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PCGF NEWS | WINTER 2018

Linda Krynski Elected PCGF Board President

The Pittsburgh Child Guidance Foundation is pleased to welcome **Linda Krynski**, Ph.D. as its new Board President. Dr. Krynski's distinguished career in education has included teaching children with emotional disturbances and coordinating Pitt's Early Childhood Intervention Program. She also served as Supervisor of Special Education in the Mt. Lebanon School District before becoming Executive Director of Pace School. Since retiring from Pace School, she has worked as a consultant and is currently Director of Kidsburgh.

Dr. Krynski, who joined the Foundation Board in 2013, remarks, "The value of a small foundation such as PCGF is that I can be nimble and can more easily take risks, pursue innovation and respond quickly to emerging community needs. Small foundations such as PCGF embrace collaboration and networks as key to achieving impact." ■



Welcome to Two New Trustees

The Pittsburgh Child Guidance Foundation is pleased to welcome two new members to the Board of Trustees: Robert A. James, Esq. and Paul David Spradley, Ed.D. Each began a three-year term in January.



Robert A. James, Esq. — an experienced diversity professional, lawyer and health care executive — serves as the Program Manager for Supplier Diversity at Highmark Health. The Georgetown University Law Center graduate practiced law for more than 20 years, concentrating on matters related to public finance and healthcare. He serves as a council member for the Women's Business Enterprise Council (WBEC), which recognized his leadership with a 2016 "Shining Star Award." Mr. James is a board member of the Pittsburgh Opera, Riverside Center for Innovation and Katz Graduate School of Business Black Alumni Network.

Paul David Spradley, Ed.D. — an educator, mentor, seasoned public speaker, actor and ordained minister — works as Director of the Center for Student Success at Robert Morris University. Concurrently, he and his wife operate The Spradley Project, an education and training consulting practice. Dr. Spradley recently graduated with a Doctorate in Education from the University of Pittsburgh after receiving master's and bachelor's degrees from Robert Morris University. He has been recognized with the Pittsburgh Cares Pittsburgh Hero Award and was named one of the New Pittsburgh Courier's "Fab 40." ■



PITTSBURGH CHILD GUIDANCE FOUNDATION 2018 BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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PCGF at Work in the Community

In 2016, the Pittsburgh Child Guidance Foundation awarded more than \$200,000 in grants to 20 organizations. We are pleased to report **how the organizations leveraged these grants to serve individuals living in western Pennsylvania.**

Allegheny Valley Association of Churches' Interfaith Hospitality Network served 23 homeless families – the highest number served in one year during its 25 years of operation. The program provides a day center, housing case management, meals and transportation to doctor appointments and housing interviews.

Alliance for Infants and Toddlers convened an internal task group to review and overhaul the organization's methods for identifying and referring homeless children to early intervention services. AIT **increased referrals for developmental evaluations and enrollment** in EIP through dedicated data sharing and outreach with other agencies, increased internal surveys of program participants, and providing family- and child-friendly educational materials. Staff received training in how to identify if families are homeless but not living in shelters/hotels.

Allies for Health + Wellbeing, formerly Pittsburgh AIDS Task Force, **provided permanent and temporary housing to 103 individuals, including 36 children and 57 HIV-positive clients.** Through stable housing and supportive services, 82% of housing clients achieved viral suppression, a status that vastly reduces HIV transmission and is achieved through medical adherence.

Angels' Place, Inc. provided family service planning and resource referrals, childhood and parent education, meals and child care for **26 families** experiencing housing instability or homelessness. Staff members received extensive training in the Sanctuary Model of care, which emphasizes a trauma-informed and trauma-responsive approach for assisting clients.

Auberle's Employment Institute partnered with 56 employers and 57 community organizations to serve 369 young people between the ages of 16 and 24. The institute provides case managers, referrals to housing services, legal assistance and health services; workplace training certifications; and job placement support for young people in western Pennsylvania. A total of **93 participants gained employment.**

Bethlehem Haven's Safe at Home Program provides financial relief and agency resources to women, families and single custodial fathers who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless for the first time. One year after receiving assistance from Safe at Home, **98% of program participants remained housed.** Thanks to close relationships with service providers, landlords, and property managers, Bethlehem Haven negotiates and advocates for clients to avoid evictions.



Beverly's Birthdays distributed birthday presents to more than 3,000 children, hosted 120 group birthday parties, celebrated the births of 200+ new babies, distributed 1,200 birthday parties in a bag and distributed Classroom Cheer Kits to 500 teachers. The organization **partnered with 57 agencies and nonprofits and 68 schools** in the greater Pittsburgh area.

Community Human Services developed and **provided training sessions to 139 homeless service providers from 30+ organizations.** Topics included Trauma-Informed Care, Professional Boundaries, Quality Service Delivery, Harm Reduction/Housing First and Tenant Rights and Responsibilities. Trainings also included Group Practice sessions, which provide new strategies, practice methods and resource materials to expand participants' expertise in various training skills.

East End Cooperative Ministry held its five-week summer day camp for 258 youth either living in shelters or whose families are housing insecure. **PCGF sponsored enrollment for 13 youth to attend this camp** that provides structure, enrichment and recreation for youth across the city. Families of the attendees gained access to EECM's housing assistance, case management and education/employment services.

Familylinks helped **14 families and 20 individual youth maintain safe housing, ensured they live in a healthy environment and helped with transportation to work or health care appointments.** The Homeless Family Assistance Fund provides small amounts of funding to offset critical financial needs for individuals and families experiencing housing insecurity.

Grantmakers in Health is a nonprofit, educational organization dedicated to helping foundations and corporate giving programs improve the health of all people. **PCGF is a local funding partner of this national organization.**

Homeless Advisory Board of Allegheny County, a consortium of service providers, businesses, governmental agencies, and foundations working to end homelessness in Allegheny County, **adopted policy recommendations for addressing current gaps in housing.** By providing year-round access to emergency shelters, establishing centralized rental locators and increasing access to affordable housing, Allegheny County can make homelessness rare, brief and non-reoccurring.

Homeless Children's Education Fund translated the BigBurgh website/application into Spanish and **provided expanded training sessions for 150+ first responders, outreach groups, faith groups and other service providers.**

Human Services Integration Fund of Allegheny County (Jail Collaborative) – a group

of private local foundations – supports initiatives that directly improve the work and efficiency of Allegheny County's Department of Human Services through data collection, improved client services/procedures and streamlining work at partner agencies. Recent initiatives include **providing individuals with mentors, case managers and employment specialists to achieve careers in high-priority occupations.**

Jeremiah's Place partnered with **14 agencies to provide Family Enrichment Dinners to 85 families in need.** Each family received a bag of groceries, school supplies and gift cards in addition to a hot, home-cooked meal and free transportation to/from a dinner. Jeremiah's Place engaged community partners such as Jewish Family & Children's Services to provide resources and information for attending families.

Pittsburgh Association for the Education of Young Children (PAEYC) coordinated members of the HEARTH and Bridges groups, who collaborated on policy statements, communications and resource sharing. PAEYC also **held five resource panels across the Greater**



Pittsburgh area for families experiencing homelessness, providers and program administrators to provide information and directly sign up families for services.

Tickets for Kids distributed over **3,500 free tickets to cultural, educational and sporting events** for children experiencing homelessness through partnerships with 15+ social service agencies specifically serving those experiencing homelessness.

University of Pittsburgh Office of Child Development (OCD) worked to identify opportunities for early intervention, enabling individuals to avoid becoming homeless. OCD **conducted interviews and focus groups to understand the experiences and issues of individuals and families who are on the cusp of a housing crisis.**

Women's Center & Shelter provided 300 children with programming and services, including counseling, educational programs and referrals for long-term support services. The organization has **added four full-time multilingual staff and has developed cultural competency trainings for all staff members.**

YWCA of Greater Pittsburgh conducted national policy research and in-depth interviews to review and analyze the impacts of various policies on access to child care for families experiencing homelessness. The report provides seven recommendations for expanding access to child care subsidies, such as expanding eligibility requirements and providing comprehensive training and professional support for staff members.

Mark Your Calendars

We ask Trustees to make every effort to attend these 2018 meetings:

Board Meeting
Tuesday
June 12
4 - 5:30 p.m.

Board Meeting
Tuesday
September 11
4 - 5:30 p.m.

**Board Meeting/
Annual Meeting**
Tuesday
November 13
4 - 5 p.m. meeting
5 p.m. reception

All meetings will be held at the Foundation Office.

Meeting Topic: PACE Presents

During the Tuesday, June 12, board meeting, Pace School CEO **Karen Shephard** will present an overview of ACEs (Adverse Childhood Experiences) and talk briefly about its relationship to the Foundation's work.

Students in all Pace School programs require services above and beyond those available in traditional classrooms. An important aspect of its model is a trauma sensitive environment, and Pace was an early leader in bringing this concept into a school-based setting.