



Towaliga CASA

# Towaliga CASA

Towaliga Accountability Courts, Inc.  
 130 Library Street, Barnesville, Georgia, 30204  
 770-358-5629  
 Judge Sharon Sullivan, Juvenile Court



Volume 1, Issue III

## Upcoming Events in 2016

Newsletter Date  
 July-December 2015

### 2016 CALENDAR

January 21-22 -Volunteer  
 Supervisor's Training

February 9- CASA Day at  
 the Capitol

February 11- CASA and  
 TAC will be presenting  
 on Drug Court and CASA  
 programs at the Lamar  
 County Family Connec-  
 tions Meeting

March 5- Georgia CASA  
 Conference in Atlanta.  
 Child's Attorney, Kristi  
 Lovelace, will be  
 presenting at this confer-  
 ence.

April 15- Relay for Life  
 (booth)

April 22,23- BBQ and  
 Blues (booth)

July TBA- Back to  
 School Bash in Butts,  
 Lamar and Monroe  
 Counties

September TBA- Buggy  
 Days in Barnesville  
 (booth)

On March 5, 2016 there will be a Georgia CASA Conference in Atlanta. This is an annual event. We ask that all volunteers try to attend as this event will count as 8 in-service training hours toward the total of 12 in-service training hours required yearly by each volunteer. Towaliga Circuit's very own Kristi Lovelace, the child's attorney for many of our CASA cases, will be presenting at this conference and this is very exciting! Please RSVP with Georgia Marshall at [gmarshall@tacourts.com](mailto:gmarshall@tacourts.com) or call 770-358-5629. We will send out notice of the event at a later date.

## List of Towaliga CASA Volunteers:

Harold Jackson	Michael Summers
Gloria Fallings	Melody McFarland
Alice Guzman	James McClarty
Jordan Moore	Ruth Ann Manley
Paulette Ivey	Marian Dunn
Sharon Stanfield	



### Towaliga CASA Christmas Luncheon

**December 8, 2015-** Towaliga CASA held a Christmas Luncheon for all Towaliga CASA volunteers in order to show our appreciation for all of our volunteers and the hard work that they do. Thank you so much, volunteers. You have no idea how much of a difference you make in these children's lives.

# Fall Festival Exhibits

## Jackson Alive Fall Festival

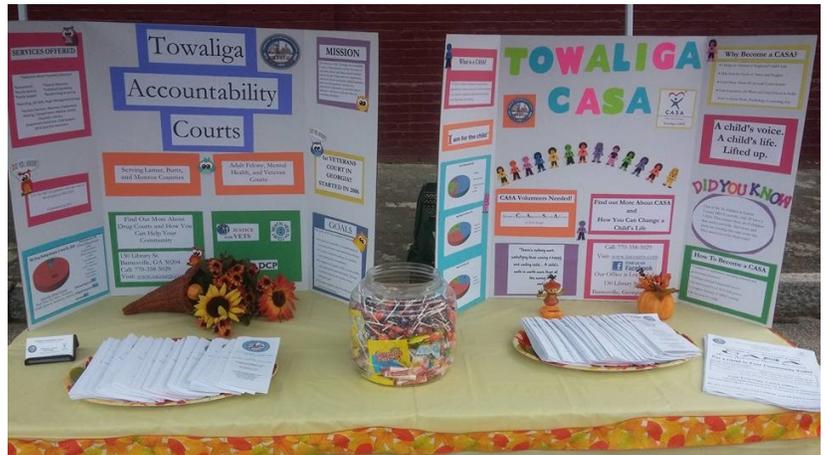
**October 31, 2015-** Towaliga CASA and Towaliga Accountability Courts set up a booth in order to bring awareness to the two programs. Towaliga CASA brochures were handed out and CASA staff spoke to patrons about CASA in order to get the word out about the program and recruit volunteers.



Top: TAC and CASA booth pictured with Lulu Casa, Towaliga CASA's mascot  
Bottom Right : Close up of the TAC and CASA boards created for the booth.



Lulu CASA with the children of the staff



# Fall Festival Exhibits Continued

## “Trick or Treat on Thomaston Street” Fall Festival

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Top: Lulu Casa giving out candy to the children on Thomaston St. in Barnesville. Bottom Left: Line of trick-or-treaters                      Bottom Right: Lulu and Georgia Marshall



# Patricia Gavel Graduates from Leadership Lamar

**November 12, 2015**— Executive Director, Patricia Gavel, graduated from the Leadership Lamar program. Leadership Lamar is a 15 week program that covers topics such as conducting successful meetings, understanding values, communicating effectively, and managing conflict just to name a few. In addition to classes, participants get an in depth tour of local farms and industries as well as local government and emergency management services.

These tours are designed to highlight the social and economic impact that local farms and industries have on Lamar County and provide a better understanding of the many facets of local government while demonstrating how they all work together for the good of the community.

Participants also have the opportunity to tour the Georgia Power Resource Center in Atlanta where they learn about the economic development process at the state level and how that translates into local development.

Graduates from the program walk away with new friendships and a much better understanding of what makes a successful community tick as well as the importance of volunteering and speaking out.



Top Left: All of the Leadership Lamar Graduates.

Top Right: Patricia Gavel and Mrs. Glenna Waller.



Bottom Left: Patricia Gavel presents Mrs. Glenna Waller with a check to start **The Larry and Glenna Waller Scholarship** at Gordon State College. Daughter, Mrs. Melanie Waller Foster and Gordon College representative, Rhonda Toon.

# Larry and Glenna Waller Scholarship



Leadership  
**Lamar**



Larry & Glenna Waller



"The true meaning of life is to plant trees, under whose shade you do not expect to sit."

---Nelson Henderson

Lamar County is fortunate to have many people who have given of themselves, but few couples in our community have been more giving of their time and talent than Glenna and Larry Waller. Lamar County lost a true public servant when Larry Waller died **December 12, 1945 – February 11, 2015**. Certainly many people in this community continue to benefit from “trees” Larry planted as we reflect on his personal testimony and his legacy of helping others. Larry and Glenna truly built their lives around making a difference. Glenna continues ministering through her church, community involvement and continued leadership as President/CEO of Little Children of the World.

How can we best honor this legacy? One way is to continue to provide help to others far into the future through the endowment of **The Larry and Glenna Waller Scholarship** at Gordon State College, Larry’s beloved alma mater, where he also served as a faculty member.

A gift to the scholarship fund will ensure that a deserving young man or woman is able to receive a college education. When this scholarship is fully endowed it will continue indefinitely making a difference in the lives of students. What a fitting tribute to this giving couple!

Checks may be made to the Gordon State College Foundation. Mark the check for the Larry and Glenna Waller Scholarship Fund. Gifts of any size are welcomed and are tax-deductible. Gifts may be mailed to the Gordon State College Foundation, 419 College Drive, Barnesville, GA 30204. Gifts of stock or other property may also be given, please call the advancement office at 678-359-5124 for information on how to make a gift of stock or a gift by credit card.

For further information about this fund please call Patricia Gavel at 706-819-2978.

# Hometown Holidays

## Christmas Parade – Forsyth, GA

**December 3, 2015**– TAC and Towaliga CASA entered a float into the Forsyth-Monroe Christmas parade in downtown Forsyth, GA. The theme of the parade was “Star Spangled Christmas.”

TAC brought along some veterans to join them on the float. The TAC theme was “Freedom to Celebrate” as a remembrance to all the men and women in the service who have given their lives so that American’s are free to celebrate holidays like Christmas.



A close-up of the final gingerbread house ready for the Forsyth Parade



:Lulu Casa with her new friends Mary Moo Moo and Mr. Sumo Ballerina

# Jackson Christmas Parade

December 4, 2015- Towaliga CASA and TAC entered a float into the Jackson Christmas Parade.



Top: All of the children on the staff on the float.

Bottom: Lulu Casa walking alongside the float greeting the crowd.



Photos Credited to Jackson Progress-Argus

# -October- Domestic Violence Awareness Month

*“Millions of children nationwide are exposed to domestic violence each year. Exposure to domestic violence has a direct impact on children's emotional and psychological well-being. Domestic violence in the home can be directly related to one reason why children enter foster care. CASA volunteers can be a great resource in helping children who are victims of domestic violence. Additionally, you can support domestic violence victims that you may come in contact with or know personally. We share domestic violence information with you in this e-newsletter in conjunction with October as Domestic Violence Awareness Month and in memory of Hall-Dawson CASA volunteer Erin Jones, who passed away in July as a victim of domestic violence.”*

The issue of domestic violence tends to be surrounded by many myths. Nationally, domestic violence affects 25% of women at some point during their lifetime. It is noteworthy to point out that men (3%) can also be victims of domestic violence. Domestic violence also occurs in same sex relationships. Victims can be from any socio-economic group, all educational levels and often have deep religious beliefs which may encourage them to keep the family together at all costs. Many victims did not grow up in violent households. Sometimes, the abuse is not initially recognized since it may start out in a non-physical way, such as economic or emotional abuse.

Batterers can come from all walks of life and often do not display violence publicly. Typically, they present a different personality outside the home. They want to gain and maintain power and control over their partner. Domestic violence is a pattern of abusive behavior over time, and it escalates to becoming severe and dangerous as more time passes.

Reports have consistently shown that children who are exposed to domestic violence may suffer from the following problems: inability to thrive as infants; bed wetting, sleep disorders, violence towards other children, stuttering and crying; and emotional distress in teenagers. Children in households with domestic violence tend to identify with the aggressor and lose respect for the victim.

In Georgia, the [Georgia Coalition Against Domestic Violence \(GCADV\)](#) has a 24-hour hotline for domestic violence: **1-800-33-HAVEN (1-800-334-2836)**. If you, or someone you know, might be a victim of domestic violence, please call the hotline to get help. Numerous domestic violence shelter programs exist in Georgia, and their contact information can be found [here](#). GCADV also offers many trainings and educational materials on domestic violence. [Please visit the GCADV website for these resources.](#)

# Tiny's Winter Wonderland Toy Drive

**December 13, 2015**– Tameka ‘Tiny’ Cottle-Harris, Atlanta entrepreneur and the wife of Atlanta rapper, T.I., teamed up with Santa and Mrs. Clause to put on a Winter Wonderland Toy Drive for children of needy families in Atlanta. The affair was so much fun; complete with toys, music, free haircuts, food, dancing, and performances. Tiny and her team donated toys to be handed out at the inaugural Towaliga CASA/ DFCS Christmas Party for the foster children of Lamar County. Executive Director, Patricia Gavel, attended this event and networked in hopes of spreading the word about CASA and its importance.



Photos Courtesy of FreddyO.com

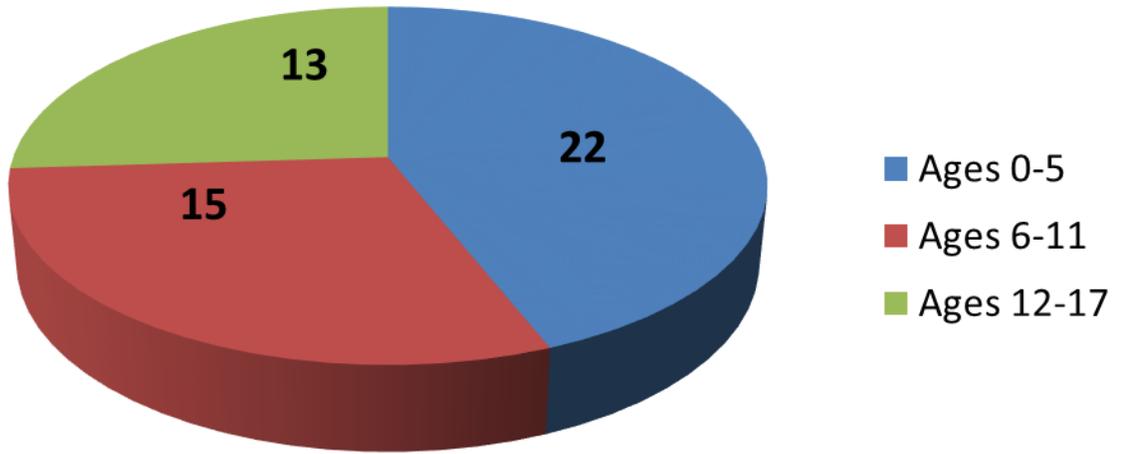
# Towaliga CASA/DFCS Christmas Party for Lamar County Foster Children

**December 15, 2015-** Towaliga CASA and Lamar County DFCS teamed up this year to host an inaugural Christmas Party for the foster children of Lamar County. Santa and Mrs. Clause handed out gifts. Chic-fil-a was able to donate chicken nuggets for the party. Mr. Scott Leverett let us borrow a horse in buggy so the children could take turns riding in the buggy.. The children enjoyed this and face painting very much. Many people volunteered to help make this night really special for the children. Thank you to all who volunteered or donated for either the parade, wrapping gifts, or for the party. We appreciate you guys!

## **Donors and Volunteers for the CASA Parade and Christmas Party**

Sherry Farr	L.D. Park
Linda Sue Trice	Elmo Remick
Shannon Bedgood	Lamar Lee
Kristie Sims	Marion Dunn
Reba Williams	Paulette Ivey
Laura Callaway	Mary Ann Casteel
Shelley Abernathy	Janice Tatum
Pat Burnette	Jeff Dawson
Allison Howard	Truby Colbert
Kellie Mercer	Scott Leverett
Bill Baker and staff	Lance, Carman, and Libby Templeton
Marty Tallent	

**Age Range of Children (50)**



**Race of Children (50)**

