

GO THE DISTANCE CHALLENGE

SUPPORTING VIRGINIA'S CHILDREN,
YOUTH AND FAMILIES



BECOME A "GO THE DISTANCE" AMBASSADOR

Will you join CHS in "Going the Distance" this May in honor of National Foster Care Month? The "Go the Distance" challenge is an easy, fun, COVID-safe way to support Virginia's at-risk children and youth this May. Just sign up as a "Go the Distance" ambassador, choose a distance you pledge to cover over the month of May, and ask your friends and family to join the fun by becoming an ambassador themselves, or sponsoring you with a donation to CHS.

IS YOUR ORGANIZATION UP TO THE CHALLENGE?

- Organizations can support the event by becoming financial sponsors or by creating a team of employees to participate.
- Challenge another organization and see which can log more distance or raise more funds.
- Share your team's total distance or funds raised with your customers/network to help educate and increase awareness
- Boost team participation by covering registration fees, matching a portion of funds raised, holding a prize drawing amongst participants, or creating an internal competition for most funds raised!



GO the DISTANCE
CHALLENGE SUPPORTING CHILDREN
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GO THE DISTANCE CHALLENGE 2021

CHS has been going the distance, creating permanency for Virginia's at-risk children and youth for over 120 years. Your participation as an ambassador will help us continue for the next 120 years in finding adoptive families for children and youth in foster care, supporting those families as well as supporting youth who have aged out of foster care without a permanent family. Your commitment as an ambassador or sponsor will truly make a difference for the children, youth and families of Virginia! To learn more about Children's Home Society of Virginia, please read about our programs on the other side of this flyer or visit www.CHSVA.org.

MISSION

To build strong permanent families and lifelong relationships for Virginia's at-risk children and youth.

CONTACT

If you would like to learn more, please contact:

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CHS PROGRAMS SUMMARY

EVERY CHILD DESERVES A HOME

FOSTER CARE ADOPTION PROGRAM



Ensuring children and youth thrive in new families. Since 1900, CHS has worked with a sense of urgency to ensure that at-risk children and youth grow up in nurturing families who are prepared to meet their needs. In addition to assisting families with private adoptions, CHS recruits and trains families to adopt children and youth from foster care. Our focus is on children ages 12 and older, who often wait the longest to be adopted. Families participate in our approval process that includes trauma-informed training and a home study. We then match them with a waiting child based on the child's individual needs, personality and background. CHS guides the legal adoption process which formalizes the child becoming a permanent member of the family.

POST ADOPTION PROGRAM



Providing adoptive families services for positive growth and development. The CHS Post Adoption Program* serves Central and Northern Virginia's adoptive families in collaboration with the Virginia Department of Social Services and other service providers in the state. We work to increase the likelihood of successful adoptions and attachment within the family.

CHS services include a variety of family and youth services designed to meet the individual needs of our families. No matter how long ago you adopted, we are here to help with free post adoption services and supports.

MY PATH FORWARD



MY PATH FORWARD (MPF) and MY PATH FORWARD-ILA (INDEPENDENT LIVING ARRANGEMENT)

Empowering youth for independence. In partnership with The Better Housing Coalition, CHS is serving youth who are preparing to transition from foster care to independence. Our best-practice program model reaches a population that needs us—vulnerable young people who were released from foster care after they turned 18 and face dire outcomes without support and guidance. Virginia has one of the highest rates of youth aging out of foster care in the country.

Our research-based programs for youth transitioning from foster care provide housing and a variety of trauma informed wrap-around supports to youth including job training, access to education, financial literacy and life skills. *My Path Forward-Independent Living Arrangement (MPF-ILA)* serves youth from 18-20. *My Path Forward (MPF)* further serves youth with affordable housing and continued supportive services until age 25.

[A research study](#) we commissioned with Child Trends, a nationally-recognized research firm, provides insight into relevant laws, policies and programs nationwide that help us better understand and support these young adults.

**CHS Post Adoption Program funding provided in part by a Community Impact Grant from Rappahannock United Way*

Children's Home Society of Virginia is a permanency-driven, trauma-informed organization with a mission *to build strong permanent families and lifelong relationships for Virginia's at-risk children and youth.*

We are one of Virginia's oldest private adoption agencies, and have served more than 14,000 Virginia children since 1900. CHS has evolved to meet the changing needs of children, and now focuses on the most challenging placements of youth out of foster care and into permanency.

The CHS staff are experts on trauma and apply industry best-practices. All of our programs utilize trauma-informed approaches to provide permanency to vulnerable infants, children and youth along a continuum of care.

CONTACT

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