



HOMELESS
CHILDREN'S
EDUCATION
FUND

2005 Annual Report

Hope Through Learning

Because of your help,
she will grow in a
positive environment.

4'3"



Mission Statement

Ensuring that homeless children have equal access to the same educational opportunities as their peers.

Just like so many kids, she gets excited every time another notch is added to the wall, showing the tiniest bit of growth, yet she is so different from other kids. She is one of more than 3,000 children who find themselves homeless each year in Allegheny County.

The Homeless Children's Education Fund (HCEF) is the premier agency solely dedicated to helping these children succeed in school during this most difficult time in their young lives. The programs and services we deliver are designed to address the critical educational needs of children living in shelters, providing them with quiet study areas, computers and related technology, after-school tutors, and learning materials. In so doing we offer children what is perhaps the greatest gift of all: *hope through learning*.

Founded in 1999 as a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization, HCEF actively partners with a wide variety of organizations to help homeless children succeed academically as they cope each day with a situation most people can't even imagine. HCEF programs and services benefit these children when their need is greatest.

An Immediate Solution — A Promise for a Better Future

Children's homelessness is generally temporary, but attendance at school during such periods is too often interrupted or erratic.

Children out of school or moved from school to school can quickly fall behind their classmates and catching up is a formidable task. Even when they attend with some regularity, they typically don't have after-school access to the technologies that are standard tools in today's classroom and that may be essential for completing homework. And parents struggling with the day-to-day realities of living often have neither the time nor the energy to help their children with homework assignments.

HCEF's "Menu of Opportunities" encompasses key ingredients in bridging the gap between homeless children and their peers.

HCEF "Menu of Opportunities" for 2006

- Educational readiness seminars on teaching children to deal with the stress and emotions associated with being homeless
- Health-related awareness issues seminars:
 - Disability awareness
 - Conflict resolution
 - Stress and anger management
 - Bullying
- Art education seminars on the use of art education with children in shelters
- Assistance developing relationships with neighborhood libraries and connecting to a digital library for student research
- Educational field trip allowances of up to \$150
- Technical support for the maintenance of computers donated by HCEF for Learning Centers
- Educational mentoring provides training and support to adult role models serving youths in shelters

Our core program among the menu of educational opportunities we provide is the Learning Centers initiative, a partnership involving Pittsburgh's largest universities, members of our corporate community, local foundations, shelters for homeless families with children, and many of the public school districts in Allegheny County. With the opening of a ninth Learning Center in 2006, HCEF will have established centers in half of the county's shelters for families.

Homeless Shelters and Learning Centers

The Learning Centers provide children who are homeless with access to new computers and printers, scanners, high-speed Internet connectivity, and educational software as well as reading and reference books, art supplies, music, educational games, and puzzles. Most importantly, they serve as physical sites for tutoring and mentoring programs after school, on weekends, and throughout the summer. One learning center, Three Rivers Youth – The Hub, caters to the needs of older students: readying them for entry into the workforce, assisting them in preparing for the GED exam, providing instruction in the writing of resumes, and more.

Tutors and technical support specialists visit shelters on an as-needed basis to guide and mentor the children, facilitate educational objectives, and ensure that the centers function effectively. The tutors are trained through a program developed with the University of Pittsburgh Child Development Center and include students from the University of Pittsburgh, Duquesne University, and Carnegie Mellon University. In addition, students attending the McKeesport Campus of Penn State University and pre-service teachers enrolled at Point Park University regularly visit a number of the shelters to read to the younger children.

There is, of course, a cost. A Learning Center with three computers and appropriate peripheral equipment costs approximately \$25,000 to develop and staff. The annual cost to HCEF of ongoing coordination and support for the HCEF Learning Centers is projected at \$115,000.

Our goal for 2006 is to help each of the Learning Centers move toward a stronger position of self-sustainability. With that accomplished, HCEF can enhance existing programs, initiate new ones, and expand into other shelters requesting our assistance. Ultimately, we aim to have sufficient funding to provide more educational programs and services to more children.

A student's artwork from the Art Education Program at Crisis Center North

Children Are the Future

Each one of us has a stake in the education of our children. The impact of failure in school is immediate for the student, the school district, and our communities. In the longer term, the result is young adults entering the workforce with deficiencies in reading, writing, and mathematics, a few of the necessary technological skills, and thus limited opportunities. For children at risk, as many children who experience homelessness surely are, HCEF programs can make the difference.

2005 Corporate and Group Support

Allegheny General Hospital	Jenkins-Empire Associates
Alpha Delta Kappa Sorority	John A. Caputo & Associates
Beckwith Machinery Company	Kappa Delta Pi, Omicron Chapter
Building Owners & Managers Association	Krome Communications
Cards by Anne/Anne Kernion	Lincoln Investments
Carnegie Learning	Massaro Company
Citizens Financial Group	McKamish, Inc.
Comcast Corporation	Mellon Financial Corporation
Creative Asset Services	National City Corporation
Delta Kappa Gamma	National Council of Jewish Women
Diocese of Pittsburgh Schools	Neighbors in the Strip
Dollar Bank	Network for Good
Duquesne Light	Our Lady of Grace School
Gateway Financial	Oxford Development Company
GlaxoSmithKline Consumer Health Care	Pitt Ohio Express, L.L.C.
The Fragasso Group	Pittsburgh Human Resources Association
The Hillman Company	Pittsburgh Technical Institute
Historical Society of Western Pennsylvania	Strategic Energy, L.L.C.
Hunter Association	Sunrise School
	Univenture Media Packaging
	Venture Club of North Pittsburgh

2005 Foundation and Grant Support

Allegheny County Department of Health and Human Services	Highmark Blue Cross/Blue Shield
Buncher Family Foundation	James Mathews Educational & Charitable Trust
Diocese of Pittsburgh	John R. & Margaret McCartan Fund
Equitable Resources Foundation, Inc.	Mary Rita King Trust
Fair Oaks Foundation	Pennsylvania Department of Community & Economic Development
Forst Foundation	The Pittsburgh Foundation
Funds for Charity	United Way of Allegheny County
The Grable Foundation	The York Group

Financial Statements

Statement of Financial Position

As of December 31, 2005

Assets	
Current Assets	
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$341,528
Investments	229,402
Accounts Receivable	102,598
Total Current Assets	673,528
Security Deposit	998
Property and Equipment	23,109
Less: Accumulated Depreciation	(16,272)
Net Property and Equipment	6,837
Total Assets	<u>\$681,363</u>

Liabilities and Net Assets	
Current Liabilities	
Accounts Payable	\$28,998
Deferred Revenue	67,248
Accrued Liabilities	1,211
Total Current Liabilities	97,457
Net Assets	
Unrestricted	
Undesignated	
Operating	98,882
Fixed Assets	6,837
Designated	320,242
Temporarily Restricted	<u>157,945</u>
Total Net Assets	<u>583,906</u>

Total Liabilities and Net Assets \$681,363

Statement of Activities

Year Ended December 31, 2005

Change in Net Assets	
Revenues	
Contributions	\$50,463
Grants from Corporations and Foundations	108,845
Special Events – Tickets and Sponsorships	65,784
Interest Income	7,209
Unrealized Gains	5,721
Other	<u>10,500</u>
Total Revenues and Gains	248,522

Expenses	
Programs	181,233
Fundraising	39,889
Administration	<u>26,323</u>
Total Expenses	<u>247,445</u>
Change in Net Assets	1,077
Net Assets – January 1, 2005	<u>582,829</u>
Net Assets – December 31, 2005	<u>\$583,906</u>

This financial statement is based on an independent audit performed by the certified public accounting firm of Schneider Downs. Contact 412-562-0154 to obtain a free copy of the 2005 auditor's report. HCEF is a registered 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization. Donations can be made online at www.homelessfund.org and through United Way Contributor's Choice #963315. The official registration and financial information of the Homeless Children's Education Fund may be obtained from the PA Department of State by calling toll free within Pennsylvania at 1-800-732-0999. Registration does not imply endorsement.

HCEF Leadership

HCEF does its work with a full-time staff of two and many volunteers. Jennifer Banks-Vickers is the Office and Events Manager and Robert Jon Hairston, Jr., is the Program Manager. The annual operating budget of \$129,000 is supported by corporate sponsorships and foundation grants.

The founder of the Homeless Children's Education Fund is Dr. Joseph F. Lagana, a lifelong educator who has been a classroom teacher, school superintendent, and executive director of the Allegheny Intermediate Unit, one of the largest regional educational agencies of its kind. Joe is the recipient of a 2005 Jefferson Award for his volunteer contributions through community service. William Wolfe, a Vice President in the Pittsburgh office of Marsh USA, is Chairman of the Board of Trustees.

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To learn more about the Homeless Children's Education Fund, visit the website at www.homelessfund.org or call 412-562-0154. To make an online donation, go to www.homelessfund.org/support/support.html

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