the addition to the existing Best Practice

New Best Practice on Volunteer Safety Guidelines:

- A detailed new Best Practice on the topic of Volunteer Safety was presented to the Commission on the topic of Volunteer Safety
 - Chair Hilary Laughner recommended that moving the items in an order that flows more with the progression of preparing for the visit through during and after the visit would be helpful, and others agreed
 - Judge King noted that it may be helpful for volunteers to utilize a location application such as Life 360 may be helpful as well.
 - Judge King moved that the new Best Practice be accepted as written (except for reordering the bullets) and Kurt Kiefer seconded the motion
 - Having no further discussion, all voted in favor

Other Reports

Judge Reports

Magistrate Hubartt stated that the Marion County Juvenile Court would be celebrating National Adoption Day on 11/21/2025 and that she was excited about the day, as well as the community support.

Judge King reported that as part of the recent PIP for DCS that he is working on a Stakeholder Collaborative with Leslie Dunn, Jamie Devine, and DCS at the state level to work on a more efficient way of processing cases. He mentioned that there is also a need to bring both service providers and CASA to the table as the work proceeds with this effort.

State Director Report

State GAL/CASA Director Melissa Cunyngnam reported that all 2026 Grant Application have been received from the Network and have been approved. Both the State Director and Stan Piercefield reported on a recent meeting with the Chief Justice where she was shown a demonstration of the new Indiana GAL/CASA Pre-Service Training Curriculum. She was enthusiastic and had many questions. She has offered to record a welcome video for new volunteers as they embark on completing the training. A pilot group from five programs (Allen, Clark, Dubois, Madison, and Vigo) will be taking the Moodle-based training in January 2026.

Former State GAL/CASA Director gave a brief update on the Family Law GAL Registry and the GAL Oversight Committee. The Registry has been up and running since January of 2025 and is running rather smoothly. It has been noted that there are a few attorneys who are filing appearances on Family Law cases who are not yet on the Registry. Those individuals, as well as some judicial officers, have been contacted as we work to get the Registry in order. There is also discussion about starting a mentorship program to work with non-attorney GAL to help get those who are interested on board.

Melissa gave an update on the GAL/CASA Attorneys for the Network (GCAFN) Pilot, stating that \$51,600.00 was awarded to programs in SFY 2025, and \$39,000.00 has been awarded so far in SFY 2026. To date, 26 local programs have applied for and utilized the funds.

There is interest in Cass County to restart the program there, and Melissa and Leslie Dunn are working with local officials on the steps it will require for them to do so. Martin County has also indicated interest in starting a CASA volunteer program, and Melissa and Teresa Lyles have a meeting with her on December 4, 2025, to discuss the possibility.

The State Director then asked members of the Commission if they have been seeing any reoccurring trends with the enactment of HB1605 and SB143. Judicial officers indicated that they have heard nothing as far as SB143 goes. Regarding HB1605, they are waiting to see what the next few months bring when reunification services cannot go longer than 12 months without court approval. In Marion County, the calendar for mediations was filling up fast within a month of HB1605 going into effect. Everyone there is very much working to stay within the spirit of keeping up with the pending timelines.

Program Coordinator Report

State Program Coordinator Teresa Lyles gave the following report to the Commission regarding Regional Updates:

Region 1

- Marshall County CASA will be switching their governance type from non-profit to publicly administered effective 1/1/2026
- Cass County—It has been reported that the County Council has set aside \$60,000.00 in Matching Funds for a potential re-start of their program in 2026; we are awaiting further confirmation as well as submission of 2024 Financial Reports

Region 2

- Randolph County CASA Director Deb McGriff-Tharp will be retiring effective 1/1/2026; a candidate for the position has already been chosen
- Northeastern Indiana CASA, Inc.--DeKalb County is no longer part of this multi-county program; attorney GAL will be assigned to CHINS cases there

Region 3

- Clark County CASA Program Director Shannon Holt has taken another job within the courts in Clark County, and Melissa Borries (2025 Staff Member of the Year) has assumed the position of Program Director effective 11/17/2025
- Marion County CASA Program Director Emily Angel-Shaw will be taking a different position within Kids' Voice, Inc., Chris Muncdy will be the new Program Director effective 1/1/2026

Region 4

- Martin County has reached out with interest regarding restarting a program there in 2026
- Orange County CASA Program Director Robin Brown will be retiring effective 1/1/2026; a candidate for the position has already been chosen
- Pike County CASA has appointed Interim Director Jonna Booth since the departure of Andrea Sharp in October 2025. The State Office is assisting with transition

Training Academy Sessions This Quarter

- August— “I Second that Emotion” ...Taking Emotions Out of Report Writing (504 Registrants)
- September—No Session Due to Conference
- October—The Importance of Wellbeing and the Power of Meditation (238 Registrants)
- November—Coping with Secondary Trauma Stress (244 Registrants)

Adjournment

Katie Hall moved to adjourn the meeting, and Nancy Springer seconded the motion; all voted in favor and the meeting was adjourned.

Next Meeting: February 20, 2026