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2014 ANNUAL REPORT

**HOMELESS** 

CHILDREN'S

**EDUCATION** 

**FUND** 

creating hope through learning

#### **OUR MISSION**

To advance the education of children and youth experiencing homelessness in Allegheny County by:

- Providing educational programs and services
- Serving as a trusted advocate
- Sharing expertise
- Facilitating collaborative relationships that maximize the collective impact among community partners

In 2014, HCEF's Hope Through Learning Award was influenced by Tiann and Tierra. who experienced homelessness with their family five times during public school. Tiann and Tierra persevered and graduated from Sto-Rox with honors. Through HCEF's leadership and the generosity of Pittsburgh Techincal Institute's (PTI) late founder Jack McCartan, both sisters received scholarships to and ultimately graduated from PTI. Tiann and Tierra have broken the "chains of poverty" and are now fully employed and self-sustaining. Their inspiring story of success is the model for HCEF's award and encourages students with similar stories of homelessness to further their education and find "hope through learning."

- Joe Lagana, Founder



#### HOMELESS CHILDREN'S EDUCATION FUND (HCEF)

Creating hope through learning for children experiencing homelessness since 1999...

#### **GUIDING PRINCIPLES:**

- Children and youth experiencing homelessness deserve equal access and full participation in the same educational and enrichment opportunities enjoyed by their stably-housed peers.
- Young people can overcome the barriers of homelessness with the support of individuals and organizations that are steadfastly committed to nurturing their resilience and realizing their gifts.
- Collaboration is essential to confront homelessness and ensure that the myriad needs of children and youth without homes are respectfully and effectively met.

#### WHAT WE DO:



Learning Centers are spaces in homeless housing agencies built just for kids. They're equipped with technology and resources to support educational success. HCEF's Building Blocks for Success afterschool and summer programming often takes place in these learning centers, as well as Enrichment Programming like experiments with Lab Ratz Science Club or art therapy with Art Expression.

Mini-Grants are available to HCEF's partnering agencies to fund additional educational projects and materials. Field Trips give children and their parents learning opportunities such as a visit to the Pittsburgh Zoo or Children's Museum.





Gear for Grades is a partnership with Citizens Bank that annually supplies thousands of backpacks filled with school supplies to children and youth in need. And HCEF's newest program, the Hope Through Learning Award is offered to youth 24 and younger who have persevered through homelessness and want to pursue post-secondary education.

# **2014 OUTCOMES**

## 9,881 Volunteer Hours

HCEF volunteers serving in direct service, special events, and office assistance logged a total of 9.881 hours in 2014.

## \$10,000 in Field Trip Grants

Over \$10,000 in Summer and Winter Field Trip Grants allowed an estimated 470 children and 165 parents to go on a total of 60 field trips.

# \$22,000 in Mini-Grants

HCEF awarded \$22,000 in Mini-Grants to fund enrichment projects and learning resources, impacting 450 children and 150 parents.

# \$5,500 in Higher Education Awards

A total of \$5,500 was awarded to three young people through the HCEF Hope Through Learning Award.

## 2,400 Backpacks

HCEF delivered over 2,400 backpacks filled with school supplies to over 40 homeless housing providers, schools, and organizations.

### 525 Children

HCEF engaged 525 children in hands-on, creative enrichment programs including science, music, storytelling, and visual arts.

## 89% Learning Goals Met

Over 100 children in grades K-8 participated in HCEF afterschool and summer programming. During the 2013-14 school year, students met their individual learning goals 89% of the time.



On behalf of the HCEF Board of Trustees, staff, and most importantly the children we serve, I would like to thank you for supporting HCEF in 2014. HCEF received strong support from the local foundations, corporations, community groups, and individuals that enabled us to both enhance and expand our out-of-school time educational programming to children experiencing homelessness.

We are extremely grateful for this support and work very hard to make sure we utilize the funding in an effective manner. I am pleased to report that, based on our recentity completed 2014 audit, 85.5% of every dollar spent by HCEF in 2014 went to our programs. We will continue to increase the outcomes from our educational programs in 2015. We are working with a team from Carnegie Mellon University to implement an electronic system which will help us improve measurements of the number of children we serve and better understand the impact our work has on the educational outcomes of these children.

- Bill Wolfe, Executive Director

"As a result of being part of the HCEF out-of-school time educational programming my daughter has improved. She does things in a timely-manner now. Its easier for her to complete guiet tasks on time."

– Parent

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# **HCEF OUTREACH PROGRAM**

- The 4th annual Homeless Children's Awareness Week took place October 19 26, 2014 and was proclaimed by the City, County, and State.
- The Conscious Caring Curriculum was presented at 12 schools and organizations, reaching over 600 children, and was featured in the fall edition of *Uncensored*, a publication by the Institute for Children, Poverty, and Homelessness.
- The HCEF Cabinet of Congregations reached over 76 congregations through various outreach events in 2014.
- HCEF outreach efforts were supported by students at Duquesne University, the University of Pittsburgh (PEACHS), Point Park University, and Robert Morris University.

# SUMMIT V: STUCK IN SURVIVAL

Pittsburgh Mayor William Peduto and Allegheny County Executive Rich Fitzgerald both attended the Summit, entitled "Stuck In Survival: Building Support for Couch-Surfers, Travelers, and Other Homeless Youth." Both leaders pledged their administration's support in implementing sustainable solutions to end homelessness among local teens and young adults.

"This now has become a <u>priority</u>.

What we need now is a game plan."

- Mayor Bill Peduto

#### **Highlights of Summit V included:**

- Kathy McCauley, author of the Allegheny County Department of Human Services' report on homeless youth in the Greater Pittsburgh area, noted that roughly 240 young people ages 18-24 are living homeless in our county (does not include those living in "doubled-up" situations).
   Ms. McCauley presented recommendations for improving service delivery to these youth.
- National perspectives from Dr. Wayne
  Centrone (physician and founder of Health
  Bridges International) and Michigan educator
  Beth McCullough, who created the Roadmap
  to Graduation program.
- A "youth voices" panel in which Pittsburgh-area young people shared their struggles with homelessness and suggestions for service improvement. Dr. Jenny Amani and Ciarra Karnes also spoke about their homeless experiences and how they were able to overcome the circumstances and reach their goals.

"I don't have a <u>hero</u> story."

I have a <u>human</u> story."

- Dr. Jenny Amani







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#### WHERE WE SERVE **Statement of Financial Position** As of December 31, 2014 HCEF has educational partnerships with the following homeless housing and service providers in Allegheny County: Assets **ACTION-Housing** Cash & Cash Equivalents \$1,101,568 Alle-Kiski Area HOPE Center ni-Grant funded activ **Prepaid Expenses** \$5,407 Allegheny Valley Association of Churches Auberle Total Current Assets \$1.106.975 Bridge to Independence **Center for Victims Community Human Services** Investments \$1,151,678 Crisis Center North **Property & Equipment** \$19.881 East End Cooperative Ministry **Less: Accumulated Depreciation** (\$19,881) Familylinks Family Promise of Southwestern Pennsylvania Gaudenzia Erie House of Crossroads **Total Assets** \$2,258,653 Gay & Lesbian Community Center Goodwill of Southwestern Pennsylvania **HEARTH** Liabilities Light of Life Rescue Mission Naomi's Place **Accounts Payable** \$10.866 Salvation Army **Deferred Revenue** \$39,981 Sisters Place **Accrued Liabilities** \$16,842 Soiourner House Sojourner House MOMS **Total Current Liabilities** \$67,689 Soiourner House MOMS East **Three Rivers Youth** Veterans Leadership Program Western Psychiatric Institute and Clinic **Net Assets Womanspace East** Women's Center & Shelter of Greater Pittsburgh Undesignated YWCA of Greater Pittsburgh \$860,603 Operating Designated \$830,419 **Temporarily Restricted** \$499,942 **Total Net Assets** \$2,190,964 **Total Liabilities** \$2,258,653 & Net Assets HOMELESS CHILDREN'S **EDUCATION**

## **Statement of Activities**

As of December 31, 2014

# **Change in Net Assets**

### Revenues

Contributions	\$599,577
Grants from Corporations & Foundations	\$143,998
Special Events—Tickets & Sponsorships	\$165,485
Interest Income	\$27,888
Realized/Unrealized Gains/Losses	(\$6,504)

## Total Revenues & Gains \$930,444

### **Expenses**

Programs	\$711,738
Fundraising	\$58,734
Administrative	\$46,045
Special Events	\$14,142

## Total Expenses \$830,659

Change in	Net Assets	\$99,785
Net Assets	(December 31, 2013)	\$2,091,179

# Net Assets \$2,190,964 (Dec. 31, 2014)

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 2014 auditor's report. HCEF is a registered 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization. Donations can be made online at www.homelessfund.org/donate 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.

To learn more about HCEF, visit www.homelessfund.org or call (412) 562-0154. To make an online donation, go to www.homelessfund.org/donate.

**FUND**