



SCAN-IT

**Volume 33
July 2013**

Board of Directors Member Ben Ladd

Ben Ladd was one of the inaugural members of the Board of Young Professionals when SCAN first worked to start the group in 2006. Today, Ben serves on the Board of Directors.

Ben said he believed SCAN's mission was one of the most important in our community. Besides the immediate salvation of children in dangerous situations, Ben said, SCAN's mission to educate the community at large also creates important lasting impact.

"SCAN helps foster safe and healthy environments for children and rectifies issues facing children early in their lives," Ben said. "This gives children a much higher likelihood of becoming healthy, productive adults. SCAN breaks the cycle of disruptive and negative things that run through our society and there are exponential results throughout the years and generations."

Ben said that because he was so fortunate, he felt a moral obligation to give back. There was no better way than to help kids, he said, which drew him to serve on the BYP early on.

"There were definitely some growing pains trying to figure out the concept of the BYP and how its leadership would work," Ben said. "Today, the members really are making a difference and they contribute to SCAN in significant ways."

For example, the annual Bourbon Street event has sold out for the past three years, raising a significant amount of funds to support SCAN. The Santa Shop event brings gifts to hundreds of needy children served by SCAN each holiday season. The group also works to volunteer during other important public awareness and fundraising events for SCAN.

"The group has drawn a really interesting, neat, diverse group of people who enjoy making that difference," he said.

Ben is beginning his second year as a Board of Directors member. This year, he is serving on the TASTE of Terroir event committee, helping plan and gain support for the culinary fundraiser on October 26.

"I'm looking forward to marshaling folks into action for this newer event of which SCAN is the beneficiary and I think we have a lot of work ahead of us," he said. "To me that's something of which I'm glad to be a part. I also look forward to attending the event personally—it's going to be an awesome culinary occasion!"

Ben is a lawyer at McGuireWoods and works on corporate transactions.

Learn more about SCAN's Board of Directors and Board of Young Professionals at www.grscan.com.



"Why people should donate to SCAN: In addition to the mission, people want to know their dollars are spent well. There is efficiency in SCAN. From someone who has been involved for a long time, we couldn't ask for a more dedicated, caring and extremely business conscious executive director in Jeanine Harper and her support staff are also fantastic. Donations are put to use effectively - I promise you that."

– Ben Ladd, Board of Directors Member and Former Board of Young Professionals member

SCAN Works to Create a Trauma-Informed Child Welfare System

For more than 15 years, SCAN has worked with children and caregivers who have experienced trauma related to child abuse and neglect. This expertise and desire to help children in our community heal has led SCAN to help create the Trauma Informed Community Network (TICN) last fall.

“We really wanted to help create a Child Welfare system that was sensitive to trauma,” said SCAN’s Executive Director Jeanine Harper. “We want people who work with children and families to understand the impact of trauma and make decisions with those families that reflect their understanding of trauma.”

The TICN is comprised of professionals in the Greater Richmond area who are committed to practicing and advocating for trauma-informed care for children and families within the Child Welfare system in the City of Richmond and surrounding counties. Members include representatives from the Mental Health Resource Center, Virginia Department of Social Services, ChildSavers, the VCU School of Social Work and more.

The primary goal of the group is to help educate key people in the Child Welfare system including judges, guardian ad litem, professionals who work in adoption and foster care, Department of Social Services employees and more. The group also wants to help create systemic change.

“Ultimately, if all of us are more trauma-informed, the likelihood that children and families will be safer, happier and healthier will be much greater,” Jeanine said.

The TICN has been authorized by Dr. Lisa Conradi of the Chadwick Rady Center to use their Trauma System Readiness Survey and supporting documents to aid in organizational assessments. The TICN initiated projects using this survey with Chesterfield County and Henrico County Departments of Social Services and have already begun an organizational assessment for Chesterfield.

The TICN examines and builds on the strengths of organizations to promote the use of trauma-informed best practices in their work with children and families.

While SCAN has and will work with different nonprofits, government agencies and mental health organizations, SCAN has also looked at its own practice. SCAN has ensured that all staff members, board members and volunteers (no matter the capacity in which they work at SCAN) are educated about trauma and understand how it impacts children and families.

“We want everyone to look through a trauma lens to guide *all* of our interactions, processes and decisions,” Jeanine said.

For example, she said, it’s important for staff members to understand that the trauma of child abuse and neglect also has an impact on the parents as well as the children. The Family Support Program has reviewed its Parent Group and Children’s Group curriculums to incorporate more trauma-informed approaches. The Child Advocacy Center has improved its caregiver support groups based on the book “Caring for Children Who Have Experienced Trauma: A Workshop for Parents.”

In the coming year, different subcommittees of TICN will work on other projects such as creating a referral resource for trauma-informed mental health practices in the area and encouraging more to become trauma certified.

Welcome New Board of Young Professionals Members

Welcome and thank you for your commitment to support SCAN: Matt Curtin, Wilson M. Flohr, Patty Roberts, Caitlin Roberts, Lauren Kiger, Virginia Lamneck, Lisa Sutherland, Kristen Holt and Anya Shaffer.

Welcome New Board of Directors Members

Welcome and thank you for your commitment to help children: Casey Bartok, Rachel Davis, Geoffrey Smith, Jimmy Chou, Ronald Page and Tunstall Bagley Willis.

Recruiting for a New Class of CASA Volunteers

Richmond CASA is seeking highly motivated individuals interested in advocating for the best interests of children who have been abused and/or neglected in the City of Richmond. We'll begin training a new class this fall.

Richmond CASA volunteers participate in 35 hours of pre-service training, which involves 30 hours of classroom interaction and 5 hours of courtroom observation. Volunteers learn courtroom procedure from judges, lawyers, social workers and court personnel. CASAs also learn effective advocacy techniques for children and are educated about specific topics including child sexual abuse, adolescent behavior, mental health issues, cultural competency, social services and report writing. Once training is completed, CASAs are sworn in by a Richmond Juvenile and Domestic Relations Court Judge.

[Learn more about becoming a CASA volunteer at www.grscan.com.](http://www.grscan.com)

Thank You To our Community Supporters!

Thank you to the George J. and Effie L. Seay Foundation's recent grant to help provide educational supplies and transportation for children and families served by SCAN.

Thank you to South River Compounding Pharmacy who recently collected donations in celebration of their June 22 opening event.

Thank you to the Rotary Club of South Richmond who recently awarded SCAN a grant to support SCAN's work to protect children.

Thank you to the Florence & Robert W. Cabaniss Foundation for their recent gift to support SCAN's programs.

Thank you to Nordstrom who recently awarded SCAN a grant to prevent and treat child abuse and neglect.

Thank you to Saks Fifth Avenue's recent contribution from the Rebecca Minkoff event on March 14.

THANK YOU!

During the 2012-13 Fiscal Year, SCAN raised **\$906,000** from YOUR donations in response to our annual fund campaigns and during special events in addition to gifts from churches, civic groups, foundations and corporations. YOU make our work possible. Thank YOU for making SCAN's urgent mission to keep children safe possible.

Take a Stewards of Children Training

SCAN is pleased to offer *Stewards of Children* training, a nationally recognized child sexual abuse prevention program. Based on the national prevention model developed by **Darkness to Light**, the goal of this training is to diminish the incidence and impact of child sexual abuse and to raise awareness of the prevalence and consequences of child sexual abuse in our communities.

Stewards of Children teaches adults how to prevent, recognize and react responsibly to child sexual abuse. The program is designed for individuals concerned about the safety of children as well as organizations that serve youth. *Stewards of Children* is the only nationally distributed program proven to increase knowledge, improve attitudes, and change child protective behaviors.

When: Thursday, August 15, 2013, 6 to 9 pm
Where: Greater Richmond SCAN, 103 E Grace Street, Richmond
Cost: \$20 per person – pizza dinner is provided
RSVP: Lucy Block at lblock@grscan.com or 257-7226

SCAN Welcomes New CASA Case Manager

Blair Bedinger joined SCAN as a Richmond CASA Case Manager on June 3 this year. Blair is one of two case managers at Richmond CASA who help CASA volunteers advocate for children involved in the Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court process.

“What drew me to CASA was that advocating for children is very important to me and I wanted to be a part of helping to ensure that children’s voices are heard in court,” Blair said.

Blair is originally from Richmond, but went to college at Longwood University where she received a Bachelor’s of Science in Social Work. Blair said she has always been driven to work with children. Blair has previously worked for the Fluvanna Department of Social Services in the Child Protective Services, the

Child Care Subsidy Program and the Virginia’s Initiative for Employment not Welfare.

Now at Richmond CASA, Blair supervises 22 CASA volunteers. She said at least half of them are assigned to two or more children. Blair is working to get to know each volunteer and the more than 50 children they oversee.

“I really enjoy working with the volunteers and going to court hearings,” Blair said. “I believe that CASA is a very beneficial and necessary program to have and I am excited to be a part of it.”

SCAN will train a new class of volunteers this fall. Blair plans to go through the training alongside the new CASA volunteers. During the training, Richmond CASA volunteers learn how they will work to help ensure children are living in safe, permanent homes.

Once CASA volunteers complete 35 hours of intensive training, they are sworn in by the Chief Judge as Officers of the Court and begin to be appointed to cases. Volunteers gather information on each child’s situation so they can determine the needs of the individual child. They submit reports to the court—that the Case Managers help with—which provide valuable insight into the child’s life and assists the court in making informed decisions regarding the child’s future.

[Learn more about the Richmond CASA Program at www.grscan.com.](http://www.grscan.com)



Thank you Protector’s Circle Members

**Ruth and Franco Ambrogi
Trina and Roy Anise
Toni Ardabell
Kelly and Tiffany Armstrong
Casey and Pete Bartok
Lindley and Coby Beck
Cathy and Howard Bos
Kathryn and Matt Brotherton
Ellen and Orran Brown
Wendy and Wadsford Bugg
Daisy and Tom Byrd
Edie and Bob Cabaniss
James Cabaniss
Jennifer and David Campbell
Jeff Chandler
Andrea and Robert Clark
Samira and Carl Creel
Kevin Collier
Rose and Josh Dare
Susan and Bob Dausch
Trudy Rickman and Chuck Dean
Lynn and David DeGhetto
Carrie and Bob Delille
Paul Edmunds
Audrey and David Franks
Dena Frith and Chris Moore
Dana and Gray Garland
Bruce Gottwald, Jr.
Martha and John Grover
Betsy and Frank Harris
Hilary and Brett Hawkins
Diane and Gene Hosenfeld
Renee and Stephen Hupp
Kari and Heath Hyman
Kimberly and William Johnson
Gail and Reginald Johnson
Carrie and Tommy Johnstone
Cindy and Michael Joyce
Margaret and Jerry Keightley**

**Jen and John Kostyniuk
Debra Krey
Benjamin Ladd
Amy and Byron Ladd
Lisa and Harris Leiner
Juliet and Mark Levin
Elizabeth and Michael Martin
Sally Maruca
Cathy and Read McGehee
Jasper Mersereau
Lynn Mussatt
Allie and Richard Oelhafen, Jr.
Jay Olander
Susan Gray and Ronald Page
Linda and Larry Paige
Shelton Panak
Ann Marie and Bryan Petrucelli
Scottie and George Phillips
Kelly Pickerel
Carolyn and John Port
Kevin Purnell
Leslie and Winston Read
Will Saunders
Janet and Lee Showalter
Michael Sieja
Mary and Alex Slaughter
Melissa and Richard Sneider
Martha and Bobby Speight
Jeanne and Stallings
Lucinda and John Stanchina
Mary and Wally Stettinius
Laura and Patrick Strickler
Eric Sundberg
Letty and Bill Tate
John Turner
Margaretha and Jose Valderas
Janet and Mark Walker
Laura and Steve Wilson
Stephanie and Brad Welles**