



[www.homelessfamiliesfoundation.org](http://www.homelessfamiliesfoundation.org)

*Spring 2017*

## ALL IN THE FAMILY

Tiffany was escaping eleven years of spousal abuse when The Homeless Families Foundation (HFF) encountered her and her three children. It took time, but with the appropriate support, Tiffany was empowered to change her situation. HFF's encouragement helped her find a new place to call home, secure employment, and sever contact with her abuser. Tiffany explained, "With the help of my case manager I have finally taken the steps to free myself and my three children from repeated ongoing abuse."

Since the stress of the abuse has lifted, Tiffany's eight-year-old no longer worries if Dad is going to hurt Mommy. Now like any other eight-year-old, she worries if she has enough outfits for her Barbie. The two older kids have both seen their grades improve – and

have become involved in more extracurricular activities at their school. The children are happy, they are all safe, and that makes Mom very happy!

Tiffany's advice to others, "Don't be afraid ask for help even if you have to swallow your pride. Believe in yourself, don't give up. Use every chance you have to change your destiny, although it may seem difficult. Everyone has the right to live in dignity in their own home free from the fear of violence or harm."

Thank you to all of HFF's friends. Your generosity has changed the lives of hundreds of mothers who are struggling, living in poverty and want nothing more than a safe place to raise their children. Your kindness empowers them and gives them hope for a brighter future.



Help mothers like Tiffany this Mother's Day by participating in the 2017 No Show Mother's Day Gala —>

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 Visit [homelessfamiliesfoundation.org](http://homelessfamiliesfoundation.org) "Give" page to learn more about our Amazon Wish List 



## A SPECIAL MESSAGE FROM Beth Fetzer-Rice , Executive Director

Thank you for the warm welcome. I am humbled and honored to have the opportunity to join The Homeless Families Foundation in its mission of educating and nurturing children while empowering families to achieve stable housing and self-sufficiency.

Although new to the organization, I have been fortunate to serve Columbus and Central Ohio as a licensed social worker, program developer and non-profit manager for over twenty years. I was drawn to The Homeless Families Foundation as we share the same values and vision; providing holistic services to vulnerable children and families to enact lasting change and long-term stability.

As many of you know, our country and world is filled with uncertainty and strife; news and social media regularly alert us to the pain and suffering felt by too many of our brothers and sisters. Hope is often difficult to find, however optimism regularly blooms here at The Homeless Families Foundation. The joyful laughter of children in the Dowd Education Center and resilience of homeless families regaining housing stability is a beautiful reminder that our collective caring and effort does make a difference.

I begin my time at HFF fueled by this energy; journeying alongside an amazingly dedicated team of staff, Board Members, volunteers and community supporters. I look forward to working with you all in advancing our charge of bringing hope and stability to children and families.

### Mission

*The Homeless Families Foundation educates and nurtures children while empowering families to achieve stable housing and self-sufficiency.*



## HONOR A SPECIAL MOTHER

This Mother's Day while families all over central Ohio gather around flowers, heartfelt greeting cards, and scrumptious, kid-prepared brunches, it's crucial we remember the thousands of amazing moms, like Tiffany (cover story), who are struggling through turbulent times.

The **No Show Mother's Day Gala** is a one-of-a-kind fundraising event with a twist. All of the activities of a traditional fundraising gala are imaginary and happen online. Participants can honor amazing mothers in their lives, have fun, and give back without leaving home.

Check out the No Show Mother's Day Gala [www.noshowmothersday.org](http://www.noshowmothersday.org)



## SPECIAL THANKS

Thank you to the sponsors, guests, contributors, and volunteers who helped make The Homeless Families Foundation's 18th annual Come Home for the Holidays, held at Brookside Golf and Country Club, the best ever - raising \$170,000. Guest enjoyed food, wine, auctions and a raffle while being entertained by emcee Dino Tripodis from Sunny 95. HFF also premiered a Kids Say the Darndest Things themed video that generated lots of laughter and tears.

Watch the video at [homelessfamiliesfoundation.org](http://homelessfamiliesfoundation.org)



## HIGHLIGHTS

*When the community comes together great things happen. See for yourself*



**Nov. 13 -St Joan of Arc**  
parishioners donated food and  
80+ HFF volunteers made Thanksgiving  
food boxes for 80 families.



**Dec. 14- Rock City Church**  
gave over 600 coats & 100 boots to HFF  
children.



**Dec. 13- Pilots for Kids/NJASAP**  
made special deliveries from Santa to the  
HFF Dowd students.



**Dec. 15-21 The HFF Holiday Store**  
provided Christmas gifts, trees and  
decorations to 72 families (209 children).

## PROGRAMS



HFF has increased the  
**Supporting Partnerships to  
Prepare Ready Kids (SPARK)**  
program from 2 to 5 well  
trained Parent Partners.

Each Parent Partner provides  
monthly home visits and works  
directly with a designated  
parent/family member,  
reinforcing their role as the  
child's first teacher. This effort  
works to improve the school  
readiness of the children, from  
Franklin County, who do not  
have the opportunity to  
participate in an early learning  
program.

## UPCOMING

### MARCH

**01** HFF No Show Mother's  
Day Gala website is live!  
Get involved. Find out more at  
**[NoShowMothersDay.org](http://NoShowMothersDay.org)**

**17** Bringing in the Green for  
St. Patty's Day Supply  
Drive. To help us stock our  
supplies please consider donating  
supplies or donating \$17. Find out  
more at:  
**[homelessfamiliesfoundation.org/  
supply](http://homelessfamiliesfoundation.org/supply)**

### APRIL

**02** Easter Food Boxes!  
Volunteer to sort and pack  
food boxes for HFF families at:  
**[homelessfamiliesfoundation.org/  
volunteer](http://homelessfamiliesfoundation.org/volunteer)**



**JULY  
15**

Save the Date! 4th Annual  
Ridge Runner Ramble  
details coming soon.



**MAKE IT MONTHLY!**

**BECOME A CHAMPION OF HOPE**

You'll help struggling families—Every Day, All Year.

**[homelessfamiliesfoundation.org/champ](http://homelessfamiliesfoundation.org/champ)**

**Stay tuned for details**



**Be the First To Know**

Simply register online to receive the  
latest HFF news about programs,  
events and volunteer opportunities  
**[homelessfamiliesfoundation.org/  
first](http://homelessfamiliesfoundation.org/first)**



## PARTNERS MAKING A DIFFERENCE

White Castle, America's first fast-food hamburger chain, based in Columbus Ohio, is celebrating 96 years as a family-owned business. White Castle founder Billy Ingram believed in taking care of people and giving back to the community. His philosophy remains a focus of the family-owned business. Castle

Shares is White Castle's corporate charitable program, making a difference in White Castle communities by feeding hunger, hopes and dreams. The White Castle family annually supports The Homeless Families Foundation (HFF) with volunteers, money and food donations. They donate over \$2 million every year to a variety of charities across the nation.



Heather Ward, Sr. Director of Benefits & Team Member Services at White Castle, serves on HFF's Board of Trustees. She is a member of the Executive Committee and chairperson of the Human Resources Committee. Heather generously volunteers her time and

talents to The Homeless Families Foundation. Her leadership skills are a great asset to HFF as its services continue to evolve to meet the needs of homeless children and their families living in Central Ohio.

White Castle owns and operates nearly 400 restaurants in 13 states and has two dedicated Crave Mobiles that attended 500 events in 2016 including HFF's Ridge Runner Ramble cycling event.

Whitecastle.com is a center for Cravers, the chain's loyal and passionate fan base, connecting like-minded Slider enthusiasts from around the globe. For more information on White Castle and to see the Craver Hall of Fame, visit **whitecastle.com**.

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*The Homeless Families Foundation receives support from the Community Shelter Board and its funders, which include the City of Columbus, the Franklin County Board of Commissioners, and the United Way of Central Ohio, supplementing the generous donations of numerous individuals, corporations, foundations and community organizations.*

### HFF Privacy Policy:

The Homeless Families Foundation collects information on donors including their names, addresses, e-mail addresses and donation histories for contacting donors in the future and for internal record keeping purposes. It does not sell, trade or lend names, addresses, phone numbers or e-mail addresses. To review personal information or request corrections, contact HFF at 33 North Grubb Street, Columbus, OH 43215-2748.

To discontinue receipt of communications from HFF, please contact Dorothy Bastian at [dbastian@homelessfamiliesfoundation.org](mailto:dbastian@homelessfamiliesfoundation.org).