

Every child deserves a home.



### A New Era of Hope for Child Welfare in Virginia was Established on January 30, 1900!

January 30th marked the 120th birthday of Children's Home Society of Virginia! We couldn't be prouder of the work we have accomplished for child welfare. Since being chartered by Virginia's General Assembly in 1900 and led by Richmond greats like Virginia's 51st Governor John Garland Pollard, we have had the joy of serving more than 14,500 of Virginia's children and families. For twelve impressive decades CHS has innovated for greater impact and successfully adapted to the transforming needs of the children and families we serve!

Starting in January and continuing each month until the end of 2020, CHS will be posting a blog detailing each decade in our rich history. [Click here to learn more about how CHS started](#), our earliest leaders, and the agency's guiding principles that still ring true today. Then come back to [our blog page](#) next week and learn about our early expansion in the 1910's to meet the needs of Virginia's vulnerable youth.

In honor of the 120th Anniversary of Children's Home Society of Virginia, please consider [making a donation today at \[www.chsva.org/donate-now-chsva\]\(http://www.chsva.org/donate-now-chsva\)](#) and help us raise \$12,000! Whether you give \$120, \$1,200 or the full \$12,000, your support will help us attain our mission of permanency for Virginia's children and youth for the next 120 years.



### Adoption Spotlight: Mutusim

To put it simply, 11 year-old Mutusim is a lover of life. He can rarely be found without a smile and is an easy-going young man eager to share his many interests with others. He loves to dance and is an avid fan of sports. Mutusim loves to be active outdoors, and hopes to find a family who enjoys similar activities. He is bilingual and can speak both Arabic and English. Mutusim is eagerly anticipating the day he will be able to meet his forever family!

***"I'm beyond excited to be adopted."***

We need your help to find Mutusim—and all of our waiting kids—the permanent family every child deserves. Make sure to visit our [Waiting Children](#) page on our website. Or, [CLICK HERE to make an appointment](#) to start the adoption process! Thank you!



### "Aged Out" Documentary Showcases The Possibilities Project!

In January, Central Virginia's local public television broadcast an amazing documentary film chronicling our highly successful program, The Possibilities Project (TPP)! ***Aged Out: Finding Home*** was directed and produced by Pam Hervey of Fuel Creative. The hour-long documentary explores what happens to four Richmond-area youth when they age out of the foster care system—and the challenges they face without reliable housing, job prospects or a supportive network.

***Aged-Out: Finding Home*** first aired on [VPM PBS](#) on Thursday, January 23 at 9 pm, and streamed on Facebook Live. The film will air again on Thursday February 27 at 9:00 pm. In addition, it is available for you to [watch in its entirety NOW or anytime at this Facebook link!](#)

Together with Better Housing Coalition and Fuel Creative, CHS hosted a premier screening of the ***Aged-Out: Finding Home*** documentary at the Virginia Museum of History and Culture. The film—which features interviews with Virginia's Governor, several state legislators, TPP staff and youth participants—provides audiences with information about the program, needs of its participants and our advocacy work to improve the outcomes of all aging out youth in Virginia.

Please consider watching the documentary and [hosting a "Watch Party"](#) with your friends and family to generate interest in and support of our compelling work on behalf of youth who were never part of a stable, supportive family. We thank you in advance for doing your part to participate in this unique opportunity to assist youth who have great potential and can thrive when given the supports TPP provides!

# SAVE THE DATE!

## 120<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

Thursday May 7, 2020

*The Jefferson Hotel*

Keynote Speaker: Leigh Anne Tuohy  
of the adoption film "The Blind Side"



### YOU'RE INVITED MAY 7th: CHS 120th Anniversary Celebration with Keynote Speaker Leigh Anne Tuohy

Our Anniversary Celebration will be held at Richmond's renowned Jefferson Hotel and will feature Leigh Anne Tuohy of the acclaimed adoption film "The Blind Side" as our keynote speaker. A nationally recognized child advocate, Leigh Anne will share with our distinguished guests her experience as an adoptive parent to NFL star Michael Oher—and her journey promoting the transformative effect of adoption. In attendance will be local leaders, philanthropists, CHS supporters and adoptive families whose lives have been changed by CHS's programs and the work of our staff.

- Thursday May 7, 2020
- 6:00 pm – 8:30 pm
- The Jefferson Hotel Rotunda and Ballroom on Franklin St. in Richmond, VA
- VIP reception
- Tickets are limited, are \$50 per person, and include an art raffle and refreshments

**REGISTRATION WILL BE AVAILABLE on our EVENT page soon!**



### Treat Yourself to Dinner at Jefferson's Lemaire on Mondays in April, and Serve Up a Generous Contribution to Virginia's Vulnerable Youth

In April, Lemaire Restaurant at the Jefferson Hotel in downtown Richmond will be sharing their proceeds with Children's Home Society of Virginia as part of their program "[Lemaire's Monday Night Out for Charity](#)." Make reservations for any (or all!) Mondays during April, and enjoy the one of the finest dining experience in Richmond. Every Monday night in April, five percent (5%) of your food purchase from Lemaire's dinner, bar or dessert menu will be donated to CHS—and will support our programs for Virginia's waiting foster children, adoptive families, and youth who have aged out of foster care. Enjoy Lemaire's 5-star gourmet menu and luxurious atmosphere as you support brighter futures for children!



### Every dollar makes a difference in the life of a child

Please [visit our website](#) to learn about supporting CHS. [Click here to visit YOUR GIFT'S IMPACT](#) to find out the many ways we put your gifts to work to support vulnerable children and youth as we build strong adoptive families in Virginia!

**Donate Now**



### CHS Advocacy Efforts

CHS hosted an Advocacy Day at the Virginia General Assembly on January 29<sup>th</sup>. We were joined by adoptive families and local child advocates, who shared their stories and provided statistics to help inform our state lawmakers about foster care policy needs in Virginia. Check out our [Advocacy Page](#) for the latest updates on our work to create systemic changes that will improve the outcomes for Virginia's youth who are in—or have aged out of—the foster care system.

