GOING BEYOND HOUSING

Low-income families in Franklin County are experiencing homelessness and housing crisis at an alarming rate, often dealing with multiple, complex factors that affect their stability. In addition to a growing gap between income and affordable housing, families struggle with employment, childcare and quality education services compounding the situation. The Homeless Families Foundation recognizes that economic and social challenges affect the whole family. The Beyond Housing Program seeks to stabilize families by intentionally focusing on the different needs of both parent and child from the same family by providing intensive and high-quality services for both, leading to family stability and increased self-sufficiency.

Target Population

The Beyond Housing Program serves economically disadvantaged families who are homeless or at risk of homelessness in Franklin County. Families are referred by HFF’s Dowd Education Center and/or Family Services Homeless Programming; having been assessed and identified as needing services beyond routine programming in order to stabilize their housing situation.

HOPE TAKES FLIGHT SOARS

The Homeless Families Foundation partnered with Columbus’ finest to launch Hope Takes Flight, a first-of-its-kind fundraiser where guests arrived at the party with a suitcase ready to be whisked away to New York City that evening if they won the NetJets Experience Raffle. The event raised nearly $250,000 and will advance the mission of the Homeless Families Foundation (HFF), to assist Columbus children and their families living in poverty. The fundraiser was held at the Signature Flight Support hangar at John Glenn Columbus International Airport on Oct. 6.

And the winner is...

Anna Moore’s weekend kept getting better and better. Her name was drawn as the winner of the NetJets experience package. She and her boyfriend Amit were whisked away in a NetJets’ Latitude headed to New York City where they were picked up by a limo and taken to the Andaz for the weekend. On Saturday evening, after dinner at Ocean Prime, the couple attended a coveted production of Hamilton. The manager at Ocean Prime helped arrange for the winners to go on stage and meet the cast after the show. Amit topped off the weekend by asking Anna to marry him. (She said Yes!) In addition to the raffle winner there was a live auction for an additional NetJets experience for two. David and Cathy Presper were the lucky winners. Cathy said “All that I can say is wow!!!... All weekend we kept saying ‘we flew here on a private jet and are going to see Hamilton!!!’

The Homeless Families Foundation receives support from the Community Shelter Board and its funders, which include the City of Columbus, the Franklin County Board of Commissioners, and the United Way of Central Ohio, supplementing the generous donations of numerous individuals, corporations, foundations and community organizations.

HFF Privacy Policy:
The Homeless Families Foundation collects information on donors including their names, addresses, e-mail addresses and donation histories for contacting donors in the future and for internal record keeping purposes. It does not sell, trade or lend names, addresses, phone numbers or e-mail addresses. To review personal information or request corrections, contact HFF at 33 North Grant Street, Columbus, OH 43215-2248. To discontinue receipt of communications from HFF, please contact Dorothy Bastian at dbastian@homelessfamiliesfoundation.org.
A SPECIAL MESSAGE FROM
Beth Fetzer-Rice, Executive Director

As the end of 2017 approaches, we at The Homeless Families Foundation are taking time to reflect on the past year; and what a year of successes we have had!

In early spring, HFF realized its strategic goal of implementing the Beyond Housing Program to further assist families in their efforts to achieve housing stability. This two-generation program aims to help the entire family break their cycle of poverty by focusing on the different needs of both parent and child; building skills and realizing hope together.

The summer months saw HFF buzz with happy children on the playground and throughout the Dowd Education Center. Chosen as their charity of choice for the inaugural year in Columbus, IKEA honored HFF with a gift of $10,000 and is transforming the Dowd’s STEAM room into a multi-function, high performance space with Swedish flair!

Months of planning culminated in HFF launching its new fundraising event this fall, Hope Takes Flight. Partnering with NetJets, Nationwide and many other of Columbus’ premier businesses, HFF provided a one of a kind experience to the nearly 400 guests in attendance while also broadening awareness of HFF’s mission throughout the community.

As the weather turns colder, HFF will continue to spread its message of Hope this Holiday season to our children, families and community. Providing food for Thanksgiving and presents at Christmas assures that our HFF parents will experience both pride and joy at giving their children special memories of fun and family. A great way to end a great year!

Best wishes for comfort and joy, Beth

WAYS TO HELP
Volunteer
Help families shop or wrap gifts, You can volunteer as a group or individual.

Donate toys
Donate items or host a Holiday Drive! All we ask is that all donated gifts be new, unwrapped and delivered to The Homeless Families Foundation by December 8, 2017. This helps ensure that each child will receive gifts.

HFF Gift Suggestions
- Baby doll
- Bicycle
- Fisher Price toys
- Games and puzzles
- Jewelry making kits
- Make-up kits, nail polish
- Skateboard, scooter, razor
- Superhero action figure
- Walkie talkies

Happy Holidays
In 2008, The Homeless Families Foundation started the Holiday Store to better meet the needs of the growing number of children we serve during the holiday season. This program allows parents, with the assistance of a staff member or volunteer, to select free gifts for their children ranging in age from newborn to 18 years old. holidays for over 190 children in our community!

Caught On Camera
A few photos from the summer.

June 7 - IKEA
HFF was chosen as the IKEA charity of choice for their first year in Columbus.

July 15 - Ridge Runner Ramble
saw hundreds of cyclists come out to ride on a beautiful day for HFF families.

Aug. 7: Dowd students expressed their feelings through customizing their own pair of Converse.

Aug. 30: American Electric Power employees volunteered and painted, moved furniture, pulled weeds and cleaned buses.

Spotlight
Eric Saunders, Senior Manager at EV (Emert & Young LLP), has been helping share the hope at The Homeless Families (HFF) as a volunteer, Hope Squad member, and now as a member of the Board of Trustees.

Eric and his wife, Julie, were among the first to agree to serve on HFF’s Hope Squad, planning and working events throughout the year. The Hope Squad works with the Advancement staff on the Mother’s Day No Show Gala, Ridge Runner Ramble and Hope Takes Flight.

Eric enthusiastically embraced Hope Takes Flight during this inaugural year. As a member of the Hope Squad he was in on the planning, but he also helped recruit sponsors, he secured auction items, and his own company became a sponsor. The day of the event, Eric brought in 20 volunteers from EV to help with the event set-up. His efforts helped make the first ever Hope Takes Flight: A Suitcase Party a great success.

Serving as a member of the Board of Trustees will enable Eric to continue to share the hope that not one child in Columbus will be homeless in the future. Working with other board members he can help shape the future of HFF and help to sustain and grow the programs that serve homeless and at risk children and their families.

Upcoming

- Nov 19 HFF needs volunteers to help with the Thanksgiving Food Sort. Give a few hours and help feed a family for the holidays.
  Find out more at homelessfamiliesfoundation.org/volunteer

- Dec 28 Black Friday. Cyber Monday. Giving Tuesday. Give to HFF and make a difference. Find out more at homelessfamiliesfoundation.org/give

Be the First To Know
Simply register online to receive the latest HFF news about programs, events and volunteer opportunities.

Homelessfamiliesfoundation.org/first

Make it Monthly!
Become a Champion of Hope
You’ll help struggling families—Every Day, All Year

Visit homelessfamiliesfoundation.org
*Give* page to learn more about our Amazon Wish List

Check out the Holiday Store info www.homelessfamiliesfoundation.org/holidays