



Children's Home Society of Florida

Serving families in Leon County

Children's Home Society of Florida (CHS) has been committed to the residents of Leon County since **1964** -- offering the right services at the right time.



CHS has extensive experience with place-based, community informed strategies:

- CHS co-founded the Community Partnership Schools™ model with the University of Central Florida in 2012 and has expanded to 31 schools throughout the state, including Tallahassee's Sabal Palm Elementary in 2018.
- Today, through 35+ partnerships, we're honored to provide on-site services to 500 students, 650 caregivers/family members, as well as residents within the surrounding 32304/32310 area.
- Sabal Palm Elementary, A Community Partnership School, is the closest in concept to a current Family Resource Center in Leon County.
- Community Partnership School foundational principles include collaborative leadership, engaging the community to determine the services and strategies to best address needs and leverage existing community resources to align outcomes, so everyone is working toward the same goals - together!
- CHS has operated the Bridges program in Palm Beach County since 2010, funded by the Children's Services Council of Palm Beach County. This place-based strategy serves 1,290 parents with children aged 0-8 each year. Parents are engaged through outreach, coordination of services and the navigation and development of partnerships and strategic alliances.



Did you know CHS...

has experience in community engagement through our work in Bridges, Community Partnership Schools and Early Head Start programs? Each has an advisory board or Community Leadership Council that includes members of the community and actively participates in the strategic plan for service delivery and measurement of outcomes.

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Did you know CHS...

has strong connections nationally to successful place based strategy models through Children's Home Society of America to build upon best practices and innovative work yielding results in other communities across the country?

is a member of the National Coalition of Family Resource Centers with dedicated staff who will be certified in the standards of Quality on February 23, 2024?

has made long term commitments to communities as evidenced not only by our history of work within this community and across the state, but also through signing up to 25 year MOU's for our Community Partnership Schools, including Sabal Palm Elementary?

has experience in scaling successful strategies, growing the CPS Model from one to 31 schools statewide and taking the foundational principles of that model to start a Family Resource Center in Putnam County in 2023?

CHS' Strategic Direction:

- For more than 120 years, CHS' mission to protect children so they can thrive and meet their full potential has NEVER changed...how we fulfill that mission has.
- At CHS, we intend to grow our reach in community-based prevention strategies, place-based strategies like Community Partnership Schools and Family Resource Centers, where we can partner with parents and the community to lift the community in the pursuit of shared goals for greater prosperity.

CHS' Finances

- With a legacy spanning more than 120 years, we have a strong balance sheet, a large foundation and more than 90 days cash-on-hand, which is a greater amount than most non-profits.
- We have 120 years under our belt BECAUSE we are good stewards of funds awarded to us AND we operate like business.
- Because we are statewide, we can weather many storms and have the ability to cover program deficits when needed.
- However, if funding sources go away or are reduced, like what happened to VOCA at the CAC, we have the resources to locate other recurring funding sources or secure emergency funding to bridge the gap until more sustainable funding is secured.
- In absence of that, we will and DO close programs - it is just good business sense, nothing more. We have been covering the deficit in the CAC for over a year, but we will have to make a decision soon.
- We are unapologetic about the cost of care, and are unwilling to compromise quality - and we know what it takes to deliver; It means hiring the best talent at competitive wages and staffing for success. We are in a human services business and when you have the most talented, trained and prepared workforce, you tend to get the best outcomes.