



HOMELESS
CHILDREN'S
EDUCATION
FUND

2018 ANNUAL REPORT

creating hope through learning



HOMELESS CHILDREN'S EDUCATION FUND

*creating hope
through learning*

OUR MISSION

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.

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

We believe that . . .

- All people have equal intrinsic worth and are deserving of respect.
- All young people have unique gifts and unlimited potential.
- Homelessness is a condition, not an identity.
- Education is a civil right.
- Education breaks the cycle of poverty and opens the door to opportunities.
- Quality education and opportunity breed success.
- Education empowers youth to lead fulfilling lives and positively contribute to society.
- Parents are critical partners in their children's education.
- Positive relationships build understanding and trust.
- Positive relationships foster hope and resiliency.
- Hope provides a bridge to the future.
- Every community is responsible for eliminating homelessness.

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING US IN 2018!

2018 was a significant year for the Homeless Children's Education Fund, as we continued to invest in our infrastructure to position ourselves to serve the growing number of children experiencing homelessness in the Pittsburgh area. Through our annual backpack distribution, we served more than 2,000 students, ensuring they had the critical tools needed to succeed in school. Through our enrichment and afterschool programs, we reached over 600 students, connecting them to STEAM (science, technology, engineering, arts, math) education to foster their critical thinking and problem solving skills—preparing them to be successful lifelong learners.

In addition, we continue to empower parents to take an active role in their children's educational success through our individualized parent engagement initiatives at our shelter partner sites. Because of this important work, we were recognized as the 2018 Ted Craig Humanitarian of the Year by Women's Center and Shelter of Greater Pittsburgh.

We continue to advocate for system change, partnering with local colleges and universities to support youth experiencing homelessness during their post-secondary education. HCEF helped convene and fund the second annual Pittsburgh Council of Higher Education (PCHE), Collegiate Basic Needs Dialogue to identify the needs and opportunities to serve homeless youth attending post-secondary education programs.

Although we are committed to helping our children and youth break the cycle of homelessness through education, it is equally important that they feel valued, loved, and supported. We strive to take care of the whole child and often provide opportunities for them to develop healthy self-esteem and reduce stress. This is especially vital given that at least 47% of young people experiencing homelessness experience depression and other mental health challenges. We continue to leverage our BigBurgh web app and our partners to connect students to services to support their mental health.

I am very proud of our board, volunteers, and team for all that we have accomplished. None of this is possible without your continued support. When I visit the shelters and see frowns turned into smiles and despair turned into hope, I know that this is only possible because we have faithful donors like you. When a 17 year old boy who was experiencing homelessness moved our staff to tears by expressing his gratitude for our support, I know the work we do at HCEF is making an impact. I hope we can count on you again this year to create hope through learning for our kids! Please visit our website or use the enclosed card to make a donation today. Thank you again for your support!



Photo Credit: Lindsay B. Garvin

Best,

Carlos T. Carter
Executive Director

Meet Aniyah



Like many of the children in our afterschool program, 5-year-old Aniyah came into our program shy and nervous to talk to the other children and staff. This is such a common problem due to the trauma that is paired with housing instability, making children wary to express themselves to others. As a result, our instructors and volunteers value social-emotional learning as an avenue to academic success. We partner with enrichment instructors to make learning fun and create a safe space where children can feel empowered and build positive relationships.

And that's exactly what happened with Aniyah. Due to her shyness, she was often reluctant to participate in activities such as reading and crafts, not thinking that she could do it. However, she began to develop a relationship with Miss Karin, our instructor. Miss Karin has a background in special education and takes time to build lasting relationships with her students. She would take turns reading with Aniyah, where one person would

read one page and one person read the other, encouraging Aniyah to make choices herself and share power. As a result, Aniyah's eyes started to light up more and more with each book they read together.

Over the year, Aniyah's confidence grew. In 2018, the Andy Warhol Museum came into our program with their "butterfly growth" project. They brought in paper butterfly wings for the children to color in, decorate, and wear. They were unsure how the activity would go, due to the wings being so large, taking a long time to color in. However, Aniyah loved the activity, working diligently at her wings the entire program. She even picked colors that matched her shoes! By the end of the activity, she confidently showed her work off to everyone in the shelter, proud of how beautiful her wings were. Just a year ago, she may have been too timid to attempt the activity at all, much less show off her wings to the children and staff.

This project is an example of how through the encouragement of program staff and volunteers, Aniyah found joy in learning through art. When the day came for her to leave the shelter, she took those lessons with her, just as we hope every child does when they leave our programs.

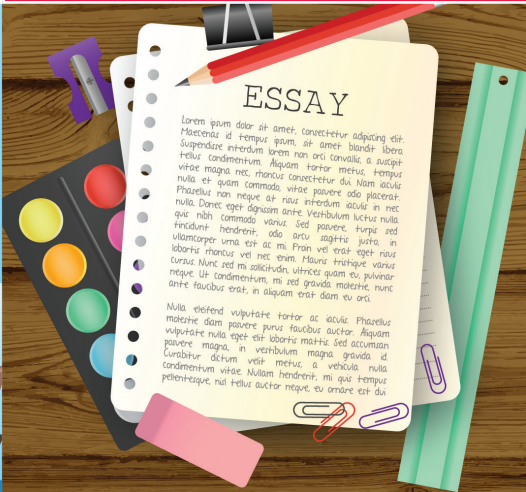
OVER 200 YOUTH

participated in our tutoring, enrichment, and college and career guidance through our Teen Outreach Program—doubling our reach from last year.



OUR FIRST EVER PERSEVERANCE AWARD!

We gifted a 2014 HTLA recipient \$500 to assist her in continuing her education in graduate school.



75 STUDENTS

in the summer program engaged in daily reading, and students at Sojourner MOMS participated in daily journal writing activities that encouraged development of social and emotional skills.



FIVE HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES

have received our \$5,000 Hope Through Learning Award—doubling the award amount from last year.





VOLUNTEER & DONOR HIGHLIGHT: MARTY FEDEROWICZ

Marty Federowicz, a resident of Glenshaw, PA, has been a committed donor and volunteer to HCEF for about 6 years. She became involved through the recommendation of a friend. When she heard about how many homeless children lived in Allegheny County (currently 4,100+), she was shocked and she wanted to do something about it. As a result, she volunteered at a number of fundraising events, particularly Champions for Children. She's coordinated initiatives to donate supplies to HCEF and our children, participated in awareness events, and she has recruited volunteers from her church.

"Kids without a stable home situation have a tough time in school – and a lack of success in school can lead to all kinds of issues. If we can enable kids to be successful in school, they can have a solid foundation for their future and a chance for a much better life," said Federowicz.

Marty encourages others to get involved in helping youth who are experiencing homelessness. She recommends contacting HCEF through the volunteer page on our website, and we can let you know how you can help. You can work directly with children, be a mentor, organize activities, or you can lend a hand at awareness and fundraising events.

600 children and teens participated in enrichment programs including science, visual arts, music, and storytelling workshops at 17 agencies.

165 children were empowered to reach their full potential in regular afterschool programming and summer camps at four agencies.

300 children and 100 parents benefited from HCEF-funded projects and field trips at 11 agencies through the Mini-Grant program.

2,200 backpacks filled with school supplies were delivered to children and youth at partnering housing agencies and community organizations.

4,977 hours of volunteer support in direct service, outreach, and office and event assistance powered HCEF's impact in 2018. 32 volunteer tutors and mentors joined the HCEF team to support the Teen Outreach Program.



THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

CORPORATE AND COMMUNITY PARTNERS*

BNY Mellon
BNY Mellon Community Partnership
Bakersfield
Big Lots
Bob's Discount Furniture
Calvary Episcopal Church
Centimark Corporation
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Citizens Bank Wealth Management
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Dickie, McCamey & Chilcote, P.C.
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Kamin Fund
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Kilvanick Family Fund
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Mildred B. and Malcom Goldsmith Fund
Norman C. Ray Trust
Phyllis and Victor Mizel Charitable Fund
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Robert and Mary Weisbrod Foundation
Terry and Janet Serafini Fund
The Ann & Frank Cahouet Foundation
The Bryan and Joyce Hondru Family Fund
The Buttonwood Fund
The Fine Foundation
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Charitable Fund
The Leigh Tison Charitable Trust
The Margaret Ritchie R. Battle
Family Charitable Fund
W.I. Patterson -Charitable Fund
Wellman-Prozan Fund
Wood Family Foundation

*gifts of \$500+



**HOMELESS
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STAND UP FOR HOMELESS CHILDREN is a stand up art installation to raise awareness for the 3,000+ (now 4,100+) homeless children within Allegheny County. As a part of Homeless Children's Awareness Week, we hosted installations at Duquesne University, the University of Pittsburgh, and in the Strip District, involving 130 volunteers and witnessed by over 500 people.



Student volunteers at the University of Pittsburgh

CHAMPIONS FOR CHILDREN honored Evan Frazier as the 2018 Champion for Children, Nicole Anderson as the Linda A. Dickerson awardee, and Wil Barber as Volunteer of the Year.



Left to Right: Joe Lagana, Evan Frazier, Carlos T. Carter

Statement of Financial Position

As of December 31, 2018

Assets

Cash & Cash Equivalents	\$1,085,919
Prepaid Expenses	\$14,385
Contributions & Other Receivables	\$29,960

Total Current Assets **\$1,130,264**

Investments	\$996,410
Property & Equipment	\$19,371

Total Assets **\$2,146,045**

Liabilities

Accounts Payable	\$31,341
Deferred Revenue	\$49,390
Accrued Liabilities	\$10,574

Total Current Liabilities **\$91,305**

Net Assets

Undesignated	\$954,167
Board-designated	\$844,256

Donor-designated \$256,317

Total Net Assets **\$2,054,740**

Total Liabilities

& Net Assets **\$2,146,045**

Statement of Activities

As of December 31, 2018

Change in Net Assets

Revenues

Contributions	\$217,428
Grants from Corporations & Foundations	\$226,528
Special Events—Tickets & Sponsorships	\$94,941
Interest Income	\$41,382
Other Income	\$5,363
Realized/Unrealized Gains/Losses	(\$118,857)

Total Revenues & Gains **\$466,785**

Expenses

Programs	\$659,155
Fundraising	\$129,712
Administrative	\$56,887

Total Expenses **\$845,754**

Change in Net Assets	(\$378,969)
Net Assets (December 31, 2017)	\$2,433,709

Net Assets **\$2,054,740**
(Dec. 31, 2018)

During 2018, our net assets decreased \$379,000 primarily due to revenue decreases of \$501,000, which was partially offset by a 15% reduction in expenses. Contributions and grants declined along with the returns from invested assets. The decreases in contributions and grants were attributable to staff and trustee turnover. During the fourth quarter of 2018, our first Development Director joined our staff, and our founder started transitioning out of all aspects of operations and board responsibilities. The most significant decrease in net assets was due to the required expenditure of \$249,000 of donor restricted funds. We are pleased that we were able to serve many of the 4,000+ children experiencing homelessness and meet the goals and timing of donor restricted grants received in prior years. HCEF ended the year with net assets of \$2,054,000 of which only \$256,317 carries specific donor restrictions.

The audited (by Schneider Downs) financial statements are available by request at 412-562-0154.

To learn more about HCEF or to make a donation, go to www.homelessfund.org/donate

2018 BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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Salvation Army Family Caring Center
Sister's Place
Sojourner House
Sojourner House MOMS
Three Rivers Youth
Veterans Leadership Program
Womanspace East
Women's Center & Shelter of Greater Pittsburgh
Western Psych Neighborhood Living Project
YWCA Greater Pittsburgh



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www.homelessfund.org

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