

2020 LEGISLATIVE AGENDA

Children's Home Society of Florida remains committed to ensuring children are prioritized and well served while striving for quality and excellence in all we do.

Our year-round advocacy and public policy efforts are focused on four core areas to build safe, strong families and end the need for foster care as we know it.

CHS supports priorities that empower children so they are ready to grow, ready to learn, ready to earn and ready to parent.



We offer the following legislative priorities for the 2020 Legislature to consider:

Expand a Proven Model to Success: Community Partnership Schools

Community Partnership Schools address barriers to learning that many children experience that may prevent them from reaching their full potential: poverty, hunger, safe housing, and unmet health and behavioral health needs. By addressing these issues and creating greater access to supports for students and their families, we collectively will impact their future.

CHS requests continued funding for existing Community Partnership Schools and additional funding to further expand the model throughout Florida.

Building Upon Success and Better Outcomes for Children: CaseAIM

CaseAIM is a people-process-technology system to replace a manual 25-year-old paper-based case management workflow system. CaseAIM addresses the chief challenges case managers throughout Florida consistently share: overwhelming administrative burdens, excessive paperwork and significant transportation duties, which prevent them from forming trusting relationships with children and families – key to improving child outcomes.

CHS requests funding to continue expanding CaseAIM to more case management organizations throughout Florida and to further evaluate the impact on child outcomes and case manager turnover.

Community Based Care System: Building a Strong, Stable and Prepared Frontline

The frontline of child welfare – the professionals working directly with children and families – is understaffed and overwhelmed. Child welfare workers are expected to take on more and more duties and responsibilities, all the while serving ever-increasing numbers of children and families. It's a dangerous combination. With burnout on the rise, the workforce remains in jeopardy – and the absence of a stable child welfare workforce has a direct negative impact on child outcomes. When we invest in the frontline, we can achieve better outcomes for our children.

CHS strongly supports new funding to be allocated toward the direct-service workforce to achieve better outcomes for our children.

