



The Homeless **Families** Foundation

# Families & Friends

*Not one child... not one night.*



## Summer Camp

**The Dowd Education Center Summer Camp at The Homeless Families Foundation (HFF) includes activities that reduce “summer slide” for nearly 80 students from Columbus’ West Side area, many of whom are trauma-affected and/or come from households struggling with unemployment and poverty.**

In a Brookings report, entitled: Summer learning loss: What is it, and what can we do about it? ([www.brookings.edu/research/summer-learning-loss-what-is-it-and-what-can-we-do-about-it/](http://www.brookings.edu/research/summer-learning-loss-what-is-it-and-what-can-we-do-about-it/)), the authors concluded that “on average, students’ achievement scores declined over summer vacation by one month’s worth of school-year learning.” They also concluded that income-based reading gaps grew over the summer with lower-income students experiencing the greatest loss. To combat summer learning loss, the Dowd Education Center spends the mornings, after breakfast, on academic activities. The Summer Camp allows children to receive ongoing reading and math intervention, along with STEAM (science, technology, engineering, arts and math) projects designed to keep them engaged in topics that support their education while providing hands-on learning.

After a healthy lunch, age appropriate activities give the children time to play, learn social/emotional skills and exercise. According to the 2014 American Journal of Psychiatry, kids from trauma-affected environments benefit from Social and Emotional Learning (SEL) activities. They demonstrate higher academic achievement, better attendance, fewer disciplinary problems, and generally better attitudes and behaviors toward school, adults and the community. SEL skills include self-awareness, self-management, social awareness, relationship skills and responsible decision-making. These skills are practiced during weekly field trips to movies, roller skating, bowling, the John Glenn Center, the Neil Armstrong Museum, COSI, the Columbus Zoo and Aquarium, Kings Island and central Ohio Metro Parks.

Summer Camp begins Monday, June 18th, and for 8 weeks these children in grades K-8 will enjoy learning and growing in this safe and caring environment, made possible through your generosity and HFF’s partnership with Franklin County Department of Job & Family Services.

# We are EXPANDING!

The Homeless Families Foundation (HFF) is growing and expanding its services.

To accommodate the expansion, HFF is renovating the building at 33 N. Grubb Street to add new offices and learning space. Since moving all of the operations under one roof in 2013, HFF has added 14 new staff positions and 20 additional students. In just the last few months, HFF added 5 case managers for 2 new programs focused on pregnant women, housing stability and the reduction of Franklin County's high infant-mortality rate. The renovation will enable HFF to continue to serve the expanding needs of homeless families, pregnant women and children Pre-K through 8th grade who need extended learning opportunities.

Volunteers are busy helping prepare for the renovations. Recent volunteer groups came from: Chase, NiSource, Kent State Alumni Association, Wendy's and AEP. The work has been extensive and we could not do it without these great volunteers. **If your group would like to get involved with the renovation project contact Chad Gardner: [cgardner@homelessfamiliesfoundation.org](mailto:cgardner@homelessfamiliesfoundation.org).**

Community partners are making this renovation a reality. HFF appreciates all of our partners who are supporting the renovation financially and/or with in-kind goods and services including: Columbus Board of Realtors, IKEA, Ingram White Castle Foundation, OHM Advisers, Setterlin Building Company, community leaders and numerous volunteers. **If you'd like more information about the renovation and/or would like to tour our facility, please contact Donna Powell: [dpowell@homelessfamiliesfoundation.org](mailto:dpowell@homelessfamiliesfoundation.org).**

## SPECIAL EARLY BIRD PRICING!

# HOPE TAKES FLIGHT

## 2018 SUITCASE PARTY

Get your tickets for the annual Hope Takes Flight event on September 28th. Early bird prices end on August 15th. Get your tickets today at [HopeTakesFlight.org](http://HopeTakesFlight.org)



THANK YOU

To those who donated to our

NO SHOW MOTHER'S DAY GALA!

The \$51,000 raised will go directly towards stabilizing the families HFF works with.



## A Message from Our Executive Director

To children of all ages, mom is the center of the universe. We look to her to clothe and feed us, help us with schoolwork, put us to bed at night and keep us safe. Yet today, too many moms are struggling to provide these essentials to their family and children. We at The Homeless Families Foundation see firsthand the devastating effects poverty and homelessness has on mothers. Lack of affordable housing, unreliable transportation and food insecurity often keep moms operating in a mode of continual crisis; being unable to consistently provide for their family.

Although poverty has an incredible effect on both the mind and body, we also see amazing examples of resilient and powerful moms every day in our housing and educational programming. Moms who juggle crisis, navigate homeless shelters and "doubled up" living situations, all while working hard to finish school, to increase their skills, and to find safe and affordable housing. All for their families. All for the love of their children, to provide them the "essentials" so they can thrive and succeed.

There are a multitude of gifts you can send your mom to show your love and appreciation. A huge thank you to all who honored their mother by participating in our No Show Mother's Day Gala this year. Your gifts on Mother's Day, as well as donations throughout the year to The Homeless Families Foundation, are gifts that help moms and families make real change in their lives.

Best regards,

Beth Fetzer-Rice, Executive Director

# MAKE IT MONTHLY!

BECOME A CHAMPION OF HOPE AND YOU'LL HELP STRUGGLING FAMILIES - EVERY DAY, ALL YEAR!

Impact the lives of hundreds of children and families in our community by making a monthly donation using a debit or credit card.



[homelessfamiliesfoundation.org/champ](http://homelessfamiliesfoundation.org/champ)

# EVENTS CALENDAR

## June

**SUMMER PROGRAM BEGINS AT THE DOWD EDUCATION CENTER**  
Monday, June 18

A stable and safe haven for children during the summer.



**RIDGE RUNNER RAMBLE BIKE TOUR**  
Saturday, June 30

This fun event benefits The Homeless Families Foundation and is a great warmup for Pelotonia. See back cover for more information.



## July

**BACK TO SCHOOL DRIVE**  
July 9 - August 9

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



## September

**HOPE TAKES FLIGHT**  
Friday, September 28

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.





# Volunteer Spotlight

On Saturday, April 21, 2018, twenty-seven volunteers from Kent State University Central Ohio Alumni Chapter performed 81 hours of service to help HFF get ready for its renovation. They came from all over central Ohio: from Galena to Hilliard to Newark. They cleared the garage and organized temporary storage areas and pantry. They really did some heavy lifting and we are forever grateful. **#FlashesGiveBack**

*Columbus Outdoor Pursuits Presents*

# RIDGE RUNNER RAMBLE

**BENEFITING THE HOMELESS FAMILIES FOUNDATION**

**Cycling to end family homelessness on scenic roads near New Albany!**

The 3 available routes (25, 50, 80 miles) are fully supported, and a great warm up for Pelotonia. There is also a 3-mile family ride. After the ride there will be music, food and raffles... all to support The Homeless Families Foundation!



**JUNE 30, 2018**

**REGISTER AT:**

**[HomelessFamiliesFoundation.org/RRR](http://HomelessFamiliesFoundation.org/RRR)**



33 North Grub Street  
Columbus, Ohio 43215

**[homelessfamiliesfoundation.org](http://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](mailto:dbastian@homelessfamiliesfoundation.org).