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PCGF NEWS | SUMMER 2016

PCGF Establishes Advisory Committee

The Pittsburgh Child Guidance Foundation (PCGF) is proud to announce the establishment of an Advisory Committee. Through their extensive networks, community leaders will broaden the Foundation's reach by bringing additional perspectives to discussions regarding Foundation activities and special initiatives. The inaugural members serving two-year terms are **Nancy Washington, Ph.D.** and **MiRan Surh**.

Dr. Washington was Assistant to the Chancellor of the University of Pittsburgh and Assistant Dean of Student Affairs, and she served as president of the PCGF Board. Ms. Surh is the Director of Community Relations for Emmaus Community of Pittsburgh, a nonprofit organization serving individuals with intellectual disabilities and autism by providing permanent homes and non-residential services. Born in South Korea, Ms. Surh holds master's degrees in Special Education and Social Work. ■



HAB Launches Plan to Prevent, End Homelessness

Earlier in August, the Homeless Advisory Board held a series of planning meetings to prevent and end homelessness in Allegheny County.

Project goals are to:

- Establish a shared vision and common agenda for preventing and ending homelessness
- Establish a plan of action that engages stakeholders
- Expand best practices
- Identify intervention gaps and establish priorities
- Establish a strategy to measure and report on progress

A plan will be in place by January 2017. Former PCGF Board President **John Lovelace** is serving as chair of the Homeless Advisory Board. ■

Motivational Interviewing Training Continues

After the positive response to the initial Motivational Interviewing training sessions for shelter care workers, the Pittsburgh Child Guidance Foundation, Allegheny County Department of Human Services and the University of Pittsburgh Office Of Child Development have scheduled a series of follow-up training sessions. Motivational Interviewing is an evidence-based approach to build on existing strengths to support clients in a positive manner.

During these free training sessions, participants develop skills in challenging and directing conversations with clients and reflective listening. Through interactive exercises, demonstrations, role-play and feedback sessions, shelter workers and other direct service providers gain the experience needed to empower clients to confidently make positive changes. Send an email to: mfalchet@pitt.edu or call 412-383-4447 for registration information. ■

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SAFE FAMILIES RESOURCE CENTER Opens at Allegheny County Family Courthouse

The **Pittsburgh Child Guidance Foundation**, **Allies for Children** and **Child Watch of Pittsburgh** partnered with **Allegheny County** to open the new **Safe Families Resource Center** in the Family Courthouse.

In July, Allegheny County and the Family Court Division of the Fifth Judicial District of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania celebrated the opening

of the center designed to reduce the trauma experienced by court users involved in cases of domestic violence, child abuse or custody disputes.

The center provides separate spaces for plaintiffs and defendants to wait, a play space for children and a safe, confidential space for abuse victims to meet with advocates, attorneys and social service providers.

Allies for Children, a non-profit organization that researches, advocates and provides programming for children in Allegheny County is headed by **Patrick Dowd**. VIPs taking part in the ribbon cutting ceremony included **Judy Horgan**, a founding member of Child Watch, the predecessor to Allies for Children." ■

Call for Proposals: Programs helping families with children experiencing homelessness

The Pittsburgh Child Guidance Foundation is presenting the opportunity for Allegheny County 501(c)(3) nonprofit organizations to apply for a grant that supports programs related to helping families with children who are experiencing homelessness.

PCGF is particularly interested in learning about and supporting innovative programs and practices that encourage improvements to service delivery and/or policies. Submit your request by **October 21, 2016**. Any grants received need to be earmarked for families with children who are experiencing homelessness.

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. Prior grant recipients will receive details via email and information will be posted on the PCGF website by mid September. ■

Kudos to...

...**Maurita Bryant**, formerly the Assistant Chief of Investigations for the City of Pittsburgh Bureau of Police, who has been hired as assistant superintendent for the Allegheny County Police Department just one month after her retirement from the City of Pittsburgh. Congratulations, Maurita, on this new appointment!

Congratulations to **Summer Thorpe**, who is headed to the University of Notre Dame after working at PCGF as an intern for the past year. The Sewickley Academy graduate is a sports superstar who is the 2016 State Champion in the 100m Hurdles, Sewickley's Best Female Athlete and holds varsity letters in basketball, soccer and track & field. Summer will join Notre Dame's Track & Field team and is currently interested in studying Social Psychology. Thanks for your help in the office. Best of luck, Summer! ■

Mark Your Calendars

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

Board Meeting
Tuesday, Sept. 13
4 - 5:30 p.m.
Foundation Office

**Board Meeting/
Annual Meeting**
Tuesday, Nov. 15
4 - 5:30 p.m.
Foundation Office

**Homeless Children's Educational Fund
Annual Summit**
Friday, Nov. 18
7:30 a.m.
Wyndham Grand Pittsburgh
Downtown