

# HOMELESS CHILDREN'S EDUCATION FUND

Fall 2007 E-Newsletter — Vol. 2 #4

WINNIE SAYS  
"IT'S ALL ABOUT KIDS!"



## Kids can grow when taught to

focus on the task at hand  
act in a disciplined way  
practice self-control  
show respect  
and have a positive attitude  
in all they do  
wherever they are



they can  
gain new skills  
accomplish great things –  
learning to  
speak polite phrases in Wolof  
perform West African dances

play the jembe, the jun jun  
slap-slap-tone-tone  
one-two one one-two  
the rhythmic beat  
of their many hands  
moving together  
discovering the joy  
of many drums  
sounding like one



it happened at the HCEF  
Summer African Drumming Camps



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

Can you imagine the fears and multiplying frustrations of adults and children living below or barely above the poverty level as they struggle to meet basic living costs?

One way to raise your own consciousness about the daily challenges of poverty is through participation in a **Poverty Simulation Experience**.



Photo by V.W.H. Campbell, Post-Gazette

During this year's **National Hunger and Homelessness Awareness Week (Nov. 11-17)**, HCEF and its partners in the Homeless Awareness and Advocacy Network – Allegheny County Department of Human Services, Allegheny County Library Association, the Diocese of Pittsburgh, Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh, and Pittsburgh Public Schools – are hosting such an experience through Pittsburgh Social Venture Partners. Registration is now closed, but for more information about poverty simulations see

[psvp.org/Events/povertysimulation.html](http://psvp.org/Events/povertysimulation.html)

[www.homelessfund.org/programs/expressions\\_drumcamp1.html](http://www.homelessfund.org/programs/expressions_drumcamp1.html)

## Friends of HCEF champion our kids through fundraising events



Don't miss Pittsburgh's best haunted house!  
[www.hundredacresmanor.com](http://www.hundredacresmanor.com)

**Master Story Teller Jackie Jonas** presents two evenings of stories about love and hope to benefit HCEF. Join us Friday and Saturday, November 9 and 10, at Open Stage Theatre, for a moving and uplifting evening. Tickets available through ProArts beginning the week of October 8: (412.394.3353 or [www.proartstickets.org](http://www.proartstickets.org) )

Kudos to **Shellie Hipsky and Donna McGee**, organizers of the September 22nd cabaret "**Taste of Broadway**" and an appreciative "BRAVO" to all who participated in the performance, both on stage and off. Special thanks to master of ceremonies and HCEF trustee Sheldon Ingram of WTAE-TV.

**Bhangra in the Burgh**, the closing event of the 2007 CMU Student Affairs' International Festival, is a national dance competition hosted by the university's Mayur-SASA and Chak De. Bhangra is an energetic folk dance originating in the Punjab. Saturday, November 3, 7:00 -10:00 p.m., Soldiers & Sailors Memorial. Tickets may be purchased on-line or at the door.  
[www.homelessfund.org/events/events.html#bhangra](http://www.homelessfund.org/events/events.html#bhangra)

## YOU can help our kids know hope through learning

Stephen Jay Gould has written: "Few tragedies can be more extensive than the stunting of life, few injustices deeper than the denial of an opportunity to strive or even to hope . . ."

Together you and the Homeless Children's Education Fund can work effectively to prevent this kind of tragedy in the lives of children experiencing homelessness in Allegheny County. We do so by raising public awareness of the very existence of children's homelessness and the concomitant challenges to their academic success.

With your contribution, you and your family directly support enhanced educational programming for an estimated 3,000 Allegheny County children who experience homelessness over the course of a year.



**We encourage you to make a donation** on-line at [www.homelessfund.org/support/support.html](http://www.homelessfund.org/support/support.html) , by check mailed to 2100 Smallman St 2<sup>nd</sup> Flr, Pittsburgh 15222, or through United Way Contributors Choice #963315.

## Save the date for the 9th Annual Champions for Children Benefit

[www.homelessfund.org/events/events.html#champs](http://www.homelessfund.org/events/events.html#champs)

**March 3, 2007, 6:00 p.m., Rivers Club**  
In Oxford Centre. Plan to join Host Committee chairs **Ralph J. and Ruth Anne Papa** and over 300 leaders in business, government, and education for a live and silent auction and spectacular confections provided by the area's best chocolatiers. Watch for the opening of our on-line auction in December.

**Gwen Elliott**, founder of Gwen's Girls, will be honored posthumously with the Champion for Children Award. **Father Regis Ryan**, CEO of Focus on Renewal (F.O.R.), will receive the Linda A. Dickerson Award.

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[www.homelessfund.org](http://www.homelessfund.org)

"Providing hope  
through learning"