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## Foundation Welcomes Advisory Committee Members

The Pittsburgh Child Guidance Foundation is proud to welcome **Cheyenne Campbell, Jordan Kirik,** and **Ashley Priore** to the Foundation's Advisory Committee. They will serve two-year terms, bringing their broad-based experiences to conversations about the Foundation's planning process.

Two current members — **Cathy Bazán-Arias** and **Bill Wolfe**, who both joined the Advisory Committee in 2017 — will begin new terms to continue expanding the Foundation's reach by bringing additional perspectives to discussions regarding activities and special initiatives.



Ms. Campbell currently serves as the program manager of Reaching Back, a mentorship organization for middle and high school students. She offers the perspective of an individual who

experienced homelessness in youth, and based on her own experiences, she is capable of communicating the challenges and struggles of youth in similar situations. Congratulations to Ms. Campbell, who recently welcomed her first child, daughter Neema.

Mr. Kirik serves youth in crisis at Familylinks. He is trained in strengths-based family worker curriculum to help support families in setting and obtaining their goals. Previously, the CCAC graduate spent seven years as a youth support partner with Allegheny County, where he advocated for and mentored young adults attempting to navigate the process of planning their futures, gaining independence and obtaining help when needed.



Currently a University of Pittsburgh undergraduate student, Ms. Priore is the founder and CEO of The Queen's Gambit Chess Institute. This nonprofit organization is dedicated to ensuring every child has the necessary tools and opportunities to learn the game of chess through a 21st-century approach to education. Ms. Priore is an award-winning and nationally ranked player under the United States Chess Federation. She began playing competitive chess at the age of 4 and



began teaching at 8 years old. Also, she is a founder of Y'22, an organization that helps place youth on boards.

Ms. Bazán-Arias is a senior staff engineer with DiGioia, Gray & Associates, LLC and has held numerous leadership positions with the national and local chapters of American Society of Civil Engineers. Ms. Bazán-Arias, who was instrumental in the translation of BigBurgh into Spanish, previously served on the Governor's Advisory Commission on Latino Affairs and Latino Health Advocacy and Leadership Program.

As longtime leader in the Pittsburgh youth services community, Mr. Wolfe is the CFO of Hundred Acres Manor, a nonprofit regional haunted house that has raised more than \$2.5 million and donates its proceeds to Pittsburgh area nonprofit organizations. As an Executive-in-Residence with the Forbes Fund, Mr. Wolfe currently is working with "25 Carrick Ave" to develop a youth training program for media production. ■

### PITTSBURGH CHILD GUIDANCE FOUNDATION 2020 BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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## A MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

2020 has certainly been a year like no other. And while we are all living in a time of great uncertainty, please know that many resources are available to aid those in need. PCGF joined with fellow members of the foundation community to support the Pittsburgh Foundation Emergency Fund. More than \$9 million was raised and distributed to provide relief to our neighbors in need via hundreds of grants to support a wide range of critically important services. On this page, we share important information concerning COVID-19 resources, a 2020 U.S. Census update and an inspiring article addressing social equality. Stay well and stay strong.

— Pam Golden

## Resources Available During the COVID-19 Pandemic

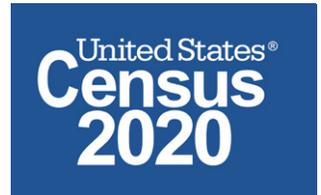
- » **Allegheny County Department of Human Services**
- » **Allegheny County Department of Health**
- » **Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank**
- » **Homeless Children's Education Fund**
- » **Pittsburgh Foundation Emergency Fund**
- » **412 Youth Zone**
- » **Virtual Programming at the 412 Youth Zone**
- » **Report Suspected Child Abuse to ChildLine**  
1-800-932-0313

## Census Count Continues

The effort to ensure that every person living in Allegheny County is counted for the 2020 Census continues. The count is mandated by the Constitution and conducted by the U.S. Census Bureau, a nonpartisan government agency. It is vitally important that we have a complete count because for the next 10 years decisions will be made about our Congressional representation, our Federal funding for schools/roads/transportation and so much more. By now every home should have received an invitation to respond to a short questionnaire — online, by phone or by mail.

Let all of the people you serve know:

- The importance of the Census;
- It is completely anonymous;
- Information is not shared with any other government agency.



*Stand up by being counted in the 2020 Census!*

## Educator Shares Seven Tips for How White Allies Can Take Action

The convergence of the COVID-19 pandemic — and its disproportionate effect on people of color — and the death of George Floyd and many other Black and Brown people at the hands of police has spurred many concerned citizens to engage in difficult discussions about race and the inequality that has existed for centuries.

While many people have expressed a desire to help, they often feel at a loss as to what specific steps any ordinary citizen can take.

Pittsburgh educator and award-winning writer **Cameron Barnett** offers insight and practical advice in a thoughtful piece recently published by the Tribune-Review.

Excerpts from his essay include:

***2020 has been a lot to handle ... Brutal civilian and police killings of black Americans have punctuated the first half of the year.***

***A lot of what you've seen in the news is disturbing, and it should be. You may be thinking to yourself, "How can this be allowed in my country?"***

***You are not helpless ... As a white person, there are many things you can and should be doing to support black people and to engage fellow white people in actively opposing racism. Here are a few concrete and empathetic actions you should take right away.***

» [Read Cameron Barnett's Essay](#)

Mr. Barnett's essay, **"7 tips for white allies from a black Pittsburgher,"** explores a wide variety of tactics ranging from research and relationships to social media and personal reflection.



## May is Mental Health Awareness Month

The COVID-19 pandemic has brought about a myriad of challenges, not the least of which is maintaining our mental health and wellbeing.



**Julius Boatwright**, Founder of Steel Smiling started the organization to bridge the gap between black people and access to mental health support through education, advocacy, and awareness.

In recognition of Mental Health Month Boatwright offers these tips, especially to those who may be struggling during this challenging time:

- Acknowledge the weight and magnitude of what we are experiencing. It's okay to feel angry, or helpless.
- We can help others by acknowledging what others are feeling — give permission for them to feel this way
- Maintain a routine. Engage in self-care and wellness activities. Go for a walk, try yoga, meditate, develop a deeper sense of appreciation for the things/beauty around you.

- For those who need help, seek help through telemedicine. This help can come in any number of ways, including video, chat, or text. Remember that the caller is in control. Don't be concerned about being judged. Seek the help you need.
- To help those who are struggling at this time, a number of providers are waving co-pay fees.

Steel Smiling offers a digital mental health and wellness series on Wednesdays. Share your positive messages and stories on Facebook. Join the live chat on Wednesday evenings at 6 or 7 pm via **Social Media @ [steelsmilingpgh](#)**.

To reach Steel Smiling, call 412.532/9558, or email [info@steelsmilingpgh.org](mailto:info@steelsmilingpgh.org).



## Leadership Changes at Partner Organizations

PCGF extends a fond farewell to **Deborah Linhart**, who recently retired as CEO of Bethlehem Haven. The Foundation also extends a warm welcome to **Stacey Vaccaro**, the newly appointed CEO of Familylinks.



During her five-year tenure at Bethlehem Haven, Ms. Linhart oversaw numerous service delivery innovations including the establishment of a five-room Medical Respite Center in collaboration with Allegheny Health Network. Prior to her recent retirement, Ms. Linhart guided the organization through continued service delivery during the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic.



On July 29, Ms. Vaccaro will join Familylinks as President and CEO to continue the organization's mission of caring for families in need. For the past 20 years, she provided operational leadership at The Children's Institute. ■

## Kudos to...

**Paul David Spradley**, who has been nominated as one of Pittsburgh's "40 under 40." Mr. Spradley recently was appointed Vice President of Diversity & Inclusion for Dollar Bank.

**Gay Fogarty**, who was appointed as a member of the Center for Victims Board of Directors.

**Pittsburgh Child Guidance Foundation**, which was recognized by HEARTH with a 2020 Dreammaker Award.

» [Watch Hearth Award Acceptance Message](#)

*Gay Fogarty and Pam Golden receive award.*



## HEARTH Celebrates 25 Years

Congratulations HEARTH, which is celebrating 25 years of service to women with children who are experiencing homelessness. Over the years, the organization has aided nearly 340 families, including more than 630 children, by providing comprehensive supportive services and housing to enable families to regain stability and lead self-sufficient lives.



We salute CEO **Judy Eakin**, who has led the organization for 24 of its 25 years, and its current Board President, **Joan Eichner**, DrPH, who is also a member of the PCGF Board, and all who have served as catalysts to implement critical life changes. ■

## Judge Spurgeon Re-elected to Board

The Honorable **David Spurgeon** has been re-elected to a three-year term on the Foundation Board of Trustees. He serves as a judge in the Allegheny County Court of Common Pleas, Family Division, and is an adjunct law professor at Duquesne University. ■



## Call for Proposals

The Pittsburgh Child Guidance Foundation is now accepting proposals for the 2020 grant cycle. Nonprofit organizations serving Allegheny County are welcome to apply for grants in support of programs that help families with children who are experiencing homelessness. The application is available on the PCGF website. ■

**Submit your application by Friday, October 16, 2020.**

[Download a grant application at pittsburghchildguidancefoundation.org/grants](https://pittsburghchildguidancefoundation.org/grants) »

## Mark Your Calendars

We ask Trustees to make every effort to attend. *All meetings will be held virtually.*

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

**Board Meeting/ Annual Meeting** Tuesday, Nov. 10, 4 - 5:30 p.m.