

Children's Home Society of West Virginia

BY THE WAY...

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CHS BREAKS GROUND ON NEW RALEIGH COUNTY SHELTER



In the 2022-2023 fiscal year, the Children's Home Society of West Virginia (CHS) helped more than 15,000 children across all 55 counties. Nearly 500 of those children were placed in emergency care.

In Raleigh County, the CHS shelter in Daniels is currently the only shelter in the state that provides emergency housing to special needs children.

"These are the folks that help us in terms of children when we remove them from their homes, and there's no immediate placement available," explained Jeff Pack, Commissioner of the Bureau of Social Services. "They step up and help us care for these children. The E.Y.E.S. (Southern West Virginia Exceptional Youth Emergency Shelter) Shelter, in particular,

cares for children with exceptional needs."

But although the need is continuing to grow, the E.Y.E.S. shelter on Cherry Street is not. The shelter has been open since the 1980s and can only house a maximum of six children at a time. Most of the children are sharing rooms and often do not have a special place for the few personal belongings they can bring with them.

For this reason, CHS has spent years working to fundraise a brand-new facility in Shady Springs. On Tuesday, they broke ground on the \$2.3 million shelter, which will provide more space and more opportunities to children in need.



Artist's Rendering:

"At our old shelter, our children's home, it's too small for some of the amenities that we're gonna have here, some of the services that the kids need. It's very difficult to provide because of the space," shared Chris Freeman, Director of Communications for CHS. "Here, we're gonna be able to do that, and we're gonna be able to add more amenities. We're

gonna be able to add more services to take care of more children.”

Employees say that Tuesday’s event was a step in the right direction for CHS as it will double the bed capacity of the current shelter while allowing for a sensory room, plenty of space for the children to play and even a space for them to meet their future families.”



“It’s just amazing. We’re so excited. I’m just on top of the world right now,” Shelter Supervisor LaAmy’a Manley said of the groundbreaking. “We have worked so hard for the last few years...It’s kind of like, ‘Is it gonna happen? Hopefully, it happens.’ Well now, it’s happening. We’re here, so it’s just, I mean, it’s only up from here, and amazing things are gonna happen.”



The shelter will be named the Matthew Pack Children’s Home. Pack’s family donated a significant amount of money to the shelter in his memory, which allowed the project to continue.

CHS plans to see the shelter open and accepting new clients by the start of 2025.

WVVA is told that once the facility is open, Little General Stores has committed to purchasing all the necessary furniture and appliances.

- Credit: WVVA.com

BLACK & WHITE GALA

The Morgantown Black and White Gala was a huge success, a full house and so much fun. They had two foster families speak about their foster care/adoption journeys and also one of our Independent Living



program youths spoke about her difficult journey in life until she found CHS. She also entertained us with a beautiful song. Truly, the stories told were so heartfelt and filled with emotion. Congratulations to the CHS Morgantown staff!

BOOK FAIR IN PRINCETON



Our Princeton site had a great time with the "Book Fair" WECAN Mentoring event! Our mentees were invited to come for free, and were able to hand-pick books that interested them. We also provided drinks and a cereal bar.

This event could not have been possible without the help of Books-A-Million and all of those who donated books to us! We also want to extend a big “thank you” to Community Connections, Inc. who provided bookmarks, totes, and mugs for each child.

Reading is so important, and fun, and we hope that this inspires our children to find joy in reading books!

MARCH 26, 2024

5:00PM

CHILDREN'S HOME SOCIETY OF WV IS HOSTING A Q&A THROUGH FACEBOOK LIVE!

Join us on our Facebook page at Children's Home Society of WV - Morgantown site

Discuss how to become a foster parent & also learn about our other services, which include:
our resource center, Independent Living, and Healthy Grandfamilies



childshsvw.org | 304-284-0992

ALL CHILDREN DESERVE A HAPPILY EVER AFTER

Fairy Tale Ball

A royal invitation
on behalf of the

Children's Home Society of West Virginia

Foster Care & Adoption Program

An enchanted evening to raise awareness and funds for the little princes & princesses of Parkersburg!

Royal Events of the Evening

- Magical Feast
- Live Music
- Silent Auction
- Photos
- Cash Bar

APRIL 27 - 6:00PM AT THE PARKERSBURG ART CENTER

\$60 per person, \$100 per couple - Formal attire requested

All proceeds go toward finding forever families and a happily ever after for our children. For more information or to purchase tickets please visit Children's Home Society at 1717 St. Mary's Avenue Parkersburg WV, or call (304) 485-0650

childshsvw.org

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All proceeds support the youth at Greenbrier Valley Childrens Home

AREAS COVERED ARE GREENBRIER COUNTY, MONROE COUNTY, AND PARTS OF SUMMERS COUNTY.

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