A LETTER FROM OUR LEADERSHIP

Our organization’s strategic approach is captured in our mission, which summarizes both our purpose and how we achieve it. ChildSavers is the only nonprofit agency in Virginia providing a unique blend of prevention (child development) and intervention (mental health) services to address childhood trauma. Our mission, services, and vision are informed by our deep understanding of the communities we serve, and strengthened by our partnerships within those communities.

This year is different. Our nation struggles with the impact of both a pandemic and an upheaval due to our long history of health disparities and social injustice against people of color, and in particular Black Americans. ChildSavers has been on the forefront of these critical issues since its inception in 1924. We were founded in the aftermath of the 1918 flu pandemic on the premise that children should have access to quality mental health care, regardless of their family’s ability to pay. Since that time, we have expanded this commitment to our work in early childhood education.

COVID-19 caused the agency to move quickly to a remote operation and within sixty days, we were achieving pre-pandemic service delivery volumes. For the long-term, our business will be a hybrid, inclusive of virtual and face-to-face services.

Like many organizations, ChildSavers is exploring our own racially-biased history and taking action steps to enhance our ability to provide services more equitably. The mirror is not easy and leaves us vulnerable as individuals and as a collective agency. Yet it is necessary. We are examining the internal relationships amongst staff members and at the board level. We are talking with our external partners to establish the foundation for sustainable programs and policies to ensure diversity, equity, and inclusion.

With your partnership, we can positively help children and their families build resilience. John* is just one of the 587 children served before and during COVID-19. You can read more about his story on the next page and in our online Annual Report.

Early child care and education is truly the backbone of our community’s workforce and economy. We also provided thousands of hours of training to help child care providers like Ms. B.* (page 3). While we still have room for growth, we also know we play a critical role in our community. Our mission-driven work is effective and proven!

While our community is still recovering, we remain grateful for you.

Please take special care,

L. Robert Bolling, Chief Executive Officer, and Clinton M. Bowes, Board of Directors President

*Name and details have been altered to protect the identity of this client.
JOHN'S STORY

In January, John’s sixth grade teacher called ChildSavers’ Immediate Response team after he expressed thoughts of ending his own life. Within thirty minutes, John was met by a ChildSavers therapist in the principal’s office.

They talked about coloring and art as a way to feel better. Then, they tried breathing exercises and reflected on how it made him feel. Although John was smiling as he walked out the door, it was clear that long-term support was needed.

Over the following months, John and his therapist worked on developing coping skills when his emotions became too big to handle. Eventually, John asked his mother to join a therapy session and for the first time, they created a safe space for feelings and emotions. Read the rest of John's story in this year's Annual Report, found at childsavers.org/fy20.

IMPACTS OF TRAUMA & RESILIENCE TRAINING

Looking through a trauma-informed lens changes the conversation from "What’s wrong with this child?" to "What happened to this child?" This year, 7,263 adults from organizations like the FBI and other national and local community leaders, received training, crafted to help us see the assets in our community’s children rather than deficits.

CHILD THERAPY DURING COVID-19

This fiscal year, more than 587 children connected with a trusted therapist. We are now conducting more than 96% of our sessions online.

Researchers predict that children’s mental health will become the emerging health crisis resulting from COVID-19. You can provide even more trauma-informed therapy for children in our community by donating at childsavers.org/donate.

- 149 new children received school-based therapy.
- 10,937 therapy sessions completed since July 1, 2019.
Ms. B.'s Story

With 45 years of child care experience, Ms. B.* runs a family day home in Petersburg, VA. In addition to watching the granddaughter of a former student, she cares for eight other children Monday through Friday. Ms. B was first informed of ChildSavers and our trauma-informed Child Development Services eight years ago. She needed guidance caring for infants and toddlers who had experienced trauma.

This March, Ms. B. braced for impact as the pandemic began. As an elderly woman caring for nine young children in her own home, she remained hopeful to stay open. Four children’s parents lost their jobs during the pandemic, leaving them unable to pay for child care.

Regardless, she was able to sustain her business with the help of ChildSavers.

CELEBRATING CHILD CARE PROVIDERS' SUCCESS

When you support ChildSavers, you’re laying a foundation for lifelong learning and development for infants and toddlers. You’re also supporting small businesses by providing professional development opportunities for child care professionals, many of whom own their child care facilities.

You can support child care providers and the children they serve at childsavers.org/donate.

- **This year, we served child care providers in 534 facilities across Central and Southwest Virginia in 71 localities.**
- **25,778 children were enrolled in quality early care and education.**
- **3,176 children now have access to healthy meals and snacks.**
- **Nearly 40% of CDA recipients reported an improvement in job status or pay.**

Donor Spotlight: Nika Atkins

Nika Atkins not only volunteers her time to ChildSavers, she also contributes monthly and participates in her company’s matching gifts program. We are inspired by you, Nika, and thank you for the time, talent, and treasure you’ve given to support our clients.

Become a monthly donor at childsavers.org/donate.
There's so many incredible things to celebrate this fiscal year. In the midst of a pandemic and a societal upheaval, we were able to serve even more children, families, and providers than last year.

Read more success stories, statistics, and updates at childsavers.org/fy20.

LOCAL TRAINING GOES GLOBAL!

What started as an eight-week Virtual Brown Bag Lunch for guardians and educators about building resilience in children in Richmond turned into a global training webinar series. ChildSavers therapists lead the charge to train more than 1,000 guardians, foster parents, teachers, principals, and mental health professionals from the U.S., UK, Philippines, India, and more.

Interested in upcoming training? Learn more about our Trauma & Resilience training opportunities for community members at childsavers.org/trt.

OUR MISSION is to guide our community's children through life’s critical moments with trauma-informed mental health and child development services.

We believe all children can be safe, happy, healthy, and ready to learn.

READ THE FULL ANNUAL REPORT ONLINE

ChildSavers Earns National Accreditation from Council on Accreditation (COA)

Following an intensive, 18-month audit of program-delivery, management and operating procedures, financial practices and stewardship, and governance structure, ChildSavers was awarded the coveted “Accredidated” designation from the internationally-recognized Council on Accreditation (COA). We are only of only seven nonprofits in the greater Richmond area to recieve this distinguished award. An important benefit of ChildSavers’ COA accreditation is that donors can be assured that their investments in ChildSavers programs are managed and allocated for optimum community impact.