

# FROM CLIENT TO CAREGIVER: A FULL-CIRCLE JOURNEY AT CHSOFNJ

Seventeen years ago, a young mother walked through the doors of The Children's Home Society of New Jersey (CHSofNJ) looking for support for her one-year-old son, who wasn't yet speaking. What she found was not just therapy, but a community that empowered her and planted the seeds for a future she never imagined.



"I was first introduced to CHSofNJ when someone recommended therapy for my son," she recalls. "From that moment, everything changed." Her journey continued when she enrolled in CHSofNJ's CUNA program—a milestone she now describes as life-changing.

**“MY EXPERIENCE WAS FABULOUS...THAT’S WHEN I FELL IN LOVE WITH THE PROGRAM AND THE ORGANIZATION. CHSOFNJ EMPOWERED ME AND PUSHED ME TO DO BETTER THINGS IN LIFE. BEING PART OF CUNA, MAYA, AND OTHER ACTIVITIES ALWAYS MOTIVATED ME. I HOPED THAT ONE DAY I COULD WORK HERE AND HELP OTHERS THE WAY I WAS HELPED.”**



That dream became a reality. Inspired by the support she received, and driven by a passion to give back to the Trenton community, she completed doula training in 2021 and joined CHSofNJ as a staff member in 2023.

"Being able to connect with moms and feel like I can help them with something makes me very happy," she says. "Knowing I can be there for someone, just like CHSofNJ was there for me—with resources, support, and words of encouragement—means everything."

Her story is a powerful reminder that at CHSofNJ, support doesn't just change lives—it inspires futures. From a young mom seeking help to a compassionate caregiver offering it, she is living proof of the full-circle impact of community care.