



The Homeless Families Foundation

Families & Friends

Not one child... not one night.



Can stable housing reduce infant mortality?

HFF Lead Housing Stabilization Provider in CelebrateOne's "Healthy Beginnings at Home"

The Homeless Families Foundation (HFF) is a proud partner of CelebrateOne, a Central Ohio coalition that seeks to reduce the region's high infant-mortality rate. The Ohio Housing Finance Agency recently awarded funding to CelebrateOne for Healthy Beginnings at Home (HBAH), a housing stabilization pilot program for pregnant women. The program is designed to assess whether access to housing stabilization intervention and rental subsidies – compared to the usual care that low-income pregnant women receive – will result in improved birth outcomes, decreased rates of infant mortality and stronger health outcomes for women and their infants.

As the lead Housing Stabilization Provider for HBAH, HFF will deliver clinical best practices: person-centered planning, motivational interviewing and trauma-informed care. HFF's housing stabilization specialists will provide: barrier assessment, housing identification and placement, landlord engagement and advocacy, home-based case management, and coordinate linkages for social and medical resources for pregnant women and their children.

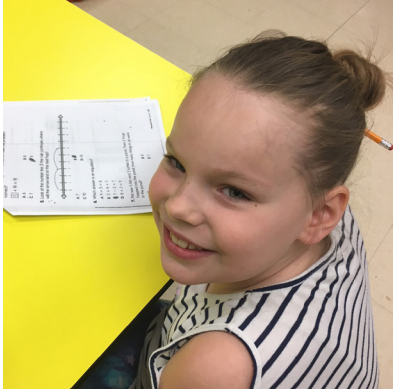
Franklin County faces staggering infant mortality rates with three families losing a baby every week, 150 infants dying each year. HFF will provide holistic care for 50 mothers and their children over the next 24 months. These pregnant women, currently experiencing highly unstable living conditions, are from high risk neighborhoods like Franklinton, Hilltop, Morse/161, Near East, Near South, Northeast, Linden and Southeast. These neighborhoods, affected by poverty, food insecurity, cost-burdened households, safety and transportation barriers, face infant mortality rates up to three times that of the rest of the county.

With the support of the Central Ohio community, HFF continues to provide struggling families and their children holistic programs that empower and stabilize. HFF is excited and honored to be a part of this pilot program that can improve the lives of mothers and infants and provide us with more insight into the needs of this vulnerable population.

For additional information about HBAH visit celebrateone.info/news



◀ CELEBRATEONE ▶



Community volunteers work to improve students' math concepts

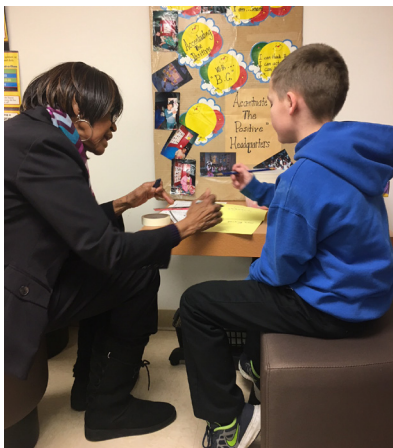
Many things are difficult for some, yet easy for others. Math is one of them. That is why HFF's Dowd Education Center (DEC) has recruited some very special volunteers to help start a new math curriculum, McGraw-Hill's Number Worlds. Implemented this school year, Number Worlds gives the DEC staff the ability to assess each student's strengths and needs, allowing them to provide the personalized assistance needed to improve their math skills.

The goal of our math mentorship program is to build retention, engage and empower our students mathematically. Each volunteer commits to a 45-minute mentoring session every week October through April. Each volunteer mentors a small group of three to four students in Project-Based Learning lessons that focus on the math concepts that correspond to the students' assessment results.

The volunteers reinforce the math curriculum facilitated during Youth Development portions of the DEC programming using Number Worlds developmentally based workbooks. In addition, the DEC has collaborated with Ohio Department of Education (ODE) to provide a Math Intervention Specialist. The Specialist is at the DEC every day, as an additional resource for our students and volunteers, dedicating one-on-one intervention, as needed.

The DEC also works with dedicated volunteers to help with S.T.E.A.M activities that further strengthen mathematics by demonstrating concepts in real-life application. For example, recording data to research plant and life growth; learning about measurement, timing, and portion in cooking and baking; and discovering pattern, shape and dimension through art.

At HFF, people from all walks of life come together to help families and children who are struggling. HFF is grateful to all its volunteers who play an important role in educating our children and combating family homelessness in Columbus.



EVENTS CALENDAR

March

SPRING CLEANING DRIVE

Drop off supplies at HFF anytime between now and March 26

Unfortunately, there are many who are unable to afford basic needs to keep their families clean and healthy. Please join us in providing cleaning products to help with our efforts. Suggested items include: dish soap, SOS pads, sponges, soap/body wash, shampoo, toothbrushes, toothpaste, spray cleaner, Pinesol type cleaner and laundry soap.



FOOD DRIVE

Sunday, March 18

Saint Joan of Arc church will deliver nearly 500 boxes of non-perishable foods to feed our HFF families and children. Join us between 10AM and 4PM to unload and sort food for boxes that will be distributed to families. Come for the entire time or just a few hours. For more information, contact Chad Gardner, Associate Director of Events and Volunteers, 614-715-8551 or cgardner@homelessfamiliesfoundation.org



A Message from Our Executive Director

Thanks to your generosity, The Homeless Families Foundation made a huge impact toward reducing homelessness and stabilizing the lives of children and families in 2017:

- Over 100 children were provided with quality educational and enrichment activities through HFF's after school and summer programming, with over 60% making improvements in math, reading and social development
- Nearly 230 families were provided SPARK (Supporting Partnerships to Assure Ready Kids), in home educational programming to help their 3 and 4 year olds transition to kindergarten
- Over 200 homeless families ended their homeless situation; moving from emergency shelter to their own apartment in the community
- Nearly 20 families were served through the Beyond Housing prevention programming, with 100% maintaining housing stability

While we are proud of the progress made on behalf of our children and families, we realize there is so much more work to do. I know with the help of you, our passionate donors and volunteers, we will continue to find unique and innovative ways to meet the needs of homeless families and at risk children in 2018.

In my first year as Executive Director, I have been overwhelmed by the passion and hope each of you displays for HFF's mission of nurturing children and stabilizing families. Thank you for your ongoing commitment and unwavering support. Together we will continue to make a difference for our children and their families; striving to help them reach their potential, improve their lives and create an empowered future.

Beth Fetzer-Rice

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

May

NO SHOW MOTHER'S DAY GALA

Sunday, May 13

Don't miss the chance to honor an amazing mother or two in your life, provide an HFF mom and her children a family portrait, give back and have fun, without leaving your home. NoShowMothersDay.org



June

SUMMER PROGRAM BEGINS AT THE DOWD EDUCATION CENTER

Monday, June 18

A stable and safe haven for children during the summer.

5TH ANNUAL RIDGE RUNNER RAMBLE CYCLE TO END HOMELESSNESS

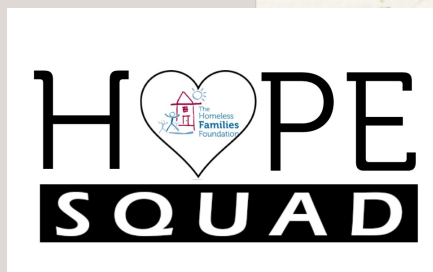
Saturday, June 30



Hope Squad expanding in 2018

HFF Hope Squad is an amazing team of superheroes. They may not wear capes, but they are dedicated to making a difference in the lives of the homeless families and children in Columbus and they go above and beyond for the benefit of the community.

The Hope Squad is in its second year and has just recruited twelve additional members, totaling twenty-four members in all. This elite group helps raise funds and awareness by actively planning HFF's events, expanding the volunteer base and educating others about breaking the cycle of homelessness. Thank you to the 2017-18 inaugural members who made last year's events a great success: Tracy Adkins, Chrissy Bruno, Dean Bruno, Amanda Grandjean, Maggie Harris, Amy Holder, David Kinzel, Shantih McConnell, Tracy Rood, Eric Saunders, Julie Saunders and Sarah Spector.



The Hope Squad is accepting applications throughout the year for 2019-2020. So what are you waiting for? Grab a friend, significant other, colleague or family member and join the Hope Squad as a couple! Don't have a partner? Not to worry, we can match you up!

To find out how you can become a part of the Hope Squad contact Chad Gardner, Associate Director of Events and Volunteers, 614-715-8551 or cgardner@homelessfamiliesfoundation.org.



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:

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