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**PCGF NEWS | FALL 2016**

**Holiday Greetings!**

Music fills the air as another year draws to a close, and *There's No Place Like Home for the Holidays* serves as yet another reminder of the importance of having a place to call home each and every day. Thank you for your support of the Pittsburgh Child Guidance Foundation's many initiatives to deliver advocacy, prevention and aid to children experiencing homelessness in the Pittsburgh region.

Wishing you the joy of family, the gift of friends and the best of everything in 2017.  
*Pam Golden*



**PCGF Welcomes  
Michele Rone Cooper**

The Pittsburgh Child Guidance Foundation is pleased to welcome **Michele Rone Cooper** to the Board of Trustees. Ms. Rone Cooper is the Executive Director and founder of McAuley Ministries, the grant-making arm of Pittsburgh Mercy. McAuley Ministries, which awards \$3 million annually, has been a key partner for PCGF. In 2014, McAuley Ministries and PCGF collaborated on workshops to guide grantees in programmatic decision-making and grant writing. The double alumna of the University of Pittsburgh has held positions at Magee-Womens Hospital, the Health Systems Agency of Southwestern Pennsylvania and the Pittsburgh Mercy Health System. She will begin her three-year term on the PCGF Board of Trustees in January 2017. ■



**Foundation Honors  
Three Retiring Trustees**

The Pittsburgh Child Guidance Foundation extends its profound gratitude to **Chip Burke**, **Frank Domeisen** and **Michelle Jones** for their nine years of service on the Board of Trustees. They have contributed immeasurably to the Foundation and the community through their generosity and hard work. Mr. Burke has served as both Vice President and Secretary of the Board and has lent his expertise as a member of Nominating, Grantmaking and Executive committees. Mr. Domeisen has served as the PCGF Treasurer since joining the Board in 2008. During her tenure, Ms. Jones has served as the Board Secretary and as a member of the Long-Range Planning, Nominating and Grant Review committees. Thank you all for your outstanding service! ■

**PITTSBURGH CHILD GUIDANCE FOUNDATION 2016 BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

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Pamela W. Golden  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Charles R. Burke, Jr.  
VICE PRESIDENT

Frank N. Domeisen  
TREASURER



## Two Community Leaders Named to Advisory Committee

PCGF welcomes two new members to the Advisory Committee: **Bill Wolfe** and **Cathy Bazán-Arias**.

For seven years, Mr. Wolfe served as Executive Director of Homeless Children's Education Fund, which works to support the education and development of children experiencing homelessness. For the past 14 years, Mr. Wolfe and partners have operated a haunted house in South Park, raising more than \$1.7 million to benefit three area nonprofit organizations.

Ms. Bazán-Arias is a Senior Staff Engineer with the Monroeville-based firm of DiGiola, Gray & Associates, LLC. In 2015, she was honored as Engineer of the Year by the Engineers' Society of Western Pennsylvania. Previously, Ms. Bazán-Arias held numerous leadership positions with the national and local chapters of American Society of Civil Engineers.

They will serve two-year terms as members of the PCGF Advisory Committee. ■



## Homeless Children's Education Fund Releases BigBurgh Mobile App

Earlier this year, with support from U.S. Congressman **Mike Doyle**, Allegheny County Executive **Rich Fitzgerald** and Pittsburgh Mayor **William Peduto**, the Homeless Children's Education Fund launched BigBurgh.com, a mobile app for people experiencing tough times. The app allows youth, police officers, direct service providers and concerned citizens to quickly locate local housing, food and health services. Users are able to easily filter services available to them by age, need and gender or initiate a live chat with an outreach worker who can connect them with needed services. The app also provides a quick list of hotlines and safe places for individuals experiencing an emergency. The list of services is updated monthly. Thanks to a grant from PCGF, a Spanish-language version is now in the works. ■

### BigBurgh Steering Committee

Thanks to the BigBurgh Volunteer Steering Committee for helping to guide the process in developing and launching this mobile app:

#### Robert Firth

President, Informing Design and developer of the app

#### Pam Golden

Executive Director, Pittsburgh Child Guidance Foundation

#### Phil Hallen

President Emeritus, Falk Foundation

#### Commander Anna Kudrav

Pittsburgh Police

#### Joseph Lagana, Ph.D.

Founder, Homeless Children's Education Fund

#### Angela Reynolds, Ph.D.

Director, Helping Children Thrive and PA 211, United Way of Allegheny County

#### Chris Roach

Outreach Supervisor, Operation Safety Net

#### Jeff Shook, Ph.D.

Associate Professor, University of Pittsburgh School of Social Work

#### Joey Vallarian

Consultant, Homeless Children's Education Fund



Mayor William Peduto showcases the BigBurgh mobile app on his phone.



Homeless Children's Education Fund Co-Founder Joe Lagana discusses the impact officers can have in aiding homeless individuals.

See the app at [bigburgh.com](http://bigburgh.com) by clicking here »





# Community Partners Receive 2016 Grants

Congratulations to 19 community partners who received grants from the Pittsburgh Child Guidance Foundation ranging from \$2,500 to just under \$30,000 in support of these important initiatives.

- **Allegheny Valley Association of Churches** to support families with shelter, meals, hospitality and case management services
- **Alliance for Infants and Toddlers** to provide developmental screenings and early intervention for children under the age of 3 living in shelters
- **Angels' Place** to develop individual plans for success to serve low-income and homeless families
- **Auberle** to support employment training and placement for youth ages 16 to 24
- **Bethlehem Haven** for Safe at Home, a program to quickly stabilize families who are homeless or at risk of homelessness
- **Beverly's Birthdays** to support the Birthday Bin Program, which provides gender and age-appropriate birthday gift packages for low-income children
- **Community Human Services** to provide free skill-building trainings for service providers
- **East End Cooperative Ministry** to support developmental and enrichment services for up to 10 families for seven months
- **Familylinks** to support rapid rehousing funding for homeless families to quickly find supportive housing services
- **Homeless Advisory Board** to create a plan to prevent homelessness in Allegheny County
- **Homeless Children's Education Fund** to support development of a Spanish language version of BigBurgh, a mobile app connecting homeless individuals with services
- **Jeremiah's Place** to support family enrichment programming for families living in shelters
- **Pittsburgh AIDS Task Force** to provide supporting housing for people living with AIDS and HIV
- **Pittsburgh Association for the Education of Young Children** to implement solutions to increase access to quality child care for families in shelters
- **The Jail Collaborative Fund of The Pittsburgh Foundation** for the Allegheny County Department of Human Services Integration Fund
- **Tickets for Kids** to provide free tickets to arts, culture, science and athletic events and activities to families experiencing homelessness
- **University of Pittsburgh Office of Child Development** to support a research project to identify intervention points to prevent housing crises for individuals and families
- **Women's Center & Shelter** to support therapy and structured activities to help families heal from trauma while in the shelter
- **YWCA Greater Pittsburgh** to support a pilot project that facilitates enrollment in childcare and early education for homeless families ■

## Neighbors Help Neighbors

Shown participating in a "clothing exchange" are (l-r) **Rachel Velto, Amy Smith, Meghan Kay** and **Rachel Yonan**. This group of friends began trading clothes and household goods several years ago before starting to identify nonprofit organizations that could benefit directly from their donations. The most recent beneficiary of the exchange was Casa San Jose, an outreach of the Sisters of St. Joseph. PCGF Trustee Sister Janice Vanderneck serves as director of the community resource center that links Latino neighbors in need with service providers and other resources to advance their welcome and integration. ■



## Mark Your Calendars

We ask Trustees to make every effort to attend these meetings:

### Board Meeting

Tuesday  
Feb. 21, 2017  
4 - 5:30 p.m.

### Board Meeting

June 2017  
(Date TBD)

### Board Meeting

Tuesday  
Sept. 19, 2017  
4 - 5:30 p.m.

### Board Meeting/ Annual Meeting

Tuesday  
Nov. 14, 2017  
4 - 5:30 p.m.