Your Voices. Our Story.

2013 Annual Report
Children’s Friend is the innovative leader in improving the well-being and healthy development of Rhode Island’s most vulnerable young children. We accomplish this by providing flexible, effective, and culturally-relevant services, and advocating for programs and policies that support and strengthen these children and their families.

Our Vision
Our vision is that every child in Rhode Island grows and develops in a safe, healthy, loving, and stable family.

Your voices create the Children’s Friend story & your support makes our mission a reality every day.
Thanks to you, Children’s Friend has a long, rich history of serving Rhode Island families. This would not be possible without the many concerned citizens who have put the welfare of Rhode Island’s most vulnerable children first, starting with our founder Harriet Ware.

Your support was especially important in 2013—as the agency weathered federal funding cutbacks due to the implementation of sequestration. The reality of serving fewer children in our Head Start program was indeed disappointing for an organization that prides itself in putting families first.

However, the possibilities for new and expanded services in other areas helped us to meet the continuing needs of our families.

In 2013, Children’s Friend launched We are a Village, a joint federal and private investment to benefit students in Central Falls. This is an unprecedented collaboration with the Central Falls School District; Children’s Friend; Bradley Early Childhood Clinical Research Center, a clinical service and professional training agency, and part of the Bradley Hasbro Children’s Research Center; and the Annenberg Institute for School Reform, a national policy research and reform support organization at Brown University.

The program focuses on improving school readiness and academic achievement of young, high-need children, from preschool to third grade, by implementing a three-tiered approach of prevention, identification, and intervention to support children’s social and emotional growth. The program directly impacts five schools serving over 1,000 children annually in 32 classrooms throughout Central Falls.

We also opened a new WIC office at our Friendship Center to better serve the South Providence community, offering healthy foods such as milk, juice, cereal, cheese, eggs, infant formula, tuna, and carrots; nutrition education to improve family health; breastfeeding advice and support; and referrals to doctors, dentists, and other community services.

In a year where federal funding was especially tenuous, we know that our work to support Rhode Island’s most vulnerable children was not possible without you.

Thanks to the tremendous generosity of our donors and sponsors, we served a record-breaking 4,300 children in our annual Spirit of Giving Holiday Drive, expanded our Summer Learning and Enrichment Program to serve more children, and expanded emergency assistance to families in crisis, who need immediate access to essentials such as housing, baby supplies, food, and medical assistance.

Because you have chosen to be a champion for children, families flourish and children learn and grow every day.

In these pages, you’ll hear the many voices that make up the Children’s Friend family and see firsthand the impact you’ve helped us have every day through the services we provide. You’ll also meet some of the folks, who just like you, have stepped up to make a difference.

Children have safe loving homes, high quality educational opportunities, and specialty care from experts in the fields of education, counseling, health and nutrition, occupational therapy, physical therapy, speech, and language pathology.

Families have access to the basics of everyday life – diapers, healthy food, warm clothing, and a roof over their heads, as well as the support they need to ensure that their children have the best possible start in life. These are the very items that we may take for granted in our own lives. However, they make a world of difference in the lives of our families.

We are so fortunate to have the Children’s Friend family here to support our work. Your voices buoy us in rough times and bring hope to our children and families. Most importantly, your support creates the foundation for our work, as we continue to add chapters to our shared story.

We honor our donors and funders who stepped up in 2013 to provide critical resources for our most vulnerable children and families. Thank you!

Sincerely,

David Caprio
President and Chief Executive Officer
Eva was young and pregnant for the first time. A full-time student and never able to make ends meet, Eva was evicted from her apartment and staying at the homes of friends and family. Every night, she slept on a different couch and wasn’t sure where she’d end up the next day. Battling morning sickness and arranging places to stay was overwhelming and tiring.

With nowhere to turn, Eva called a Children’s Friend WIC office, crying for help. As a pregnant woman, Eva qualified for WIC services including healthy foods, nutrition education to improve health, referrals to doctors, dentists, and other community services, and breastfeeding advice and support once the baby was born.

WIC staff immediately scheduled an appointment with Eva and referred her to our Nurse Family Partnership program that pairs expectant mothers with a registered nurse, who will provide intensive home visiting services to Eva and her child until the child’s second birthday.

Through this program, Eva has access to counseling, help in finding appropriate prenatal care, support in improving her nutritional intake for a healthy pregnancy, and support in becoming more knowledgeable about pregnancy, as well as labor and delivery.

She’ll be encouraged to find economic self-sufficiency by developing a vision for her own future, plan future pregnancies, continue her education, and find work. With the help of her nurse, she’ll be able to focus on the needs of her new baby, while creating goals for her own education.

After her child is born, Eva will learn that her role as her child’s first teacher is an important one. She will be given health and nutrition information and services to ensure optimal growth for her baby. As she becomes a new parent, Eva’s nurse will provide encouragement, knowledge, and support around child growth and development.

Today, Eva is prepared for a healthy pregnancy, has access to healthy nutritional supports, and is setting goals for both herself and her baby. Most importantly, Eva is no longer alone, and she knows that she’ll have the support needed to grow into her new role as Mom.
James was struggling in his new role as a stepfather. His relationship was strained, and the family was not having an easy time. He did not know how to relate to his stepchildren, nor how to integrate his own children into this new blended family. To make matters worse, James had recently lost his job, and this family of six now relied on only one income. He wanted this new family to work, but wasn’t sure how to fix the situation on his own.

The Dads Making a Difference Program was there when James needed it most. The program provides resources to help ensure that fathers receive the education, assistance, and support they need to have a positive impact on the lives of the children in their care.

Through the help of his family worker, James shared his story. He learned to understand the importance of a father figure in a child’s life. He attended trainings and seminars, and spoke to other fathers who had similar situations. He built a support network.

James received weekly home visits and learned how to be a stepfather. He learned that simple family activities, such as reading and going to the park, or sitting together around the dinner table were ways to express love and build relationships. He spent one-on-one time with the children, helped with school work, and learned new ways to nurture.

James also received job training and counseling, as well as guidance and support. He worked on skills that would make him more marketable to employers and learned how to build a resume, apply for jobs and navigate the interview process. He built his confidence both as a father and provider.

After completing the program, James was able to find a job to support his family. He now has a strong relationship with his family and knows the importance of his role in his children’s lives. Most importantly, he learned that despite it being sometimes difficult, anything can be achieved with a little unconditional love.

This program gave me a better understanding of how to raise my child, and made me more of a family man.

Bill, Father in Dads Making a Difference Program
Michael was having a hard time adjusting to his classroom. A family move was a major disruption, and now he was acting out. New teachers, classmates, and surroundings were just too much for this young boy. He had trouble verbalizing his needs and felt all alone in a strange place.

This new move was also proving to be difficult for Mom too, working third shift each night and then rushing to get Michael to school on time each morning. She was also having trouble communicating with his classroom teacher who did not speak her native language of Creole, which just added to the stress of the family. Tired, harried, and wanting the best for Michael, this family was having a rough start.

Knowing that time was of the essence and realizing that this may not be the best fit for Michael and his family, a Children’s Friend team came together to analyze the situation, look at the options, and work out a solution that would best serve them. Michael worked well in one-on-one situations and flourished with a little extra attention. Mom would feel much more comfortable with a teacher who could communicate with her. Due to her difficult schedule, Mom could benefit from having access to childcare during the day, allowing Michael to have a more structured day and Mom to have more time to rest.

Looking at these pieces together, the Dexter Center seemed to be the best fit for Michael and his family, especially now that they lived nearby. The full-day classroom would provide specialized support for Michael. In addition to his teacher, a Therapeutic Integration Specialist would help Michael to learn, play, and socialize with other classmates. A Mental Health Clinician based at the center would also offer additional resources to the classroom team when needed.

The transition was different for Michael this time. Two teaching teams came together to support the family, his current and new teachers. Michael settled in very quickly and made tremendous progress in a very short amount of time, thanks to the support and services available to his family.

Mom is at ease, and the time she spends with Michael is now quality, family time. Best of all, Michael is thriving.

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When Dorothy heard the news, it brought tears to her eyes. “My oldest son has been diagnosed with cancer, and my youngest, Marco, is having a hard time dealing with the news.” As the Mom first approached Dorothy, she couldn’t have known that these words would have such an impact.

How would Dorothy explain to the Mom that she had seen a change in Marco in the classroom as well? How could she help as Marco’s teacher? At first, Dorothy did not have all the answers. Her families already had so much to worry about, without a major life threatening illness. She did know that Marco’s teaching team would come together to support his family.

Marco was having a difficult time at home, and this was spilling into his school day. He was confused and angry that this older brother was the center of attention. He could not understand the complexities of the situation. He felt left out and alone, and thought the family only focused on his brother. At school, he was quiet and withdrawn. He had trouble connecting to the other children in the classroom.

Dorothy saw this opportunity to help Marco and make him look forward to his days at school. She incorporated this important life lesson into her curriculum. The class read a book about going to the hospital and discussed how Marco’s brother was sick. Marco felt comforted sharing his story and having the support of his classmates. He talked about what it was like to have a sick brother and shared his fears. Dorothy worked with Mom and arranged the extra services when treatments kept her late for pick-up.

Marco felt loved and supported throughout the process. Marco’s brother visited the classroom when he was feeling better, and it was safe for him to do so. Marco was so proud to introduce his brother to his classmates and have him at school. It was a special day just for him.

Often a major illness can place a vulnerable family in jeopardy. However, with some extra support, Mom was able to be there for both children. Marco’s brother is in remission and Marco has successfully moved on to Kindergarten. Both are happy and well.
Thank you to our 2013 Donors

To Our Donors: Children’s Friend is deeply grateful to the individuals, businesses, foundations, and organizations who generously support our mission every day. You make the difference in the lives of our families! Your investment in our most vulnerable children and families provides essential services to help them succeed.

Please join us in recognizing those who supported Children’s Friend in 2013.

$50,000+
Anonymous
The Rhode Island Foundation
United Way of Rhode Island

$25,000+
City of Providence, Department of Planning and Development
Panera Bread/Howley Bread Group
Walmart Foundation

$10,000+
Amica Companies Foundation & Amica Mutual Insurance Company
Bailey Family Fund
Blue Cross Blue Shield of RI Community Health Fund & Blue Cross Blue Shield of Rhode Island
Citizens Bank, Rhode Island & Citizens Charitable Foundation
CVS Caremark & The CVS Charity Classic Committee
J&A General Contractor
MetLife Auto & Home
The Rite Aid Foundation

$5,000+
BFS Charitable Foundation
Bristol County Savings Charitable Foundation, Inc.
David & Maureen Caprio
Hazard Family Foundation
Ida Ballo Littlefield Memorial Trust
The Joseph & Rosalyn Sinclair Foundation, Inc.
Nordson
Partridge Snow & Hahn LLP
TriMix Foundation

$2,500 +
ABC/! Dexter Donation Fund
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The Episcopal Charities Fund of Rhode Island
Gilbane Building Company
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Hasbro, Inc.
Local Initiatives Support Corporation
Mutual of America Life Insurance Company
Ocean State
Charities Trust
Professional Convention Management Organization
Provider Group, LLC
Regan Heating and Air Conditioning
Rhode Island Shriners Charities Trust
Herman H. Rose
Vignton Memorial Fund
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$1,000 +
Al & Lucille Carmody
CJ Tree Services Inc.
Charles & Ellen Collins
Todd Edward Anthony Costa
Robert Covnen
Delta Dental of Rhode Island
Robert A. DiMuccio
Edwards Wildman Palmer LLP
Foster Forward
Furnace & Duct Supply Co., Inc.
Tony & Karen Gabriele
Gencorp Insurance
Charitable Foundation
Grant Sheehy Fund, Bank of America, N.A., Co-Trustee
Mark G. Griffin
GETECH Corporation
Maureen and Paul Gurghjian
Brian & Frances Herfly
Kath, Liten, Renes & Co., Ltd.
Peter M. Keating
LANTEL Communications, Inc.
Revered William J. Ledoux
Mandell, Schwartz & Boisclair
Joseph & Meredith Marc Aurele
Mary Dexter Chafee Fund
Michael Mayer
Memorial Hospital of Rhode Island
Navigant Credit Union
Carl & Pamela Neal

$500+
James C. Alexander
Bank of America Charitable Foundation
Bank of America United Way Campaign
Ting & Ian Barnard
Bob’s Discount Furniture
Charitable Foundation, Inc.
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UnitedHealthcare
University of Rhode Island
David & Ava Vanuch
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$250+
Jane & Michael Elmore
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Paul & Brenda Pinto
Michael & Martha Varghese
Regan Heating and Air Conditioning
United Way of Central Massachusetts

$100+
Andrew & Laura Dwyer
Diana B. Ziegler
Robin Erban
Ruggieri Brothers
Paul & Martha Farnell
W.R. | W.B. Mason Co.
Walmart Foundation

Anonymous Donor

I give because I care because the education of our children. All children deserve a strong foundation for their future.

Anonymous Donor
We appreciate your generous support! These lists have been prepared with care. If you feel as though your name has been omitted or incorrectly listed, please accept our sincerest apologies and notify Stacy Couto, Vice President External Affairs, at 401-276-4306 or scouto@cfsri.org.
2013 Holiday Drive

Each year, the Spirit of Giving Holiday Drive provides gifts of clothing and toys to make the winter holidays a special time for Rhode Island’s most vulnerable families. Children’s Friend matches sponsors with families who are currently receiving services from Children’s Friend and are in great need.

Your role in the Holiday Drive is so important! The thousands of donated coats, hats, gloves, blankets, warm clothing, books, and toys are essential in making the holiday season brighter for our families.

Thanks to the support and participation of our generous sponsors and volunteers, the 2013 Holiday Drive served a record 1,270 families—4,300 children in all!

Account Recovery Services
A.J. Oster Group
Lee Ann Adams
Tracy Affedt
Laura Almeida, Sarah, Kelly, Nicole, Matt, and Rachel
The Almoff/Eldridge Family
Armenia Mutual Insurance
Company-CIS Charities
Karen Amores
Stephanie Anstine
Mary Jean Aschman
Atwell Conway Dental Associates
Asa Avez
Christopher Bailey, CHFC
Donna Barrows
Jessica Beaulieu
Kristyn Benedetti
Tracy and Betty Blackburn
Carol Blanchard
Blue Cross Blue Shield of Rhode Island
Blue Cross Blue Shield of Rhode Island Human Resources
Blum Shapiro
Rebecca A. Brackley
Rufus & Ardell Brackley
Amber Bregnard
Kate Brewster
Brown University Department of Public Safety
Brown University Graduate School
Brown University Project Management
Lanette Budovsky
Cathy Busise
David & Maureen Caprio
Mary Caprio
Jill Cislowitz
CDM Smith
The Chace Family
Chambers of Judge O. Rogerene Thompson
Cherubim & Seraphim Church
Citizens Bank Call Center
Citizens Bank Wealth Management Services
Citizens with Power, The Arc of Blackstone Valley
Coast Realty
Coastal Medical, Inc.
Collette Vacations
Connections
Christine & Sal Cosimano
Stacy Couto & Brendan Dee
Cowen-Virgo West Greenwich Emblem Club
Coviden
Cos Communications
David & Mary Cram
John D. Creigan
Emily Cunha
CVS/Caremark Strategic Procurement Department
Stephanie Davies
Deluson Agency
Delta Dental of Rhode Island
Jessica & Elaine Desrosiers
Laura Dexter
Brian Doherty
Eager Family Dentistry
East Greenwich and North Kingstown Book Club
East Greenwich Book Club
East Greenwich United Methodist Church
East Providence Knights of Columbus
Elitc Physical Therapy
Alicia Eisig
Selah, Jamari, Rob Ethier & Karen Jones
Charity Fairbanks
Melanie Faust
Temple Fawcett
Sue Finucci
First Southwest Company
Fitness Together
Claire Flynn
Michelle Forand
Emily Ford
Heather Fortes
Valerie Fril
David & Kristen Gahan
Ann Gardner
Sarah & Joe Gardner & Gwen Ruten
Gastroenterology Associates
Kiera Garissau
Girls Scouts of Rhode Island
The Goldstein Family
Adrianna Goode
Mary Goodman
Grace Episcopal Church
Eric Grande
Caitlin & Tod Green
Pamela Greene
Gregg’s Restaurants
GTECH Corporation
H & M Warwick Mall
Lynne Hagerty
Julia Halsey, Michael & Guthrie
Harbor Networks
Nina Hanson & Family
Caroline Hawthorne
Hero & Friends
Higgins, Cavaunagh & Cooney
Leila Hill & Robert Langerden
Mary Hinsley
Eric Hirsch & Diane Worthen-Hirsch
Joseph & Norma Hogan
Lynn & John Hoy
Lisa, Max & Paige Huguenin
Janet Iannucci & Dawn Harper
Immaculate Conception
Catholic Regional School PTO
Johnson & Wales University
Experiential Education & Career Services
Johnson & Wales University
Human Resources & Payroll
Johnson and Wales Student Academic & Financial Services
Johnson and Wales University - Administration
Arije Jones
Jordan’s Liquors
Kathleen Keeley
Debra Konicki
KPMG, LLP
Suzanne Krikorian
Nancy LaChance
Andrew & Lisa Laidler
Kathy Lavery
JoAnn Lefrancisco
Erica Lepore
Ramona Liberato
Liberty International
LLB Architects
Sarah Lobdell
Bertha Madden
Tara Magill
Magna Hospitality Group
Alisa & Thomas Mahoney
Neal Manchester
Amanda Mann
The Mann-Cote Family
Donna Marino
Alta Marks
Cheryl & David Martone
Sarah Martone
Maureen Mascoli
Sarah & Joe Mayer
Patricia Maynard
Mayor’s Office
Morgan McKenzie & Joshua Wizer-Vocci
Maureen McVeigh
Mercymount Country Day School

Special Thanks to our Top Holiday Drive Sponsors
Bank of America
Blue Cross & Blue Shield of Rhode Island
Brown University
ComEd Communications
Coviden
Delta Dental
East Providence Knights of Columbus
Grace Episcopal Church
Gregg’s
GTECH

Jordan’s Liquors
MetLife
Panera Bread
PicoRecelli & Gilsten
Ross-Simon Jewelers
St. Francis de Sales Parish
St. Margaret’s Parish
Stop & Shop
Teknor Apex
URI

Thank you to the thousands of people who donated items and worked to make our Holiday Drive such a success. For rallying together and honoring Joe’s memory through their work to make our Holiday Drive such a success.

The 2013 Holiday Drive was a very special one – held in memory of Joseph Silva, a dedicated Holiday Drive volunteer who passed away last year. Thanks to Joe’s leadership, thousands of books, toys, pieces of clothing, and household items were donated to families in need over the past twenty years. And while we greatly miss Joe, his elves took up his good work and his legacy lives on. Please join us in recognizing the Silva family and the East Providence community for rallying together and honoring Joe’s memory through their work to make our Holiday Drive such a success.
Gifts made by contemporaries of Harriet Ware still help children today. I joined the Harriet Ware Society to help Children's Friend thrive well into the next century.

— Kimberly I. McCarthy, Esq.

Sustain Our Essential Programs All Year Long!

You can ensure that our most vulnerable families have the resources they need throughout the year. Give a recurring monthly gift and sustain the needs of our children every day. Your monthly gift provides Children’s Friend with regular and reliable income to respond to the needs of our families.

It’s so simple and convenient!

Go to childrensfriendri.org to set up your monthly giving—with just a couple of clicks, you can make a difference, one child at a time!
We are deeply grateful for the leadership provided by our Board of Directors and Head Start Policy Council, who play an essential role in carrying forth the mission of the agency.

Board of Directors

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Martha Nowcomb, Esq.
Vice Chairman
William J. Allen
Treasurer
Maureen Grushgian
Assistant Treasurer
Carl R. Neal
Secretary
Eduardo E. Naya
President and Chief Executive Officer
David Caprio

Head Start Policy Council

Chairman
Evelyn LaFrance
Vice Chairman
Robyn Giragosian
Treasurer
Eula Walker
Secretary
Bianca Garcia

Contracts that Generate Revenue

Central Falls School District
Family Services of Rhode Island
Rhode Island Department of Children, Youth and Families
Rhode Island Department of Human Services
Rhode Island Department of Education
Rhode Island Department of Health
Rhode Island Foundation
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
United Way of Rhode Island

Matching Gifts

Children’s Friend thanks the following companies for matching the charitable gifts made by their employees:

Amgen
Amera Mutual Insurance Company
Bank of America Charitable Foundation
Citizens Bank
Dentia Dental of Rhode Island
Liberty Mutual Foundation
State Street Bank
Children's Friend employees are dedicated and committed to the mission of the agency. Their combined skills, creativity, and knowledge have a great impact on the families we serve. We participate in the annual Holiday Drive. It is an opportunity for our children to give back. Our children choose gifts for others. It is a wonderful lesson of what giving truly means.

Laura, Holiday Drive Sponsor
Your Investment Has Great Impact

Thanks to you, Children’s Friend was able to provide high quality services to 31,507 children and families in 2013. Let’s do the numbers...

31,507 children and families benefited from Children’s Friend services.

187 children and families received concurrent permanency planning services, foster care placement, and adoption services – including children with special needs.

3,104 vulnerable children and their families received child and family development services, including education, health, nutrition, social services, and other supports.

295,757 nutritious meals were provided to children in our programs.

334 children were placed in high quality, bilingual childcare services.

834 children and their families received individual and family counseling services addressing issues of loss, parent-child conflict, school and behavioral issues, etc.

284 early care and school age educational professionals participated in training and technical assistance.

487 infants and toddlers with developmental delays and disabilities were provided therapy and educational services.

116 substance-affected families participated in intensive home-based services designed to help parents overcome addiction while safely parenting their children.

1,636 families received home-based outreach services intended to promote the health and well-being of mothers and their newborn children.

6,647 families participated in a nutrition program that provides healthy foods, nutrition education, and referrals to doctors, dentists, and other community services.

212 families received home visits by a registered nurse including prenatal and parenting education, developmental screenings, social supports, as well as support for educational and professional goals for the client.

94 expectant mothers and families with newborns received home visiting services to promote and strengthen positive parent-child relationships, promote positive growth and development in children, and build strengths of families and their protective factors.

151 families at risk received high fidelity wrap around services.

Adoption is a chance to get a good home... life would have been scary.

Jess, Age 10, Adopted through Children’s Friend
Wise Stewardship of Resources

With continued cuts to limited funding at the local, state, and federal levels, disciplined spending allows Children’s Friend to provide a remarkable level of services and staffing when our families need us the most. This is accomplished thanks to wise stewardship of our resources and a disciplined “spending rule” that holds our annual spending to 5.5% of the rolling 3-year market value average of the endowment.

You can invest in the future of Children’s Friend and earmark donations to the endowment by contacting Stacy Couto, Vice President External Affairs, at 401-276-4306 or scouto@cfsri.org.

Annual Income Statement

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<tr>
<th>2013 Revenue</th>
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<td>Contracts</td>
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<td>Fee for Service</td>
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<td>Other Income</td>
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<td>Total Operating Revenue</td>
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<th>2013 Expenses</th>
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<td>Total Operating Expenses</td>
<td>$23,893,183</td>
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100% of Your Gift Supports Our Programs

Our endowment is as important as ever to the financial security of the organization. Our endowment earnings cover administrative and fund raising costs, allowing us to assure our donors that 100% of their gift will make the difference in a child’s life, rather than being used for a fundraising event or for administration.

See Our Mission in Action!

Come in for a tour and learn more about what we do! Contact Stacy Couto, Vice President External Affairs, at 401-276-4306 or scouto@cfsri.org to arrange a personal tour at one of our sites.

Children’s Friend is accredited by the Council on Accreditation and a member of the Child Welfare League of America.

Annual Report Design by GLAD WORKS
Your Voices. Our Story.

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