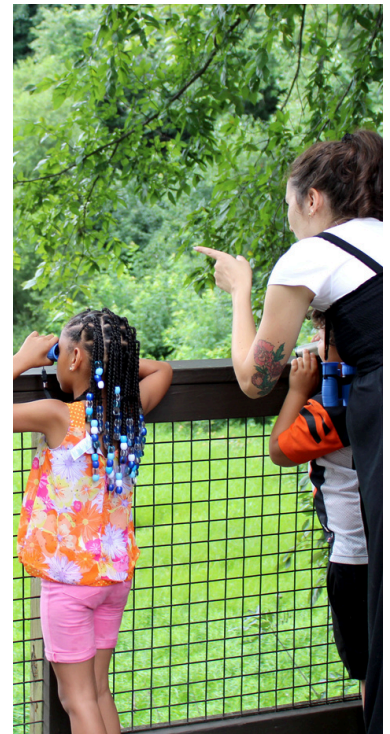




Home for Families



**TOGETHER
WE THRIVE**



2024 IMPACT REPORT



Our Mission

Home for Families partners with families and youth to resolve their housing crises, strengthen financial stability, and bridge education gaps to prevent future homelessness.

Our Vision

Home for Families will be the leading ally and innovative housing advocate preventing and ending homelessness for central Ohio families and youth.

Our History

Founded as The Homeless Families Foundation in 1986 by community members with the shared belief that no child should endure homelessness—even for a single night—and that quality education can break the cycle of poverty, HFF profoundly impacts the lives of more than 1,200 families and youth each year. One of central Ohio's largest providers of housing for homeless families outside shelter, HFF provides a vital safety net of housing intervention and homelessness prevention programs that empower families to heal from the trauma of housing insecurity, achieve long-term self-sufficiency, and prevent future shelter recidivism.

Contact Us

727 E Main St
Columbus, Ohio 43205

www.homeforfamilies.org

614.461.9247

info@homeforfamilies.org

Get Social

[@homeforfamiliescbus](https://www.instagram.com/homeforfamiliescbus)

[@homeforfamiliescbus](https://www.instagram.com/homeforfamiliescbus)

[@homelessfamfdn](https://www.instagram.com/homelessfamfdn)

Our Executive Team

Beth Fetzer-Rice, MSW, LISW-S
CEO & President

Howard Lipkin
CFO

Melissa Humbert-Washington, MSW, LSW
Vice President, Programs & Services

Andrew Snouffer
Vice President of Advancement & Continuous Improvement

Tionna Gonzalez
Senior Director of Finance and Human Resources

Our Board of Trustees

Stephanie Couhig
Board Chair

Shawn Dorsey
Board Treasurer

Amit Patel
Board Secretary

Dean Bruno
Natalie Cernansky
Glen Dugger

Tammara Flagler
Cassidy Horton
Devin Hughes
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Michelle McLaughlin
Stacy Pollock
Andrea Roper
Adam Slinger
Anita Smith
Charles Wentzel

Teresa A. Dowd
HFF Co-Founder
Janet Wagner
HFF Co-Founder
Lou Ann Ransom
Community Advocate



Beth Fetzter-Rice
President & CEO

Dear Friends,

When I reflect on all that we accomplished in 2024, I am supremely proud of the efforts we made to solidify and broaden the ways in which we serve our clients and their families. There is perhaps no greater example of this than the partnerships we worked to develop to expand the number of low-income housing units we provide to those challenged with housing instability.

Last year, we finalized agreements that would give us the opportunity to act as the sole service coordinator at two different Columbus rental properties—Grimes Pointe and The Jefferson Avenue Center Apartments. We serve as the pipeline for nearly 89 units, providing our clients with much-needed affordable housing.

With a service coordinator that rotates between the two properties, we are uniquely positioned to take action to prevent housing insecurity from occurring and aid residents in securing community resources including health, education, daycare, and more. As the affordable housing crisis in Columbus worsens, this was a strategic way for our organization to collaborate with community partners to better serve an ever-rising need for extremely low-income housing.

Partnerships played a key role in how we innovated in 2024 to best aid our clients and their families. In addition to cultivating relationships that expanded our ability to provide housing for those in crisis, we collaborated in new arenas to broaden our trauma-informed care. In October of 2024, we partnered with Canine Companions™ to bring Tatum, a Labrador/Golden Retriever Cross, to our organization as a Facility Dog.

Provided by Canine Companions free of charge, Tatum was carefully bred and expertly trained to perform over 40 cues designed to comfort, support, and motivate our clients.

Tatum partners with two handlers at our office to provide therapeutic support to our clients and their children by providing stress and anxiety relief. She also helps our staff manage stress associated with secondary trauma.

We’re the first housing organization of our kind in the Midwest—and one of only a few in the country—that has received a facility dog from Canine Companions in this capacity. We’re incredibly grateful for the opportunity to have Tatum grow along with our organization and continue to help us best serve our clients and their families.

While we innovated in exciting ways in 2024, we also began strategically preparing for expected changes to funding and programming landscapes. Though we have always diligently worked to diversify our revenue sources, last year’s efforts were made specifically through the lens of the uncertainties that loomed in the political sphere.



I am proud of the efforts we continue to make in cultivating not only our relationships with Columbus-area businesses and foundations, but also with individual donors.

I am grateful for our loyal community support, without which we would not be able to carry out our mission to partner with families and youth to resolve their housing crisis, strengthen financial stability, and bridge education gaps to prevent future homelessness. Thank you for standing with us—there’s no limit to what we can achieve when we work together. Together, we can truly thrive.

With gratitude,

Bethany Fetzter-Rice

Beth Fetzter-Rice
President & CEO





Stephanie Couhig
Board Chair

Dear Friends,

As I look back over all the ways that Home for Families continued to serve our central Ohio community in this past year, the word that seems to summarize 2024 the best is “partnership.” With the ongoing challenges our community faces with respect to affordable housing and available resources, partnerships are more critical than ever.

During this past year, HFF continued to grow its relationships with existing partners that have allowed us to grow critical programming such as our Pregnancy Programming and Resiliency Bridge programs. At the same time, HFF has forged new partnerships with Grimes Point, The Jefferson Avenue Center Apartments and Canine Companions™, among others. By working together, HFF has been able to provide new and innovative services and support for its clients.

We also continue to be grateful for the support of many long-standing and new community partners and individual donors and volunteers that provide time, talent, and treasure that allows HFF to expand its reach and serve our central Ohio families. While the future funding landscape is uncertain, HFF is strategically positioning itself to be able to weather the uncertainty ahead to provide stability for the organization and, most importantly, our clients.

I am also appreciative of my fellow members of the HFF Board of Trustees, who provide their expertise, knowledge, and guidance to support the HFF Leadership Team and staff. We have an incredibly hard-working and devoted staff who is passionate about their work, and we are proud to stand with them as a committed partner.

Finally, to HFF’s clients and families—you are our most important partners, and we are consistently inspired and humbled by you. Thank you to all of our partners—we continue to be devoted to Ending Family Homelessness, Together.

Gratefully,

Stephanie Couhig
Board Chair



2024

Impact Snapshot

986
households served
through our housing
programming



2,089
individuals served
through our housing
programming



230
children served
through our
education
programming

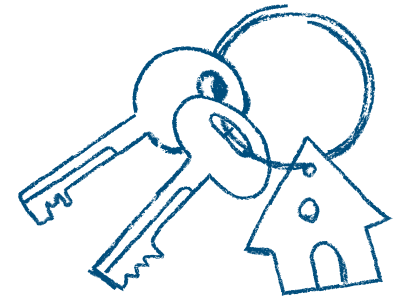


2,104
individuals served
through our material
assistance
programming



4,423
individuals served
collectively across
all programs

Housing



986

households served
through our housing
programming

1,902

individuals served
through our housing
programming

79.2%

successful exit rate
(ongoing since
December 2020)



Case Managers use a holistic approach to equip families with crucial resources.

From Shelter to Stability

After being connected with the tools and resources she desperately needed, Gia* was finally able to escape the cycle of housing instability. When Gia was connected to Home for Families, she and her four children were staying in YMCA's Van Buren shelter. This was Gia's third time in shelter since 2020.

Though she had received housing assistance before, credit history and ongoing chronic health issues made staying housed challenging. This time around, Gia's case manager was able to connect her with a Family Unification Program voucher, which made finding housing easier. We helped Gia pay off old utility bill balances and assisted with her security deposit. We also helped provide furniture to help her new space feel like home.

To help set her up for future financial success, we helped her enroll in the PIPP program for assistance with future utility bill payments. We also helped Gia and her family by providing food from our resource pantry, bus passes, and holiday assistance. Since exiting shelter, Gia's health has improved, and she is receiving regular care from her health providers. Her children are enrolled in a school that is walking distance from home, and they are attending school more regularly. Thanks to a comprehensive network of support and her own determination, Gia and her family now have the stability and foundation they need to thrive.

*All client names changed to protect anonymity.

Family Stability

1,349

families served through our material assistance programming

2,104

individuals served through our material assistance programming

683

families received food assistance

\$90,183

in direct financial assistance distributed



Our Resource Pantry provides crucial necessities for clients.



A Fresh Start, A Brighter Future

A pregnant mom with 5 and 4 year olds, Talia and her children began couch surfing in September of 2021. Talia's landlord had refused to renew her lease because the house was to be sold, and repairs were needed.

Soon after, Talia was diagnosed with depression, and she and her children tested positive for Covid-19 later that October. Once Talia entered our programming, she was able to work with her case manager to create a realistic plan to find childcare, housing, and employment. She received toiletries and food from our pantry, along with gas cards, grocery gift cards, and referrals to obtain birth certificates, landlord leads, and other community resources.

Talia met with her case manager weekly to discuss progress and address needs. Now, she is housed and employed full time. She receives Medicaid, SNAP benefits, and has access to The Percentage of Income Payment Plan (PIPP) to assist with utilities. Talia is planning to enroll into college to earn a degree in the medical field for a higher paying position.

Education

52

students
participated in our
Afterschool
Achievers program

48

students
participated in our
Summer Achievers
program

130

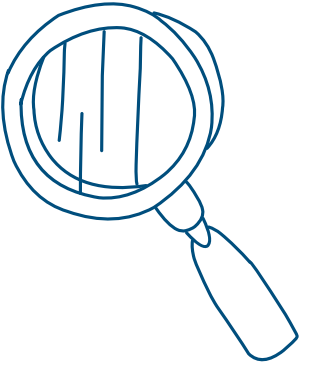
students
participated in our
SPARK kindergarten
readiness program

230

children served
through our
education
programming



Nora is wearing the dress she saw while reading her book.



Building Kindergarten Confidence, One Story at a Time

Our Supporting Partnerships to Assure Ready Kids (SPARK) programming, offered in both English and Spanish, provides in-home educational services to help parents teach their children the skills needed to begin kindergarten.

Since joining the SPARK Program in August 2023, Nora has demonstrated confidence, independence, and a strong determination to learn. Her SPARK instructor ensures that each lesson is meaningful by turning reading into everyday learning moments. Asking questions to check comprehension, encouraging her imagination, and incorporating hands-on activities are all ways that Nora's instructor prepares her for Kindergarten success.

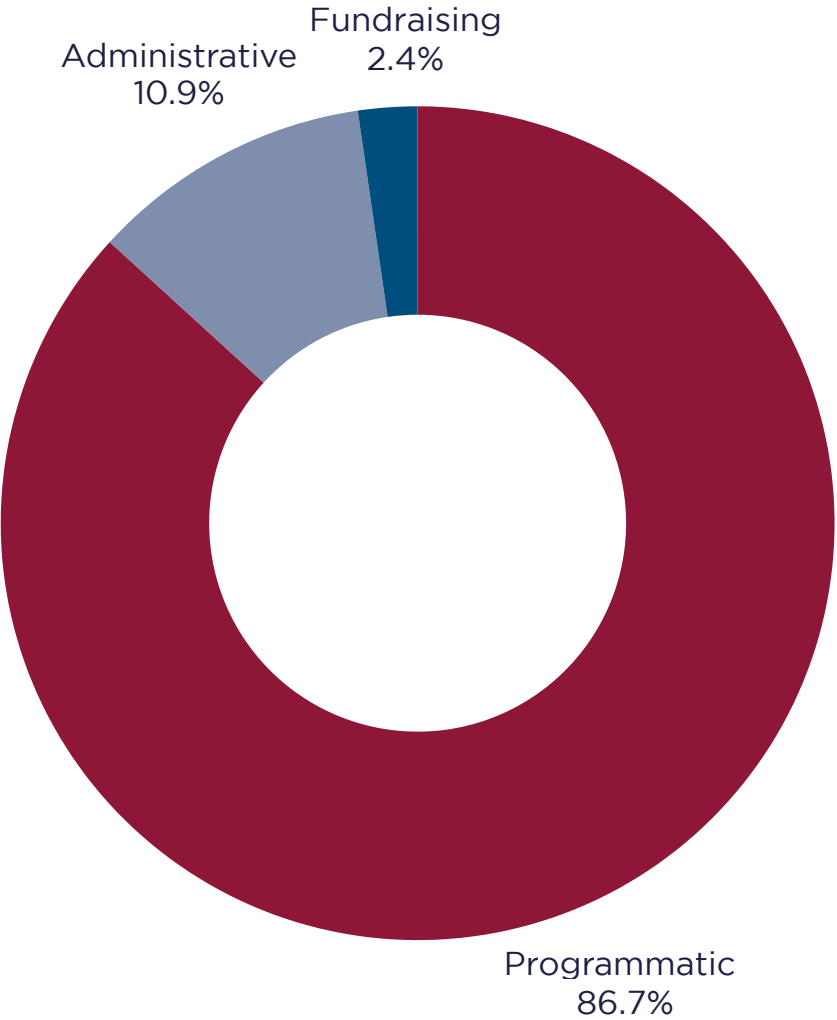
During one of their lessons, Nora and her instructor read *Families* by Sheila M. Kelly and Shelley Rotner. On page 30, the text read: There are many different kinds of families. What about yours? As they explored the page, Nora excitedly pointed out that she was wearing the exact same dress as one of the girls in the families pictured in the book. This book was published in 2016, making this discovery an incredible coincidence! Her face lit up with joy, and even her Mom was thrilled to witness the moment.

This experience not only reinforced Nora's ability to make personal connections to what she reads, but also highlighted the joy and excitement that books can bring. Moments like these remind us why fostering a love for reading at an early age is so important: It builds curiosity and confidence.

Financial Summary

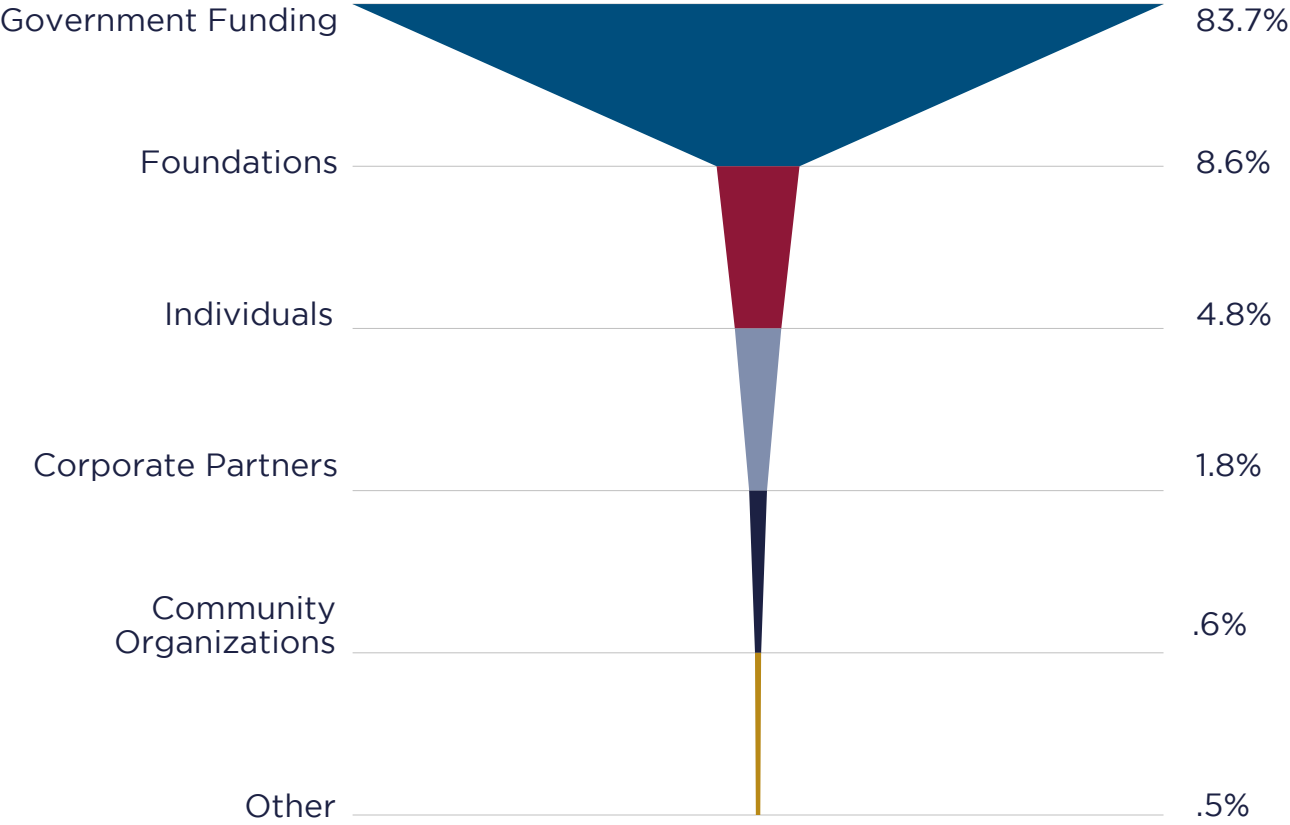
Expense Ratios

- Programmatic
- Administrative
- Fundraising



Funding Sources

Total Income: \$8,234,963



Gratitude for our Generous Donors

You Make Our Work Possible

Stability Partners

Adam Biehl
Julie and Jason Bowers
Dean and Chrissy Bruno
Natalie N Cernansky
Melinda and Mark Corna
Stephanie Couhig
William J. Cuneo
Shawn Dorsey
Amy Ebenezer
Oscar Edworthy
Joseph and Susan Fox
Anne and Richard Geary
Scott and Rebecca Green
Cassidy Horton
Devin Hughes
Jim and Karen Houk Charitable Fund
Peter Kademenos
Stacey Jo Kelly
Mr. Ned W. Kerstetter
The Mason Family
Cameron and Liz Miller
Emily Miller
Lorn and Susan Mullenix
Ryan Reisiger
Morgan Seymour
Adam and Jillian Slinger
Jamie Vandembark
Ryan Yohe
Brian and Leah Zehentbauer

Resiliency Partners

Anonymous(1)
Ms. Georgia A. Bishop
Anthony Cleland
The Mason Family
Jennifer Okezie-Watts
Eric and Lynn Wechselberger
Mr. Dennis P. Whalen
Mr. Michael T. Alexander
Stephanie Yager
Robert and Mary Bryant
Charles and Colleen Groezinger
Marci and Joseph Burch
Ryan and Shannon Hoppert
Lilliane Anderson
Louis Sherman Rouse
Aoi Harada
Anne Noguchi
John and Helen Sweeney
Eric and Karen Pacht
Ryan and Elise Dunn
Quintin Hedrick
Jamie Vandembark
Emily Miller
Amy Ebenezer
Emily Harmon
Stephen and Patrice Belmont
Joseph and Susan Fox
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Kathy Kramer
Mr. Ronald M. Solomon
Mr. Brian Charles Brown
Todd Stone
Walter Ozello
Phillip and Denise Trudeau
Hamilton and Margaret Teaford
Mark Nevin and Judy Carey Nevin
Ryan Reisiger
Carol Yohe
Cecelia Mullin
Brian Parro

Mike Enger
Nicole Waeltz
Tom Battenberg and Helen Liebman
Jill and Sean Boone
Joseph and Candyce Michael
Garry and Kathleen Rupp
Stephen and Ivy Brown Foundation

Stabilization Partners

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Gus Flichia
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Mark and Linda Hiltz
David and Betsy Sidor
Ms. Jean J. Deutschle
Anthony and Jacqueline Hillman
Ms. Rose San Filippo
Rebecca and Steven Rust
Adam Biehl
Ryan Yohe
Cassidy Horton
Brenda Humbert
Lorn and Susan Mullenix
Linda and Steven Rath
Amy and Mark Robinson
Scott and Rebecca Green
Mr. William Bebinger
James and Alison Aiello
Mr. Eric W. Harter
Chasity Garling
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Thomas Ewing
Mr. Oreste Robert Gallo
Shawn Dorsey
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L. Thomas and Debbie Comer
Albert and Nancy Foulger
Gregory and Eileen Kramer
Suzette and J. Daniel Matthews
Steven K. Weyl and Karlene Weyl Fund
The Phyllis Wang Memorial Fund
Team Brown Jr. Fund

Empowerment Partners

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Nicholas and Judith Zuk
Stephanie Couhig
Donald and Betty Spoelker
Heffner Fund
Matthew and Julia Mrozek
Ms. Dareth A. Gerlach
Ms. Jerianne S. Kladder
Nikki and William Denk
Combined Federal Campaign
Jim and Karen Houk Charitable Fund
Raymond and Nancy Traub
Gayle E. Mowery-Reynolds and Michael Reynolds
Jackson Family Charitable Fund
John and Susan Connor
Lurie Family Charitable Fund
Scott and Katie Diener
Smith Family Fund
Valponi Family Fund
Katherine and Craig Rhoades
William and Nancy Sheridan
Mr. Michael Beekhuizen
Dale Rasche Charitable Fund
John and Pamela McManus
Kent and Pamela Knaebel
Michael and Bethan Sprague
Ms. Jane W. Reed
Seanna C. and Matthew D. Walter Fund
Velikoff Family Fund
John and Catherine Brody
Michael and Heather Billy
Eric Bennett and Traci McGuire

Empowerment Partners

Brian and Leah Zehentbauer
Marilyn Norris
James and Armande Hopkins
James and Rosemarie Conrad
Mr. Philip Haigis II
Patrick and Mary Ann Doyle
Brad and Lu Stauffer
Natalie N Cernansky
Trina Simpson
James Hunt
Dean and Chrissy Bruno
Jonathan and Tenzin Alexander
Julie and Jason Bowers
Melinda and Mark Corna
Adam and Jillian Slinger
Robin Panzera
Morgan Seymour
Ernest Holladay
Dennis and Patricia Obyc
Theodore and Ellen Hall
Thomas and Patricia Laudick
Michael and Marilyn Mangino
Bernard and LaJune Cohen
Brooks Family Fund
Chrissada L. Mascaro
Cynthia and Charles Lucius
Darlene and Roderic Dalton
Edwin and Mary Jane Overmyer
Elizabeth and Stephen Cartwright Fund
Guy Mordan Jamesson
Gwyneth O. and Harris D. Matthews Fund
Kim Ransom
Ms. A. Anne Mackin
Ms. Julia A. Yorizzo
Noyes-Krippendorf Fund
Pickut Family Charitable Fund
Robert L Fine
Sandy Pond Foundation
Sarah Lamade White Foundation
Stewart and Theresa McHarg
William and Barbara Bennett
William H. Matthews PhD and Ada Demb

Transformational Partners

Anonymous (3)
Beatrice I. and Alan R. Weiler Fund
Mary and Mark Jackson
Nancy Wolfe Lane Family Fund
Fine Family Fund
Daniel Morton
John B. and Charlette R. Allred
Margaret and Robert Walter Foundation
Dale and Rosa Krummen
Mary and John Martin
Donna and Harry McDonald Charitable Trust
The ABC Fund
Goussetis Family Charitable Fund
Nick and Donna Akins

Corporate and Business Partners
up to \$999

Brewers Yard Apartments/Cap Square
Medtronic
Gentle Dentist
Kroger Co.
Atlas Butler
Butcher Shop Fitness
Liberty Mutual
Thrivent
Ron & Lavita Stokes Three Leaf Productions
McKinsey Matching Gifts
Cardinal Health’s Matching Gift Program
Rockwell Spark
Sandler Partners
Gap Matching Gifts
Uncommon Charitable Impact Inc
Gartner Matching Gifts
Bread Financial
Geben Communication
Costco
Nationwide Insurance Employees
Cardinal Health Foundation

Corporate and Business Partners
\$1,000-\$4,999

Amazon Transportation
Plymouth Industrial REIT, Inc.
JPMorgan Chase Foundation
Martin Painting & Coating Company
Employees
Wesco/Anixter
Whole Foods Market
Grange Insurance Companies
Bob’s Discount Furniture, LLC
Microsoft Matching Gifts Program
Republic Services Charitable Foundation
Southern Station Apartments
Walmart Distribution Center #7054
Sheetz Inc.

Corporate and Business Partners
\$5,000-\$24,999

Comp Drug
Nationwide Insurance
Park National Bank
NJM Insurance Group
Express Wash Concepts LLC

Corporate and Business Partners
\$25,000 and above

NetJets Aviation, Inc.
Hexion Inc.

Foundation Partners
up to \$999

Anderson Foundation

Foundation Partners
\$1,000-\$4,999

Upper Arlington Rotary Foundation Fund
Beck Foundation
Joseph W. and Faith K. Tiberio Charitable
Foundation

Foundation Partners
\$5,000-\$24,999

Anonymous (1)
Harry C. Moores Foundation
Ingram-White Castle Foundation
Micah Fund of The Columbus Foundation
PNC Foundation
Safelite AutoGlass Foundation
The Reinberger Foundation
Ohio Children’s Foundation
Columbus Board of Realtors
Diamond Hill Investments Charitable
Foundation Fund
Installed Building Products Foundation
The TJX Foundation, Inc.

Foundation Partners
\$25,000 and above

Anonymous (3)
Elevance Health Foundation
American Electric Power Foundation
Wilson Sheehan Foundation
Tony R. Wellach Foundation
Columbus Foundation
James W. Overstreet Fund

Community Support



Ending Family Homelessness, Together.

Home For Families’ ability to create brighter futures for families and youths facing housing instability is only possible because of the tremendous support from our network of community groups.

This past year, we were fortunate to work alongside 596 dedicated volunteers who generously donated a total of 3,632 hours. This incredible commitment, combined with the ongoing support from our community partners, strengthens our impact and helps us provide essential housing resources and guidance to the families we serve. Together, this network of support enables us to build pathways to stability, resilience, and hope for better futures.

596
volunteers



3,632
volunteer
hours



Our Community Partners

- All Saints Episcopal Church
- Bishop Watterson High School Student Council
- Church of the Resurrection Woman’s Group
- Coats 4 Children
- Columbus Academy
- Columbus Moms of Twins Club
- Columbus Museum of Art
- Columbus Symphony Orchestra
- Columbus Zoo and Aquarium
- Community for New Direction
- COSI Columbus
- Franklin Park Conservatory
- Franklinton Development Association
- Girl Scout Troop 5926
- Mercator Club of Columbus
- Netjets Association of Shared Aircraft Pilots
- New Friends of Greater Columbus
- Ohio Capital Impact Corporation
- Ohio Harness Horseman’s Association
- Rock City Church
- Rogue Blanketeers
- St. Alban’s Episcopal Church
- St. Brigid of Kildare
- St. Joan of Arc Members
- St. Joan of Arc St. Teresa’s Outreach
- St. Joan of Arc Women’s Club
- St. Matthew Knitting and Crocheting Ministry
- St. Peter Church Members
- St. Peter Roman Catholic Church
- Sunshine Committee of Bexley City Schools
- Tri-Village Rotary
- United Way of Central Ohio
- University of Toledo
- Upper Arlington Birthday Club
- Upper Arlington Rotary Club
- Upper Arlington Schools

Equal Housing Opportunity



Equal Housing Opportunity: We are pledged to the letter and spirit of U.S. policy for the achievement of equal housing opportunity throughout the Nation. We encourage and support an affirmative advertising and marketing program in which there are no barriers to obtaining housing because of race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status, or national origin.

Financial Disclosure

The Homeless Families Foundation (dba Home for Families) 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.

Privacy Policy

The Homeless Families Foundation (dba Home for Families) 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 and/or request corrections, contact HFF at 614-461-9247.



Home
for Families

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614.461.9247

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