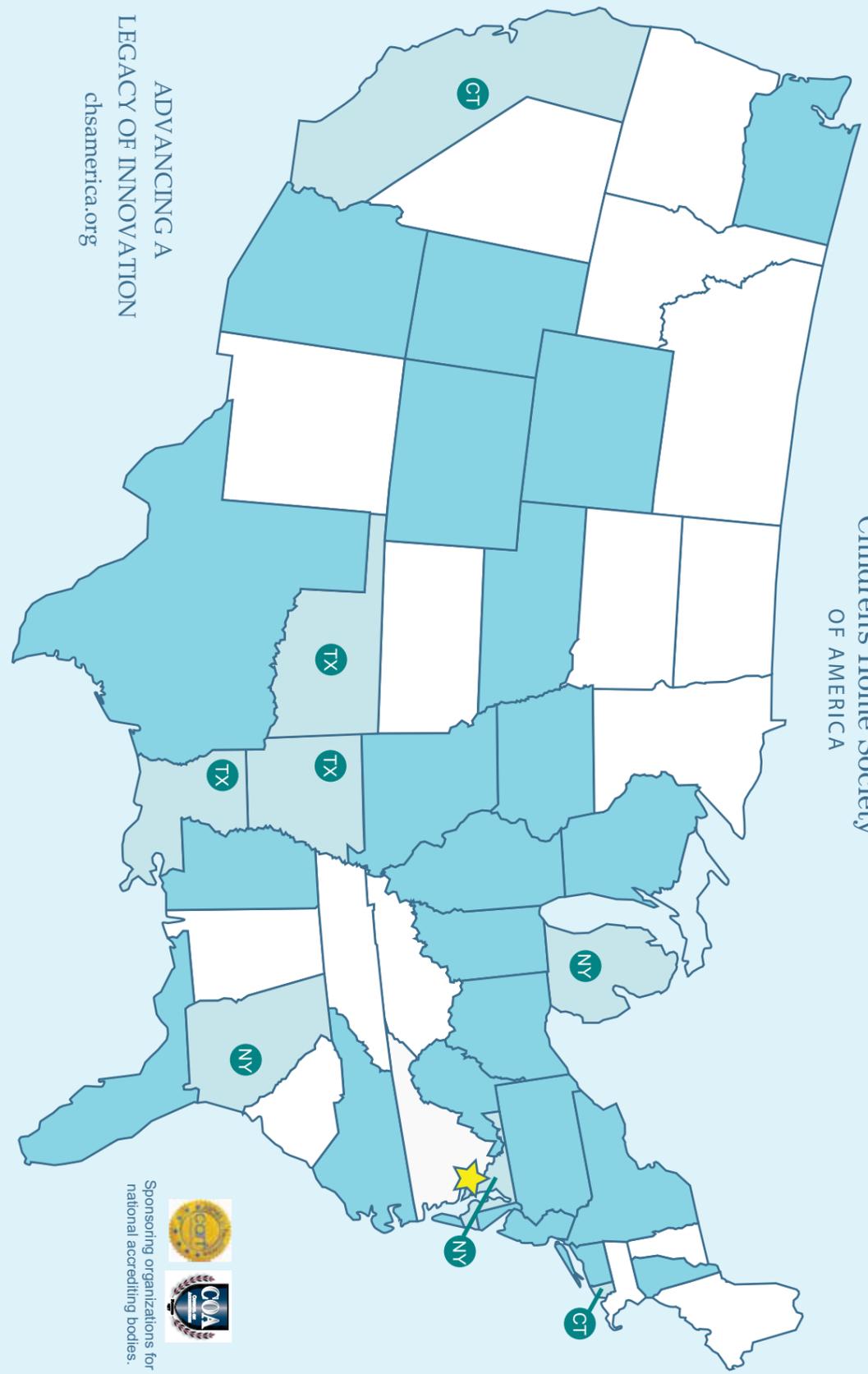




Children's Home Society
OF AMERICA

ADVANCING A
LEGACY OF INNOVATION
chsamerica.org



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Service areas provided by member agencies



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Building stronger alliances to create change

As one of the nation's most respected and trusted child welfare advocates, Children's Home Society of America (CHSA) is the voice for children and their families.

From the steps of the Capitol building in Washington, D.C. to providing direct services to millions of children and their families each year, we are the drivers of lasting, positive change that will impact future generations.

With strong support from CHSA, our member agencies leverage partnerships from the private and public sectors and academia to provide innovative, outcomes-oriented services to children and their families. We also work closely with local and state governments, peer organizations, child welfare experts and university researchers to have tough conversations that address the complex issues of the child welfare system.

CHSA advocacy work is founded on the following core principles:

- Support integrated systems of care that are accessible to children and families.
- Advocate for comprehensive finance reform, which will provide adequate and flexible funding to support more integrated systems of care.
- Recognize the critical importance of public-private partnerships in developing services that work and reduce long-term costs to the taxpayers while ensuring more and more children are successful and prepared for life.
- Allow for and support innovation in program development and delivery that is informed by research and best practice standards.

These core principles have been the foundation for our policy work that has continued to flourish in the past year. We have partnered alongside Frontiers of Innovation at Harvard Center on the Developing Child to bring science-based solutions to practice and policy. We also played a critical role in the development of the national legislation Families First Prevention Act, which directs federal support toward evidence-based prevention services. In addition, we held the fifth institute in the groundbreaking "Wicked Problems of Child Welfare" series, which convenes our nation's thought leaders for a comprehensive analysis of some of the most complex policy issues in the child welfare system.

All of our remarkable work would not be possible without support from our peers and partners. As always, we are grateful for your support and our strong partnerships with the private and public sector as well as the academic community. We hope that you will join us in our efforts to transform the child welfare system.

Sincerely,



David A. Bundy
President/CEO



D. Sharon Osborne
Board Chair



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In the past year, we have been able to significantly expand our body of work to build strong bridges between the public and private sectors and academic community.

Thanks to our valuable partnerships, we lead the conversation to find new solutions that improve the lives of America's children. As our efforts continue to grow, so does the positive impact on America's children and their families.



Providing a voice for America's children



We stand at the forefront of efforts to transform the child welfare system. We have influenced the bicameral, bipartisan national child welfare legislation Families First Prevention Act that was introduced in June 2016.

The legislation takes historic steps in focusing federal spending on evidence-based prevention services to ensure more children can safely stay with their families and encourages the placement of foster care children in the least restrictive settings. The bill also supports older youth who are transitioning from foster care to adulthood, grandparents and other relatives who care for children who cannot stay with their parents, and improves the interstate placement of children.

Expanding partnerships to find innovative solutions



In summer 2016, we began developing a new partnership with Frontiers of Innovation at Harvard Center on the Developing Child for our research to practice network with the goal of promoting science-based strategies in policy and practice focused on children and their families.

Launched as the research and development platform for the Harvard Center on the Developing Child in 2011, Frontiers of Innovation works to accelerate the development and adoption of science-based innovations that achieve breakthrough impact at scale. Frontiers of Innovation brings together more than 400 researchers, practitioners, policymakers, philanthropists and other experts throughout the nation.

Tackling the wicked problems of child welfare



On October 2015, we held the fifth institute in the "Wicked Problems of Child Welfare" series alongside our partner, The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill School of Social Work's Jordan Institute for Families.

A "wicked problem" means a problem that defies ordinary solutions and cannot be solved by one single discipline.

The two-day institute in Chicago brought together child welfare administrators, service providers, researchers, philanthropists and government officials from around the country to tackle the wicked problems of child welfare and explore innovative strategies and best practices to improve national policy.