

CREATING A PATH

for every family



Children's Home Society
OF NORTH CAROLINA

2019 ANNUAL REPORT

A YEAR OF PARTNERSHIPS *on Behalf of Children and Families*

While 2020 has brought many unforeseen challenges for Children's Home Society and our world, we continue to make tremendous strides on behalf of children and families. Together, we can celebrate many successes as we reflect on 2019. Partnerships and collaboration have been essential to our progress.

In partnership with Chapin Hall and the University of Chicago, we completed significant work on an improved practice model for our Foster Care to Permanency program, resulting in greater emphasis on shared parenting between foster and biological families and a greater focus on reunification. Since we began this process, we have seen a significant increase in the number of our youth reunified with their families of origin.

A collaboration with the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill School of Social Work and the North Carolina Division of Social Services has yielded tremendous progress in increasing supports to relative caregivers. Improving supports for relative caregivers is critically important to enable children to remain with their families of origin whenever possible.

Our Child-Focused Recruitment program continues to experience tremendous growth and is on track to become fully scaled in North Carolina, allowing us to serve the most vulnerable children awaiting adoption in every county across the state. The quality and outcomes of this evidence-based program have remained incredibly strong as we have grown exponentially. Strong partnerships with private foundations, public and private organizations, and elected officials have been critically important to this success.

Our work to advance early childhood supports is dependent on strong partnerships as well. Exciting progress in Guilford County, aimed at providing support to young families on the front end rather than intervening after a family experiences significant difficulty, involves a myriad of partnerships with pediatric practices, philanthropic partners, and many educational, governmental, and nonprofit organizations.

We take great pride in the impact we were able to make for more than 24,000 children and families last year. Our success would not be possible without the incredible support of our donors, volunteers, staff, and partner organizations across the state and country. As we celebrate our accomplishments from 2019, we are embracing the unanticipated challenges we now face in 2020 and are confident we will surmount them – together.

Thank you for your support, for your commitment to helping children, and for believing in family.



Cathy Levinson
Chair, Board of Trustees



Brian K. Maness
President & CEO

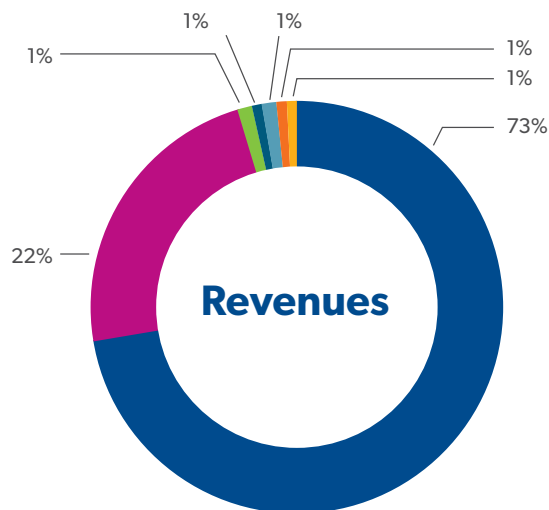
CHS 2019
IMPACT:

24,000
CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

CHS's four strategic pillars:
**INNOVATING, ELEVATING,
ADVOCATING, AND
GROWING**

2019 FINANCIALS

Children's Home Society of North Carolina, Inc. and Children's Home Society Foundation, Inc.
Consolidated Statement of Activities for the Year Ended June 30, 2019.

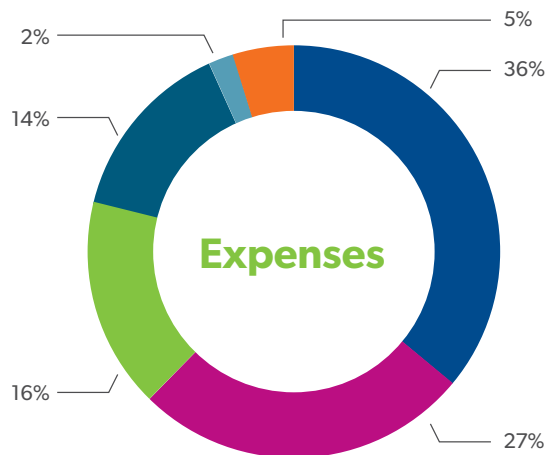


Revenues

Governmental Contracts	18,488,218
Private Foundations and Contributions	5,747,118
Program Fees	391,464
Events	197,576
Investment Income	421,341
Other Income	22,394
Realized/Unrealized Loss on Investments (Net)	202,603

Total Public Support, Revenue and Releases **25,470,714**

● Governmental Contracts
 ● Private Foundations and Contributions
 ● Program Fees
 ● Events
 ● Investment Income
 ● Other Income
 ● Realized/Unrealized Loss on Investments (Net)



Expenses

Program Services

Foster Care	8,611,116
Permanency	6,366,797
Family Support	3,937,687
Education	3,377,859

Total Program Services **22,293,459**

Supporting Services

Administration	469,254
Fundraising	1,255,676

Total Support Services **1,724,930**

Total Expenses **24,018,389**

● Foster Care
 ● Permanency
 ● Family Support
 ● Education
 ● Administration
 ● Fundraising

Net income is the result of multi-year investments in CHS's four-year strategic plan and Promise of Family Campaign.

INNOVATING: Foster Care (Shared Parenting/Reunification)

1,017 YOUTH
served through
Foster Care.

**CHS PARTNERED WITH CHAPIN HALL
AT THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO**
to lead a shift in practice supporting
birth parents in their goal to reunify
with their children.

"I am a huge supporter of shared
parenting and saw this as an opportunity
to build everlasting bonds – not only
between mom and the girls but between
my family and theirs as well.

*I am so grateful
to have made
an impact
on their lives*

and am even more appreciative
of the opportunity to build a trusting
relationship through shared parenting.

There are so many benefits
including building trust and lasting
relationships, making transitions
easier for the kids, and mentoring."

– CHS FOSTER PARENT ASHLEY STRIBLIN



JULIANA AND SAPPHIRE

Juliana and Sapphire came into Ashley's foster home with a plan of reunification with their mother, but she was very nervous about starting over and taking the girls back home. During the girls' time in foster care, Ashley and their mom developed a shared parenting relationship. What started out as a quick chat once or twice every other week, quickly turned into three or four chats a week. They talked about strategies that worked at home, scheduling activities, and how the girls were doing at school – both participated in meetings at their school.

The girls also participated in cheer while living with Ashley and their mom was invited to attend the games. She came to so many, and the look on the girls' faces to see their mom present was priceless.

Both girls had upcoming birthdays and had never had a birthday party. Together they planned Sapphire's party at Ashley's home, and it turned out amazing, complete with happy tears. After the girls were reunified with their mom, Juliana's birthday was a couple of weeks later. Again, the two teamed up to make sure they made Juliana's first ever birthday party just as special.

Since reunification they have maintained a bond. They visit one another, get together for dinner, and the girls' mom still calls Ashley with questions as they approach new phases in life.

REUNIFICATION
is the first desired outcome
for children and their families
involved in the foster care system.



FOSTER PARENTS BECOME PARTNERS WITH BIRTH PARENTS

in the everyday care of their children, helping them to remain connected, dignified, and empowered in their role as a parent.

“Shared parenting is such a positive thing.

When the child goes home, if the child goes home, the child will definitely be a part of the foster parent's life. And if the child stays with the foster parent, the birth parent will definitely be a part of the child's life. Either way, the child wins.”

– CHS PLACEMENT SPECIALIST STEPHANIE ROBINSON

ELEVATING: Kinship

Research has shown that
**YOUTH ARE MORE STABLE AND
HAVE BETTER OUTCOMES**
when they stay with relatives versus
traditional foster care.



*"Children's Home Society has been there
from the beginning – keeping me in classes,
helping me learn, and connecting me
with others in similar situations.*

*They have given me skills
and opportunities to learn.*

*Today is totally different from when my children
were growing up. They have helped me get
my head in the game. I am so grateful
for Children's Home Society."*

– YOLANDA THOMPSON



CYMIYAH AND ARIYAH

Yolanda has had her granddaughters Cymiyah and Ariyah in her care for most of their lives. Yolanda attended as many foster parent trainings as were available. She was committed to learning anything that would help her to provide the girls with the best life she could. She requested supportive services or therapy immediately as needed to ensure that she was able to meet the girls' mental health needs as they arose.

Thanks to the C. Felix Harvey Project, a pilot program to provide added assistance to kinship caregivers, additional training and support have made a tremendous difference in the life Yolanda is able to provide the girls.

Cymiyah and Ariyah's adoptions were finalized in a beautiful ceremony. At the end of the ceremony, Cymiyah called her grandmother "Mommy" for the first time.

CHS partnered with UNC-CH School of Social Work and NC-DSS on the
C. FELIX HARVEY PROJECT
to provide greater assistance
to relative caregivers.



CHS hosted the first-ever
KINSHIP SUMMIT,
a convening of leaders in the field to
recognize support of relative caregivers
as an emerging opportunity.



CHS IS COMMITTED TO INCREASING SUPPORTS TO KINSHIP CAREGIVERS

and help youth find a permanent home within their own family or those with a proven family-like relationship.

ADVOCATING: Child-Focused Recruitment

CHILD-FOCUSED RECRUITMENT uses a defined approach, the Wendy's Wonderful Kids model, developed by the Dave Thomas Foundation for Adoption, that focuses on identifying a forever family for the neediest children in foster care.

CHS has successfully advocated at the NC General Assembly to **EXPAND THE IMPACT** of Child-Focused Recruitment.

Children receiving Child-Focused Recruitment **GREW TO 695** from 488 last year.



JEREMIAH

Jeremiah was referred to the Child-Focused Recruitment program having been in two placements while in foster care. His recruiter identified Jeremiah's special needs teacher as a possible adoptive parent for him, and he started having visits with his teacher's family every other weekend. He immediately bonded with them as if he knew that they were his forever family.

Jeremiah has serious health issues resulting in failure to thrive, being small for his age, and difficulty eating. He has a heart condition that will require surgery in the future. Jeremiah had trouble communicating and only knew a few words when he came into care.

Today, Jeremiah has had an amazing foster family and an amazing adoptive family who work closely together in advocating for Jeremiah and ensuring he gets the best medical treatment to help him advance. Jeremiah has learned lots of new words and is now able to communicate his needs. He can eat on his own and has learned to use the potty. He is singing songs and saying the alphabet. Jeremiah has grown leaps and bounds all because of the support of his amazing families. Jeremiah's adoption was finalized this year, and his foster family will continue to be a part of his life.

CHS IS THE ONLY PROVIDER OF
THIS MODEL IN THE STATE and is
on track to be fully scaled to provide
the service in every county.



CHS added **FAMILY ENGAGEMENT COACHES** to improve our success in connecting youth with extended family sharing genetic, legal, or social relationships.

"On the first day of school in my classroom, a tiny little guy named Jeremiah walked in as my student and changed my life forever. With five children at home already, adopting a child really was not something I had thought a lot about. I will always tell anyone who will listen that this rollercoaster was the most exciting and difficult journey of our lives, but one that I cannot imagine any of us having missed out on.

*I am forever grateful to everyone who was a part of our story
and cannot wait to see what the future has in store for our family!"*

– ADOPTIVE PARENT ADRIENNE GREENE

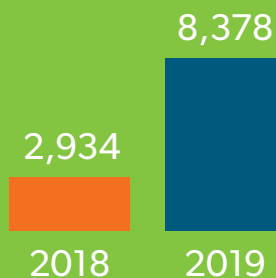
GROWING: HealthySteps

CHS is committed to
**GROWING OUR
PREVENTATIVE SUPPORT**
to families through education
in pediatric settings.



**HEALTHYSTEPS PARTNERS
PARENT EDUCATORS WITH
PEDIATRIC PROVIDERS**
to offer support to parents during
the early years of their child's life.

**FAMILIES EDUCATED IN
PEDIATRIC SETTINGS:**



"We have been so incredibly blessed to have HealthySteps as part of our office. I know that our patients and families are greatly benefited by this addition. This amazing program, focused on ages birth through 3, will help strengthen our families for the entirety of childhood and then benefit to adulthood.

*This will benefit our community both now
in the present and for the future."*

– PEDIATRIC PARTNER

JENNY

Jenny first met her HealthySteps Specialist during her one-month well visit for her second son. As many moms can attest, adjusting to two under two can be difficult. Between sleep deprivation with an infant and the will power and development of a toddler, it can be a hard balance to strike.

Throughout this past year, her Specialist has popped in on nearly all the boys' well visits and has had the opportunity to communicate outside of well visits through email. They often talk about what the boys are working on developmentally, ways mom and dad can support their development, what is on the horizon for development milestones, and any behaviors that can be a challenge – like sleep regression, temper tantrums, potty training. They also just talk about the stress parenting can bring.

**CHS IS A PART OF A COLLECTIVE
IMPACT STRATEGY** in Guilford
County to transform the system
of support for young families.

HealthySteps recognizes
that **THE FIRST YEARS
OF A CHILD'S LIFE ARE
IMPORTANT** in setting a
foundation for success.

*“It has been incredibly helpful
having our HealthySteps Specialist
available to us through our
pediatrician's office.*

*Knowing that I have a knowledgeable, non-biased
sounding board has taken a lot of worry and stress off my
shoulders as a mom. She does a great job of making
me feel like I'm not crazy or a terrible parent
by talking sensibly to me.”*

– HEALTHYSTEPS PARTICIPANT JENNY YODER





Children's Home Society
OF NORTH CAROLINA

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MISSION

To promote the right of every child to a permanent, safe, and loving family.

VISION

To be a leader in transforming families and communities so children can thrive.

CORE VALUES

Compassion • Integrity
Excellence • Innovation

Brian K. Maness, *President & CEO*

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