



Summer 2012

# The Advocate Current

Advocates for Homeless Families, Inc. 216 Abrecht Place Frederick, MD 21701 301-662-2003 [www.afhf.org](http://www.afhf.org)



Recipients of grant awards at the 2012 Women's Giving Circle

## Overcoming Barriers to Success

Thanks to a grant from the Women's Giving Circle of Frederick County, Advocates is able to help the single mothers in our program overcome two of their biggest barriers to success—meeting the daily costs of childcare and transportation. Most of the women in our program have monthly incomes of \$1,000 or less and do not have cars. As they struggle to work and go to school to better their living circumstances, access to childcare and reliable transportation are foremost on their minds. While we provide financial assistance to help with these costs, our general operating principle is that Advocates provides “a hand up and not a hand out.” In order to receive the assistance, participants must be going to school full- or part-time and/or working.

The Women's Giving Circle grant is currently our sole source of funding for the financial assis-

tance we provide for these purposes, and the grant is pivotal to the future success of our participants. Advocates was one of 17 organizations serving women and children that were awarded 23 grants this year at the Women's Giving Circle Annual Tea, held June 26, 2012.

The Women's Giving Circle of Frederick County, founded in 2006, brings women together who share common philanthropic goals to benefit women's needs. We wish to thank Karlys Kline, founder, and Lisa Ausherman, grants committee chair, for their support of women and their children who have become marginalized, but are motivated to overcome their current circumstances. To find out more about the good works performed by the Women's Giving Circle, visit their web-site at [www.womensgivigncircleoffred.org](http://www.womensgivigncircleoffred.org).

# WISH LIST ITEMS !

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

**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.

**Proudly serving the Frederick community since 1988.**

Advocates empowers motivated families to overcome homelessness. Our families succeed through a two-year structured program of housing, education and support services

Lucille and son, Jamari.



## Transitioning to Independence!

Congratulations to Lucille and her nine-year old son Jamari, who move this month from Advocates' transitional housing to stable, permanent housing. National statistics show that 80 percent of homeless families who move into affordable, stable housing do not revert to homelessness. Referred to Advocates by her adult daughter, who herself graduated from our housing program, Lucille had run out of options. She walked away from a drug-riddled family environment and a history of broken relationships. She had no marketable job skills and had dropped out of high school in the 10<sup>th</sup> grade. Today, Lucille can hold her head up high! She has been clean and sober for four years, obtained her GED while at Advocates, and has been gainfully employed for two years as a supervisor at Goodwill Industries. Thanks to your financial support, Advocates was able to help Lucille pay her security deposit and first month's rent. Lucille will continue to work with Advocates in our Families Forward program—a program designed for low-income families who reside independently, who seek to stabilize or strengthen family finances while pursuing vocational certifications to enhance their employment options.

**Advocates for Homeless Families has begun to accept sponsors for our newsletter. If you would like to be honored in an upcoming addition by sponsoring, please contact Ken Allread at [kallread@afh88.org](mailto:kallread@afh88.org) or 301-662-2003.**

# California Guitar Trio Concert a Success

The world-renowned California Guitar Trio (CGT) returned to All Saints' Episcopal Church on June 29 to play their eleventh concert in Frederick. The concert, which benefited Advocates for Homeless Families, was one of the best attended to date. The CGT dazzled the audience as joyous music filled the sanctuary to the delight of the 145 people in attendance. The Trio is comprised of Paul Richards of Salt Lake City, Utah; Bert Lams of Affligem, Belgium; and Hideyo Moriya of Chiba, Japan. More information about the Trio can be found by visiting their website at [www.cgtrio.com](http://www.cgtrio.com).

Advocates wishes to thank Harry and Jeanne Lawrence for their major contribution toward making the show a success. We also extend our appreciation to Mark and Sara Gibson for their assistance throughout the show.



California Guitar Trio played a summer concert in Frederick to benefit Advocates for Homeless Families.

## Save the Dates . . .



## September 21

### 24th Annual Gala

We will hold our 24th Annual Gala at All Saints' Episcopal Church, Frederick, Maryland. This year we're thinking informal, great food, time with friends, and a little night music. Details to follow.

## November 3

### Brain Games

Teams compete in the ultimate trivia contest for trophies. Games begin at 1:00 pm with four rounds of 25 questions each.

*As we get closer to the dates, ticket information will be posted on our web-site at [www.afhf88.org](http://www.afhf88.org) and in separate announcements.*

## THANKS TO ALL OF YOU . . .

Since January 2012, Advocates has provided **38 homeless individuals** (16 adults and 22 children) with 6,916 bed nights in safe, well-maintained, separate housing units in our Transitional Housing program. We currently have **150 homeless families on our waiting list**.

- Fourteen participants are working full- or part-time
- Three participants are enrolled in nursing programs
- Three graduating families (3 adults and 4 children have transitioned to permanent, stable housing
- Two participants are enrolled in master's degree programs
- Six participants are enrolled in academic programs at Frederick Community College

**We appreciate your support  
each and every day!**

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

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MISSION STATEMENT

Advocates for Homeless Families’ mission is to empower motivated families to overcome homelessness. Families achieve success through a structured two-year program of education, housing, and support services.



# Planned Giving Corner



**Betsy Day from the Community Foundation addressing the Advocates Board on planned gifting.**

What’s your legacy? In other words, have you given any thought to what you might wish to leave behind for future generations? While it’s certainly important to provide for your heirs, please consider providing for your community as well through a charitable bequest that promotes the mission of Advocates for Homeless Families. A charitable bequest of cash or an asset of value reduces your total estate and therefore the taxable estate. Thus, more can go to the recipients of your choice, including Advocates, rather than the government. Contact your legal advisor to include a charitable bequest, benefiting Advocates and/or our endowment fund with the Community Foundation, in your will. It makes good economic sense, and future generations will thank you.

If you would like to discuss the array of planned giving options that are available to you, please contact Ken Allread, Advocates’ Executive Director, at 301-662-2003 or Betsy Day, President of The Community Foundation of Frederick County, at 301-695-7660. More information about planned giving options will be forthcoming in future editions of this newsletter.