

**EMPOWERING
TEEN GIRLS
TO OVERCOME
OBSTACLES,
MAKE POSITIVE
CHOICES,
AND ACHIEVE
THEIR GOALS.**



crittenton

RISING TO THE CHALLENGE

CRITTENTON SERVICES
OF GREATER WASHINGTON
ANNUAL REPORT 2021

CONTENTS

Welcome	4
Who We Serve	6
Our Programs	8
Crittenton Cupboard Campaign	12
Events	14
Scholarships	18
In The News	20
Financials	22

WELCOME

Dear Friends,

This year marked 133 years of Crittenton’s service to the greater Washington region, and two years of navigating a global pandemic that turned life as we know it upside down. After over a century, we’ve learned how to weather many storms. Still, this has been a time full of harsh truths—and silver linings.

Systemic inequity remains the biggest barrier to recovery for Crittenton girls. They’ve battled under-resourced schools, inadequate healthcare services, unreliable internet, and economic volatility in their homes and communities. However, thanks to the strength of our sacred sisterhood and the commitment of the broader Crittenton community, we provided even greater leadership in these chaotic times.

Addressing Increased Need

As the pandemic has stressed every area of daily life, we have expanded our services to meet the increased needs of our teen girls in DC and Maryland.

Our needs assessment at the beginning of the year revealed that some of our girls were reading one to two levels below grade level. So we established an eight-week summer camp focused on increasing the literacy rate for our middle school girls who had fallen behind.

We deepened and enriched the training of the Crittenton staff, too. All of our program leaders were certified in trauma-informed care in order to more fully support the holistic well-being of the girls we serve. In addition, we hired a resource coordinator to identify mental health services for our girls and their families.

Crittenton girls took on extraordinary leadership responsibilities to match the increased need at home. They helped their younger siblings prepare for virtual school, organized doctor’s appointments for grandparents, worked one or two jobs to provide financial stability to their families — all while balancing schoolwork and the various stresses of adolescence.

Two of our program participants, Jamese Logan and Yanica Mejias, were profiled in *The New York Times* about our nation’s caregiving crisis and its impact on teen girls. We applaud their leadership, and also want to reiterate the ongoing need for systemic change. Otherwise, we risk losing a generation of teen girls reaching their full potential.

Rising to the Financial Challenge

We’re eternally grateful to our partners and funders, who remained steadfast in supporting our work. We recently launched the Crittenton Cupboard, an initiative co-chaired by Crittenton Board Member Natali Fani-Gonzalez, to stock our virtual pantry with basic necessities and provide emergency funding to support our girls throughout the year. From Chromebooks and diapers to gas and groceries, the Cupboard helps us meet everyday needs before they become catastrophes. And we ended our 133rd year of service with a record-breaking annual celebration that saw an 11% increase in sponsorships.

These are just a few of the ways the Crittenton community—our girls, staff, supporters, and funders—united and rose to the occasion. This annual report is dedicated to all of them.

Thank you,

Siobhan Davenport
President & CEO

LaTara Harris
Chair, Board of Directors



IN THEIR
OWN WORDS

“I truly believe that Crittenton has played a key role in forming me into the person that I am today.”

— Tayietu, Crittenton participant

WHO WE SERVE

MONTGOMERY COUNTY

28
GROUPS

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

19
GROUPS

119
students in
GSG

11
students in
PEARLS

170
students in
SNEAKERS

1
students in
PEARLS

129
students in
SNEAKERS

20
Schools

MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MD

- Upcounty**
Clarksburg High School – Grades 9, 10
Forest Oak Middle School – Grades 6-8
Gaithersburg High School – Grades 9-12
Seneca Valley High School – Grade 10
- Downcounty**
Blair High School – Grades 9-12
Kennedy High School – Grades 10, 11, 12
- East County**
Banneker Middle School – Grades 6, 7
Briggs Chaney Middle School – Grades 6, 7
Key Middle School – Grades 6-8
Paint Branch High School – Grade 10
Springbrook High School – Grade 9
White Oak Middle School – Grades 6, 7

WASHINGTON, DC

- Ward 5**
Dunbar High School – Grades 9-12
Maya Angelou High School – 9-12 (PEARLS only)
- Ward 7**
Bard Early College High School – Grades 9, 10
Kelly Miller Middle School – Grades 7, 8
Sousa Middle School – Grades 7, 8
- Ward 8**
Ballou High School – Grades 9-12
Hart Middle School – Grades 7, 8
Kramer Middle School – Grades 7, 8

OUR PROGRAMS

Each year, Crittenton serves hundreds of teen girls who attend schools in the District of Columbia and Montgomery County, MD. We work in the schools that have the highest percentage of students from low-income families, the highest rates of teen pregnancy, and the lowest graduation and/or promotion rates.

During weekly sessions from September until May, these programs provide a continuum of services from middle school to high school graduation—with a curriculum for each grade that is evidence-based or evidence-informed and that addresses the specific needs of girls in each grade.

All of our programs use active learning methods such as STEM activities, role-playing, games, and group discussion to engage participants and enable them to practice the skills they acquire.

Goal Setting Girls (GSG)

Goal Setting Girls is a 28-week curriculum that focuses on social and emotional learning for 6th- and 7th-grade girls from lower income families.

This two-year program is designed to promote the development of skills that are essential to achieving academic, career and life success. The goal is to empower participating girls to succeed in middle school, high school, and college.

“Hey, I’m sorry for texting you kinda late but **I feel like I’m ready to talk about what’s going on with me.** I need help and I’m not sure who to go to and honestly you’re the only grownup I trust.”

— Current Crittenton girl, texting her program leader

IN THEIR OWN WORDS

Declare Equity for Girls

Declare Equity for Girls is a program involving advocacy, innovation, and research efforts in support of teen girls.

We’ve testified before the DC Council about the importance of investing in social-emotional learning practices in schools and hosted community roundtables with affinity organizations.

In 2021, a dozen girls participated in Advocates for Equity, a 10-week civic leadership development, and advocacy training program. Additionally, our President, Siobhan Davenport, and our Crittenton teen advocate, Cherly Montano, participated in Montgomery County’s Youth Taskforce to provide recommendations for safer schools and communities.

PEARLS

PEARLS (Parenting, Education, and Responsive Life Skills) is a positive youth development program for young women who are pregnant or parenting.

The program’s mission is to postpone future pregnancies, develop

parenting and life skills, and promote academic success. PEARLS groups meet in school for one hour per week for 26 weeks and engage in five out-of-school enrichment activities.



SNEAKERS

SNEAKERS (Self-efficacy, Nurturance, Expectations, Assertiveness, Knowledge, Empowerment, Responsibility, Success) is a program for girls navigating the challenges and choices of the 8th to 12th grades.

The SNEAKERS curriculum provides information on healthy relationships, careers, post-secondary education, nutrition and fitness, and reproductive health and sexuality. SNEAKERS groups meet in school for one hour per week for 26 weeks and engage in five out-of-school enrichment activities.

OUR GIRLS

In the midst of a pandemic, many of our girls faced nearly insurmountable trials that they had never faced before. As a result, the goal of graduation was a greater challenge to achieve than anticipated. In response to these unforeseen circumstances, Crittenton put systems in place to provide greater support to these girls to ensure they graduate this year.

DEMOGRAPHICS OF GIRLS WE SERVE

RACE



Asian	2%
Black	60%
Latina	33%
White	2%
Multiracial	3%

LIVING SITUATION



One parent	52%
Two parents	42%
Foster parent	4%
Other relatives	1%
Partner	3%

PARENTS' COLLEGE GRADUATION STATUS



Neither	57%
One	16%
Both	10%
No answer	17%

97%
of our girls
graduated

89%
of girls are going on
to college or vocational
program

104+
families/girls were helped
through Crittenton's
COVID-19 relief efforts

CRITTENTON CUPBOARD CAMPAIGN SOLVING CRISES BEFORE THEY BECOME CATASTROPHES

98% of Crittenton girls live in economically challenged communities.

Over the years, when their families have needed it most, we've stepped in, providing computers for school, safe rides home, feminine products, and school uniforms. During the pandemic we've also paid for groceries, car repairs, and in rare cases, rent. Our aim is to prevent unanticipated financial hardships from snowballing into insurmountable challenges.

Crittenton launched the Cupboard Campaign in 2021 to give our supporters the opportunity to participate in this important component of our work. The goal was to recruit 40 people to make gifts of \$125 (the cost of period products for a year) to stock our virtual pantry with \$5,000 in emergency funds.

Crittenton Board Member Natali Fani-Gonzalez chaired a volunteer committee that included Mozella Ademiluyi, Kimberly Bassett, Stacey Crittenden, Charlotte Farmer, Jennifer Porter, Carolyn Shackleford, and Ruth Swanson. Together, they exceeded the goal, raising more than \$7,000 for our remarkable girls.

“No girl should miss school because her family can’t afford period products. These types of necessities—and other support made possible through the Crittenton Cupboard—ensure our girls can fully participate in school and their community, and get down to the business of growing into the self-assured young women they’re meant to be.”

— Natali Fani-Gonzalez,
Crittenton Board of
Directors, and chair,
Cupboard Campaign



This year's Crittenton Cupboard Campaign has an ambitious goal of \$10,000 and will take place in June. We'd love your help. If you'd like to participate as a committee member or supporter, please contact Siobhan Davenport at sdavenport@crittentonservices.org.

OUR 2022 GOALS:

80

generous supporters

\$125

donation per person
(the cost of a year's worth
of period products)

\$10,000

total to stock the virtual pantry

EVENTS

Crittenton's 133rd
Anniversary
Celebration

Every year, we come together to applaud the amazing girls of Crittenton Services of Greater Washington and honor distinguished community leaders at our annual Anniversary Celebration.

The theme for our 2021 event was “Moments that Matter,” a tribute to those pivotal moments, large and small, that change people’s lives. We honored five incredible women for their leadership in the region, and also celebrated the remarkable results our organization achieved during these challenging times: Our 2021 high school graduation rate was 100%; 99% of Crittenton girls

advanced to the next grade, and 83% are attending college or enrolled in workforce development programs.

At Crittenton, we believe in empowering the leadership of young women. Several program participants, including Jasmin Baker, Ahmiya Brooks, Jazmine Jones, Yanica Mejias, and Mariam Trahoret, helped facilitate this year’s Celebration, an incredible opportunity to exercise their voices as future leaders and interact with our accomplished honorees. We salute their accomplishments along with those all of our extraordinary girls.

2021 HONOREES



Carisa Stanley Beatty

Beatty is First Vice President with Amalgamated Bank. Previously, she served as Director of Single Family Programs for the DC Housing Finance Agency. In addition to being a leader in her field, Beatty has worked to provide affordable mortgages and prevent foreclosures in our community.



Sindy Marisol Benavides

Benavides is the first Latina CEO of the League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC), the oldest and largest grass-roots national Latino civil rights organization in the country. An immigrant herself, she is a fierce advocate for the rights of the diverse and vibrant Latino community in the United States.



Kate Goodall

Goodall is the Co-Founder and CEO of Halcyon, a non-profit dedicated to solving 21st century problems by providing space, community and access to the best impact ventures from around the world, including startups founded by Black and Brown women.



Jessica Rosenworcel

Rosenworcel was designated by President Biden to be the first female Chair of the Federal Communications Commission. At the FCC, Rosenworcel works to promote greater opportunity, accessibility, and affordability in our communications services in order to ensure that all Americans get a fair shot at 21st century success.



Karima Woods

As Commissioner of the District of Columbia Department of Insurance, Securities and Banking (DISB), Woods is responsible for cultivating a regulatory environment that protects consumers and attracts and retains financial services firms to the District, helping residents on financial matters and providing financing for small businesses.



“You can radically transform our world by using your voice for change.”

— Sindy Benavides, CEO, LULAC

EVENTS



Inter-generational conversations can be a powerful catalyst for positive change. Our annual High Tea brings Crittenton teens together with community leaders from the corporate, government, higher education, nonprofit, and social advocacy sectors. This year we gathered online to hear our teens’ views on issues impacting their lives. And we honored former First Lady of Montgomery County Catherine Leggett, a strong supporter of Crittenton who has used her voice to support women and girls throughout her career as a lawyer and corporate executive.

▼ High Tea honoree, former First Lady of Montgomery County Catherine Leggett



132

High Tea participants



CRITTENTON

LEADERSHIP SUMMIT 2021

At Crittenton, we are nurturing emerging leaders. The cornerstone experience of our leader training programming is our annual Leadership Summit, where we help our girls develop leadership, advocacy, and communication skills. The 2021 Summit centered on the theme “My Voice Matters.” Due to the ongoing pandemic the girls met virtually to learn how to use their voices and advocate for themselves personally, academically, and politically.

97

Leadership Summit students

SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

Many of our girls start at Crittenton thinking that college is not for them. We help them understand their true potential and realize their ambitions.

But despite their abilities and strengths, our girls too often can't make the financial part of the equation happen. Now, thanks to generous donations from Stephanie Saturni of the V&S Foundation and Peter Kovar and Paula Kowalczyk, Crittenton girls are realizing their dreams and going to college.

"The V&S Foundation believes strongly in the work Crittenton does," said Saturni, "and has seen firsthand how their success translates into incredible young women, leading lives filled with options,

goals, and opportunities that become high-level achievements."

Peter Kovar and Paula Kowalczyk also praised Crittenton's work. "Our hope is that this scholarship will help enable recipients to not only finish school, but to lay the groundwork for their future achievements," they said.

We are immensely grateful for these contributions and salute the incredible teens who earned this year's scholarships:

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

V&S Foundation Scholarship Winners

Kamoni Lofton, Dunbar High School
Sidney Higginbotham, Dunbar High School
Lanice Hampton, Dunbar High School
Synia Robinson, Ballou High School
Sonaji Simms, Ballou High School

MONTGOMERY COUNTY

V&S Foundation and McBride/Kovar Scholarship Winners

Tayietu Gebretsadic, Gaithersburg High School
Marina Matey, Gaithersburg High School
Alejandra Aragon, Gaithersburg High School
Leinayah Jex, Gaithersburg High School
Jocelyn Diaz Ochoa, Gaithersburg High School
Erica Herndon, Gaithersburg High School
Malaika Ortiz, Gaithersburg High School
Donavia Ramsay, Gaithersburg High School



"With just a little aid, I'm confident that I can make a meaningful difference."

— Tayietu



"This scholarship is meaningful to me because it will help me to accomplish my dreams of being a hairstylist and business owner."

— Sonjai

IN THEIR OWN WORDS

"IT WILL HELP ME IMMENSELY WITH MY EDUCATION SINCE MY FAMILY CAN'T AFFORD IT."

— Amina



"A scholarship can help change my life for the better and do things I only have dreamed of doing and becoming."

—Synia



CRITTENTON IN THE NEWS

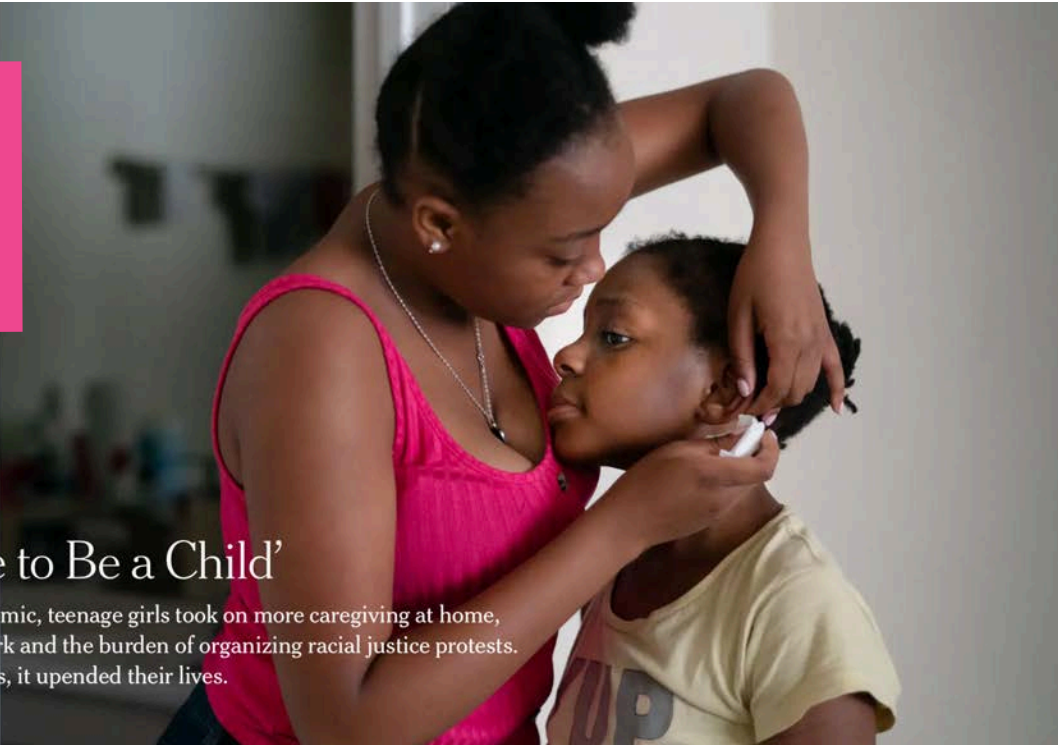
Since Crittenton was established 133 years ago, the scope of our work has evolved tremendously. What we do is more important than ever as the pandemic has so deeply laid bare the importance of social-emotional learning skills and the mental health and well-being of our youth. Here's some of the news coverage we received in 2021, which illustrates so well why we do what we do every day.

‘NO TIME TO
BE A CHILD’

IN HER WORDS

‘No Time to Be a Child’

During the pandemic, teenage girls took on more caregiving at home, extra shifts at work and the burden of organizing racial justice protests. In many instances, it upended their lives.



The New York Times

The New York Times wrote about and photographed Crittenton girls in a high-profile feature reporting on how, during the pandemic, teenage girls took on more caregiving at home, extra shifts at work, and the burden of organizing racial justice protests.

BlackParenting

“When you make space for teens to self-advocate for their personal needs,” wrote Siobhan Davenport in an essay for *Successful Black Parenting Magazine*, “you create an environment where they feel safe and confident enough to use their voices and articulate their desires.”

HOW TO PRIORITIZE
YOUR TEEN’S
MENTAL HEALTH
AND WELLBEING.

TEENS ARE
EXPERTS OF
THEIR OWN
LIVES: A
PODCAST

FIGHTING
FOR AT-
RISK GIRLS
DURING A
PERILOUS
PANDEMIC

FOX 5 WASHINGTON DC

Siobhan Davenport, President & CEO of Crittenton Services of Greater Washington, appeared on Fox 5 to share smart strategies for dealing with teens’ back-to-school stress.

HOW TO DEAL
WITH BACK-
TO-SCHOOL
STRESS



Crittenton President & CEO, Siobhan Davenport, appeared on the podcast to share her insights into empowering teen girls: “Let teens lead. As adults... we forget that teens are the experts in their own lives. They come with so much experience and they know what they need, and we can be a support to them and get the services that they need.”

bizwomen THE BUSINESS JOURNALS

Bizwomen heard from Siobhan Davenport, who talked about how “women, in particular women of color, ... have been disproportionately impacted by the pandemic emotionally, financially, and professionally”—and what recovery really means to them.

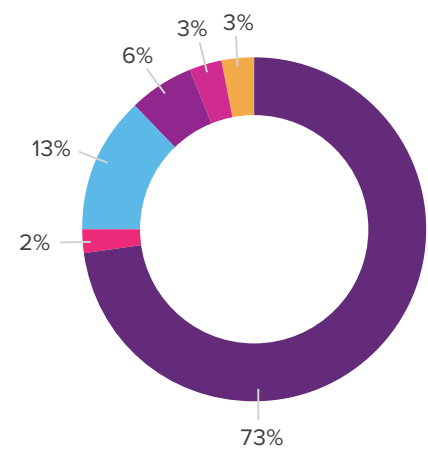


In a blog post for the *National Committee for Responsive Philanthropy*, Siobhan Davenport wrote about “How Philanthropy Can Recover Right From Covid-19.”

HOW PHILANTHROPY
CAN RECOVER RIGHT
FROM COVID-19

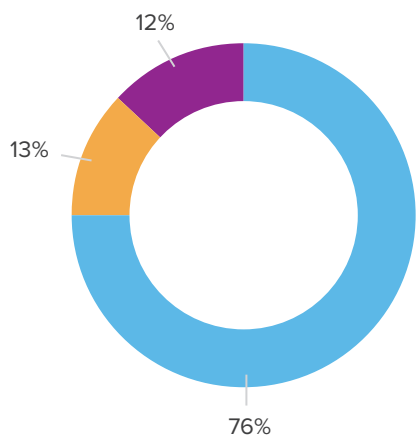
FINANCIALS

Statement of Activities for FY2021 (July 1, 2020–June 30, 2021)



REVENUE

Local Government Grants & Contracts	\$1,389,249.14
Foundation Grants	\$62,500.00
Bequests	\$50,557.00
Individual Contributions	\$116,603.49
Corporate Contributions	\$238,036.58
Other Revenue	\$38,220.44
TOTAL	\$1,895,166.65



EXPENSES

Support of Youth and Families	\$1,422,915.44
Management and General	\$235,232.62
Fundraising	\$217,225.52
TOTAL	\$1,895,166.65



VISION

To ensure every teen girl—her race, ethnicity, and family income notwithstanding—has the support, knowledge, and skills needed to thrive.

MISSION

Crittenton Services of Greater Washington empowers the most vulnerable teen girls to overcome obstacles, make positive choices, and achieve their goals through programs in schools in Washington, DC and Montgomery County, MD.



CRITTENTON SERVICES OF GREATER WASHINGTON
815 Silver Spring Ave, Silver Spring, MD 20910 · 301.565.9333

crittenton
crittentonservices.org