

Children's Home Society Board Member Bio's

Chuck Barton, Board of Directors

Chuck is a retired coal miner from McDowell County, who is a foster/adopt parent. He also serves as an Advisory Council Member with the Children's Home Society's Northfork location.

Kent Bryson, Board of Directors

Kent Holds a JD degree from West Virginia University. Kent is an Assistant Prosecutor for Cabell County. And also teaches at Marshall University.

Michele Blatt, Board of Directors (Secretary)

Michele Blatt is the Assistant State Superintendent for the Division of Support and Accountability at the West Virginia Department of Education. Michele began her career in education as a middle school teacher for Wayne County Schools. She later went into administration and served eight additional years in Wayne County at the middle and elementary level. Her passion for leadership development and school improvement work brought her to the department eleven years ago. While she still misses the day-to-day interactions with students, her work allows her to be in schools across the state.

Michele has two children who have followed in her footsteps when it comes to serving others and spending time with children. Her son is completing a year-long missionary assignment in El Salvador and her daughter works for the Child Development Center at the National Guard Base while completing her degree online through WVU-Parkersburg. Children are the future of WV and we must support them in every way possible.

Craig Glover, Board of Directors

Craig is the Chief Executive Officer for FamilyCare Health Centers in Scott Depot. Craig possesses extensive experience in ambulatory leadership while balancing quality patient care with strategic priorities. Craig received a Bachelor of Business Administration and Master of Business Administration from Fontbonne University. Craig will graduate with a Doctor of Philosophy in Organizational Leadership from Indian Wesleyan University in 2020, Craig holds the following certifications: Fellow, American College of Healthcare Executive (FACHE), Fellow, Community Health Center Executive Management (CHCEF) and Certified Medical Practice Executive (CMPE).

Melissa Grimes, Board of Directors

Melissa practices law at Steptoe & Johnson in the area of energy and mineral title law. Melissa has conducted and prepared full title abstracts on coal, oil, gas and other minerals in the Appalachian Basin. Melissa's writing experience includes: "Aristotle and Aquinas: Intrinsic Morality versus God's Morality", contributing Author, Conservatorship Handbook, How to Use Conservatorship to Address Blighted and Abandoned Property for Philadelphia's Community Leaders, and Co-Author, Summary of Selected Principles of Ohio Oil and Gas Law.

Kristie Hadley, Board of Directors (Assistant Treasurer)

Kristie Hadley is a native of the Eastern Panhandle. She was raised in South Berkeley County and graduated in 1993 from Musselman High School. Kristie later attended Lord Fairfax Community College in the field study of Business Management. She is a current student with Barrett School of Banking in Memphis, TN. Kristie is employed with BCT (Bank of Charles Town) for the last 7 years and brings a total of 26 years' experience in the financial industry. Her current position with BCT is Vice President/Market Leader. In this area, she assists in overseeing Branch Operations for the Eastern Panhandle and Washington Co, MD. She works with branch staff for generation of new business growth for the bank. Kristie's previous financial experience included retail and mortgage lending.

Kristie currently resides in Hedgesville with her husband and three daughters. She is actively involved in her church, Airborne Church, along with several non-profit organizations.

Dawn Hawkins, Board of Director

Dawn Hawkins is employed in the Information Technology field as a manager in a large implementation project in the state of West Virginia. Dawn's previous professional experience includes several roles in the Human Service industry, specifically SNAP, TANF, and Medicaid. Dawn also brings experience with Federal Regulations, state legislation, and managing different funding streams. Outside of her work life, Dawn also has a very rich history as a leader in her church and community. Dawn has served in several roles from improving education of and opportunities for citizens of Charleston to delivering fresh water to the central American country of Nicaragua.

Dawn earned her Bachelor of Science degree in Park Resources and Leisure Studies at Marshall University. Dawn is also a certified lay-pastor and is working towards attaining her PMP (Project Management Professional) certification. Dawn also enjoys working on and managing projects, aided by her acute attention to detail.

Dawn has looked for ways to use the experience gained while navigating the Foster Care System to help others in similar situations. She has seen the good and the bad of the process and has an internal understanding of how the system works. Dawn's ability to leverage this knowledge while also maintaining her compassion and empathy make her a valuable asset to any organization.

Stephanie Hayhurst-Hall, Board of Directors (Assistant Secretary)

Stephanie is a West Virginia Mountaineer born and raised. She provides Insurance quotes on Auto Insurance and Home Insurance to anyone throughout the state of West Virginia and primarily in Harrison, Lewis, Taylor, Doddridge and Ritchie Counties. Stephanie has over 12 years of experience with State Farm and opened her own agency in 2008. Her office is located between Clarksburg and Bridgeport. Stephanie takes pride in her community and proudly serve in the local Harrison County Chamber of Commerce and United Way.

Betty Hendrick, Board of Directors

Betty Hendrick is a long-time member of the Lewisburg site Advisory Council. She has been a key person in the events and accomplishments of the Lewisburg and Greenbrier Valley Children's Home sites. She is a co-owner of Pleasant View Angus Farms and is active in the Monroe-Summers-Greenbrier Counties communities, in a wide variety of capacities, including the Summers County Planning Commission. Betty is a very strong advocate for children's issues, the agency, and for community engagement. Betty is an adoptive parent.

Marie Long, Board of Directors (Board Chair)

Marie Long is an audit and consulting manager at Suttle & Stalnaker, PLLC with over 7 years of public accounting experience.

Marie's client service experience includes extensive experience with the energy sector with a primary emphasis in coal, governmental, not-for-profit and for-profit organizations. She specializes in performing audits in accordance with Government Auditing Standards and the requirements of the Office of Management and Budget Circular A-133, Audits of States, Local Governments, and Non-Profit Organizations (Single Audits).

Marie graduated Summa Cum Laude from West Virginia State University with a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration with major concentrations in accounting, finance, and management and a minor in economics. She has been a CPA since 2007.

Marie is active in the following Professional or Civic Organizations: American Institute of Certified Public Accountants, West Virginia Society of Certified Public Accountants, Charleston Chapter of the WVSCPAs, Association of Governmental Accountants, the Charleston Chapter of the Association of Government Accountants, and the Charleston Young Professionals Chapter of Kiwanis.

Paul Mancuso, Board of Directors

Paul Mancuso, Jr., is the Vice President and Investment Executive for Community Bank of Parkersburg. He holds a degree in Business Administration from WVU, and is an Alumni of Marshall University's School of Banking, and Colorado University's Graduate School of Banking. Mr. Mancuso has been employed in the banking industry since 1985, and began his work with Community Bank in 1998. Paul and his wife, Janet Mancuso, have been married for 28 years and have six children. Two of their children were adopted through Children's Home Society, and they have been foster parents for the past four years.

Amy Bush-Marone, Board of Directors

Amy Bush-Marone is currently the Chief Operating Officer of WVU Medicine Children's. Amy leads hospital operations, clinical care, fundraising and the construction of the new hospital that will be opening summer of 2021.

Amy joined WVU Medicine as the Vice President of Operations in 2015. She has supported numerous areas, including Surgical and Perioperative Services, Radiology and the development of the Tele stroke and Tele neurology Network. Amy led the comprehensive stroke program accreditation. She has also played a key role in developing and overseeing the WVU Heart and Vascular Institute, WVU Cancer Institute, and the WVU Rockefeller Neuroscience Institute.

Bush joined WVU Medicine from the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center – McKeesport, where she was vice president of operations. Previously, she was at UPMC – Presbyterian, where she served as executive director of surgical services and led the System Surgical Services Oversight and Robotics Committees. Prior to this Amy was a Director of Nursing in the OhioHealth system where she helped lead the construction and opening of Dublin Methodist Hospital. She has spent 25 years in healthcare, the last 20 in healthcare administration.

In addition to hospital involvement, Amy is a strong advocate for community outreach through active nursing participation in global surgical missions such as Haiti Orthopedic Trauma after the 2010 Earthquake, Guatemala Pediatric OMFS Surgery, Rural China Foot and Ankle, as well as Jamaica Medical/Vision Clinics.

Amy graduated with a bachelor's degree in nursing from The Ohio State University and earned a Master of Business Administration from Ohio State's Fisher College of Business. Amy also holds a certification in perioperative nursing (CNOR).

Landau Eugene Murphy Jr., Board of Directors

Landau Eugene Murphy, Jr., is the 2010 NBC TV's *America's Got Talent* winner. He has raised over one million dollars for children and homeless charities. Landau has been a volunteer with Children's Home Society, and supported the agency through his Christmas CD fundraiser. In 2014, he performed huge homecoming benefit concerts for several charities in his hometown of Logan. The United States Junior Chamber (Jaycees) honored Landau with their prestigious Ten Outstanding Young Americans Award during ceremonies in Baltimore. He was nominated for an NAACP Image Award, and performed with his band for U.S. Troops stationed in Germany.

Mary Rader, Board of Directors

Mary Rader was born and raised in our beautiful State of West Virginia, and resides in Summersville, Nicholas County, with her husband of 32 years. She is a very proud mother of two sons, Gerald, residing in Morgantown, WV and Nicholas, residing at home. Her education and certifications include an MBA in Finance and multiple certifications from the Federal Aviation Administration and other institutions. She is employed with Air Evac Life team, an emergency air carrier provider throughout 15 states, as a manager in membership and community outreach. Duties of her position include education, statistics, community outreach, marketing and sales. She currently sits on the Summersville Area Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors and has held the office of president in previous years.

Mary spent many years as a wish grantor for the Make A Wish Foundation along with her son, Gerald, who has been a wish recipient in the past. Mary strongly holds the belief that “whatever we receive in life, we need to attempt to give back tenfold”, and has tried to set that example for her children. She sits on multiple committees with the Beckley Raleigh County Chamber of Commerce and is involved with additional chambers and civic organizations throughout the State of West Virginia.

Mary was introduced to the Children’s Home Society through her friendship with staff members at the Summersville and Lewisburg locations. She is currently an Advisory Council member for the Summersville site, assisting most recently with their “Winterfest” and “Cornhole for Kids” fundraising events. Mary has also been involved for the last two years with the Lewisburg site’s annual “Make It Right For Kids” Night event. Her relationships with business and civic leaders in multiple counties in southern WV have already proven to be of great value to the Society, as she has helped the Summersville site make lasting connections with community members who share an interest in improving the lives of children and families.

Lori Ray, Board of Directors

Lori is a highly motivated and results-focused individual with over 36 years of experience in the education field. A team player with solid leadership skills able to generate new ideas, analyze and resolve challenges. She is focused on being an advocate and “cheerleader” for children.

Lori has been a student Teacher Coordinator for the University of Charleston and WV State University. She was a spokesperson for College of Graduate Studies, traveling throughout the state giving lectures about reading and writing. She was awarded Teacher of the Month, for Kanawha County Schools in 1992.

Lori is a member of the Education Personnel Preparation Advisory Committee (EPPAC). A member of the Local School Improvement Council (LSIC), a member of the West Virginia Association for Young Children and a member of Delta Kappa Gamma, Society for Women Educators.

Andrew Robinson, Board of Directors (2nd Vice Chair)

Andrew Robinson is a lifelong Kanawha County resident. He has bachelor’s and master’s degrees from WVU. He operates his own real estate appraisal and real estate broker business, and has a variety of experiences in the real estate field. He has a strong interest in civic and community engagement, and has a particular interest in children services issues. He has youth sports coaching and volunteering experience.

Ruth Rowan, Board of Directors

Ruth Rowan was born in Pennsylvania and obtained her B.S. from California University of PA. She obtained her MA from West Virginia University. Ruth is a long serving and now retired elementary school teacher from Hampshire County. She is married to Tom Rowan and they have two children, Julie and Tom.

Ruth is a member of the Republican Party and was just re-elected to the West Virginia House of Delegates, the 57th District which represents parts of Mineral and Hampshire Counties. She has served as a member of the WV House of Delegates since 2004. She serves on the Education, Health and Human Resources, Senior Issues committees. She is the minority chair of Veteran's Affairs, minority vice chair of women's caucus, co-chair of Crimes against children and children and families.

Ruth and her husband Tom are both members of the Romney site's advisory council since 2010. Ruth has been a very helpful member of the advisory council, handling the quilt raffle drawing each year and assisting with the angel tree project and our annual Little Red Stocking campaign.

Jeff Sikorovsky, Board of Directors (1st Vice Chair)

Jeff Sikorovsky of Charleston, WV is a Children's Home Society Adoptive Father. He is the very proud father of Zoey Rose, now 9 years old. Jeff started with HospiceCare in 2006 and has served as its Marketing Director since May 2012. Jeff is in charge of all marketing, fundraising and publications for the non-profit hospice and palliative care agency that serves more than 2,500 patients and their families each year in 16 counties throughout South Central W.Va. Prior to working for HospiceCare, Jeff spent 10 years working as a newspaper reporter, copy editor and assistant editor for Sun Newspapers in Cleveland and the Charleston Daily Mail in WV. Jeff has served on other non-profit boards and is very engaged in community service through volunteerism previously in Ohio and now in for many years in West Virginia.

Sarah Stephenson, DVM., Board of Directors

Sarah is a veterinarian who has been in practice since 1993, and has been sole owner of Good Shepherd Veterinary Hospital in Kanawha City since 2002.

She has 6 amazing children adopted from China. She has travelled back to China to assist in facilitating children with significant medical needs to be identified for adoption. Sarah is currently a board member for Agape Adoptions in Tacoma, Washington, which is a Hague accredited agency that places children from many different countries.

Sarah's past board experience includes being a board member for WV K-9 Search and Rescue for 9 years, and a board member for the Kanawha Valley Animal Emergency Clinic for 14 years.

Cassandra Stewart-Wagner, Board of Directors

Cassandra is a Recruiter for Healthcare Management Solutions, LLC (HMS). With headquarters in Fairmont, WV and another office in Columbia, MD, HMS is a growing woman-owned business with broad-based experience in providing clinical, administrative, operations, education, and IT solutions to a variety of healthcare related clients. Primarily a government contractor.

Kim Williams, Board of Directors (Treasurer)

Kim grew up in St. Albans, WV and graduated from St. Albans High School and then Marshall University. Her first job out of school was with Ellis & Ellis. She left E&E in 2008 and became the CFO for Harley-Davidson of West Virginia for 8 years. She returned to E&E in 2016. At Ellis & Ellis, she performs audits for numerous non-profit and for-profit companies, prepare business, individual and exempt organization tax returns and work on special projects. Kim has served as a volunteer with the United Way, reviewing financial statements and programs of the agencies they serve; she is the chair of the Finance Committee for her church, St. Francis of Assisi in St. Albans; she coached youth soccer and basketball when my children were younger.

Sarah Whittaker, Board of Directors (Immediate Past Chair)

Sarah M. Whittaker, PhD, MSW, LCSW, is an Associate Professor of Social Work at Concord University. Her current position involves teaching undergraduate students in the accredited Bachelor of Social Work program and she has served as the director of the Social Work program for the past two years. Prior to teaching at Concord University, she practiced in the child welfare field for twenty-one years. She received a Master of Social Work degree from West Virginia University and a PhD in Counselor Education from Virginia Tech. She is a member of the National Association of Social Workers and has served on the WVNASW state Board of Directors for the past three years. Locally, she serves on the Advisory Council for the Children's Home Society of West Virginia and on the Board of Directors for Community Connections, Inc.

Victoria Wilson, Board of Directors

Victoria Wilson is a 2004 graduate of Spelman College and a 2007 graduate of the WVU College of Law. She is an attorney in Charleston and is currently employed with the Public Service Commission. She has been a member of the Children's Home Society of WV Human Rights Committee since 2009. She is also a member or the WVU College of Law Visiting Committee.