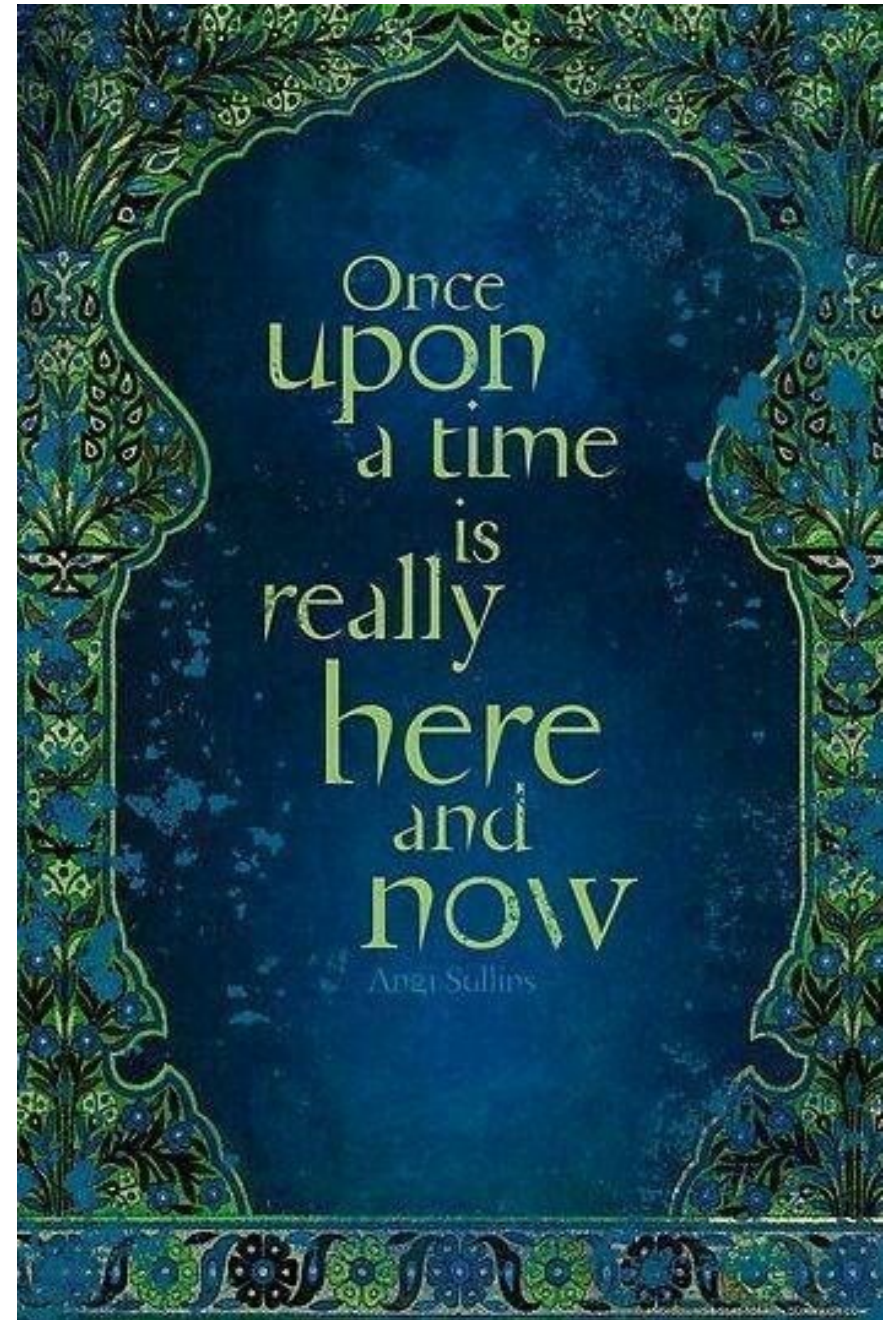


And because of the support from fine folks like you, the children of West Virginia can live happily ever after.



www.teamwv.org





Once upon a time...

A concerned group of people, in 1986, decided to do something that would help children grow up healthy, happy and loved. That “something” grew and grew until it spread all over the state of West Virginia.

That “something” is called the
TEAM for West Virginia Children.

And they’ve been working for good beginnings and happy endings for West Virginia’s children for 32 years. Here are their major programs and accomplishments for 2017-2018.

Once upon a time, Healthy Families America, Parents As Teachers and Maternal Infant Health Outreach Worker programs were providing support and education to families in WV without the benefit of collaborating. They got to know each other and, in 1999, they joined to form Partners in Community Outreach (PICO). More state and then federal funding became available and we are now 25 programs strong, reaching nearly 2000 families throughout West Virginia during more than 20,000 home visits!

Recently, one of our Partners shared,

“Partners in Community Outreach builds the scaffolding for success in our home visitation program. The training opportunities are always pertinent because they are based on surveys and constant communication with participants. Providing face to face meetings gives us time to network, reflect and share ideas. Online meetings and training has allowed sites flexibility in our busy schedules! The PICO group keeps us connected.”



Partners in Community Outreach

Education Begins at Home



West Virginia Infant/Toddler
Mental Health Association
Supporting the social and emotional well-being of children

“In every neighborhood, all across our country, there are good people insisting on a good start for the young, and doing something about it.” – Fred Rogers

One of the most important influences on a young child’s growth and development is his or her relationship with a caring and nurturing adult beginning at birth. Research shows these secure attachments impact lifelong emotional and physical well-being.

The WV Infant/Toddler Mental Health Association promotes collaboration among the multiple disciplines that work with young children and families. There are three components to the Association’s work—promotion of infant mental health, integration of infant mental health specific “core competencies” and facilitation of a national Endorsement.

Through an Endorsement that uses “core competencies” as a guide, the Association recognizes the development of professionals who work with or on behalf of young children and families. Since beginning the WV Endorsement process in June 2017, the Association has Endorsed 14 professionals across the state, with another 18 professionals in process.



Healthy Families
Mountain State™

Mountain State
Healthy Families
(MSHF) provides
voluntary in-home
family education to

parents during pregnancy and up until the child’s third birthday.

During home visits, parents receive information about pregnancy and childbirth, child development, positive parenting, and community resources. Home visitors promote healthy parent-child relationships, build on family strengths, and remain sensitive to each family’s unique culture.

MSHF is an accredited affiliate of Healthy Families America. The heart of the model is the importance of the first years of life, with nurturing relationships laying the foundation for healthy development.

Last year, our home visitors completed 4183 home visits with 350 families.

“This woman who came into our lives 3 years ago, who did not know us at all, has forever made us a better family and empowered me to be the best I can be.” — MSHF Participant



Court Appointed Special Advocates
FOR CHILDREN

WESTERN REGIONAL CASA

Once upon a time a judge in Seattle realized he didn't have enough information to make a good decision about a child's future—thus CASA was born.

Western Regional CASA works with children who have been removed from

their homes by the court due to abuse and/or neglect. Many of the children served by volunteer advocates and staff in 2017 were victims of the drug epidemic, which has hit our state hard in the past few years.

The goal of CASA is for children to be permanently placed in a timely manner. We believe that every child deserves a safe, permanent and loving home.

In 2017, four new counties joined Western Regional CASA—Jackson, Roane, Calhoun and Mason along with Cabell, Wayne, Lincoln, Putnam, Boone and Kanawha Counties.

Through the year, 66 CASA volunteers and staff advocated for 442 children with an additional 765 children monitored by CASA staff, an increase of almost 30% from 2016. CASA volunteers donated more than 2,535 hours of their time to advocate for these children. Give the light of hope to a child!

Prevent Child Abuse West Virginia (PCAWV) works to give children good beginnings by implementing effective local programs, promoting public engagement, and advocating for public policies that help children and families thrive.

This past year, PCAWV spearheaded passage of comprehensive legislation to prevent child sexual abuse. The legislation requires every public school employee and student to complete training beginning in 2019. It is one of the most comprehensive legislative approaches to prevent child sexual abuse in the nation.

PCAWV also awarded \$220,000 in grants to 44 local Partners in Prevention teams. These teams provided services and education to over 100,000 parents, children, family members and the public. Participants in these programs commented:

"I learned how to talk to my child"

"It helped to solve certain problems with my child"

"The teachers explained the importance of being a father"

PCAWV reached new milestones:

100% of birthing hospitals in the state are now certified as "Say YES to Safe Sleep" partners reaching over 20,000 newborns each year.

Over 11,000 people "Checked the Box" on their state income tax and donated \$146,414 to the WV Children's Trust Fund in support of local prevention projects — our highest total ever.



Prevent Child Abuse
West Virginia™