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Call for Proposals

Allegheny County-based organizations that serve families with children who are experiencing homelessness may submit a proposal for funding from the Pittsburgh Child Guidance Foundation (PCGF).

The Foundation seeks to partner with nonprofit, faith-based, and grassroots organizations with 501(c)3 status that prevent families from becoming homeless or implement intervention strategies that make homelessness rare, brief, and non-reoccurring. ■

To learn more or apply, visit our website at pittsburghchildguidancefoundation.org/grants.

Grant applications are due on or before October 11, 2022.

[» Click here to download a grant application](#)

PCGF Successfully Serving Community for 40 Years

The Pittsburgh Child Guidance Foundation, celebrating its 40th anniversary this year, was established in 1982 as the successor to the Pittsburgh Child Guidance Center.

In 1931, the Center was founded to provide psychiatric services to children and their families. In the early 1980s the Center's building was sold to Western Psychiatric Institute and Clinic where patients began receiving services.

Using the proceeds from the sale of the building in Oakland and transferring its clinical services to WPIC, the organization began operating as a Foundation on January 1, 1982.



Pittsburgh Child Guidance Foundation

Remaining true to its initial mission, the Foundation commits its resources to focusing on the needs of children. Over the past four decades, two of the areas of emphasis have addressed the needs of children whose parents are incarcerated (see related article on page 2) and children whose families are experiencing or at risk of homelessness. ■

[Click here to view a PCGF TIMELINE](#)

Community Connection: Westinghouse Academy

In an effort to better understand challenges faced by youth, the Foundation works to build bridges between various groups within our communities. One recent initiative brought together a group of Homewood-based high school students and law enforcement officers.

Earlier this spring, eight law enforcement officers - including five FBI agents, two Pittsburgh police officers, and one Pennsylvania State Trooper - spent an afternoon with members of the Westinghouse Academy Football Team and their coaches.

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PITTSBURGH CHILD GUIDANCE FOUNDATION 2022 BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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Westinghouse Academy

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While all too frequently these youth have uneasy relationships with law enforcement, this event focused on changing experiences, minds, and lives by connecting these youth with FBI agents and police officers in a positive, non-threatening setting.

Head Bulldogs Coach **Donta Green**, who is Executive Director of the Trade Institute of Pittsburgh, a PCGF community partner, was joined by PCGF Executive Director **Pam Golden** and retired Pittsburgh Steeler **Randy Grossman**, who kicked off the program by passing around a gold and diamond-studded Super Bowl ring.

The theme for the day was “Life After Football.” Grossman, now an investment advisor, talked about playing for the Steelers, the challenges he faced in his younger years, the importance of learning from his mistakes, and his transition to an entirely different career after football. The law enforcement officers also found common ground to connect



From left: Donta Green, Pam Golden, Randy Grossman

with the youth, speaking frankly about their challenges growing up and their paths to law enforcement careers. Following introductions, the 42 players and coaches broke into small groups to continue the conversation over dinner. The evening concluded

with football team members and law enforcement officers sharing what they learned about each other and the commonalities they share. These connections will help the students be less fearful of law enforcement and to consider career opportunities. ■

RAND Research Explores Impact of Incarceration on Families

For more than a decade (2003 - 2013), the Pittsburgh Child Guidance Foundation focused its resources on understanding the impact of incarceration of one or both parents on the children, and PCGF has collaborated with numerous community leaders to improve the situation. Under the leadership of **Claire Walker**, then PCGF Executive Director, and **Jane Burger**, then Board President, the Foundation established teams of working groups that included the Allegheny County Executive, Allegheny County Jail Warden, judges, lawyers, social service agencies, and other foundations to review the recommendation of new protocols that would help families maintain bonds during the parent(s) incarceration.

During the initiative, PCGF and its partners collaborated to



- Ensure that children are cared for when a parent is arrested;
- Improve visiting conditions at the County Jail;
- Strengthen support for relatives who care for the children of a prisoner;
- Train professionals working in criminal justice, child welfare, schools, and supportive organizations to strengthen support for children of prisoners.

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Kudos to...



Mary Phan-Gruber, who is retiring as CEO of the Jefferson Regional Foundation after having a tremendously positive impact – especially in the South Hills and Mon Valley – by overseeing the disbursement of \$18 million to 125 organizations and hosting numerous community engagement events, including the popular annual Jefferson Forum.



PCGF Executive Director **Pamela Golden**, who was elected to the statewide Board of Directors of Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) that support 22 programs in 28 counties. CASA volunteers support children who have been abused, neglected, or abandoned and are being served by dependency courts through foster care, kinship care, and/or group homes.



Judith Hansen O'Toole, who was appointed Executive Director of The Fine Foundation, a Pittsburgh-based family foundation that supports projects in arts and culture, Jewish life, science, and medicine.



Journalist **Mila Sanina** (shown left, Public Source.org; Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, PBS NewsHour, and CNN International), who reports on mental health matters, and **Amanda Krafick**, Manager/Founder of Rides for Recovery, an Armstrong

County-based program that provides transportation to those in recovery. Both received Alfred B. Craig Awards for Innovation in Behavioral Health from the Staunton Farm Foundation.



Mary Anne Papale (left) and **Sara Davis Buss** (right) who received the inaugural SUCCESS Awards from the Women's Center

& Shelter. SUCCESS stands for Safety; Uplifting Others; Compassion; Courage; Equity; Survivor Center Advocacy, and Stewardship. ■

Mark Your Calendars

We ask Trustees to make every effort to attend:

Board Meeting..... Tuesday, September 13, 4:30pm

Board Meeting and

Annual Meeting..... Tuesday, November 8, 4:30pm

RAND Research

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Recently five **RAND** researchers completed a project that explored the impact of incarceration on families, placing special emphasis on the impact experienced by children.

The RAND findings included the estimate that of men born in 2001, 1 in 3 African American, 1 in 6 Latino and 1 in 17 white individuals can expect to serve time behind bars at some point in their lives. Further, children suffer the consequences for the rest of their lives through lower academic achievement; system involvement; and increased risk of incarceration themselves.

The RAND study concludes with the observations that parenting classes are inconsistent across the system but opportunities for improvement exist. The researchers state that helping parents in prison maintain and build connections with their children might be one way to address the disproportionate toll that mass incarceration has had on communities of color.

The plan is for researchers to refine their work and then to conduct the survey in all 50 states to identify the most promising approaches for keeping families together. ■

[Click here to read the RAND report "Program for Incarcerated Parents: Preliminary Finds from a Pilot Survey."](#)

[Click here to read the PCGF Reports to the Community](#)

Community Connection: EECM

Congratulations to **East End Cooperative Ministry (EECM)** – a PCGF community partner – which is celebrating 52 years of service to the community. Founded in 1970 with 20 East End churches as partners and financial supporters, the organization began by providing Meals for the Community. Thanks to substantial community and foundation support, EECM built a new



**EAST END
COOPERATIVE
MINISTRY**

headquarters in the mid-1990s to consolidate programs that had been located in various churches and other buildings. The new location, opened in 2013, now houses a residential facility, community center, and feeding program.

In 2021, EECM provided 84,000 meals; distributed more than 13,000 bags of groceries; provided more than 4,000 shelter nights; and engaged more than 1,000 participants in its programs for children and youth. ■