Creating a Brighter Future

Our goal is to promote great opportunities for children in need. With access to the right resources, children become empowered by their own abilities and gain the confidence to fulfill their potential.

Big Hugs for Little Hearts is dedicated to promoting empowerment and encouraging the hearts of children affected by trauma through prevention and recovery. Big Hugs for Little Hearts provides all children that have been abused, abandoned, or neglected from birth to age eighteen in the United States with essential items they need to thrive and become positive contributing members of society.



In **2018-2019** there were **1,105,945** cases of maltreatment towards children under the age of 18 in South Carolina.



In **2018 – 2019** there were **79,933** cases of maltreatment towards children in Charleston County alone.



In **2018-2019** there were **54,405** reports of possible abuse or neglect in South Carolina.

Big Hugs for Little Hearts is a registered 501(c) 3 organization. Founded in 2019 with our main office located in Charleston, South Carolina. As we continue to grow we are always looking for volunteers and supporters across the United States.

For more information on how you can help abused abandoned and neglected children within your community please contact us today.

"Together we have the opportunity to contribute to all of our children's future."

PLACE STAMP HFRF

Big Hugs for Little Hearts

2888 Salamander Creek Lane North Charleston, SC 29406-8060

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Healthy Families Mean Healthy Children

According to the National Center for Injury Prevention and Control or the CDC, "Healthy families mean healthy children, which in turn creates thriving communities, a robust economy, and a strong nation. One way to ensure this outcome is by investing in a child abuse prevention program.

We know that investments in prevention and family support programs like *Big Hugs for Little Hearts* promote healthy child development and lower the number of children affected by abuse and neglect, and the financial cost to our nation in turn."

Child abuse affects more than just children and their families, it affects an entire community.

A report released by the CDC in 2018 estimates the total lifetime costs associated with just one year of confirmed cases of child maltreatment (physical abuse, sexual abuse, psychological abuse, and neglect) are approximately \$428 billion.

"The average lifetime cost per victim of <u>nonfatal</u> <u>child maltreatment</u> includes childhood healthcare costs, adult medical costs, loss of productivity, child welfare costs, criminal justice costs, and special education costs."

"The estimated average lifetime cost per victim of <u>fatal child maltreatment</u> includes medical costs and loss of productivity costs."

Without investing in primary prevention and programs that promote healthy child development, this number will only continue to rise as time goes on.

This is why our prevention initiate is so important.

What We Do

Big Hugs for Little Hearts knows that our strength lies not only in the words we stand by but most importantly through the actions of our initiatives. In 2019, our non-profit realized that by working together we could overcome our challenges much more efficiently, and that is why we ultimately decided to launch Big Hugs for Little Hearts.

We believe that all children have an inherent value and deserve to be nurtured, loved, and protected. They are entitled to have caring adults who help them develop to their full potential. *Big Hugs for Little Hearts* was created to raise the standard of care and increase access to services and resources for children and their families who experience abandonment, abuse, and/or neglect. Our network of volunteers and national partners is committed to changing the course of our children's lives by improving their standard of care.

To accomplish the BHLH mission, grantees and affiliates work to:

- ⇒ Providing children with their basic necessities at no cost to themselves.
- ⇒ We can provide monetary support for the medical and educational needs of each child.
- ⇒ We improve the awareness of the issues or children face every day and share that information with our communities.
- ⇒ We continue to develop new resources and materials for parents, caregivers, educators, and the community.
- ⇒ We offer educational seminars and training programs on the topics surrounding children affected by abuse, abandonment, and neglect.
- ⇒ Together we have the opportunity to contribute to all of our children's future.
- ⇒ By providing our children with the basic necessities of life we give them an opportunity to heal, find hope, health, and healing in a safe and welcoming environment.

Who We Are

Big Hugs for Little Hearts is a charitable, taxexempt, 501(c) (3) organization, dedicated to promoting empowerment and encouraging the heart of children affected by trauma through prevention and recovery.

Big Hugs for Little Hearts provides all children that have been abused, abandoned, or neglected from birth to age eighteen in the United States with essential items they need to thrive and become positive contributing members of society.

These resources include but are not limited to access to legal resources and representation, monetary support towards doctor visits, access to educational resources, and necessities that give the child time to focus on healing and recovery.

The organization is a grassroots organization that relies strongly on volunteer efforts and foundation support from our sponsors. With your help, we hope to ease the struggles of surviving child trauma and show each child their abilities can take them far beyond their current situation and change the world.



Contact Us

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Visit us on the web: www.bighugsforlittlehearts.org