

American Electric Power kicks off Dowd Education Center 25th Anniversary with a \$25,000 lead gift!

Teresa Dowd, founder of The Homeless Families Foundation (HFF), believed all children in our community should have a home and the key to ending homelessness is a stable family. Her willful spirit fueled the partnership between American Electric Power (AEP) and HFF that now spans over 33 years. AEP has been vital in the development and success of the programs HFF offers, specifically the Dowd Education Center.



Because of the vision of people like Teresa and the continued support of corporate leaders like AEP, the Dowd has evolved into a fully-licensed, summer and after school educational enrichment program, changing the lives of nearly 100 children every year.

SPECIAL EARLY BIRD PRICING!

HOPE TAKES FLIGHT

2019 SUITCASE PARTY

Get your tickets for the annual Hope Takes Flight event on September 27th. Early bird prices end on August 15th.

Get your tickets today at HopeTakesFlight.org



The Homeless Families Foundation

Families & Friends

Not one child... not one night.

CELEBRATING 25 YEARS OF THE HFF

Dowd Education Center!

Improving the academic future of impoverished and homeless children in the Columbus community for 25 years!

The vision of the HFF Dowd Education Center is to give students various ways of thinking and experiences to draw upon. The Center aims to foster an environment where out of the box thinking is given time, is valued and is rewarded.

The goal is to provide students with the tools and assistance needed to improve their reading and math levels, provide programming that supports Social Emotional Learning and physical fitness, and open the world to students through various programs and activities.

"Creativity is seeing what everyone else has seen, and thinking what no one else has thought."

- Albert Einstein

EVENTS CALENDAR

June - August

SUMMER PROGRAM AT
DOWD EDUCATION CENTER
through Friday, August 16

The HFF Dowd Education Center Summer Program is well under way, providing a stable and safe haven for over 65 children. The 9 week program ends August 16.

July

BACK TO SCHOOL
Monday, July 8 - Friday, August 9

The Homeless Families Foundation will be helping nearly 200 children get ready for the first day of school by providing school supplies. YOU CAN HELP! Please consider donating new supplies or making a monetary contribution by August 9.

September

HOPE TAKES FLIGHT
Friday September 27

Join us for our premier fundraiser where one lucky raffle winner and their guest will be whisked away that night by private jet for a 2-night trip. Early bird pricing information above.



33 North Grubb Street
Columbus, Ohio 43215

homelessfamiliesfoundation.org



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 Grubb Street, Columbus, OH 43215-2748. To discontinue receipt of communications from HFF, please contact Dorothy Bastian at dbastian@homelessfamiliesfoundation.org.



The Dowd Education Center began with volunteers providing homework help and tutoring in reading and math, and has evolved over the years into a program serving up to 80 students daily. During the 2018-2019 academic year, the HFF Dowd Education Center: enrolled 96 students, prepared and served 7,328 meals, delivered monthly family activities, provided 440 hours of reading and math tutoring, and delivered hours and hours of fun academic programming.



Activities provided at the Dowd Education Center:

Reading intervention including volunteer tutoring, book clubs and reading challenges.

Math intervention including volunteer tutoring, Number Worlds and STEM activities.

Food Glorious Food: 4,258 Dinners (afterschool) and 3,070 Breakfast, Lunch and Snacks (summer) provided in 2018-19.

The Arts: Students express themselves through several visual arts medium including tennis shoes, wood projects and the Art Shark (on display at the 2019 Ohio State Fair.)

Taking it outdoors: Field trips; gardening; environmental education; hiking.

Family Nights provide monthly opportunities for family learning activities for student and parent. Dinner is always provided.

Driving the next generation of innovators with out-of-the-box programs and Project-Based Learning: Lego First League Robotics-design, build, test and program robots; ABCs of bike mechanics; Fairchild Challenge-interdisciplinary environmental science competition; computer coding; drone piloting and programming; videography, photography, editing and creating a podcast.

Social Emotional Learning activities: Scouting – citizenship, character, personal fitness and leadership; Youth Leadership Program; drug and alcohol awareness and coping skills; ROX (Ruling Our Experience); topical discussion and counseling.

Fitness activities to strengthen body and mind: Swimming, basketball, bicycling, roller-skating, paddle boating, Girls on the Run, yoga, golf, running, Dowd Olympics and more.

The Future of Dowd Education Center

The HFF Dowd Education Center continues to evolve to serve the needs of students. The Center has gone from a small volunteer tutoring program to ever-growing and evolving academic-focused afterschool and summer programs. With YOUR support, the HFF Dowd Education Center will continue to assist in educating students with the best afterschool and summer programs possible.

SUPPORT DOWD EDUCATION CENTER TODAY!

- \$25** Buys a few books for the library.
- \$50** Provides a backpack filled with school supplies.
- \$100** Delivers a hot meal for ten students for a week.
- \$250** Equips a classroom with reading and math software.
- \$2,500** Will sponsor a student for one year.

Visit homelessfamiliesfoundation.org to donate!

Thank You

to the Partners of the Dowd Education Center for your continued support!

- Buckeye Ranch
- Columbus Public Health
- Columbus City Schools
- Columbus Zoo
- CoverMyMeds
- First Tee
- Franklin County Department of Job and Family Services
- Franklin Park Conservatory
- Future Ready Columbus
- Girls and Boys Scouts
- Grange Insurance Audubon Center
- Oasis Labs
- OSU Extension
- Syntero
- Tech Corps
- Ua Creative Studios

Dowd Education Center Milestones...

1993

33 N. Grubb St. is purchased by HFF. Volunteers renovate a portion of the building to house the education program.

1994

HFF's formal afterschool education and tutoring program begins at 33 N. Grubb St. Teachers are recruited to help students with homework and their reading and math skills.

1999

HFF establishes a full-day, 5 day-a-week academic focused summer camp.

2000

The afterschool and summer programs are expanded to include children from the community and not just those in HFF's family program.

2003

A new renovation led by community volunteers begins at 33 N. Grubb St. to provide classrooms for grades K-8, allowing for increased enrollment in both afterschool and summer programs.

2005

The newly renovated education center is named the "HFF Dowd Education Center" in honor of HFF founders Joe and Teresa Dowd.

2007

On June 20th over 250 community volunteers help build the KaBoom! Build-a-Bear playground at the HFF Dowd Education Center.

2013

HFF completes another renovation at 33 N. Grubb St. that increases the number of classrooms and activity spaces for the HFF Dowd Education Center, allowing the Center to serve up to 80 children daily.

2013

The HFF Dowd Education Center becomes a fully licensed program through the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services.

2018

Renovation to a portion of the Center is done to upgrade spaces to better serve program needs.

2019

The HFF Dowd Education Center celebrates 25 Years of improving the academic future of impoverished and homeless children in the Columbus community!



A Message from Our Executive Director

Summer at The Homeless Families Foundation is a truly amazing time of year. Excited children, happy to be finished with the long school year, join us from early morning to late afternoon for our nine-week summer program. Their smiling faces and joyous voices can be seen and heard throughout the building as they learn, create and play with their Dowd friends and family.

As we celebrate the 25th Anniversary of the Dowd, summer is the perfect embodiment of our Founder's love and passion for children. Our HFF mission of nurturing children and stabilizing families begins with providing children a safe place to spend their time after the school day and the summer, but it does not end there. Dowd Center programming strengthens our children's skills in reading and math, teaches important life skills, and prepares our young people to be leaders and innovative thinkers. Teresa Dowd often said she viewed education as the "great equalizer" for children living in poverty and we believe the same truth today. The goal of our education services is to prepare our children for the future; focusing on strengthening skills, exposing children to new ideas and challenging them to "think outside the box." We do this while also supporting our children's families with meeting basic needs and addressing housing challenges. A holistic approach to helping our children broaden their horizons so they can pursue their hopes and dreams.

Thank you to all those who have supported the Dowd Education Center over the past 25 years. Your gifts of time, talent and treasure have helped thousands of children and their families continue their best journey toward stabilization and a prosperous future. During these difficult and changing times, our work at The Homeless Families Foundation will be increasingly important to the future of our children and community. We look forward to the challenge ahead and hope you will join us for many years to come!

Best regards,

Beth Fetzer-Rice

Beth Fetzer-Rice, Executive Director

