

HCEF Media Release



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Evan Frazier Honored as 2018 Champion for Children *Community Leaders Honored for Working to End Homelessness*

PITTSBURGH, PA. – On March 5th, the Homeless Children's Education Fund (HCEF) hosted its 19th Annual Champions for Children benefit dinner at the Rivers Club in Downtown Pittsburgh, honoring community leaders for their advocacy and service to children and youth experiencing homelessness throughout Allegheny County.

With over 200 attendees, the night was full of great networking, delicious food, and programming to raise awareness and crucial funding for HCEF's mission.

This year, Evan Frazier, Senior Vice President of Community Affairs at Highmark Health, received the distinguished Champions for Children award. This award is presented annually by HCEF to individuals who embody the mission and vision to create hope through learning for children experiencing homelessness in Allegheny County. Evan was honored for his extraordinary contributions to HCEF's work including longtime support for HCEF's Summit and advocacy events.

Nicole Anderson received the Linda A. Dickerson Award for providing opportunities for direct day-to-day support to children experiencing homelessness. Nicole is the Region 4 Coordinator with Pennsylvania's Education for Children and Youth Experiencing Homelessness program, and has 18 years of experience working in the field of homeless services. HCEF is proud to work alongside Nicole in the effort to improve the educational outcomes of children and youth experiencing homelessness in our region.

HCEF also recognized Dr. Wil Barber as the Dr. Joseph F. Lagana Volunteer of the Year. Wil is a retired educator, who spent 40 year in education as a teacher, coach, school principal, and central office administrator. He was recognized for outstanding contributions to HCEF including his advisory work framing charters and policies for several of HCEF's programs and initiatives, and working to develop the volunteer training for volunteer tutors in HCEF's new Teen Outreach Program.

"HCEF is inspired by the commitment of these awardees to make an impact in the lives of children experiencing homelessness," said HCEF Executive Director, Carlos T. Carter. "We could not do our work without their great efforts."

About HCEF

The mission of the Homeless Children's Education Fund (HCEF) is to advance the education of children and youth experiencing homelessness, guiding them to be productive, empowered citizens. As a national model for addressing the educational needs of unstably-housed children and youth, HCEF leads a collaborative effort among regional partners by providing educational programs and services in Allegheny County and advocating for policy and system improvement. For more information, visit www.homelessfund.org.

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