

# 2020

# ANNUAL REPORT





children's home & aid

# OUR MISSION

Children's Home & Aid partners with children, youth and families whose potential is at risk to create hope, opportunity, and bright futures.

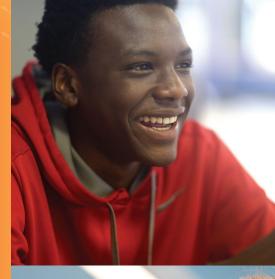
# OUR VISION

All children, youth and families thrive in strong communities.

# OUR WORK

Every Child. Every Family. Thriving.









# Dear Friends

ven for an organization with a 137-year history, 2020 will forever be a standout year for Children's Home & Aid. It will be remembered as a year in which the threats to the children, families and communities we serve were without precedent. We will also remember 2020 as the year we proved—unequivocally—that our staff, board leaders and financial supporters are always ready to meet the moment, doing whatever it takes.

We learned some important lessons in 2020. Thriving children require strong families and stable communities. The year also underscored the importance of our work, addressing the deepest challenges of poverty, social isolation and trauma.

Children's Home & Aid has put these lessons to work in 2020 by embracing a bold, new strategic direction. We are reimagining our impact by prioritizing the wellbeing of families in a way that creates opportunities for children to thrive like never before, where parents and caregivers are fully supported partners in the services we offer.

The time is right for change. The impact of COVID touches every facet of the lives of the families we serve. Their health and economic security are uncertain, and the

lasting impact of the disruption of in-person learning for children is unknown. Added to this we find ourselves grappling with the reality that longstanding racial inequities are disproportionately deepening the threat to Black and Brown families across the state.

Real challenges. Historic challenges. But Children's Home & Aid is positioned to meet the moment. Our agility and innovation over the last year speaks to what's possible when one of Illinois' most experienced and far-reaching social service partners gears up to meet the uncertain future as we have so many times before.

Last year taught us we're not doing this alone. Throughout 2020, we were able to be there for more than 30,000 children and families in 65 counties through longstanding partnerships with federal, state and local governments, as well as other community organizations. We expanded our home visiting work in central Illinois and grew our behavioral health services in some of the most impoverished and violence plagued neighborhoods in Chicago.

We were also humbled by the generous financial support of our corporate partners, foundations and countless individual donors who made it possible for us to provide more than \$500,000 in direct assistance to families, including cash assistance, food and internet connectivity.

All of this was possible because the Children's Home & Aid community is second to none when it comes to being there for families in their most acute moments of need.

We're grateful to share our 2020 impact report with the broader Children's Home & Aid community because none of it would be possible without incredible partnerships. The faces of unbridled potential (all photographed before masking and social distancing) underscore the power of all children, all families and all communities thriving.

Michael J. Shaver

PRESIDENT & CEO

Charlie Gofen

CHAIR, BOARD of TRUSTEES

Charles A. Dofe

# FY20 Financials & Early Head Start

# JULY 1, 2019 - JUNE 30, 2020

# Revenues

Government	\$ 57,556,566
Contributions	\$ 5,621,212
Service Fees	\$ 1,722,856
Foundations & Trusts	\$ 1,196,789
Investment Income & Other	\$ 552,325
Total Revenues	\$ 66,649,748



Revenue above does not include non operating gains on investments of \$119,472

# Expenses

Program	\$ 55,998,054
Management & General	\$ 9,010,799
Fundraising	\$ 1,962,531
Total Expenses	\$ 66,971,384



hildren's Home & Aid served 726 children and pregnant women in our Early Head Start and Head Start center-based and home-based programs during Fiscal Year 2020. Revenue for the Early Head Start and Head Start programs was \$10,425,053, of which \$778,274 and \$9,646,779 came from private and public sources, respectively. The budgetary expenditures of these programs included staff compensation and benefits, professional fees, supplies, occupancy and other expenditures in support of the provision of client services.

The financial results of the agency's Early Head Start and Head Start programs are included in the agency's audited financial statements for the year ending June 30, 2020. For more information, please see the complete audited financial statements at childrenshomeandaid.org.



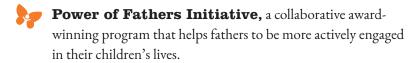
The support we received through the Foster Parent Mentoring Program helped us help our child. I was no longer alone in this journey of providing for the best interest of Serenity. My mentor held my hand at my weakest hour and kept us going as a family."

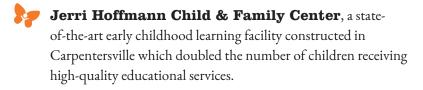
- Mary, mom

Children's Home & Aid's child welfare services include partnering with foster parents and relatives to provide safe, secure and nurturing homes for children when they are separated from their biological families. We recruit, license and train foster parents for their critical role in the child's recovery from trauma.

# The Every Child Campaign

n 2020, we successfully completed our \$58.5 million Every Child Campaign, one of the largest fundraising campaigns ever undertaken by an Illinois human services agency. Led by former Board chair Liz Connelly and a committee of dedicated volunteers, the campaign engaged thousands of generous donors in a mission of helping every child and every family in Illinois to thrive. With your help, the Every Child Campaign launched several new initiatives, including:





Ahlquist Center for Policy, Practice & Innovation, where we incubate innovation and advocate for effective state and federal public policies to improve outcomes for vulnerable children and families.

**FAMILY CARES Center**, part of our Children's Mental Health initiative which provides services in the safe and familiar environment of a school to help children and families impacted by trauma to heal.

**Choose to Change** program to reduce violence in Englewood, working with the most vulnerable teens through counseling and mentorship to inspire positive change.



As we celebrate the Every Child Campaign's far-reaching impact, we thank the generous individuals, foundations and corporations whose gifts made the campaign a success. Together, we are creating brighter futures for our children, and building a world where every child is loved and successful.

# A Transformative Display of Generosity





The Every Child Campaign inspired remarkable generosity from our donors, with more than 10,600 individuals, companies, foundations and charitable and religious organizations contributing \$60 million+, exceeding the campaign's \$58.5 million goal, to advance a vision of every child in Illinois thriving.

There were a number of extraordinary donors whose generosity set the standard for this campaign, including Mr. and Mrs. Gary Ahlquist and Mr. Paul Wood and the Honorable Corrine Wood.

# Mr. and Mrs. Gary Ahlquist

Gary and Suzy Ahlquist have been dedicated Children's Home & Aid donors and volunteers for more than 30 years. Gary joined the Board of Trustees in 1995, and served as Chair from 2006-2009. Suzy has been on the Woman's Board since 2007, serving as a Gala co-chair and past board president, and their daughter Eve serves on the Cradle Associates Young Professional Board. The Ahlquist's \$1 million gift to the Every Child Campaign launched the Ahlquist Center for Policy, Practice and Innovation, to advocate for effective public policies and improve outcomes for vulnerable children and families through innovative practices.

# Mr. Paul Wood and the Honorable Corrine Wood

Paul has served as a member of Children's Home & Aid's Board of Trustees for more than 30 years. He is co-founder and was Managing Director of Madison Dearborn Partners, while Corrine served as Illinois' first woman Lieutenant Governor. The Woods have a deep passion for helping children and families thrive, with a commitment to building long-term stability and resilience. The Woods' lead gift to the Every Child Campaign helped build our endowment, ensuring Children's Home & Aid's sustainability into the future.



When she arrives, my kids get so excited. It's a relief to have someone to turn to, to learn from, and bring joy to my day. My home visitor believes in me and I realize I can be my child's first and best teacher."

- Maria, mom

# Children, Youth & Families served by Children's Home & Aid:

27,750

67

Counties Served

In FY2020, we provided ongoing services in three program areas:



CHILD WELFARE 4,963



EARLY EDUCATION 1,408



FAMILY & COMMUNITY SERVICES

5,889

1,408

children received high-quality early care and education at one of our five child and family centers.



Last year, **939** youth whose potential is at risk received coaching, advocacy and trauma-informed therapy to improve their success at home, in school and in their communities.

The positive difference made by our Choose to Change program in Chicago remains long after the program ends. Eighteen months after leaving the program, youth have 38% fewer violent-crime arrests than their peers who didn't participate.



**2,026** children avoided entering foster care and remained with their families through dedicated services.



Provided emergency child care for **297** children from **174** families in crisis.

886
adults and children received behavioral

health services.

40 youth in foster care with severe emotional and mental health needs received therapeutic residential treatment at the Daniel F. and Ada L. Rice Child & Family Center.

75% of the youth discharged from the Rice Center went to a home-based setting.



Home visitors coached **506** young and first-time families striving to do well by their children.

**1,208** youth who experienced neglect or abuse received foster care services.

**175** children and youth returned to their families or other loving, permanent homes.

# The Children's Home & Aid Legacy Society

66

The true meaning of life is to plant trees under whose shade you do not expect to sit.

Nelson Henderson

ne hundred and thirty-seven years ago, the Reverend Martin Van Buren Van Arsdale founded Children's Home & Aid with a vision of every child loved and cherished in a family. That vision continues to inspire our work. For more a century, generous donors have made it possible for hundreds of thousands of Illinois children and families to thrive.

In 2020, Children's Home & Aid launched our inaugural Legacy Society to recognize those generous and thoughtful individuals who have made provisions in their estate plans for the children and families we serve.

Estate gifts and bequests from generous donors allow us to build our endowment, giving us a vitally important cushion against changing funding priorities. Bequest gifts come in all sizes, and each one helps ensure that our life-changing services will be available for generations of children and families to come.

To learn more about making a planned gift or to join the Legacy Society, please contact Mary Kozil at mkozil@childrenshomeandaid.org or call 312-424-6836.

### Anonymous

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Mr. and Mrs. Alan Conkle

Mr. and Mrs. Matthew J. Connelly

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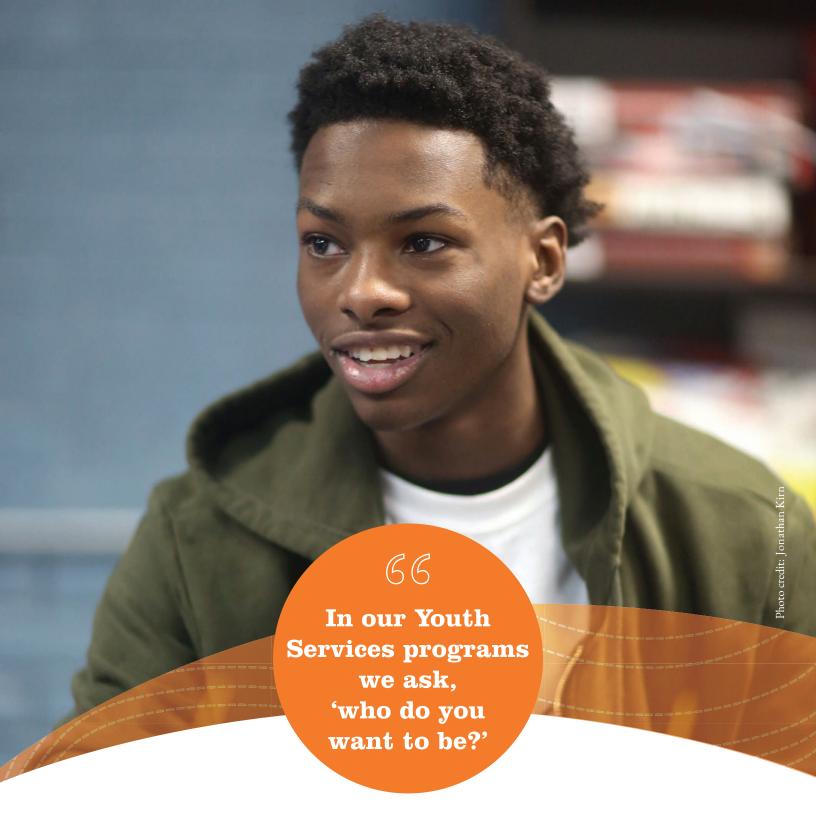
Mr. and Mrs. Frank Westerhold\*

Mr. Paul R. Wood and Hon.

Corinne G. Wood

Ms. Joanne Zolomij

\* deceased



Then our kids take the reins, and we help get them there. They have drive, grit, dreams, desires and interests. We work to remove barriers — to unlock potential, build confidence and open up opportunities."

- Amanda Whitlock, Senior Vice President, Child Welfare and Behavioral Health Services



Every child at the Daniel F. and Ada L. Rice Child & Family Center has a painful story — but their stories don't define them. Here, youth create new relationships and rewrite their narratives."

- Will Sackley, Clinical Supervisor, Rice Child & Family Center

The Rice Child & Family Center is a therapeutic, residential treatment center for youth ages 6-14 with severe emotional and mental health needs.

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Every Child. Every Family. Thriving.

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See a complete list of auxiliary volunteers at childrenshomeandaid.org/auxiliaries



The Crisis Nursery staff gave me theirs. I couldn't do it alone — keep my children safe and be the mom my children needed in that moment. Children's Home & Aid didn't judge me when I was at my lowest. They provided a safe, loving place for my child so I could put the pieces together."

- Kim, mom

# Get Involved with Children's Home & Aid

t Children's Home & Aid, we do whatever it takes to put children on the path to a better life and keep them there. This mission would not be possible without the generous support of hundreds of volunteers and donors. Here's how you can help:



# Sign-up for our Monthly

**E-newsletter:** We share stories of lives changed with our donors support and share information upcoming events, program highlights, and the latest innovative.

**Volunteer:** Whether you're looking to change the life of one child as a mentor or your company is interested in a service day, volunteering is a gratifying and rewarding way to give back.

Organize a fundraiser or donation drive at your workplace or in your community.

# Create a Facebook

**Fundraiser:** Celebrate your birthday by inviting friends and family to make a donation in your honor to Children's Home & Aid.

### Follow us on Social

**Media**: Check out our pages on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter.

# Join an Auxiliary Board:

We have groups in Hinsdale, Chicago and the North Shore, Rockford, Bloomington and East St. Louis who are always in need of energetic volunteers interested in helping kids and families.

**Make a Donation:** For 137 years Children's Home & Aid has worked to create hope, opportunities and bright futures for children, youth and families. This would not be possible if not for the amazing generosity of our supporters. Gifts of all sizes can make a huge difference in the lives of children.



children's home & aid

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