Children may comprise only one third of our population, but they are all of our future. With your help and generosity this past year, ChildSavers made that future brighter by providing mental health and child development services to more than 3,000 of our community's most vulnerable children.

The first few years of a child's life are paramount to his or her development and future success. ChildSavers leads Central Virginia's efforts in early care and education, working with more than 65 child care providers. With your support, ChildSavers improved the quality of care and learning for more than 2,000 children aged 0-5 years old through our broad array of child development services.

Your investment also allows ChildSavers to remain committed to mental health services. Studies link unresolved childhood mental health issues to poor academic performance, high dropout rates, increased incarceration, and dependence on welfare. Regardless of a family’s ability to pay, ChildSavers offers trauma-informed care and specialized therapies to children who might not otherwise receive the help they need.

ChildSavers stewards its resources. For us, that means implementing best practices, which not only provide return on mission, but also a tangible return on your investment. For example, ChildSavers implemented Electronic Health Records. This advance reduces operating costs and increases staff productivity and clinical effectiveness. In addition, the Immediate Response (formerly Trauma Response) team has been invigorated with new hires and expanded services in the past year. ChildSavers is thrilled to be able to grow our mission-driven services, and our highly trained clinicians are now available to provide Crisis Intervention, as well as, Immediate Response throughout our community.

By investing in the Greater Richmond area's children, you are investing in our community’s future.

Thank you for being our partners, volunteers, and financial supporters. Your generosity creates a brighter future and gives children the tools they need to grow up safe, healthy, happy, and ready to learn.

Warmly,

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ChildSavers guides our community’s children through life’s critical moments with trauma-informed mental health and child development services.

- **Guidance Clinic** provided 600 children dealing with a wide range of issues, including Adjustment Disorder, Depression, ADHD, and Mood Disorder 5,720 hours of therapy.

- **Trauma Response** provided 916 hours of therapy to 135 children that witnessed or experienced a traumatic event.

- **Child Development Services (CDS)** trained and mentored 480 child care providers in best practices, developmental milestones and safety.

- CDS also provided 2,259 children 0-5 years old with quality care and learning through mentoring and training for child care professionals.
“Today,” Tiffany’s* therapist said, “we are going to go into the sand tray room.” Tiffany was excited, but nervous, since she had never been in there before. Together, they walked in and Tiffany’s eyes lit up as she gazed over what seemed like hundreds of miniature figurines. There were little airplanes, ships, people, trees, animals, plants, houses, and so much more. Tiffany’s therapist gave her the time to take it all in and to examine all of the figurines. After a thorough inspection, Tiffany asked what to do with them and her therapist said, “You can build your own world using these in the sand tray.”

Tiffany’s therapist watched Tiffany slowly put together “her world”. When Tiffany said she was finished, her therapist asked Tiffany to tell her about it. Tiffany explained, “Well, this is where I live on this side of the world.” She pointed to one side of the sand tray. “There is my Mom, and our dog; and there are flowers everywhere! We use this boat and go anywhere we want. There are sharks in the water, but they are really nice sharks! Sometimes we go over here and have picnics and play with birds. Everyone is really, really happy,” she said and then added, “We don’t go to the other side of the world though.”

On the other side of the sand tray, separated by a toy road, was a big mound of sand and several figures buried beneath it. Tiffany pointed and said, “Over there is the bad place where no one wants to go. People go there and do not come back. My brother is in there, but I can’t go over and get him because Mom won’t let me. I made him go over there and now he cannot come back. Over there people are very sad and everyone hates me.”

Tiffany had kicked a ball across the street and asked her brother to get it. Tragically, he was hit by a car and killed. Tiffany struggled with the loss of her brother and she blamed herself for his death. Before meeting with her therapist, Tiffany had been unable to speak about the loss of her brother. Over time, the therapist and Tiffany created a safe and trusting relationship together. Tiffany was able to talk about the traumatic event through sand tray therapy. She was able to find her voice, tell her story, and begin to heal.

*Details have been changed to protect privacy.
### Assets

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<th>Item</th>
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<tr>
<td>Cash and cash equivalents</td>
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<td>United Way Funding Commitment</td>
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<td><strong>Total Net Assets</strong></td>
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### Liabilities and Net Assets

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### Revenue and Support

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<td>Program Services</td>
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### Expenses

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<tr>
<td>Mental Health Treatment Services</td>
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**ChildSavers believes that all children can be safe, happy, healthy and ready to learn.**

*Unaudited financials.
Your Support

**Guardian**
Your gift of $1,000 provides one day of training for Richmond Public School staff on Trauma & Resilience OR one year of mentoring for a child care program to build quality.

**Protector**
Your gift of $500 provides a sand tray, miniatures, and supplies for sand tray therapy OR a scholarship for observation and testing for a childcare worker earning his or her Child Development Associate certificate.

**Champion**
Your gift of $250 provides a consultation with foster care workers regarding child placement and permanency planning OR health and safety resources for new child care providers.

**Mentor**
Your gift of $100 provides 10 books about loss to give to children who lost a family member OR books for one Child Development Associate program participant.

**Friend**
Your gift of $50 provides two new puppets for children to use while in family therapy OR training for two Early Care Professionals on the importance of Trauma Informed Care.
Cheree Snead had always been good with children. After working as a nurse, she decided to open a child day care service in her home in 2009. Word quickly spread among family and friends, and Cheree’s in-home child care services, called Mama Ree’s, did not stay in-home for long. As her business and classrooms grew she found herself wanting to learn more about quality child care.

After researching what ChildSavers’ Virginia Star Quality Initiative (VSQI) program was about, Cheree joined because, “They are all about making a program that is quality. I am always into making the program better and there is always something that I can learn.” This program trains child care providers in quality child care development with a focus on: education, qualifications, and training of staff; interactions; structure; environment and instruction. Cheree said that while she already had a great program, participation in the VSQI, “...made us awesome! We have an awesome facility, and good staff that are learning the ways of VSQI and what quality really is. We are turning into an excellent program for children.”

Throughout her 18 months of program participation, Cheree has been mentored through ChildSavers by Nan Brennan. According to Nan, Cheree, “...has always wanted to provide top quality care for the children enrolled at Mama Ree’s.” Nan said that because of Cheree’s participation in ChildSavers’ programs she is now, “...more aware of the details beyond safety and health. Now she is providing her staff with training on topics such as Positive Interactions, Room Arrangement, and Literacy.” According to Nan, Cheree was eager to grow and learn, and her passion for knowledge about best practices is evident in everything she does. “She is always looking for that one more thing to make the program better,” Nan said.

Since entering into the ChildSavers VSQI program, Cheree says it has resulted in quality child care that has even changed the behavior of the children for the better. VSQI has helped her teachers develop skills and created more positive interactions with the children. There is less fuss, there are fewer tantrums, and there is more cooperation among the children than ever before.

Cheree attributes the success and growth of her business to the quality care she learned about through ChildSavers. The most rewarding thing about the program, Cheree said, was the outside support. Cheree has been so pleased with what she has gained from participation in VSQI she said, “Every daycare center should be part of VSQI. I know it takes time, but I strongly recommend that they participate because it will make their programs that much better.”

Today, Cheree has two Mama Ree’s Child Development Centers at Williamsburg Road and Gaskins Road.

Story of Hope
200 North 22nd Street
Richmond, VA 23223
804.644.9590
ChildSavers.org

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