

HOMELESS CHILDREN'S EDUCATION FUND

Spring 2007 E-Newsletter — Vol. 2 #2

WINNIE SAYS
"IT'S ALL ABOUT KIDS!"



What kids know

That being homeless is scary

That dads get angry and leave
That moms cry late at night

That you miss old friends
That new friends are hard to make

That your favorite toy has disappeared
That there's no money to buy another
That it wouldn't be the same anyway

That you need new shoes and jeans
That you get someone's discards

That you once had hopes and dreams
That now you've almost forgotten them

That you get tired of living like this

But . . . You still have Momma



A way to understand better what a kid who is homeless experiences

Read the two books the Allegheny County Library Association has selected for this year's **One Book, One Community: *The Glass Castle* by Jeannette Walls and *Money Hungry***, a book for middle schoolers by Pittsburgh's own **Sharon Flake**. Encourage your older children to read both as well. Talk together about the experiences



related. And be sure to visit the ACLA website for complete information about the many events that are part of this month-long program. www.einetwork.net/onebook

Buy a ticket for the Pittsburgh Symphony's 4th Annual Community Partners Concert and help support HCEF's kids

Thursday, June 21, 2007, at 8:00 p.m., the PSO will present in concert **The Fifth Dimension**, the **Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra** conducted by **Chelsea Tipton III**, and winners of the renowned Sphinx Competition, **Elena Urioste** (violinist) and **Kaila Potts** (violinist). The cost of your ticket purchase can be earmarked to benefit HCEF! Here's how it works.

Visit the PSO's home page and use the calendar links to see the June concert schedule. Click on the "21" for complete instructions. <http://www.pittsburghsymphony.org>

To benefit HCEF you must enter the promotion code 2354 and buy your tickets by June 1. We've also provided on the HCEF website a copy of the PSO's concert brochure with full ticket information. Ticket sales are underway, so **don't delay**. www.homelessfund.org/news/5thdimensionbrochure.pdf

Lawrence Tamburri, President and Chief Executive Officer of the PSO, is a member of the HCEF Board of Trustees.



Kids always need champions

The March 5 8th Annual Champions for Children Benefit was most successful. 300-some government, business, and education leaders were in attendance, enjoying the "extreme" chocolates, a lively silent auction, superb Rivers Club hors d'oeuvres, and the celebration of **Dr. James Withers**, co-founder of Operation Safety Net, as the first recipient of the Linda A. Dickerson Award. HCEF is very grateful to **Verizon** for serving as the **Event Underwriter**. All income from the auction supports the Mini-grants for Educational Innovation programs.

www.homelessfund.org/programs/minigrants.html

We are grateful for the very many monetary donations, the enticing auction items, and an outpouring of volunteer effort.



Wondering how you can be a champion? Here are some of the imaginative ways individuals and groups have benefited our kids in recent months

- The employees of Strategic Energy have long paid for the privilege of wearing jeans on the company's weekly "Jeans Day," the dollars received coming to HCEF
- East End Concerts for Causes will soon hold its third of three chamber music concerts in private homes with professional Pittsburgh musicians donating their time and talent and the proceeds benefiting HCEF
- BOMA Pittsburgh hosted Mardi Gras 2007 with HCEF as the beneficiary
- As part of "One Book, One Community," Pittsburgh area Barnes & Noble stores offered an opportunity for book buyers to have a percentage of net sales donated in support of ACLA's outreach to homeless shelters through HCEF
- Watch for details on a planned "Cigars with the Stars" event scheduled for June 5 at Bossa Nova in Downtown Pittsburgh.

Of course your monetary contributions are always welcomed through

- on-line donations
- contributions through United Way
- on-line shopping at your favorite stores through iGive
- personal checks sent to HCEF
- and, for businesses, designation of HCEF as an EITC recipient

Information on how to contribute in any of these ways is available at

www.homelessfund.org/support/support.html

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www.homelessfund.org

"Providing hope
through learning"