

Lainie Jenkins joined CASA of the Ogeechee Judicial Circuit (serving Bulloch, Effingham, Jenkins and Screven counties) as Volunteer Coordinator in June 2010 and became Executive Director in April 2011, quickly excelling in both the volunteer and program management roles. Her experiences in organizational start-up, sales, and nonprofit program management, coupled with lots of volunteer leadership, have been the perfect blend for a local nonprofit organization director in which wearing multiple hats is the norm. Lainie has not only embraced CASA Ogeechee, but the entire CASA network in Georgia. She has served as a Council of Programs representative on the Georgia CASA board (2014 - 2017) and has provided transition support for a neighboring CASA board and new directors. Informally, she has been a cheerleader, counselor, teacher, friend and champion for Georgia CASA, affiliate CASA directors, and her local team of board, staff and volunteers.



During her seven-year tenure, CASA Ogeechee has experienced growth that has resulted in a stable and solid volunteer base and staff, heightened recognition throughout the area, greater financial resources and stability, and most importantly, an increased number of children with a CASA volunteer. In 2016, Lainie and the CASA Ogeechee board spearheaded efforts to expand their services and created an umbrella organization, Child Advocacy Services Southeast Georgia, which now sponsors both CASA Ogeechee and The Visitation Center. Lainie's legacy has opened hearts and doors for families in the Ogeechee Judicial Circuit to ensure that children have safe, loving and permanent families.

In retirement, Lainie will have more time with her very large family and maybe a little time for working with Georgia CASA to support the state network. In our everyday work, Lainie will be greatly missed but her compassionate spirit and dedication will be very much a part of our endeavors. Her infectious smile, genuine interest, gentle approach and kind, thoughtful words have always been a source of comfort and inspiration.