

# Virginia Juvenile Justice Association

## Blue Ridge District Elections 2015

Blue Ridge District Members: In accordance with the Virginia Juvenile Justice Association (VJJA) Bylaws, the following members have been nominated to hold office in the Blue Ridge district for two-year terms beginning in January 2016. Please vote for one candidate per office (space is provided for write-in candidates). Voting takes place on-line and will be open from December 1 – December 15. Thank you for participating in the election process. You will be notified of the results. Demian Futterman, Election Commissioner

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### Candidate for Chair

SUSAN FARMER  
DJJ – 23<sup>rd</sup> District CSU  
Salem

Susan presently serves as the VJJA Immediate Past President, prior to that VJJA President, 2012 – 2013; VJJA Chair of Blue Ridge District Chapter 2008-2011, and has been an active member since 2006. Presently she is employed as a Probation/Intake/Diversion Officer with the 23rd District Court Service Unit in Salem. For over 30 years Susan has served children and families in different capacities. For 15 yrs. at the Virginia Baptist Children's Home as a youth counselor and supervisor; the Roanoke Valley YWCA she served as Residence Coordinator, then Executive Director. Susan sees the importance of giving back to the community and served on the Boards of the Homeless Assistance Team, AIDS Prevention Council and PFLAG (Parents, Friends and Families of Lesbians and Gays). Presently serves as the Chair of the Prevention Council of Roanoke County; Chair Emeritus of RAYSAC (Roanoke Area Youth Substance Abuse Coalition); Chair of National Adoption Day for the 23rd/23A Districts; teaches a weekly women's parenting class at the Western Regional Jail; and is a Mentor for VA Cares. She is most proud to be from a loving and supportive family and makes her home in Salem with her 3 animal babies Callaway, Dempsey and ZoE.



### Candidate for Treasurer

LAURA MAYNARD  
VADJJ – 23<sup>RD</sup> District CSU  
Salem

Laura began working with at risk youth at the ripe young age of 19 in a juvenile detention center in West Virginia. She then moved to Virginia and gained employment with the Virginia Baptist Children's Home (Hopetree), where she held positions of youth care worker, supervisor and social worker, during this time Laura also worked as a relief counselor with the Roanoke Valley Juvenile Detention Center. Laura began employment with the 23rd CSU- Court Service Unit in a VJCCCA position as a community service/restitution officer in 2000. She became employed by DJJ in 2005 as a PO-Probation Officer with the primary duties of Intake Officer. In 2009 her job was abolished and she was placed into a PO position with the 27th CSU in the Christiansburg field office, she worked in this capacity for 15 months and took a position as a PO with the 23-A CSU in Roanoke, to be closer to home and minimize commute time. She was with the 23-A for 3 years and in June 2013, she came "home" to the 23rd CSU in the role of Senior Probation Officer. Laura provides probation and parole supervision, helps with Intake coverage, supervisory duties, is a member of the Roanoke County FAPT team, Gang Specialist and is a member of the Western Regional Domestic Violence Fatality Review Team. Laura is the current Chair of the Blue Ridge District of the VJJA. Laura enjoys attending music festivals, concerts and supporting local and some nationally known musicians. She also enjoys fishing, swimming, hiking and kayaking.

No  
Picture

### Candidate for Vice Chair

KRISTI CALES  
Youth Advocate Programs  
Roanoke

Kristi Cales has been a licensed professional counselor in Virginia for the past 10 years. For the past 6 years she has provided clinical oversight as the Clinical Director for Youth Advocate Programs in Roanoke, Virginia. Kristi enjoys working with adolescents and families. Her specialties are working with survivors of trauma, re-establishing hierarchy in families, developing self-advocacy skills with clients, working for and with the LGBT population, and providing clinical supervision to new counselors in the field. Kristi graduated from Concord College and received her Master's in Clinical Psychology from Morehead State University.



### Candidate for Secretary

VALERIE CHAMBERS  
CSA Coordinator  
Lynchburg

Valerie is employed by the City of Lynchburg where she serves as the Family Assessment and Planning Team Coordinator. In that role she provides case management services for youth and their families in need of coordinated community services and resources. Prior to her current position, Valerie developed and supervised programming for Neighborhood Alternatives, a 12 week court-ordered/ community based program in partnership with Jubilee Center. Valerie held dual positions from 2000 – 2003, one with the City of Lynchburg as Youth Counselor at Opportunity House and the other with Central Virginia Community Services as a Prevention Specialist specializing in prevention services for all levels of the developmental continuum ranging from elementary school-aged children to adult clients. For the last past seven years, Valerie has shared her knowledge and expertise part-time at Sweet Briar College as a Resident Coordinator. Valerie received a Bachelor of Science in Health Sciences and two minors in the areas of Family Issues and Substance Abuse and Intervention from James Madison University.

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