

Children's Home News

Volume 77

Annual Report 2023-2024



**The Heart Is
The Invisible
Thread**

The Ties

That Bind Us

Together

Message from the Board Chair and Chief Executive Officer

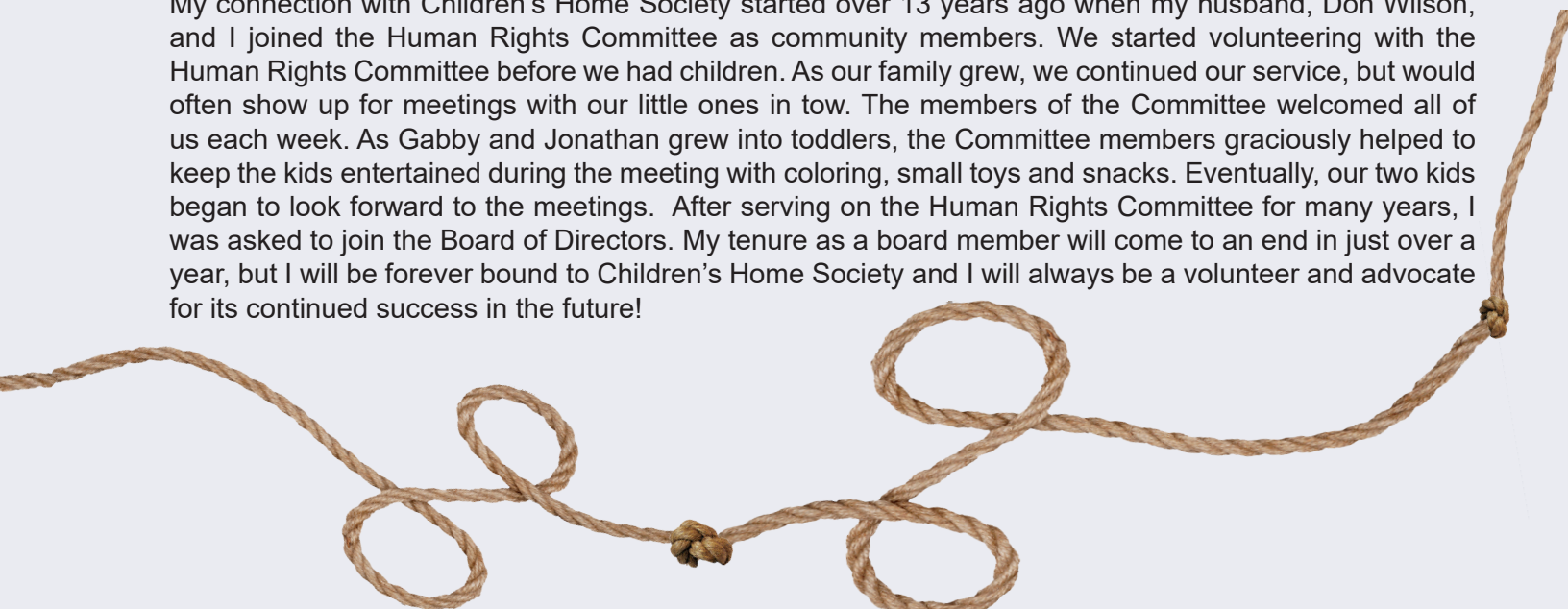


*Victoria Wilson
Board Chair*

Children's Home Society has had another amazing year. I am proud and honored to be a part of this wonderful organization. I firmly believe that one of their keys to success are the many lasting connections they have made in West Virginia. I don't know an organization that is better at cultivating lifelong ties that continue to grow and blossom with each year. Children's Home Society has many long-term community partners, volunteers, employees and benefactors who have supported the agency for many years. All of these partners continue to support Children's Home Society because they see the importance of the Agency's work.

It starts with the many staff members who are dedicated to the mission of Children's Home Society. These individuals care deeply about the communities in which they live and work. Children's Home Society works hard to engage and educate the communities surrounding its sites and throughout the State of West Virginia. They never hesitate to adapt and create programs that meet the needs of children and families in West Virginia. The number of services and programs offered continues to grow and change according to the needs of West Virginia. Once you have connected with Children's Home Society, whether as a volunteer, community partner, or family that has received services, Children's Home Society maintains those connections. Employees often retire only to come back and volunteer – I think that speaks volumes.

My connection with Children's Home Society started over 13 years ago when my husband, Don Wilson, and I joined the Human Rights Committee as community members. We started volunteering with the Human Rights Committee before we had children. As our family grew, we continued our service, but would often show up for meetings with our little ones in tow. The members of the Committee welcomed all of us each week. As Gabby and Jonathan grew into toddlers, the Committee members graciously helped to keep the kids entertained during the meeting with coloring, small toys and snacks. Eventually, our two kids began to look forward to the meetings. After serving on the Human Rights Committee for many years, I was asked to join the Board of Directors. My tenure as a board member will come to an end in just over a year, but I will be forever bound to Children's Home Society and I will always be a volunteer and advocate for its continued success in the future!



*Mary A. White
Chief Executive Officer*

The Children's Home Society is committed to the children and families of West Virginia with an unbreakable connection and shared belief that together we have it all. Our ties to our communities have been strong and lasting. Our ties to our mission and vision is evidenced in our 128 years of service to West Virginia's most vulnerable children, youth and families. It is heart of each committed individual that binds us all together as one.

The Mission & Vision Ties It All Together

The Children's Home Society of West Virginia is a private, non-profit child welfare organization founded in 1896. The Society is a participatory organization consisting of employees, foster families, adoptive families, volunteers, Board members, Directors Emeriti, advisory council members, donors, benefactors, supporters, and friends. We are governed by a volunteer Board of Directors that is representative of the communities we serve from around the state. We are licensed to provide child welfare and behavioral health services in West Virginia. We are a member agency of the Emergency Shelter Providers Network, the National Council For Adoption, the Foster Family Treatment Association and the Children's Home Society of America. We are fully accredited by the Council on Accreditation of Services for Families and Children.

Comprehensive child welfare, behavioral health, social casework and advocacy services were provided to **18,661** children and families during the 2023/2024 fiscal year from 13 primary locations throughout the state. Some of our current programs are adoption, foster care, in-home and in-community services for children and families, emergency shelter care, parent education training, prenatal and early childhood services, volunteer and mentoring, visitation and reunification, school based social work, and comprehensive assessment services.

Our Mission

The Mission of the Children's Home Society is to promote the well-being of children. Our current efforts are directed at helping children find lifetime families, protecting and nurturing children, and helping preserve and strengthen their families.

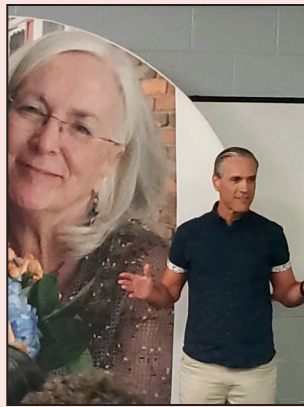
Our Vision

Each child in West Virginia grows up in a safe and nurturing family that provides for his or her current and future needs.

Core Value	Guiding Principle
Clients	We recognize the well being of the children and families we serve is our first priority.
A Sense of Purpose	We are a mission driven organization.
Ethical Standard	We honor commitments to clients, contributors, funding organizations and communities.
Collaboration	Meaningful partnerships with other organizations, government and communities are necessary to attain our mission.
Governance	The most important role of our governing board is to lead the organization into the future.
Use of Resources	We are committed to obtaining and using in a cost-effective manner every available resource to benefit the children and families we serve.
Organizational Performance	We strive to be a quality controlled, customer driven, team managed organization.
Diversity	Our efforts are strengthened and enhanced through the economic and cultural diversity of our clients, employees, contributors and friends.
Equity	Our policies, procedures, governance, and practice standards are reflective of our commitment to all races, gender identities, cultures, religions and socioeconomic status of our clients, employees, foster and adoptive families, volunteers, donors and supporters.
Inclusion	We promote an environment whereas all are respected and valued.
Permanency	We believe every child deserves a lifetime family, that permanency is possible for all children, and that the single most important thing that we can do to promote positive long-term outcomes for children is to connect them with stable and loving families.
Staff	We value and support our employees and recognize that caring, well trained, qualified and highly motivated personnel are critical to our success.

Congratulations to the 2024 Ruth Eden Bailey Scholarship Recipients

The Children's Home Society of WV (CHSWV) announced the winners of the 2nd Annual Ruth Eden Bailey Scholarship Award, on Wednesday, August 2, 2024. It was a wonderful and emotional event honoring long time CHSWV employee, Ruth Bailey. Six youth received \$1,000 each to help with expenses to further their education. To hear the stories of these young people and why they applied for the scholarship was heartwarming, what a great way to celebrate Ruth's work on what would have been her birthday. Ruth's husband, son and daughter came to present the certificates and checks.



*Ruth's Legacy...
An Unbreakable Tie*

*A Strong and Lasting Commitment
to Children*



In loving memory of



Dale E. Geiger

January 5, 1940 - July 24, 2024

*Children's Home Society Supporter, Mentor,
Advisory Council Member, Advocate, Board of Director,
Director Emeritus, and Friend to All!*



Ties that Pulled Ava Out of a Dark Place

The Children's Home Society's Independent Living Program provides services to young adults moving to independent living who have previously been in the foster care system. The goal is to prepare them for independence and self sufficiency. We accomplish this by assisting with individual education, housing, and employment needs. The approach is holistic, and includes well being, developing permanent connections, and physical and mental health needs.

Children's Home Society believes all youth deserve opportunities to succeed and reach their full potential. The Society pledges to help youth and young adults be safe, supported and successful by providing services that foster independence, resourcefulness, and lasting connections with a caring adult.

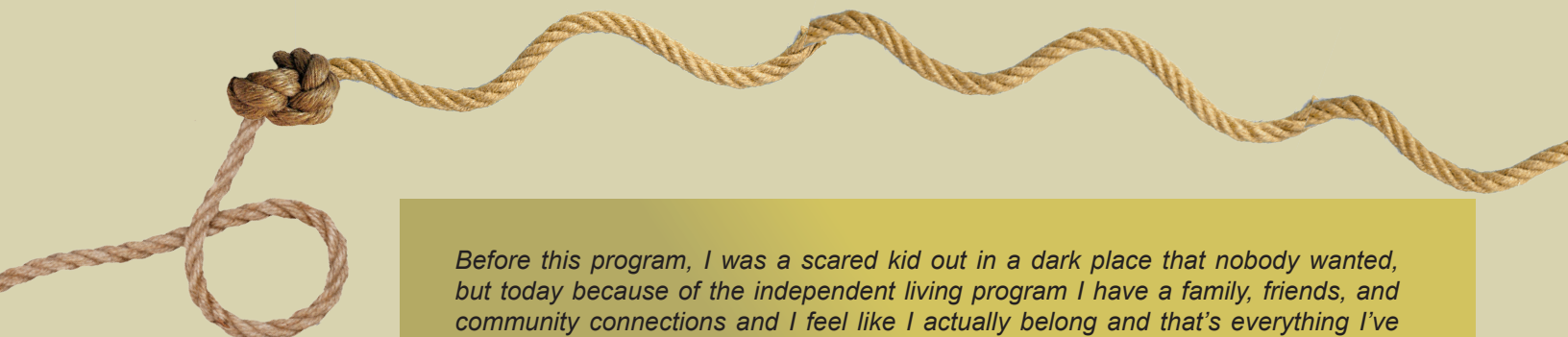
Below is Ava's story...

Ava was referred to the Independent Living Program (ILP) by her guardian ad litem following her court proceedings. At six months old, Ava was adopted by her abusive grandfather, which preceded a series of unstable and abusive caregivers, juvenile detention, and residential placements. Ava faced becoming homeless at the age of 18, as her kinship placement was no longer an option as a place for her to live. Initially, she was reserved and guarded during her intake into the program, fearing others having further control over her life. ILP social worker reassured her that the ILP was designed to provide support and assistance and explaining it is a voluntary program.

As Ava had to leave her living situation immediately, she initially planned to stay with a friend. Unfortunately, this arrangement fell through. The Department of Human Services (DoHS) was able to support CHS with a hotel stay for Ava while she worked with the ILP social worker to secure stable living. Ava and ILP social worker successfully found an affordable apartment and a landlord willing to give Ava an opportunity. Ava also learned the ropes of setting up utilities and internet services. She received generous support from her Guardian ad Litem (GAL) and her network, who helped furnish her new home with essential items.

With guidance from ILP social worker, Ava secured Medicaid and SNAP benefits, enhancing her nutritional security. Ava recently began therapy to address her mental health needs with professional support. She has also become open to regular health check-ups and began attending doctor's appointments.

Ava most recently secured employment after being in ILP for a little over a month. Her job is conveniently located within walking distance from her apartment. Ava is interested in finding a career in the future and is excited to explore more of her interests. Ava continues to seek support from her ILP social worker and GAL.



Before this program, I was a scared kid out in a dark place that nobody wanted, but today because of the independent living program I have a family, friends, and community connections and I feel like I actually belong and that's everything I've ever wanted.

- CHS Independent Living Program Participant

Fostering Ties, That Last A Lifetime

The Children's Home Society wishes to thank our dedicated foster care staff, foster parents, and adoptive parents for assisting and creating homes for hundreds of children statewide. Last year, our foster parents providing a loving home to **524** children. The Society's foster families are not only providing a safe and loving home environment, but they also help bring permanency to the lives of West Virginia's children.

The mission of the Children's Home Society is to promote the well being of children with current efforts to help find lifetime families. Last year, **102** children found a lifetime family through adoption program.



Unbreakable, Life Changing, Connections

The Society's Emergency Child Shelter Program provides statewide care to children in crisis. Our 8 Emergency Child Shelters cared for **451** children last year. Although our emergency child shelters provide a safe environment in a home like setting where the basic needs of children can be met, these homes are a place children can come to be inspired, to learn, to believe in what they can accomplish. They over-come past adversities and find hope for their future.

All kids need is a little help, a little hope and somebody who believes in them.

- Magic Johnson

2023 - 2024 Program Numbers

Child Advocacy Center:

- 366 Forensic Interviews
- 387 Received Ongoing Services
- 314 Received Caregiver Services

Independent Living:

- 94 Youth

Therapy:

- 42 In School Therapy
- 128 In Office/Community Therapy

WECAN Program:

- 651 Youth
- 125 Volunteers
- ***Mentoring services, group mentoring and other efforts which included 800 meals distributed.

Parents As Teachers:

- 32 Families
- 46 Children
- 331 Personal Visits

Safe at Home:

- 203 Youth
- CSED:
- 25 Youth
- Total: 228 Youth

Birth to Three:

- 103 Children

Transitional Living:

- 37 Full Services
- 35 Gateway Services
- Total: 72

Afterschool/ Summer
Youth Program:

- 65 Youth
- 3,286 Instances
of Service

Right from the Start:

- 62 prenatal
- 82 Infants
- Total: 144

Healthy
Grand families:

- 263 Individuals

Weaving Resources Together Impacting Thousands

Our Resource Centers play an important role in our efforts to help families in their own communities across the state. They provide a variety of items to help meet emergent needs and assist families during times of financial hardships.

During the 2023-2024 fiscal year, our Resource Centers assisted **1,856** individuals statewide. These children and their families were able to benefit from the in-kind support given to CHSWV by numerous businesses, individuals, churches, and civic groups throughout West Virginia.

Family Support Centers (FSC) are community-based programs designed to support families by strengthening parent/child relationships, provide supports parents need to be good nurturers and providers, and to gain or maintain self-sufficiency. These programs serve as welcoming hubs of community services and opportunities. They are designed to strengthen families, reflect and be responsive to the specific needs, cultures, and interests of the communities and populations served.

During the 2023-2024 fiscal year, our Family Support Centers assisted **5,279** children and families. The centers are unique in their approach to working with families. They build families' strengths and capacities, work for positive social change, and offer help without stigma. Parents may act in many capacities, such as serving on a decision-making board, participating in programs, or planning and participating in community events.

Ways You Can Help

Your CASH CONTRIBUTION is tax deductible and will be used to help Children in West Virginia. Donor wishes are always honored and you may choose the program that your gift supports.

You may participate in the NEIGHBORHOOD INVESTMENT PROGRAM (NIP). By giving a contribution of \$500.00 or more, you can receive this special tax credit. Visit our website for more details.

IN-KIND CONTRIBUTIONS are a way for you to contribute good such as; clothing, household items, real or personal property, school supplies and infant care items, just to name a few. In-kind contributions are needed and provide an additional way for us to help families in need.

LEAVING A LEGACY is a bequest made through a will. This contribution is a way to give a gift without impacting your current financial situation. The donor is assured that they are still making a difference and impacting the lives of children after they are gone. This way of giving helps to ensure that our future of helping children is secure.

MEMORIAL AND HONOR GIFTS are yet another way you can help. A contribution given in memory or in honor of someone is a sincere way of acknowledging that individual while helping children in need.

To learn more about our Resource Centers or make a donation, please contact a location nearest you.

Beckley Resource Center
Daniels, WV
304.255.0408

Forever Families Resource Center
Northfork, WV
304.862.4951

June Montgomery Harless Resource Center
Logan, WV
304.239.2470

Giving Hope Resource Center
Morgantown, WV
304.284.0992

Building Better Communities Center
Lewisburg, WV
304.647.3430

Princeton Resource Center
Princeton, WV
304.431.2424

Ray Skeens Resource Center
Charleston, WV
304.345.3894

Summersville Resource Center
Summersville, WV
304.900.3620

Caring Through Sharing Resource Center
Romney, WV
304.822.4652

Dawson's Closet
Wheeling, WV
304.810.2460

To learn more about the services our Family Support Centers offer, please contact a location nearest you.

Berkeley County Monarch Family Support Center
Martinsburg, WV
304.264.0225

Wood County Mid-Town Family Resource Center
Parkersburg, WV
304.485.0650

Cabell County Nancy Stuart Tonkin Children's Resource Center
Huntington, WV
681.378.2530

Jefferson County The Honey Bee Family Support Center
Ranson, WV
304.707.3141

Children's Home Society's 2023 Annual Conference

The Threads of Like Minds Learning Together



The Heart and Hands of Our Communities

Each year the Children's Home Society receives an enormous amount of help from donors, supporters, and organizations around the holiday season. This year was no exception. Due to the community support, Children's Home Society was able to assist **7,301** children and families during the 2023 Holiday Season. We would like to thank all of our supporters in making Christmas for so many families a success.



Children's Home Society would like to thank all the businesses around the state who supported our Little Red Stocking Campaign. Funds raised help our the Children we assist throughout our programs during the Holidays and beyond.

The Little Red Stocking Campaign begins the day after Thanksgiving and ends on Christmas Eve. Each year, businesses throughout the state sell the brightly colored Little Red Stocking to help West Virginia's most vulnerable children. Each stocking costs only one dollar, and the money raised stays in that local community where the stocking is sold.

Last year, our largest supporters were Gomart, Par Mar, and ROCS convenience stores. The Society partnered with hundreds of small businesses throughout the state to make the Holiday Season a success for many West Virginia families.

If you would like to become a Little Red Stocking partner, please contact a locations nearest you.

• Tabatha Conn
Beckley
304.255.0408

• Ellen Browning
Logan
304.792.6261

• Becky Brown
Northfork
304.862.4951

• Jenna Miller
Princeton
304.431.2424

• Kara Clevenger
Wheeling
304.810.2460

• Amanda Williams
Charleston
304.345.3894

• Megan Livingston
Martinsburg
304.264.0225

• Belinda Chapman
Huntington
304.208.0359

• Sally Johnson
Romney
304.822.4652

• Mary Carr
Lewisburg
304.647.3430

• Abby Miller
Morgantown
304.284.0992

• Jodi Null
Parkersburg
304.485.0650

• Stormy Murphy
Summersville
304.205.9375

Financials

Children's Home Society of WV
FYE 2024 Annual Report Data

Revenue and Support

Contributions - 4,051,223	Royalty Income - 1,000
Private Grants - 354,853	Investment Income - 582,551
Government Support - 17,922,708	In-Kind Contributions - 1,104,351
Program Service Fees - 85,000	Miscellaneous - 78,583
Contract Revenue (Medicaid Fees) - 7,243,479	

Total Revenue and Support - 31,423,748

Program Services

Expenses

Permanency - 7,626,737	Birth to Three Services - 16,159
Shelter Services - 13,004,697	Transitional Living/Independent Living - 1,463,958
Safe at Home - 1,107,569	In-Home Family Education - 240,356
Family Support Centers - 1,441,812	
WECAN Volunteer Services - 363,797	
Right from the Start Services - 191,754	
Community-bases Services - 289,575	
Child Advocacy Center - 390,590	

Supporting Services:

Management and General - 2,908,539
Fundraising - 124,775

Total Expenses - 29,170,318

Assets & Liabilities

Assets

Cash & Equivalents - 10,285,258
Receivables - 3,133,738
Prepaid Expenses - 282,844
Other Assets - 627,533
Property & Equipment net - 8,485,870
Investments - 3,910,650
Beneficial Interest in Perpetual Trusts - 274,191

Total Assets - 27,000,084

Liabilities and Net Assets

Liabilities - 3,236,893
Net Assets - 23,763,191

Total Liabilities and Net Assets - 27,000,084

Child and Family Services

BECKLEY

P.O. Box 575
Daniels, WV 25832
Jenna Miller,
Child & Family
Services Supervisor
304.712.2903

CHARLESTON

1145 Greenbrier St.
Charleston, WV 25311
Amanda Williams,
Site Manager
304.345.3894

GLENVILLE

7 South Lewis St.
Glenville, WV 26351
Brooke Heck,
Director of Programming
304.804.7185

HUNTINGTON

203 6th Ave.
Huntington, WV 25701
Diana Lucas,
Regional Director
681.378.2530

LEWISBURG

9579 Seneca Trail South
Lewisburg, WV 24901
Mary Carr,
Site Manager
304.647.3430

MARTINSBURG

100 South Queen St.
Martinsburg, WV 25401
Megan Livingston,
Site Manager
304.264.4658

MORGANTOWN

11 Commerce Drive,
Suite 102
Morgantown, WV 26501
Abby Miller,
Site Manager
304.284.0992

Hurricane

3705 Teays Valley Rd.
Hurricane, WV 25526
Josh Phipps
Safe at Home
Supervisor
681.233.0710

NORTHFORK

34149 Coal Heritage Rd.
Northfork, WV 24868
Becky Brown,
Volunteer Program
Coordinator
304.862.4951

PARKERSBURG

1717 St. Marys Ave.
Parkersburg, WV 26102
Jodi Null,
Site Manager,
304.485.0650

PRINCETON

205 Center St.
Princeton, WV 24740
Jenna Miller,
Child & Family
Services Supervisor
304.431.2424

ROMNEY FOSTER CARE

301 East Main St.
Romney, WV 26757
Sally Johnson,
Regional Director
304.680.2088

SUMMERSVILLE

402 Church Street,
Suite 1
Summersville, WV
26651
Stormy Murphy,
Site Manager
304.900.3620

WHEELING

1329 National Rd.
Wheeling, WV 26003
Kara Clevenger,
Site Manager
304.810.2460

Emergency Child Shelters

ARTHUR N. GUSTKE CHILDREN'S HOME

1640 St. Marys Ave
Parkersburg, WV 26102
Kelsey Cline,
Shelter Supervisor
304.424.5244

DAVIS CHILD SHELTER

1145 Greenbrier St.
Charleston, WV 25311
Jamie Holmes,
Shelter Supervisor
304.345.3891

SOUTHERN WEST VIRGINIA EXCEPTIONAL YOUTH EMERGENCY SHELTER

142 Cherry St.
P.O. Box 361
Daniels, WV 25832
Tabatha Conn,
Shelter Supervisor
304-255-0408

JUNE MONTGOMERY HARLESS CHILDREN'S HOME

1 June Harless Dr.
P.O. Box N
Holden, WV 25625
Amanda Runyon,
Shelter Supervisor
304.239.2470

HOVAH HALL UNDERWOOD CHILDREN'S HOME

2586 Grant Gardens Rd.
Ona, WV 25545
Aaron Benedict,
Shelter Supervisor
304.743.2345

KATHLEEN & JOHN FALTIS CHILDREN'S SHELTER

477 Scenic Highway
Summersville, WV 26651
Carl Hayes,
Shelter Supervisor
304.872.8190

GREENBRIER VALLEY CHILDREN'S HOME

331 Seventh Street
Rupert, WV 25984
Jennifer Sams,
Shelter Supervisor
304.645.1302

ROMNEY CHILD SHELTER

550 West Sioux Lane
Romney, WV 26757
Ami Sirbaugh,
Director of Programming
304.822.4652

Board of Directors Director Emeritus



Children's Home Society Director Emeritus

Board of Directors

OFFICERS

Victoria Wilson, Chair
Michele Blatt, First Vice Chair
Kim Williams, Second Vice Chair
Stephanie Hayhurst-Hall, Secretary
Melissa Grimes, Assistant Secretary
Kim Williams, *Treasurer*
Marie Long, *Assistant Treasurer*
Jeff Sikorovsky, *Past Chair*

DIRECTORS

Chuck Barton
Kent Bryson
Amy Bush
Craig Glover
Melissa Grimes
Dawn Hawkins
Betty Hendrick

Paul Mancuso
Landau Eugene Murphy Jr.
Mary Rader
Lori Ray
Sarah Stephenson
Cassandra Stewart-Wagner

Director Emeritus

Gregory W. Bailey*
Margaret Bishop*
John Bowyer*
Letitia Chafin
Amelia Courts
Janet Craig
Stephen P. Dexter
Katherine L. Dooley
Stephen W. Drake
William M. Ellis Jr.*
George M. Ferrell

Dr. Robert "Bob" Foster
Dale Geiger*
Carole "Cookie" Glasser
Arthur N. Gustke*
W.I. "Bill" Hairston
Sheila Hamilton
Thomas A. Heywood
Russell P. Hill*
Clarence "Bud" Lawson Jr.*
John Lukens
Thomas E. McHugh

Jack McVey
Sandra J. Morgan*
Helen S. Huddy*
Susan Mollohan*
Patricia P. O'Reilly
David S. Pitchford
Helaine Rotgin*
Joseph E. Raymond
Sally Richardson*
Ruth Rowan
Jane C. Smith
Matthew D. Smith*

H. Keith Spears
Reed Spangler
Pat Sutherland
Nancy S. Tonkin*
Janet Vineyard*
Gov. Cecil Underwood*
Brian Wadsworth
Stephen D. Wehrle
Sarah Whittaker

* Deceased

Chief Executive Officer

Mary A. White

Children's Home Society of WV
1422 Kanawha Blvd., East
P.O. Box 2942
Charleston, WV 25330
304.346.0795
childhswv.org



*Children's Home Society
of WV*



CHSofWV



*Children's Home Society
of WV*

