



# Pittsburgh Child Guidance Foundation

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**Our Mission** *The Pittsburgh Child Guidance Foundation is dedicated to improving the emotional health and well-being of children living in Allegheny County by providing grants and collaborating with public and private organizations to implement innovative policies, practices and programs.*

## Holiday Greetings!

Magical memories of childhood often focus on sights and sounds experienced during the holiday season. On behalf of the Pittsburgh Child Guidance Foundation, I thank you for your ongoing commitment to brightening the lives of children living in the greater Pittsburgh area every day of the year.

Wishing you the joy of family, the gift of friends and the best of everything in 2016.

*Pam Golden*

## Pennsylvania Sees Spike in Homeless Population

According to a recently released U.S. Census Bureau report, the number of individuals in Pennsylvania's emergency and transitional shelters rose by 51.7% between 2000 and 2010.

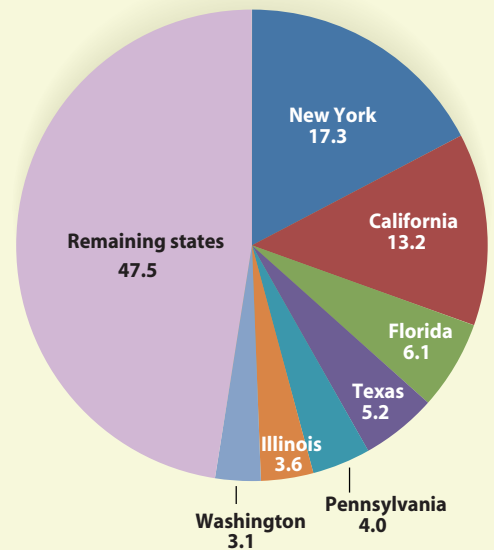
- Nationally, the number of individuals in emergency and transitional shelters increased by 22.6% to just over 209,300 people.
- Nearly 8,300 Pennsylvanians – 4% of those listed in the report — are in the nation's emergency/transitional shelter population.
- 22.6% of the individuals are children under the age of 18 (a 7.9% increase).



For more information, see population and economic statistics from The Pennsylvania Data Center.

**Download pdf of the report at**  
[www.census.gov/prod/cen2010/reports/c2010sr-02.pdf](http://www.census.gov/prod/cen2010/reports/c2010sr-02.pdf)

Percentage Distribution of the Emergency and Transitional Shelter Population by State: 2010



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010 Census Summary File 1.

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## DHS and Auberle Open Drop-in Center for Youth

The Allegheny County Department of Human Services is collaborating with Auberle social service agency to operate "412 Youth Zone," a full-time drop-in center for youth ages 16 to 24. The 13,000-square-foot center, located in Wood Street Commons in Downtown Pittsburgh, will offer a fitness room, showers, short-term child care and a registered nurse on site. Visitors can work toward a GED and learn other skills.

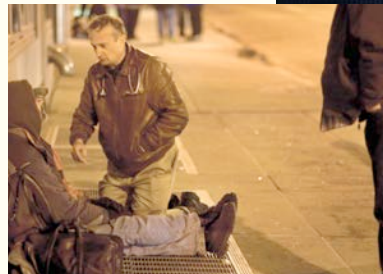
## Dr. Jim Withers Named a CNN "Top 10 Hero"

In recognition of his work with homeless people in Pittsburgh and abroad, CNN has named **Dr. Jim Withers** one of its "Top 10 CNN Heroes" for 2015.

In 1992, Dr. Withers founded Operation Safety Net to administer to the homeless. In addition to providing medical care, he and his team deliver food, blankets and hygiene items to people living on the streets. He estimates that his team been able to move 1,200 people into apartments and other housing during the past 15 years.

Each honoree will receive \$10,000 and be honored at "CNN Heroes: An All-Star Tribute," a globally broadcast event airing on December 6.

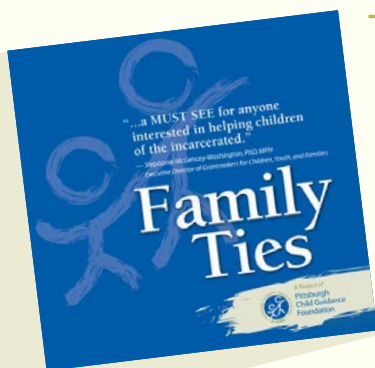
**You can vote for the Top 10 Hero who inspires you most at [www.CNNHeroes.com](http://www.CNNHeroes.com). Voting ends November 15.** The Top 10 Hero with the most votes will receive an additional \$100,000 for his/her cause and will be named CNN Hero of the Year.



## "Family Ties" Video Used to Train Professionals

The "Family Ties" video produced by the Pittsburgh Child Guidance Foundation in collaboration with Argentine Productions in 2008 recently was featured in an educational seminar for Pennsylvania's child welfare professionals.

"What I like about the Family Ties video is that it brings the voices of the incarcerated parents to the table. It highlights the unique challenges of parenting while incarcerated," said **Katie Jones-Pomeroy**, a Curriculum and Instructional Specialist with the PA Child Welfare Resource Center based outside of Harrisburg.



## HCEF to Hold Sixth Annual Summit

Hundreds are expected to participate in the Homeless Children's Education Fund Summit on Friday, November 13, at the Wyndham Grand Hotel in Downtown Pittsburgh.

The daylong event will feature a presentation by

**Jama Shelton** of True Colors Fund, an organization that works to end homelessness for LGBTQ youth. **Emmai Alaquiva**, founder of Hop Hop on L.O.C.K., will talk about the power young people have to change their lives.

The day's activities will include more than 20 interactive

workshops highlighting local and national initiatives; legislative and policy updates; a youth art exhibit; and local resource fair.

The day will conclude with the presentation of the Youth Resiliency and Unsung Hero Awards.



Act 48 and CEUs are available to Pennsylvania educators and social workers.

The event will take place from 8 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. and is free. Registration is required.

For more information, visit: [www.summitVI.eventbrite.com](http://www.summitVI.eventbrite.com).

## Training Series Continues

"Serving Families in Crisis," a free, educational series for shelter care workers, launched last spring. Throughout the following five months, 148 individuals representing 22 organizations across the region attended the five-module series. Building on the success of that training series, new topics are being offered in the fall.

- **Mental Health First Aid**  
(participants must register for both sessions)  
Part 1 on Thursday, November 12  
Part 2 on Monday, November 23
- **Parental Resilience**  
Thursday, December 10  
or Monday, December 14

To register, send an email to **Maura Falchetti** at [mfalchet@pitt.edu](mailto:mfalchet@pitt.edu) or call 412-383-4447.

## Women's Center & Shelter Says "Thanks"

*I'm sending pictures of the playroom and I do not exaggerate saying that PCGF has replaced almost EVERY worn-out toy we had and added TONS of great new educational toys and games! Plus Zilla, our therapeutic turtle, whom the kids LOVE!*

*We are SO appreciative of your support.*

**THANK YOU!**

*Nicole Molinaro Karaczun  
Director of Services  
Women's Center & Shelter  
of Greater Pittsburgh*



## Mark Your Calendars:

We ask Trustees to mark your calendars and make every effort to attend this meeting:

### BOARD MEETING/ANNUAL MEETING

Tuesday, November 17  
4:30 to 6 p.m.  
Foundation Office

