

INSIDE CHS



Every child deserves a home.

January 2018



Celebrate our 118th Birthday!

On Tuesday January 30 CHS staff will gather for lunch to celebrate our 118th year! CHS has remained true to our mission of providing permanent loving homes for nearly 13,500 of Virginia's at-risk children and youth for almost 12 decades! Our programs now include:

- Infant adoption
- Foster care adoption
- Post-adoption services



Adoption Spotlight: Damien

16-year-old Damien is intelligent, respectful, and has a good sense of humor. He enjoys playing football and basketball, which have proven to be great ways for young Damien to let off steam! He also enjoys dancing and singing, loves fashion and likes to wear the most up-to-date shoes. He does very well academically and has expressed a desire to go to college to study urban education.

We need your help to find Damien--and all of our waiting kids--the permanent family every

- Search and reunion services
- The Possibilities Project, our newest program for young adults who age-out of foster care

Please help us celebrate by supporting our children and youth with a birthday gift for our organization and the youth we serve. We suggest \$118!

Speaking of birthdays, another way to support CHS is by donating yours! This year we are encouraging our supporters to ask their friends and families to make a donation rather than buying a birthday present. [Starting a Facebook fundraiser is very simple: click here to learn all about it!](#) Everyone involved will be recognized and thanked! We hope you, and the wonderful children, families and youth you support, all have a HAPPY BIRTHDAY this year! Thanks to all of you for making CHS a tremendous success.

child deserves. Make sure to visit our [Waiting Children page on our website](#). Thank you!



CHS Fundraiser at Duck Donuts in February

Support CHS with sweet treats at Duck Donuts at Willow Lawn **for the entire month of February!** Duck Donuts has generously offered to donate a percentage of every donut sold, and feature us on their menu board as February's "Quack Gives Back" recipient. Please post your sugary creations and tag #quackgivesback on Facebook and Instagram to encourage others!

[WHERE: DUCK DONUTS, Willow Lawn Location](#)

[WHEN: FEBRUARY ALL DAY-EVERY DAY](#)



Other Ways to Help

CHS had a tremendous outpouring of generosity during the holiday season, collecting all of the items on our Wish Lists...**THANK YOU!** Our supporters often ask what more can they do.

So in addition to ["Donating your Birthday,"](#) and other avenues listed on our website under "Ways to Give," please consider some other ways to support our mission:

Gift of Stock: With advances in the stock market of late, now is the perfect time to share some of your shares with the cause you love most.



CHS Featured in Numerous Press Reports

For the past three months, CHS and our staff have been prominently featured in nearly two

Monthly Gift: Monthly gifts are a great way to support CHS, providing a steady stream of revenue while making our supporters feel even more connected to our cause. A few dollars a day can make a huge difference in the lives of Virginia's children and youth.

Family Tree: If you have ever visited our lobby, you have seen our commemorative Family Tree where our supporters have been memorializing their loved ones for over twenty years. This winter, join our campaign encouraging supporters to purchase a brass leaf, and proudly display your support for Virginia's adoptive families.

Wish List: Our online wish list is chock-full of specific items requested year-round by our Possibilities Project participants as well as the waiting foster kids we serve.

Share our Content: As you follow us on Facebook, Instagram, Linked-In, and our website blog, be sure to **share our content** with your social network, friends and family. A direct referral from you is the best way to get new fans!



A Rockin' "Eve of the Eve" Gala It Was!

Among our many holiday successes was the spectacular turn out and success of our inaugural winter fundraising gala "Eve of the Eve." This festive event, held in downtown Richmond at Casa del Barco, was hosted by the CHS Junior Board and will benefit all of our programs. Thanks to our sponsors, volunteers and all of our guests!

dozen press reports, including local and regional television broadcasts, radio interviews and newspapers. We were able to generate interest on a variety of topics:

- Our national research study of aging-out foster youth
- National Adoption Month
- Foster Care Adoption
- Holiday Wish List
- Profiles of our staff and Board members.

[Please click here to visit our NEWS page online under OUR IMPACT and read all about it!](#)



CHS Announces The Task Force on Transitioning Youth

[The Possibilities Project](#) is launching *The Task Force on Transitioning Youth*. The Task Force will make policy recommendations for improving access and services provided to youth aging out of foster care. The Task Force is comprised of experts on aged-out foster youth representing six key areas of support:

[Check out our Facebook photo album of this great evening!](#)



[Donate Now](#)



- Senator Barbara Favola
- Pam Kestner, Deputy Director of Housing at Department of Housing and Community Development
- Allison Gilbreath, Policy Analyst for Foster Care and Juvenile Justice, Voices for Virginia's Children
- Michael Farley, CEO of Elk Hill
- Chris Saxman, political coach and member of Virginia's House of Delegates from 2002-2010.
- Jon Barrett, VP of Property Management, Better Housing Coalition
- Nadine Marsh-Carter, CEO of Children's Home Society of Virginia
- Greta Harris, President & CEO of Better Housing Coalition
- Dietra Trent, Former Virginia Secretary of Education
- Sarah Mendoza, Peer Network Coordinator, Piedmont Virginia Community College
- Jenny Pokempner, Child Welfare Policy Director at the Juvenile Law Center

The Task Force aims to complete its work in 2018, and expects that its recommendations could be implemented both in Virginia and other states facing the same challenges. [Sign up here to stay informed of the progress of our task force.](#)