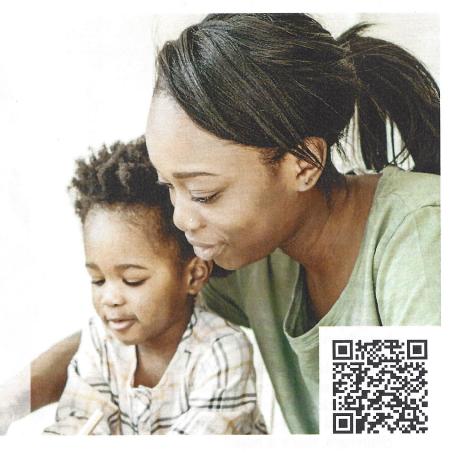


# 90% of our brain develops before age 5.

As humans, our first five years shape the rest of our lives. That's why it's important that <u>all</u> children receive quality early child care.



# Where Do We Start?

The quality of Virginia's child care and Pre-K programs is neither monitored nor measured consistently. The consequence? At least 40% of our children do not enter K - 12 with the literacy, math, self-regulation and social skills needed to thrive. ChildSavers provides training to thousands of early educators across Virginia, equipping them with the tools and resources needed to safely prepare all children for lifelong learning and development.

# Did you know?

- 70% of under-resourced families in Virginia don't have access to affordable child care.
- 75% of publicly-funded early care programs do not participate in Virginia's quality measurement system.

# Why Invest in Quality Early Care?



### Happy, Healthy Adults

When we invest in quality early care, we see less reliance on government programs as adults - an estimated 13% return on investment.



#### **Early Intervention**

When a child's mental and developmental needs are met early, they demonstrate improved social, emotional, and academic behaviors.



#### **Equitable Opportunities**

Access to quality child care and mental health services helps ensure <u>all</u> children can be safe, happy, healthy, and ready to learn.





# Children's Mental Health

Nearly I in 5 children have a mental, emotional, or behavioral disorder, yet only 20% will receive help from a specialized provider.

Trauma changes children. While any child can experience trauma, there's a higher incidence for children in underresourced communities. Despite these challenges, there is hope!



# **Building Resilience**

Multiple Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) can lead to a child dropping out of school, developing chronic diseases, and reducing life expectancy by up to 20 years.

The universal prescription for trauma is resilience. By honing resilience in children, ChildSavers is investing in safe, happy, health communities.



Instead of asking, "What's wrong with that child?", we must ask "What happened to this child?" When we view life through a trauma-informed lens, we can understand the bigger picture and respond to the needs of children - not their behaviors.





# Clinic-Based Therapy

Our evidence-based approach focuses on the client's individual needs and includes play, art, and sand tray therapy. Virtual or in-person therapy options are available to children and their family members.



# School-Based Therapy

We've placed full-time clinicians in ten Richmond Public Schools. This partnership allows our therapists to become part of the school community and serve children where they learn and play.



# Immediate Response

Our Immediate Response therapists are available 24/7 to intervene at the scene of trauma. Their goal is to help prevent or lessen the severity of future mental health and behavioral issues.