

CHILDREN'S HOME SOCIETY OF WASHINGTON 2021 ANNUAL IMPACT REPORT

Being family first.

As we look to the future, we plan to advance efforts that address the well-being of the entire family. This starts with shifting our own focus from child-centered approaches to more family-centered approaches.

PROGRAM
PILLAR:
FAMILY
SUPPORT

Served 4,724 children & their families

through basic needs assistance, Triple Point Program, after-school programs, parent education, family navigation, and family resource centers.

The Parents for Parents (P4P) mentorship program now serves families in every county across Washington with plans to expand nationwide.

When Chris and Jamie Page had their children removed from their care due to substance use issues, the P4P program became a lifeline for them as they learned to navigate the complex child welfare system. During what they deemed “the fight of our lives,” they received critical emotional support from parents whose own families had been involved in the same system. It was tough, but they accepted and embraced every class, every tool, and every suggestion offered them. After 15 long months, they were finally reunited with their children. Today, the Pages remain involved in the P4P program as mentors providing support for other families learning to navigate the system. [Link to full article.](#)

Being early.

Our programs are grounded in the belief that by investing early in programs and services that strengthen families, this will ensure their well-being not only for today but well into the future.

PROGRAM
PILLAR:
EARLY
LEARNING



Served 979 children and their families through Early Head Start and Head Start, Parents as Teachers, ParentChild+, and the Children's Waiting Room.

“The early learning center has been a powerful force in our foster care journey. We watched our youngest daughter grow socially, emotionally, and academically during our time at the center. Her success is a direct result of the unconditional love and support she received.”

—*Jamie Williams*
PARENT

More than
**91% of Early
Head Start
children** (0-3y)

and more than

**80% of Head
Start children** (3-5y)

met or exceeded each developmental area for social-emotional, physical, language, cognitive, literacy, and mathematics.

Being there.

Throughout the pandemic, we have continued to be there every step of the way to support and strengthen families through our three program pillars—family support, early learning, and behavioral health.

PROGRAM
PILLAR:
BEHAVIORAL
HEALTH

Served 1,396 children and their families through child and family counseling services.

Amanda Collopy is a child and family therapist who provided counseling services for a 16-year-old youth who wasn't going to school, struggled with severe mental health issues, and didn't feel safe anywhere. Through counseling, Amanda built rapport with him, helped educate him about his diagnosis, and taught him skills for dealing with the world around him. Recently, he reached out to Amanda to thank her and shared that he graduated from high school and is currently going to college. He also has a job and several friends – all these things he doubted would ever happen.

“This is just one example of how
**we can meet
people in
the moment**

and make positive connections with them that can transform their lives.”

—*Amanda Collopy*
CHILD AND FAMILY THERAPIST
*Children's Home Society
of Washington*



Advocacy and Legislative Efforts

Children’s Home Society of Washington played a significant role in helping pass several bills in the Washington State Legislature in 2021. One such bill (HB 1227-Keeping Families Together Act) tightened the criteria for removing children from their parents. This was a first step in reducing the disproportionately high number of families in the child welfare system who are living in poverty or from BIPOC communities, which are two to five times more likely to be involved compared to other families.



Creating a DEI Workplace Culture

In 2021, we established a Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) Committee to guide our organization in our efforts to integrate the ideals of DEI into its daily work and workplace culture, including working to dismantle systems of oppression that perpetuate inequities. Furthering our commitment to this DEI work, we expanded the diversity of our Board of Trustees to include individuals with lived experience and BIPOC (Black, Indigenous, and people of color) community leaders.

“We believe that the well-being of our communities depends on

investing in families early, and joining with them in meaningful ways builds hope for the future.”

—Dave Newell
PRESIDENT and CEO

Vision 2022

As we look to the future, we have developed a Theory of Change to guide us in advancing efforts to improve child and family well-being. All programs and services will be aligned with our Theory of Change so that we remain focused on three overarching goals: 1) keeping families together; 2) improving family well-being; and 3) creating equity.

We are making strategic investments in expanding our family support and well-being efforts that will allow us greater flexibility and responsiveness in assisting families. These investments will also include development of a Washington State Family Support Network, expansion of family resource centers statewide, and collaboration with other organizations to have a collective impact nationwide.

Finally, we are implementing statewide strategic growth and expansion of our behavioral health programs. Our vision is to be an integral partner in a comprehensive spectrum of supports that promote family well-being by providing specialized behavioral health services. While the long-term effects of the pandemic are yet to be fully realized, we know that behavioral health services will be a critical piece to helping children and families achieve well-being.