



Family Story:

Moving from another country...

Mr. Tekabe and his two school-age children, refugees from Ethiopia, came to Columbus so he could find work. They stayed with friends until the friends asked them to leave.

When he came to The Homeless Families Foundation we soon found out that Mr. Tekabe did not have a state ID, no income, no benefits, and had not yet enrolled his children in school. He also had some language barriers. Mr. Tekabe hoped for a nice home with plenty of room for his children to play. Knowing how difficult it is to move to a new country and start over, an Ethiopian native who had a single family home available was willing to work with HFF and Mr. Tekabe. He even helped the Tekabe family move into their new house and did additional cosmetic work on the home to make them comfortable.

After the family got settled, HFF helped Mr. Tekabe navigate the support systems in town. He was open to learning everything his case manager could teach him and eager to be able to take care of things himself.

Mr. Tekabe secured more affordable housing while working with HFF and he and his family are thrilled. They are settling into the new community and getting to know their new neighbors.

"My appreciation for HFF is great because they have a true humanity. They saved my family and didn't change their work with me based on color, religion or nationality. HFF staff is true American builders because they are working for all their families without making excuses. HFF is responsible and helpful to all families equally. There is no comparison-really!"



Thank you to everyone who invests in families like the Tekabe's by supporting The Homeless Families Foundation.

Volunteer Spotlight:

A life of caring...

Sue Crawford
Community Volunteer

Sue is a very versatile volunteer, doing every kind of work imaginable. She works in the administrative offices of HFF helping with any needed task.

Before volunteering in the office, Sue also volunteered for 3 years at the HFF Dowd Education Center's afterschool program and 1 year in the summer camp program.

Sue said, "I like to volunteer where I can make a difference. My favorite thing is seeing the children and spending time with them. I have been impressed with how friendly and helpful EVERYONE is at HFF."

When not volunteering at HFF or spending time with her family, Sue is a very busy lady volunteering at Ronald McDonald House and a Free Store. Additionally she serves "shut-ins" and nursing home residents through her church; coordinates one dinner a month for the men at Faith Mission; facilitates a morning women's group; does construction with Habitat for Humanity; and assists at a local hospice.

In addition to all of her volunteering Sue plays in the Worthington Civic Band and in the hand bell choir at her church. Sue is truly living a life of caring for others and we are very grateful she has chosen to work with The Homeless Families Foundation.



Events

What to do, what to do...

The Event is virtual, the need is real...



This year The Homeless Families Foundation is having a very different event and we are inviting **YOU--not to attend**. That is right! The **No Show Mother's Day Gala** will be held wherever you want to be on Mother's Day.

There will be NO live or silent auction, NO band, and NO catered food. 100% of every ticket sold will assist The Homeless Families Foundation in its efforts to stabilize families and educate children.

YOU can make dreams come true for the children and families in Columbus living in poverty, by **NOT** attending The Homeless Families Foundation's No Show Mother's Day Gala. Look for your invitation in the mail or go to www.noshowmothersday.org where you can make reservations and donations in honor of your mother and even download pictures letting your friends know you support the **No Show Mother's Day Gala**.

SAVE THE DATE

MAY 10TH, 2015

www.NoShowMothersDay.org

Mark your 2015 calendars for these other HFF events:

Saturday, July 18

Ridge Runner Ramble

Friday, November 7

Come Home for the Holidays.

Dowd Education Center

Tutoring makes the difference...

The reading tutoring program is off to a great start! We have 22 tutors who come in weekly to read with 40 students. For many of our students, the time they spend with their tutors is the highlight of the week.

The tutors generally have 2 books to read with their students. The students answer questions and do activities based on what they have read. This dedicated weekly reading time is increasing the motivation and enthusiasm of our students to read. They have increased their ability to comprehend what they read and are able to ask their mentors more in-depth questions about the stories.

In a short amount of time, we have already noticed a big increase in our students' desire to read at home as well. The students with tutors are completing more books for our 20 book challenge than our students who do not have tutors.

Based on comments from tutors and students, everyone is really enjoying their reading time. One tutor reported that, "Jasmine was engaged and extremely happy to see me. It puts a smile on my face to see her so enthusiastic." These kids are eager to learn and can make you smile every time they share their thoughts. One student recently shared with their tutor, "I'm sure this will all be easier when my brain is more developed."



**DONATE
NOW**

- ◆ Send your gift in the enclosed envelope today.
- ◆ Become a *Champion of Hope* by sending a monthly gift
- ◆ Give in Honor/Memory of Someone
- ◆ Donate online at www.homelessfamiliesfoundation.org
- ◆ Donate a gift of stock

Contact Donna Powell for more information at 614.715.8342 or dpowell@homelessfamiliesfoundation.org

Donor Spotlight

Making a difference...



CenturyLink Women Empowered gives CenturyLink a competitive edge by leveraging the talents of the employees in their organization to improve lives, strengthen the business, and connect with communities. We are thankful they've connected with HFF by donating proceeds from their annual chili cook-off and collecting Halloween costumes and Holiday Store items

Thank You Hope 2014 Society Members

The Hope Society Giving Circles are for cash equivalent gifts and do not include event sponsorship and/or foundation grants.

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(\$5,000 or more)

Charlette and John Allred
Laney and Stuart Bergdoerfer
Dareth Gerlach
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Arnie and Jim Hopkins
Suzi and Steve McVoy
Townsend Quinn
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Kathy and Jim Rutherford

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(\$1,000 to \$4,999)

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Michelle and Roy Waterhouse
George Williams

All of our Nurturing Circle

(\$250 to \$499) and

Friends Circle

(>\$250) are also greatly appreciated.

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Those who make a financial gift to HFF on a regular basis (monthly, quarterly, etc.)
Jennifer and Brian Bash
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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.

We are grateful to Hopkins Printing and Image Print for the design and printing of the newsletters.

www.homelessfamiliesfoundation.org

Adrienne Corbett, Executive Director

An evening of art...



We were honored to be joined by Freedom Circle and Vision Circle members of The Hope Society on February 5, 2015 for an evening of art. The event was held in the art gallery (gymnasium) of the HFF Dowd Education Center and featured art created by the talented students from the Center.

The artists from the Dowd Education Center joined the event

to share with patrons the thoughts behind their pieces. Since this was a juried show, there were a limited number of pieces available and the talent was amazing. Each and every piece of art was sold!

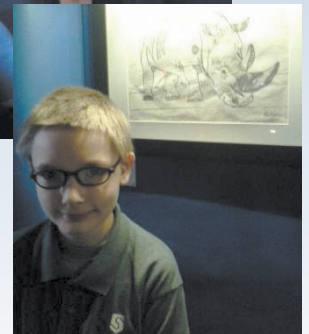
It was a festive atmosphere and all in attendance seemed to have a

great time. Thank you again to all of the Freedom Circle and Vision Circle members who continue to prove we live in a generous and giving community. **The support of all Hope Society members allows HFF to continue our work to end family homelessness in Columbus.**

Additional pictures from the event can be found on our Facebook page. Please "like" us while you're checking out the pictures.



LeeSean B.



Carlos Z.



Craig Rhoades, Charlette Allred,
Adrienne Corbett, and John Allred