Transformation and Lasting Change

Dear Partners,

Children’s Home Society of America – Lead. Innovate. Advocate. It’s what we do so that our nation’s children and families, learn, heal, and succeed. CHSA members are creating a world where every child is safe and loved at home with family and where families grow stronger every day.

Today, we stand at a cross-roads moment in history, a time of enormous opportunity and peril. The Covid-19 virus and the legacy of generational, systemic racism sweeps communities across the country. Despite the relentless 24/7 demands, CHSA accelerated collaborative and cross-sector problem-solving and worked to sustain community response-capability in rural, inner-city/urban and suburban communities from coast to coast. CHSA’s dynamic learning community spurred real-time innovation. CHSA leveraged this moment to make fundamental and lasting change.

In the early weeks of the Covid-19 pandemic, CHSA members redesigned service delivery nearly overnight onto virtual/digital models in order to ensure children and families did not lose the support and resources necessary for their safety, education and well-being. Thousands of children face the digital divide. CHSA partnered to ensure that every child had tools and access to on-line education.

Partnership is in CHSA’s DNA. This enabled these accomplishments:

- The Wicked Problems Institute IX aligning cross-sector to maximize opportunities for systems change
- Harvard Center for the Developing Child/Frontiers of Innovation projects launched promoting innovation and evidence-building
- National policy impact and capacity building: CHSA worked to ensure the passage of FFPSA and the CARES Act Covid-19 legislation and to harness the power of youth and family voices
- Devising strategies to meet basic needs of children, families, staff and volunteers, to secure resources and to tackle the mind-boggling operational issues faced at the front-line of community care

Lead. Innovate. Advocate – It’s what we do. Thank you for being a partner as we open this new chapter, creating greater impact together.

With appreciation and passionate commitment to America’s children & families,

Brian Maness
Chairman of the Board
Children’s Home Society of America

Nancy B. Ronquillo
President/CEO
Children’s Home Society of America
The Power of Collective Impact

CHSA boosts mission impact by active sharing of resources, technical assistance, insights, and problem solving of the members. The early weeks of the pandemic demanded rapid learning and change. Members worked together to ensure that children and families were safe and able to access supports in the new "virtual-only" world. Success highlights:

• Bridged the digital divide for thousands of children and families whose only opportunity for education and support in the new on-line world. CHSA members secured on-line tools (e.g. tablets, lap-tops, mobile devices, etc.) and access (e.g. hot-spots established, service platform partnerships with major provider companies) for students and their families.

• Food, shelter, and clothing were delivered to families and their children's in new ways that minimized risk and improved safety and expedited access to Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and training.

• Virtually overnight, the full range of services were re-designed. This includes home-visiting, parenting support, to clinical counseling and residential, CHSA shared ideas, tools, and strategies to yield flexible and sustained response.

• CHSA members advocated for federal legislative relief with national human service partners. CHSA members secured millions in federal funding (e.g. Payroll Protection) to prevent the shut-down of services.

Financials as of June 30th, 2020

436,282
LIVES TOUCHED

12,238
TOTAL HUMAN SERVICES WORKFORCE

"The WP Institute IX was an amazing experience and one of few conferences I have attended on Child Welfare that embraced subject matter experts and encouraged sharing of their voices and expertise. The WP Institute IX was like a much needed conversation with everyone, all stakeholders around the table. It was a highly informative and productive experience."

- Demetrees Hutchins, Ph.D., Implementation Training Manager, Transform Consulting Group

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Service areas provided by member agencies

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