



families & friends

Spring 2010

Critical Needs:

Warm weather is on its way and we need new fans. If you wish to send \$30.00, we will purchase the sturdy floor models for our apartments.

New pillows (standard size), cleaning supplies (powdered laundry detergent), and hygiene and personal care items.

\$1,603.63!

That is the amount we received from Kroger Community Rewards. Thank you for participating.

The program has been renewed by Kroger. Customers will need to re-enroll their individual cards. Here are the steps to do that:

Visit www.krogercommunityrewards.com, select Ohio, scroll down to **Enroll**, then **Sign Up Today**. Enter your zip code and click **Search**. Highlight your preferred store, enter your e-mail and password, select

the e-mails you would like to receive from Kroger then click **Next**. Key in your Kroger Plus Card Number, enter your contact information and click **Next**. Verify the information is correct, and click **Complete Information**. Kroger will send an e-mail to your personal account. You must confirm. Click on the link, sign-in, click on **Edit Kroger Community Rewards Information**. **Search** for HFF; Click **Save Changes** You are now registered. (Really, it is not as complicated as it seems and our families benefit every time you use your Plus card.)

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

www.homelessfamiliesfoundation.org



The Homeless Families Foundation
651 West Broad Street
Columbus, Ohio 43215
614-461-9247
www.homelessfamiliesfoundation.org

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from the Executive Director...



Spring is the time of renewal, of hope and enjoying the beautiful array of colors that surround us. Recently our gymnasium at the Dowd Education Center was transformed to a garden overflowing with color, budding trees and hope that Spring might actually arrive in Central Ohio. *Plant the Seed of Hope* was a night to celebrate our children and to embrace our mission to plant hope in every child's heart. Together, Board, staff, volunteers and donors try to lighten the burden of the homeless child and their families; we wipe away tears and hope to lead them down the path to a new beginning – a life filled with hope that they will never again have to experience the tragedy of homelessness.

Take a minute and close your eyes and remember a time when you felt safe, when you felt strong, when you felt like everything was right in the world. These precious memories, these blessings are what we hope to give every child who walks through the doors of the Dowd Education Center.

Together we can achieve our goal. "Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world. Indeed it is the only thing that ever has."

(Margaret Mead)

Thank you all for your continued support of the Homeless Families Foundation. Together we can build a whole garden of hope.

Adrienne Corbett

Family Success:

In 2009, Sallie came to HFF with three children. Her children were 12 (boy), 6 (girl) and 3 (boy). Sallie had a difficult childhood watching her stepfather abuse her mother and witnessing the murder of a family member. She found it difficult to trust people and kept her life private. In spite of frequent visits to the hospital, she was determined to make a better life for her children. She learned that to care for her children, she must take care of herself and her health.

Sallie began working with a mental health professional and her two older children were enrolled at the Dowd Education Center while her younger son participated in a Head Start program. Her HFF Case Manager recommended supportive housing for Sallie and her children. When an opening occurred, Sallie and her family moved. The children were delighted to have a place of their own. They would no longer be moving from shelter to shelter and place to place. Success, like Sallie's, repeats frequently at HFF, and your generous donations help us continue the programs that help our families achieve stability.

(Names changed to protect their identity.)

"People gain so much hope when they know they are not experiencing something alone."

Joyce Rupp, *Alive Now*, p. 35.

Plant the Seed of Hope

event a success



The Dowd Education Center was the recent scene of an exciting evening of fun, merriment and music for 170 supporters. Arnett Howard's unique style entertained all. Guests came to experience first-hand the programs and miracles of HFF staff at the Center. The evening included live auction conducted by Cindi Schillig and a silent auction with children's framed art, handcrafted pillows and a variety of other items. Highlighting the evening was the premier of "A Day at the Dowd" by Thomas Davis. Hoggy's provided a delectable array of hors d'oeuvres, while a committee of three provided homemade desserts for everyone's pleasure. Peabody Landscape and Tom Wood Landscape transformed the gym and art room into a garden complete with fountain, tress, and plants of every color. Tom McNutt was on-hand to speak with attendees about how to care for a variety of plants. He also provided advice on how to ensure success with a backyard garden for children. The event raised more than \$90,000 for our families. The following generous donors supported this event.



This event was supported by the following generous donors.

AEP
Columbia Gas of Ohio
Hexion
LimitedBrands
Amy & Jim Chapman
Nationwide
White Castle
Lou Ann and Buss Ransom
Kathy and Jim Rutherford
Ralph Fallon Builders, Inc.
Grange Insurance
Flower Galaxy
Huntington Bank
Lynne and Steve Smith
Neace Lukens

Those making in-kind donations contributing to Plant the Seed of Hope are:

Peabody Landscape Group
David Hostetler
Tom McNutt
Hopkins Printing
Ira Chaiffetz
Oakland Nurseries
Taylor Woolwine
Nationwide
Wood Landscape
The Goat at Lifestyles Communities
Elisabeth Graham Photography
Tim Landers Photographer

The committee responsible for the success is:

Garnet Mitchell, general chair
Amy Chapman
Linda Davis
Karen Houk
Julie Lovegrove
Mary Lyski
Lou Ann Ransom.

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Keep up with the latest.



ABB Corporation

On a beautiful sunny day, the employees of ABB Corporation in Westerville enjoyed a picnic lunch on the lawn, a silent auction and games of skill to raise funds for their Care Bear Program. The 125 plus employees at the office have some very creative ways to raise funds for their program, including making homemade soup that is shared for a donation. Funds are gathered for three months, an application is made to the ABB Foundation for a matching gift and as a result, Troy Hobson presents a check for \$7,000 to Rozanne Landers of HFF.



Not your average 7th grader Justin Perdue

Favorite restaurant: Chipotle. Favorite ice cream: buckeye blitz. Favorite subject: gym (academically speaking, language arts/English). Sure sounds like a typical 7th grader. Justin Perdue is anything but typical. While traveling with his parents in Europe, he noticed homeless families on the streets. Seeing the children made him feel sad. When he returned home, he knew there must be homeless families closer to home. He thought about "wants" and "needs." To quote Justin, "Homeless people and families don't have time to think about wants because they're thinking about where they're going to stay that night and what they're going to eat." This led to thoughts of starting a foundation. He researched homeless charitable groups. After a visit to HFF he feels

really good knowing in some way he can help a homeless family get food and shelter and help with education.

As a child with a December birthday, he would ask his friends to bring toys for Firefighters for Kids. Justin and his dad, Dale, deliver Meals on Wheels when they can. Justin enjoys playing golf and basketball. He spends his summer caddying and gives 50 percent to HFF to help us meet our needs.

Justin says when he was a 'kid' he wanted to be a police officer or UPS driver, but now his dream is to go pro in basketball or golf. Asked if he ever caddied for anyone famous, Justin says, "not yet."

