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[pittsburghchildguidancefoundation.org](http://pittsburghchildguidancefoundation.org) [info@pcgf.org](mailto:info@pcgf.org) 412.434.1665



## Holiday Greetings!

As 2020 draws to a close, many may look back at a trying year teeming with challenges and struggles resulting from a global pandemic, social inequalities and political turmoil. Yet it was also a year filled with unexpected blessings as we made time to embrace our relationships, adjust our lifestyles and solidify our values. At year's end, we can extend sincere gratitude to all who helped us to navigate these many months of uncertainty — and we can celebrate our own resilience, strength and growth.

Wishing you a safe and healthy new year.

*Pam Golden*

## Pulse Report for Children and Families



In October, the Poise Foundation in collaboration with Allies for Children and the United Way released a report on the health and well-being of children and families in a five-county region of Southwestern Pennsylvania. The goal of the **Community Pulse Report** is to track a consistent set of indicators that can be used

to inform policy makers, nonprofit leaders and the general public. The data will deepen understanding of the intersecting disparities in health care, the economy and other factors that have a negative impact on populations of color. The report looks at health and wellness, financial stability, food access and housing, and youth engagement and child care. ■

[Read the Report »](#)

## Trustees Re-elected to PCGF Board

The Pittsburgh Child Guidance Foundation is pleased to announce that during its annual meeting held in November, Trustees re-elected the following officers to serve one-year terms:

- **Gay M. Fogarty**, Ph.D., President
- **Paul David Spradley**, Ed.D., Vice-President
- **Sister Janice Vanderneck**, Secretary
- **Brian S. Allen**, CFA, Treasurer

At the meeting, three Trustees were re-elected to serve three-year terms: **Scott Hollander**, Esq., **Robert A. James**, Esq., and **Paul David Spradley**, Ed.D. ■

### 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

Joan Eichner  
Scott Hollander  
Robert A. James  
Linda Krynski

Jason A. Lando  
William D. McKain  
Michele Rone Cooper  
Hon. David Spurgeon

Pamela W. Golden  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

# Leadership Changes at Partner Organizations

In September, Pittsburgh Mercy and Bethlehem Haven of Pittsburgh's Board of Directors announced the appointment of **Annette M. Fetchko**, RN, MHA as Executive Director to oversee Bethlehem Haven's community-based network of services for women who are experiencing homelessness or at risk of homelessness. Most recently, Ms. Fetchko, a licensed registered nurse, served as director of strategy for Allegheny Health Network's Center for Inclusion Health.

**Seth Rosenberg**, Executive Director of Dreams of Hope since 2012, has retired from that position and will continue to serve the organization as a member of its Board of Directors. A search is underway for the new executive director. Through the power of the arts, Dreams of Hope leverages the power of the arts to provide the region's lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, questioning, asexual and allied youth, many of whom experience homelessness, a welcoming environment to grow in confidence, express themselves and develop as leaders.

Several changes are underway at Day One Project. **Muzz Meyers** has retired as Executive Director and will continue his involvement by serving on the Board of Directors. Day One

Project is merging with Circles Greater Pittsburgh, a national model with a proven track record of using innovative ways of connecting people across socioeconomic lines to move them out of poverty. **Tammy Thompson** has been named Executive Director of both Circles Greater Pittsburgh and Day One Project.

Best wishes to **Judy Eakin**, who retired as CEO of HEARTH after serving in that capacity for 24 of HEARTH's 25 years. This fall **Marisa C. Williams** joined HEARTH as its CEO. Ms. Williams serves on several boards and is a member of the Governor's Advisory Commission for African American Affairs. HEARTH provides services and housing that empowers homeless families who are survivors of domestic violence or other trauma to become independent. HEARTH also works to foster low income housing opportunities to prevent homelessness.

Congratulations to **Michele Rone Cooper**, who is retiring as founding Executive Director of the McAuley Ministries Foundation, the grantmaking arm of Pittsburgh Mercy Health System. Since 2008, she has led this foundation focusing on initiatives that address health and wellness, community and economic development, education, and

nonprofit capacity building.

Ms. Cooper, a PCGF Board of Trustees member since 2017, will continue serving the Foundation in that capacity.



“McAuley Ministries has been such a blessing. I have appreciated the opportunity to work with the Sisters of Mercy and the McAuley Ministries Board to focus our resources in the Hill District, Uptown and West Oakland neighborhoods. I have always viewed our work as a partnership — a partnership with other foundations, such as the Pittsburgh Child Guidance Foundation, and a partnership with the community organizations that are doing the hard, on-the-ground work. My hope is that over these past 12 years we have helped to move the needle toward more healthy and vibrant families and communities.”

— Michele Rone Cooper

## Kudos to...

**Joni Schwager**, Executive Director of the Staunton Farm Foundation (SFF), who received the Outstanding Alumni Award from the University of Pittsburgh School of Social Work. Ms. Schwager, who received her MSW from Pitt, has led a distinguished 30-year career as a social worker. Since 1998, she has served as the Executive Director of the Staunton Farm Foundation, which focuses on rural behavioral health, decriminalizing mental illness and improving access to behavioral health care in underserved populations. PCGF and SFF have collaborated on several projects. ■



## Mark Your Calendars

We ask Trustees to make every effort to attend.

\* *Virtual meeting.*

**Board Meeting** Tuesday, February 16\*  
4 - 5:30 p.m.

**Board Meeting** Tuesday, June 1\*  
4 - 5:30 p.m.

**Board Meeting** Tuesday, September 21  
4 - 5:30 p.m.

**Board Meeting/  
Annual Meeting** Tuesday, November 9  
4 - 5:30 p.m.

# Community Partners Receive 2020 Grants

Since 2014, the PCGF has focused its resources on addressing the challenges faced by families with children and youth when they are experiencing homelessness. We are proud to partner with various nonprofit organizations throughout Allegheny County working to address this issue. During the past year, the COVID-19 pandemic adversely affected marginalized groups, magnifying existing social inequalities as issues of racial injustice were brought to the forefront of our collective consciousness. Through our grantmaking program, PCGF collaborates with the following partners to address these vital issues.

**Allegheny Valley Association of Churches** provides meals, shelter and case management hospitality to families with children experiencing homelessness to create stability that leads to self-sufficiency.

**Angels' Place** supports single parents with children ages birth to 5 by implementing a two-generation approach to stemming poverty and improving options for housing stabilization by providing early childhood education and family support.

**Bethlehem Haven's** Safe at Home program provides monetary support and basic needs assistance and/or rapid rehousing to families with children at risk of or experiencing homelessness.

**Bridge to the Mountains** provides emergency shelter to pregnant women and women with children who are experiencing sudden homelessness and are at risk of family separation or having to live on the street.

**Day One Project** provides housing for single parents with children 2 years and younger. During their stay in supportive housing, participants learn about emotional/physical health, child development, financial independence and housing stability.

**Duquesne University School of Nursing Symposium on Hunger** amplifies the inextricable links between social justice and well-being, including poverty, food insecurity and homelessness.

**East End Cooperative Ministry** operates a summer camp for children ages 5 to 16 from low-income families. Activities will be held virtually or in-person as safety allows

**Familylinks'** collaborative program with the Allegheny County Housing Authority assists low income families to help them achieve stability by addressing mental health, substance abuse and/or psychoeducational needs for the entire family.

**Grantmakers in Health** – PCGF is a local funding partner to this national organization that connects PCGF to a national network of professionals, thought leaders and resources.

**Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank's** history of caring for neighbors in need, and importance of this service, have been magnified by economic challenges resulting from the pandemic.

**HEARTH's** HOMES program serves women with children experiencing homelessness as victims of domestic violence or other traumas, mitigating circumstances brought about by multi-generational violence and poverty.

**Homeless Children's Education Fund** advances the social and emotional education of children/youth experiencing homelessness by providing quality one-on-one coaching support and works with children via Zoom until face-to-face meetings can resume.

**Jeremiah's Place** works to reach additional families and service providers through its Strong Families Program. As the only service of its kind in the region, Jeremiah's Place provides reliable childcare that prevents neglect and abuse during stressful times.

**Light of Life Rescue Mission** operates Women and Children's and Family Shelter programs that provide a continuum of care that meets basic needs and includes education, employment, financial assistance and rehabilitation services as needed.

**The Pittsburgh Foundation** established the Emergency Action Fund to help fellow residents meet basic needs during the COVID-19 pandemic.

**The Pittsburgh Foundation Human Services Integration Fund** for the Jail Collaborative supports efforts to reduce recidivism in the Allegheny County Jail.

**The Salvation Army's** Pathways of Hope initiative offers individualized wraparound services for families with children experiencing homelessness by providing support to avoid financial crises. To help families exit temporary shelters for more permanent housing, the Caring Center assists with transportation, securing documents required for employment and job training for employment.

**Sojourner House** supports mothers by providing recovery support, housing, job training and other support systems while working to keep the family together.

**South Hills Interfaith Movement**, the only organization of its kind serving the South Hills area, supports families with children experiencing homelessness or at risk of homelessness by providing direct assistance for basic needs and helping fragile families navigate the complex support system.

**Women's Center & Shelter** Children's Program provides healing advocacy and counseling to child victims of intimate partner violence — most of whom are experiencing homelessness. The 300 + children (shelter and non-shelter) served receive healing services and expressive activities to work through their trauma. ■