



The Advocate Current

Advocates for Homeless Families, Inc. 216 Abrecht Place Frederick, MD 21701 301-662-2003 www.afhf.org



Francina and Joe Baldi (to the right) bearing gifts

Francina & Joe Baldi Host WGC Luncheon

We thank Francina and Joe Baldi for hosting a luncheon for the Women's Giving Circle on September 12, 2013. Francina and Joe chose this occasion to shine a spotlight on the work of Advocates and Habitat for Humanity – two of their favorite non-profits. Francina served on Advocates' board of directors for eight years and for two years as an advisory council member. Joe is chair of Habitat's board of directors. How fortunate we are to have Francina and Joe in our court. They both love Frederick and are committed to the welfare of all the county's citizens.

Blankets, Sleeping Bags Needed

Our community partner The Frederick Rescue Mission is collecting donations of new or gently used blankets and sleeping bags for the chronically homeless. The chronically homeless are individuals and families that are either unable to find shelter or unwilling to accept shelter and who are sleeping in the rough. With winter fast approaching, there is a pressing need to help those who are unable to help themselves. You may drop off your donations to the Mission, 419 W South Street, Frederick, MD 21701, or at our office and we will deliver donations to the Mission on your behalf. If you have any questions, please contact Tommy Skaggs at (301) 695-6633.

Partnering With FCPS

Our programs to help homeless families achieve permanent housing, self-sufficiency, and financial stability are holistic and include the children. We currently have 47 children, ages 18 months to 14 years, in our programs. Highlights in our children's program are explained below.



Parties start with cupcakes!

Back-to-School Party

This September, we partnered with FCPS to hold a back-to-school party to distribute backpacks and school supplies for every pre-school and school-aged child. Advocates provided refreshments and game prizes. Backpacks filled with school supplies were donated by FCPS and private citizens who support Advocates.

Tutoring.

We provide babysitting services for the children while their parents attend our weekly Life Skills Workgroup training sessions. During these training sessions, FCPS tutors engage the children in constructive learning activities and games to foster a love of learning. Frequently, tutors' own children participate to refresh team games and introduce new faces.

Monitoring

Case managers Julie Muenzfeld and Connelly Stewart work on an ongoing basis with liaisons in the Frederick County Public Schools (FCPS). Case managers monitor each child's attendance, scholastic achievement, and socialization to ensure the children in our care receive the education and benefits to which they are entitled. Case managers also monitor child-care for pre-schoolers and toddlers to be certain that every child is cared for when parents are at work or school.



Tutor Kari McDaniel reads to youngsters

Children's Activities

We believe that every child should have the opportunity for fun and play regardless of their circumstances. Thanks to generous grants from organizations, such as The Community Foundation of Frederick County and the Carroll Creek Rotary Club, and our partnership with the Boys & Girls Club, we are able to assist parents with after-school and summer activity fees. Knowing that their children are engaged in adult-supervised activities in the afternoons and summer days allows our adult participants time to go to school and maintain jobs.

Good Grades Party

At the close of the school year, we hold a party for the children in partnership with FCPS at which we recognize our honors students and perfect (or, near-perfect) attendance, and athletic or after-school engagement. FCPS provides gifts to the honors students and refreshments for everyone. We provide \$25.00 gift cards to students for grades, attendance, and athletic accomplishments. Every child is recognized, and no one is left out.

Our Partnership With FCPS Works!

All of our children are earning passing grades or better and receive tutoring when needed, as well as interventions of counselors if appropriate. We must thank the folks that help make this possible: Zoe Carson, Jennifer Lacey, Kari McDaniel, and Monica Gray.

Statistics Through September 2013



Transitional Housing Program

54 adults and children housed

11,072 bed nights provided

8 adults in vocational training programs

14 adults working full-time

7 adults and 10 children graduated to permanent, stable housing

108 families on our waiting list

Homeless Prevention Services

87 adults and children served

Security deposit assistance for 9 families \$3,850

Rental or utilities assistance for 27 families \$28,389

Wish List Items

The homeless families in our programs are always in need of the following:

Liquid laundry detergent

Body Wash

Women's deodorant

Men's deodorant

Paper towels

Toilet paper

Dish detergent

All purpose cleaners

Donations can be dropped off at our office between 9:30 am and 4:00 pm. We suggest you call first, so we can make sure a member of our staff is available to receive the goods.



The Hungarian State Ensemble performs in this undated, provided photo.

By SPECIAL | UPLOADED: Oct. 16, 2013

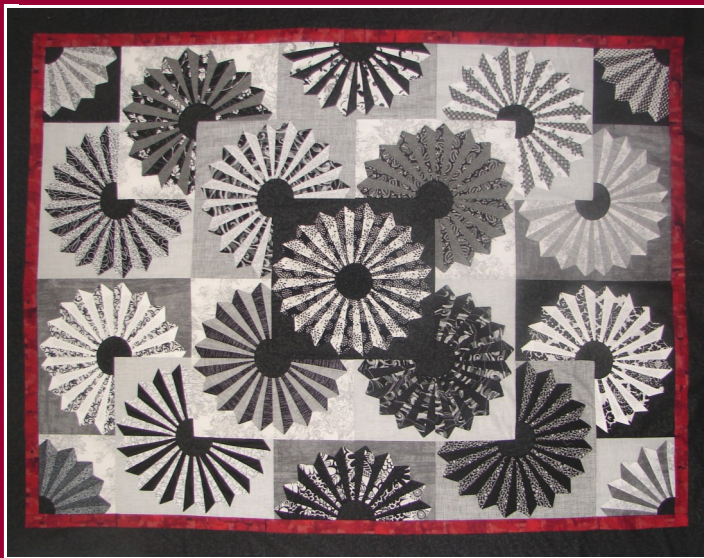
Mission Statement

Advocates for Homeless Families' mission is to empower motivated families to overcome or avoid homelessness. Families achieve success through a structured two-year program of education, housing, and support services. We maintain 14 single-unit, scattered-site properties to house families in our Transitional Housing Program, and provide limited financial assistance for rent or utilities to families at risk of homelessness in our Families Forward Program.

Season of Hope

This year's Season of Hope kicks off with a performance of The Hungarian State Folk Ensemble, November 12, 2013, at 7:30 p.m., at the Weinberg Center. With more than 300 costume changes, the ensemble has been entertaining audiences worldwide for the past 60 years. A reception hosted by the Frederick News Post precedes the performance and begins at 6:00 p.m. Ticket prices range from \$30.00 to \$12.00 and can be purchased online at <https://www.vendini.com/ticket>.

NOT YOUR GRANDMOTHER'S QUILT RAFFLE



The pictured Dresden pattern quilt is handmade, measures 72" X 88," and will be raffled off on December 15, 2013 with the proceeds to benefit Advocates. Rev Earl Mullins will draw the winning ticket at All Saints' Episcopal Church immediately following Sunday services. The winner does not have to be present to win! The winner will be contacted by phone. What a terrific Christmas present this would make for a friend or family member. Raffle tickets are \$2.00 each or 3 for \$5.00, and may be purchased by contacting Advocates via e-mail at kallread@afh88.org or calling 301.662.2003.

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STAY IN TOUCH

Please send us your e-mail address so we can update you quickly and efficiently.

Just shoot on e-mail to Ken Allread at
kallread@afhf88.org

and ask to be added to our address book.

THANK YOU SO MUCH!



Workplace Giving Campaigns

Gifts via payroll deduction from your workplace are a convenient and time-honored way to make a meaningful contribution to Advocates for Homeless Families - one that our charity receives throughout the year. We know there are many, many worthy causes from which to choose. If long-term solutions to homelessness for women and their children touch your heart, we hope you will include Advocates for Homeless Families in your pledge for support. We are fortunate to be included in the following workplace giving campaigns:

Combined Charity Campaign (Frederick County Public Schools, Frederick City, or Frederick County) – **Select 0700**

Maryland Charity Campaign (Maryland State Employees) – **Select 2379**

Combined Federal Campaign DC Capitol Region (includes federal employees working in Frederick County) – **Select 13775**

For the Frederick United Way Giving Campaign, you can write in “Advocates for Homeless Families” or “AFHF” on your pledge form and 100% of your contribution will help a family overcome or avoid homelessness.

**ADVOCATES FOR
HOMELESS FAMILIES, INC.
is a 501(c)3, non-profit
organization.**