

ChildSavers Earns National Accreditation from Council on Accreditation (COA)

ChildSavers Unique Among Richmond Children’s Service Agencies in Meeting Rigorous COA “Best Practice” Performance Standards

RICHMOND, VA, June 21, 2016 – ChildSavers today announced that the internationally respected Council on Accreditation (COA) had awarded it the coveted “Accredited” designation, following an intensive fifteen month audit of its programs, management and operating procedures, financial practices and governance structure.

COA’s demanding accreditation criteria are specifically established for organizations serving the child welfare, behavioral health, and community-based social service sectors. The Council is an international, independent, non-profit human services accrediting organizations founded in 1977 by the Child Welfare League of America and the Alliance for Strong Families and Communities.

“COA accreditation represents an objective, reliable and independent evaluation of an agency’s performance,” explained Richard Klarberg, President & CEO. “The standards driving accreditation,” he added, “ensure that an organization’s services are well-coordinated, culturally competent, evidence-based, outcomes-oriented, and provided by a skilled and supported workforce.”

“We believe qualifying for accreditation sends a strong message of quality assurance to Richmond families, educators, first-responders and our donors,” said Robert Bolling, ChildSavers Chief Executive Officer. “It tells the community that ChildSavers is a service organization they can count on for meeting our children’s most urgent developmental counseling, crisis intervention, and childcare evaluation needs.”

About ChildSavers

ChildSavers is a Central Virginia non-profit organization established in 1924. Its mission is to guide our community’s children through life’s critical moments with trauma-informed mental health and child development services. The core of the mission is a fundamental commitment to the mental well-being of children and the positive bond between adult and child. The organization supports this with clinical treatment, education, and training services that offer reassurance, healing, and the skills necessary to achieve normal life and development. Each year ChildSavers serves nearly 3,000 children in Virginia, providing trauma-informed mental health and ensuring quality in early child care environments.

ChildSavers was founded by Martha Patteson Branch in memory of one of Richmond’s first pediatricians, Dr. McGuire Newton, to serve Virginia’s children during a worldwide flu epidemic. Early in its history ChildSavers mission turned to addressing the mental health and

development needs of children throughout the region; especially those who have experienced trauma.

ChildSavers is a community-supported nonprofit governed by a volunteer Board of Directors. It is licensed by the Virginia Department of Behavioral Health & Developmental Services and accredited by the Council on Accreditation for Child and Family Services.

ChildSavers offices and counseling facilities are located at 200 North 22nd Street in the Church Hill community of Richmond.

To learn more about ChildSavers programs and services visit www.chidsavers.org or call (804) 644.9590.