

“Our purpose remains the same through these many years – to fill the needs of children, which explains the varying activities to help the ‘whole child.’ I am happy to note that this cause has been maintained through the zeal and interest of the members, for personal contact and personal service awake true charity.”

Mary Virginia Merrick  
(1866-1955)  
Founder, Servant of God



Mary Virginia Merrick’s Cause for Canonization as a saint in the Catholic Church is in process.

Learn more about her at:

[www.maryvirginiamerrick.org](http://www.maryvirginiamerrick.org)

and visit Facebook at **Mary Virginia Merrick**.

## OUR CHAPTERS

### Arizona

Phoenix  
Tucson

### California

Monterey Bay  
Pasadena  
San Diego  
San Jose

### Colorado

Denver

### District of Columbia

Washington, DC

### Florida

Boca Raton  
Naples  
Palm Beach  
Sarasota  
Stuart

### Georgia

Atlanta

### Hawaii

Oahu\*

### Illinois

Central Illinois  
(Peoria)  
Quad Cities  
(Moline, Rock Island)

### Indiana

Fort Wayne  
South Bend

### Iowa

Quad Cities  
(Bettendorf, Davenport)

### Maryland

Annapolis  
Baltimore

### Massachusetts

Boston  
Western Massachusetts

### Michigan

Detroit  
Northern Michigan

### Minnesota

Duluth

### Nebraska

Omaha

### New Jersey

Cape May County  
Summit

### New York

Albany  
Greater Binghamton  
Utica

### Ohio

Akron  
Cleveland  
Columbus  
Dayton  
Geauga County  
Toledo  
Western Reserve

### Pennsylvania

Pittsburgh

### Texas

Dallas-Fort Worth  
El Paso  
Texas Capital Area

### Wisconsin

Door County  
Milwaukee  
Oshkosh

\*Denotes chapter in formation

“Find a need and fill it.”

Mary Virginia Merrick,  
Founder



**NATIONAL CHRIST CHILD SOCIETY**  
WHERE LOVE LEADS TO ACTION

### National Christ Child Society

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# WHO WE ARE

The needs of children are great and many face significant threats to their well being. According to the National Center for Child Poverty, about 15 million children in the United States – 21% of all children – live in families with incomes below the federal poverty threshold. Poverty can create circumstances that impede children’s ability to learn and can contribute to social, emotional, behavioral problems and overall poor health. **Christ Child Society members focus on improving the lives of the most vulnerable in their communities.**



Since 1887, our volunteers have been driven by faith, love and a desire to make a difference. Guided by National’s Challenging Poverty Initiative, we create localized programs, often partnering with other organizations serving those who lack resources. Today, over 5,500 members from 45 chapters across 22 states volunteer nearly 400,000 hours and serve more than 75,000 children and their families annually. We are moved to action by the mission of our founder, Mary Virginia Merrick, who said: **“Nothing is ever too much to do for a child.”** We are privileged to provide accompaniment in the midst of isolation and hope in the midst of uncertainty. As volunteers, we are humbled by the children we serve who teach us important life lessons.

Get to know more about our history, our mission and our impact at [www.nationalchristchild.org](http://www.nationalchristchild.org)

# WHAT WE DO

Every member of a Christ Child Chapter is also a member of the National Christ Child Society. Chapters receive support from a professional National staff and vibrant volunteer board leadership, drawn from chapters across the country. The National organization extends the Society’s message and mission and helps chapters build their leadership and expand their local impact.

The service programs of each chapter are tailored to the needs of their community. The local organizations lead the way, and their members define the manner in which the following goals are accomplished:

## Providing Basic Resources

Each chapter participates in our layette program, the unifying signature program in honor of our founder, which provides a bundle of essentials for newborns. Christ Child Chapters donate approximately 25,000 layettes nationwide per year. Many chapters provide other resources such as coats, warm clothing, shoes and school uniforms to children in their communities. Chapters provide backpacks filled with school supplies, weekend meals or personal supplies for children suddenly living in foster care or a shelter.

## Enriching Education

Many of our chapters partner with teachers in local schools, pre-schools and childcare centers to provide the special ongoing personal attention needed by children to engender self esteem and a love of learning. We provide tutoring, books and volunteer support to our partners. We provide special opportunities for field trips, art and music enrichment. Chapters distribute an estimated 47,000 books each year. Many chapters provide financial opportunities for students to further their education.

## Empowering Children and Families

We help children and families to overcome adversity, increase resilience and become self sufficient. Our programs help to decrease isolation, build a sense of community and provide opportunities to learn about child care, decision making and ways to decrease violence in families.

The diversity of our chapter programs offers a wide range of volunteer opportunities.

# HOW TO HELP

Please send me information on:

- The Christ Child Society chapter in my area
- How to form a Christ Child Society chapter in my area

Your mission is important to me:

- Enclosed is my check in the amount of: \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
*(Payable to the National Christ Child Society, Inc.)*
- To make a donation by credit card, please visit **[www.nationalchristchild.org](http://www.nationalchristchild.org)**
- Please send information on how to help secure the future of NCCS through a bequest

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

Please return your gift and this form to:

National Christ Child Society, Inc.  
6110 Executive Blvd, Suite 504  
Rockville, MD 20852



The National Christ Child Society is a nonprofit organization under IRS section 501(c)(3); EIN# 52-1221811.

Donations are tax-deductible to the full extent provided by the law.