

HEADLINES OF HOPE



HOMELESS
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A Review of Champions for Children



Our 20th Annual Champions for Children on March 21st, 2019 was a great success, raising over \$100,000 for youth experiencing homelessness. This year, the event took place at the Fairmont Pittsburgh, bringing in over 260 guests. We had a number of wonderful speakers including our Champion, Karina Chavez, the executive director of the Pittsburgh Council on Higher Education. She has been actively involved in advocating for college students who experience homelessness. Our MC for the night was Emmai Alaquiva, who experienced homelessness in his youth and is now an Emmy-award winning film director, composer, and mentor. The event featured an auction, raffle items, and a video called [Raising Hope](#) (made by Flying Scooter Productions), which showcased our story, bringing tears to the audience. We would like to thank all of our donors, volunteers, sponsors, and attendees for their support. We would especially like to thank our event chairs, Dr. Paul and Nancy Collier, who

greatly contributed to the turnout and success of the event!

Jaylah and Mateo's Growth in our Afterschool Program



Jaylah, an eight year old girl came to the afterschool program lacking confidence in her reading skills and abilities. As Jaylah read lines in a short play, she asked if she could repeat them over again. At first she said, "I can't read." Our afterschool instructor encouraged her and let Jaylah know that they would work together. Afterwards, our instructor overheard her say to another student, "I am sounding the words out and getting better at reading!" Jaylah's confidence has continued to increase. Most recently she read a Dr. Seuss book out loud to the whole afterschool group!

Mateo, a five year old student in the afterschool program, just began a pre-K program and has made great strides. During his first days in the afterschool program, he was not able to identify the names and

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sounds of most letters. He is now making wonderful progress and learning letter names and sounds. He can also count objects up to 5 and can name and write numbers 1 to 10.

Accepting Applications for the Hope Through Learning Award!



The Hope Through Learning award is a \$2,500 grant for youth within Allegheny county who are experiencing or have experienced homelessness during their school attendance years. It is available for high school/ GED graduates, ages up to 24, who are entering higher education or a career training program for the first time. Recipients can utilize the award for tuition, school-related expenses, child care, or housing expenses. Applications are due May 31st 2019, and awardees will be chosen in June 2019. Application requirements and details can be found on our [website](#).

Preparing for the Pittsburgh Marathon



The Homeless Children's Education Fund is a Contributing Charity for the Pittsburgh Marathon on May 5, 2019, and we are still looking for runners! You can participate in either the 5K, half mile, full mile, or relay, and you must register and pay separately for the marathon on the [Race Roster](#). After you've signed up for the marathon, you can support local children and youth by raising funds on our [Crowdrise Peer-to-Peer Fundraising Platform](#). Simply click the "Join the Team & Create Your Fundraiser" button. After logging in and creating an account, you will have your own fundraising page connected to HCEF. You can also collect funds offline by entering the gifts on your page or mailing checks to our office (1901 Centre Avenue, Suite 301, Pittsburgh, PA 15219). Feel free to invite friends to participate or donate through in-person requests, texts, calls, emails, and social media postings! Thank you for your generosity and believing in our mission.

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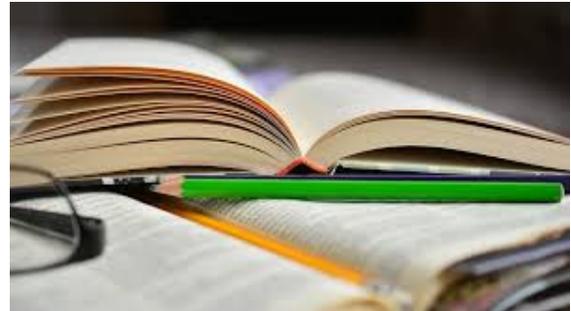
We are Hiring Summer Program Instructors!



HCEF is currently seeking candidates to serve as summer program instructors at local partner homeless housing agencies! This is a part-time, temporary, contracted position with hours Mon. - Fri. 8:30 AM to 2:30 PM. Applicants with a teaching certification are preferred; experience working with children in an afterschool or summer program setting is required. All applicants must possess current Act 33/34 and FBI clearances. If interested in applying, please submit a current resume and cover letter to Kaitlyn Nykwest, Afterschool and Enrichment Director, by email at knykwest@homelessfund.org or by fax at (412) 562-1109.

You can view the details of the job posting [here](#).

Overview of the Teen Outreach Program 2018-2019



Our work with both Brashear and Westinghouse has made great progress, and we have implemented SMART goal planning and support for meeting student goals, Naviance training, and Community Partners Programs including yoga, Chatham University Creative Writing workshops, and PAAR. Also, we meet individually with McKinney Vento students in grades 9-12 on Mondays and Tuesdays to provide them support.

In addition, we have put together leadership and career workshops for the students. At Brashear we are facilitating Leader in Me workshops with 45 students on Fridays. At Westinghouse we are holding College and Career Readiness workshops with 125 students on Mondays for the entire 9th grade (5 classes) and on Tuesday for the 10th grade (three classes).

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Walk On By Art Show March 28th, 2019



At the reception for the Walk On By art show at the Beechview Library, a visitor participated in the scavenger hunt and identified the art pieces that matched the clues that were provided. Walk On By consists of art by local artists in a variety of media expressing their understanding and concern for those experiencing homelessness in our region. It encourages interaction with people sitting on street corners who the housed often “walk on by.” The event was curated by Jay Poliziani from Northside Common Ministry.

Hope Through Creativity



On April 7th, HCEF's high school Ambassadors gathered at the Union Project to put on an art exhibit to raise awareness of youth experiencing homelessness. Their exhibits included pieces of art, photography, writing, dance, and music. The students were from schools from all over the area such as West Allegheny, Mount Lebanon, North Hills, Central Catholic, Oakland Catholic, Peters Township, CAPA, and more. Grace Enick spoke as the keynote speaker on her experience with homelessness as a teen. Pictured above is one of the ambassadors, Manisha Manivanna, a Gateway High School senior, reading a poem.

New to our Staff: Kelly Dasta, Marketing & Program Assistant



HCEF would like to welcome our newest staff member, Kelly! As our Marketing & Program Assistant, she will be handling our communications materials such as our newsletter, e-blasts, website, and social media. She will also be assisting in program coordination of our Hope Through Learning Award and our annual backpack collection.

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Kelly graduated from the University of Pittsburgh this past December with her Bachelor of Arts in English writing and communication rhetoric. In the past, she has interned within the nonprofit, communications, and publishing fields. Some of her interests include reading, writing, traveling, fashion, and the arts.

Welcome New Board Members!



HCEF would like to give a warm welcome to our newest board members!

Rev. James Tinnemeyer is the Vice President of Student Services and Dean of Students at Waynesburg University. In this role, he manages and oversees student support services and the programs necessary to ensure student success and a quality campus life.

Jo Clark is vice president of value-based care for Highmark Health, where she is responsible for driving the strategy and implementing the clinical care solutions associated with the shift to value-based reimbursement and payment models in health

care. She is a nurse by background and is a member of Pennsylvania Organization of Nurse Leaders (PONL) and United Way's Women's Leadership Council.

Kimberly L. Orth is the President of UPMC Commercial Products and provides UPMC Health Plan's strategic direction for Commercial Products in the region overseeing Product Innovation, Sales and Account Management. She leads the business integration of the division's various products and establishes effective business plans for each, building sales and marketing practices to ensure the Health Plan's viability and success. She is a proud Mom to two amazing boys.

Matthew Clark manages the every day operation of medium-sized electronics recycling, refurbishment, procurement firm, Evolution E-Cycling, LLC, as the COO. Also, he is an expert in compliance regarding environmental health and safety as well as digital/ social media marketing.

Brian Sheridan works as the Vice President of Global Commercial Banking at Bank of America, and in this role he is responsible for helping middle-market companies achieve their domestic and international financial goals. He has volunteered for and supported numerous organizations such as HCEF, the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation, Greater Pittsburgh Area Food Bank, Salvation Army Soup Kitchen, Special Olympics, Junior Achievement, and Girls Hope.

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Cheryl A. Belsterling is the Business Banking Market/ Relationship Manager and Standard Bank where she is responsible for the growth and management of commercial lending clients. She has a broad background working in banking through her experiences at PNC, First Commonwealth, Huntington, and SunTrust.



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One Hope Square
1901 Centre Avenue, Suite 301
Pittsburgh, PA 15219
412-562-0154