



Impact Report

Children's Services

January-December 2023

9,749
Children Served

56 Countries of Origin

84% 16-17 years old

96% Participant Satisfaction



Our Work

The CWS Children's Services Department **promotes the safety and well-being of unaccompanied children** as they reunify with their families across the United States.

We approach care through a child-centric, culturally responsive, and trauma-informed lens, with the goal of providing meaningful support to the children and families we serve.

CWS walks alongside children through a Network of 16 CWS offices and affiliate partners in 3 locations

"Thank you [CWS] for your support for me and my brother and for encouraging us. She [caseworker] helped me to know how to support my brother for a better future."

"The services and resources provided by the caseworker were very helpful. As a result, we are saving towards immigration and legal aid expenses."

Education & Content



Who are Unaccompanied Children?

Amplifying Program Participants

[Cassandra's Journey Forward](#)

[The Remarkable Power of a Mother's Love](#)

[From Abandonment to Abundance: Juliana's Story](#)

[Beyond Borders: Miguel's Journey for Survival and Family](#)

Featuring CWS Staff

[Helping Migrants Through Human Connection](#)

[Seeing the Invisible: Scarlet's Story](#)

[My First Capitol Hill Experience](#)

[Courage and Solidarity through "Solito"](#)

Community Outreach

As a result of our network's outreach, unaccompanied children received referrals for medical and mental health services and support with health insurance enrollment.

Thanks to the support from local organizations, unaccompanied children also received parenting classes, enrolled in after school and summer programs, and were connected to short and long-term housing options. Being part of immigration coalitions and joining state and local education boards, CWS and its network of providers present, educate, and advocate for unaccompanied children and their needs.

Support from Our Community

1,297 Bright Futures Backpacks received across 6 sites

\$49,884.57 received in gifts and donations

\$86,500 received from across our network for direct assistance

4 master's level interns across 3 CWS sites in our pilot program

Advocacy

Congressional Briefing

Members of our department held a congressional briefing on Capitol Hill in Washington D.C. about the protection of unaccompanied children and best practices in children services. We asked Congress to robustly fund home studies and post-release services, legal representation, mental health services, and child advocates so that all unaccompanied children have an opportunity to thrive in a safe and caring environment. There were around 40 attendees including both Democratic and Republican congressional staffers.

Action Alerts

Four Unaccompanied Children Action Alerts in partnership with the CWS Policy & Advocacy team. These action alerts give people the opportunity to contact their members of Congress to ask them to

- fund programs that ensure the safety and well-being of unaccompanied children and their families and that prevent child labor exploitation
- pass laws that ensure protections for unaccompanied children, access to permanent immigration status, and safe pathways to reunify with families for Central American children

[TAKE ACTION: Urge Members of Congress to Protect Unaccompanied Children and Prevent Child Exploitation](#)

[TAKE ACTION: Urge Members of Congress to Support Unaccompanied Children and their Families](#)

[TAKE ACTION: Urge Congress to Protect Abused, Abandoned, and Neglected Immigrant Children](#)

[TAKE ACTION: Urge Congress to Fund Programs that Ensure the Safety and Well-Being of Unaccompanied Children](#)