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PCGF NEWS | WINTER 2020

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Gay Fogarty Elected PCGF Board President

The Pittsburgh Child Guidance Foundation is pleased to welcome **Gay Fogarty** as its new Board President. The Washington's Landing resident — who loves sculling and often rows on the Allegheny River — joined the PCGF Board in 2013 and became Vice President in 2017.

Ms. Fogarty is founder of The Fogarty Group, a consulting firm that specializes in leadership coaching and development. Over the past 20 years, she has worked in a broad range of roles in numerous industries including financial services, healthcare, technology, utilities, pharmaceuticals, manufacturing, communications, consumer products and nonprofits. ■



Welcome to Two New Trustees

UPMC Executive **Joan Eichner, DrPH**, and Pittsburgh Police Commander **Jason Lando** were elected to the Foundation's Board of Trustees at the annual meeting and will serve three-year terms.

Dr. Eichner, who recently completed a two-year term on the PCGF Advisory Committee, is a Senior Program Administrator with the UPMC Center for High-Value Health Care. In this role she designs and oversees research and evaluation projects that seek to improve health care quality, value and efficiency and ultimately improve patient experience and health outcomes.

Prior to joining UPMC, Dr. Eichner was Director of Applied Research and Evaluation at the University of Pittsburgh Office of Child Development. Also, she worked at a supportive



housing program for the chronically homeless and served as a Peace Corps volunteer in South America.

She holds a Doctorate in Public Health and Master's degrees in both Public Health and Public Administration from the University of Pittsburgh.

Commander Lando is a 19-year veteran of the City of Pittsburgh Bureau of Police. Prior to being promoted to Commander in 2014, he has worked

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We're Honored...

Pittsburgh Child Guidance Foundation is honored to receive the 2020 Champions for Children award presented by the Homeless Children's Education Fund. The award recognizes a person or organization who embodies the mission and vision to create hope through learning for children experiencing homelessness in Allegheny County.

The annual Champions for Children gala will take place on March 19 at Fairmont Pittsburgh. ■

[PURCHASE TICKETS »](#)

PITTSBURGH CHILD GUIDANCE FOUNDATION 2020 BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Gay M. Fogarty
PRESIDENT

Paul David Spradley
VICE PRESIDENT

Sister Janice Vanderneck
SECRETARY

Brian S. Allen
TREASURER

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Jason A. Lando
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Michele Rone Cooper
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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Census Day is April 1, 2020

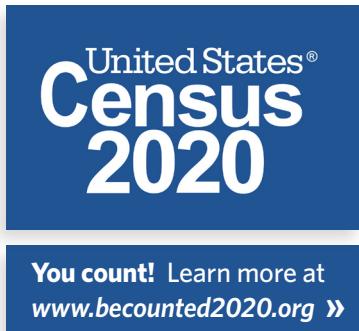
A key reference date for the 2020 Census — officially known as “Census Day” and celebrated with events across the country — takes place on Wednesday, April 1. When completing the census, you will report everyone living in your home on that particular date.

WHY IT MATTERS

The outcome of the Census has a direct impact on the Pennsylvania state budget.

Pennsylvania receives \$26 billion annually in Census-directed funds for healthcare, infrastructure, housing and local communities.

The Pittsburgh Child Guidance Foundation is pleased to be a participant in the funding pool that was created by Grantmakers. Many local foundations and businesses have contributed to this pool to support the goal of achieving a complete count to ensure that Allegheny County receives the correct



amount of federal funds. It is estimated that for every person not counted in the 2020 Census, Pennsylvania will lose approximately \$2,000 per person per year over the next 10 years.

Of concern is the “hard to count” population that includes those experiencing homelessness, people of color, immigrant populations and those under 18.

In mid-March, homes across the country will begin receiving invitations to complete the 2020 Census. Once the invitation arrives, you should respond for your home in one of three ways: online, by phone or by mail.

HOW YOU CAN HELP

Spread the word. The Census is hiring individuals to work within their own neighborhoods at a pay rate of \$23.50 per hour.

No citizenship questions appear on the form.

The Census will be used to determine the number of Congressional Representatives in our area.

Reassure people that Census information is protected and not shared with other departments of the government. ■

New Trustees

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a variety of assignments including Patrolman, Detective, Sergeant and Lieutenant. During this time, he was responsible for assignments in Narcotics, SWAT and served on the Tactical Negotiations Team.

In addition to his regular duties, Commander Lando is an instructor at the Pittsburgh Police Training Academy, where he teaches officers and the public about Procedural Justice and Implicit Bias. He participates in the Big Brothers Big Sisters “Bigs in Blue” program.

Commander Lando holds a Bachelor’s degree from the University of Pittsburgh and a Master’s degree from California University of Pennsylvania. ■

Kudos to...

Megs Yunn of Beverly’s Birthdays and **Betsy Krisher** of Maher Duessel, who were named as Pittsburgh Magazine’s Women and Business Honorees 2020. This recognition was created to shed light on the many successful local businesswomen whose work may go unnoticed in our community.

Lisa Perry of Jeremiah’s Place, a 2020 Women of Achievement Award recipient. The Women of Achievement Awards, which honor women’s accomplishments in the Pittsburgh area, benefit Cribs for Kids, a National Infant Safe Sleep Initiative founded in Pittsburgh.

New Pittsburgh Courier’s Women of Excellence award recipients **Sharon R.H. Higginbothan, Ph.D.** of Bethlehem Haven, **Phylliss Johnson** of Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank and **Jacqueline Jones-Mitchell** of Ward Home.

Women’s Center & Shelter of Greater Pittsburgh, Jeremiah’s Place and **Bethlehem Haven** for receiving awards from the Pittsburgh Steelers’ Social Justice Grant program. Previous grantees include ACTION-Housing and the Northside Coalition for Fair Housing. ■

PCGF at Work in the Community

The Pittsburgh Child Guidance Foundation awarded 21 grants to community partners addressing the issues of homelessness and housing insecurity. PCGF's grantmaking effort seeks to mitigate the circumstances of those experiencing homelessness, support programs that intervene before an issue escalates, and research best practices to understand the most effective means of intervening and supporting those in fragile housing situations. Equally as important, we appreciate when our partners share lessons learned from strategies that didn't work as well as planned.

Highlights from programs implemented in 2019 with PCGF support included:

Allegheny Intermediate Unit

partnered with HEARTH, Sojourner House and Sojourner House MOMS to conduct a pilot program for families with children experiencing homelessness. To assist parents in becoming strong advocates for their children's education, the *Ready Rosie* curriculum **focused on relationship building, parenting techniques and other topics**. Monthly meetings allowed parents to collaborate on problem solving and find connections with community services.

Allegheny Valley Association of Churches served 20 families — a total of 83 people — and hired two new staff members to accommodate the needs of clients. Services included providing case management and identifying support systems to address the growing demand for services for fragile families in suburban communities.

Art Expression, Inc. provided trauma-informed artistic workshops for parents and children living in four area shelters. A total of **135 children and 112 parents participated in a program** focused on improving self-confidence, emotional expression and parent/child bonding. Participants reported improved cognition, more confident interactions and greater feelings of pride.

The art facilitator shared activities that can be done using common objects found around the house.

Auberle's Family Emergency Center assisted 57 adults and 66 children by providing funds for documentation, transportation to job interviews/work and items not funded by state assistance such as bedding, cleaning supplies and strollers. A total of **94% of families graduated from the program and moved into stable permanent housing.**

Bethlehem Haven provided direct grants of \$600 or less to 181 families through the Safe at Home program and provided housing counsel and assistance to an additional 40 families. The program has developed strong working relationships with local landlords and other service providers to allow negotiation and mediation on behalf of their clients to keep them housed. A total of **98% of program participants remained housed one year after receiving financial assistance.**

Beverly's Birthdays partnered with 73 nonprofits, 88 schools and the Allegheny County Office of Children, Youth and Families to **provide age-appropriate gifts and birthday parties to more than 4,200 low-**

income children. These celebrations enabled children to enjoy a rite of passage that many take for granted.

The Day One Project provided stable housing, educational programming and one-on-one coaching for six single-parent families, all of whom successfully secured full- or part-time employment. Four of six participants are currently enrolled in secondary education, with three scheduled to complete their programs in 2020.

Familylinks and the **Allegheny County Department of Human Services** partnered to **provide four training modules to staff members of 30 social service agencies.**

Topics covered included Motivational Interviewing, Critical Time Intervention, Mediation/Diversion and Understanding Landlord/Tenant Law. A new offering, Critical Time Intervention and Diversion/Mediation Trainings, addressed how to provide immediate support to individuals experiencing transition or homelessness.

Familylinks works to assist families with children to achieve housing stability. Its Homelessness Alleviation Fund for Critical Needs helps families who are housing insecure or in imminent danger of becoming

homeless to gain access to resources. **Familylinks served 9,500 individuals at its 16 sites** located throughout Allegheny County.

HEARTH served 82 family members by providing support for utility payments, security deposits and basic maintenance services. A total of **81% of program graduates obtained permanent housing and 67% obtained employment.** In response to decreased Port Authority services and other transportation issues, HEARTH mobilized volunteers who provide van transportation on Saturdays for families that need to reach a more central commerce location and transportation hub.

Human Services Integration Fund / Jail Collaborative focused on four areas to support family stability since a disproportionate number of formerly incarcerated people experience homelessness. The Collaborative addressed: programs for people at high risk of re-offending; effective transition to the community after leaving jail; reduced barriers to employment, transportation, healthcare and housing via a policy platform and advocacy; and a comprehensive plan for diverting, treating and supporting people with behavioral health issues.

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PCGF at Work in the Community *continued*



Jeremiah's Place, a 24-hour-a-day relief nursery for parents in crisis, has experienced a steady increase since opening in 2014. To generate awareness for its services, staff conducted 133 tours and held four events for 26 provider agencies and hundreds of community members. The organization **cared for 263 children, representing a 19% increase** over last year.

Light of Life Ministries implemented a pilot Health and Wellness program aimed at providing basic health screenings, nutritional and fitness-related education,

cooking classes and healthy snacks. Nearly 140 women and children participated in the program, and **89% of participants completed their basic health screening and preventative exams.**

The Salvation Army provides intensive case management services to help lift families from poverty. The agency provided flexible funding to help clients get to job interviews, obtain birth certificates and other documents required for employment/housing and pay for living essentials for families coping with domestic violence.

Forty-three families moved into permanent housing.

South Hills Interfaith Movement expanded its staff to serve 464 individuals and families with children who were experiencing homelessness or at risk of becoming homeless. The Family Service Coordinator provided monthly budgeting meetings, allocated emergency funding during crises and helped families become self-sufficient.

Three Rivers Youth's Homeless Aftercare Services assisted 16 families exiting its Family Partnership Program.

Aftercare services provided additional support to families moving into permanent housing through pest control, rent/utility assistance and documentation assistance.

Tickets for Kids provided **1,981 free opportunities to children and families experiencing homelessness** through 17 partner agencies. Families attended arts, cultural, sports and educational programs.

Trade Institute of Pittsburgh began construction of its new Temporary Workforce Housing units. Once completed, **six TIP students experiencing barriers to housing will have a place to live** while completing their education.

Urban League of Greater Pittsburgh partnered with Pearl's House of Serenity and Auberle to **provide parenting classes, pregnancy/new mother's classes, emergency food assistance, transportation and help obtaining critical documents.** To alleviate stress, the Urban League

of Greater Pittsburgh also hosted health fairs and picnics for families and served as a distribution site for The Salvation Army's Treasures for Children holiday gift program.

Ward Home provided direct financial assistance to nine youth ages 18 to 24 to enable them to stay housed. Individuals served either aged-out of foster care or needed emergency assistance following the loss of a job, to complete urgent home repairs or to manage rental debt.

Women's Center & Shelter served 348 children who set daily goals and identified their emotions in supportive settings, received medical services and participated in after-school programming. WC&S delivered trainings on child abuse and intimate partner violence to Allegheny County Children, Youth and Families caseworkers and public school students. The shelter also expanded services to refugees, immigrants and individuals speaking limited English. ■

State Rep. Dan Miller Hosts Disability & Mental Health Summit

**Tuesday, March 3, 8 a.m. to 7 p.m.
David L. Lawrence Convention Center**

The daylong event will feature a keynote address by **Teresa D. Miller**, Secretary of the Pennsylvania Department of Human Services. The summit will include a host of breakout sessions addressing topics such as employment, guardianship, early intervention, eliminating the stigma of mental health; a legislative panel discussion; and a Resource Fair. Continuing Education Credits are available for many of the sessions. For more information, visit www.disabilitysummit.com. ■

Mark Your Calendars

We ask Trustees to make every effort to attend.
All meetings will be held at the Foundation Office.

Board Meeting Tuesday, June 23
4 – 5:30 p.m.

Board Meeting Tuesday, Sept. 22
4 – 5:30 p.m.

**Board Meeting/
Annual Meeting** Tuesday, Nov. 10
Meeting: 4 – 5 p.m.
Reception: 5 p.m.