



# FACES WITHOUT PLACES GAZETTE

DECEMBER 2008

## PROJECT CONNECT STAFF

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*Coordinator*

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*Operations Manager*

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Shelley Werner  
*Educational Service Coordinator*

*Adolescent Manager*

Audrey Shelton, MS  
*School Psychologist*

## FACES WITHOUT PLACES TRUSTEES

Kim Blank  
*President*

Tracy Eads  
*Vice President*

Julia Wallner  
*Secretary*

Rob Ford  
*Treasurer*

Sandy Downing  
Bill Hutchinson  
Marsha Marcus  
Allegra Nicodemus  
Sandra Pierce  
Elaine Polson  
Marsha Steed  
Angela Tepe  
Mike Yeager

## ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL BENEFIT...FOR THE KIDS

The Faces without Places Board of Directors and the staff of Project Connect held its 11<sup>th</sup> annual benefit October 10, 2008. This year's theme was a bit different, with a Casino Night featuring gaming tables, a silent auction, music and dinner.

Attendees were treated to gambling, dancing, heavy hors d'oeuvres, a split-the-pot drawing twice during the evening, raffle tickets for a chance to win a PlayStation II, Nintendo Wii, Guitar Hero and Rock Band Bundle, and the opportunity to bid on some great silent auction items.

Among the most coveted auction items were a gas start charcoal grill, two week-long cabin get-aways to Montana and North Carolina, a park bench painted by the students at Lighthouse Youth Services, and other items including wine, jewelry, dinners, a fire pit and tickets to various events at the Aronoff Center for the Performing Arts and US Bank Arena.

This wonderful event was made possible by the generous support of the following sponsors: Lawrence & Russell Attorneys, Duke Energy, UPS, Wesbanco, Ladd Research, Kroger Company, Cincinnati Bell, Debra Ann Mohr, Charles Schwab, Dave and Carole Luppert, Metcut Research, Cox Financial and Pachinko.

We would like to once again say **THANK YOU** for the continued support of our sponsors.

The Benefit Committee also would like to thank those who attended and assisted in making this year's event a success.

We ask that you please join us for next year's benefit, a **New Orleans Chomp and Stomp**. The event will again be held in early October. Additional details will be included in the next newsletter and available on our website.



## “ONCE A YEAR BOWLING LEAGUE”

Thanks to Big Dan and Tammy Bedinghaus for hosting the 6<sup>th</sup> Annual “Once A Year Bowling League” at Stones Lanes in Norwood benefiting Project Connect and Faces without Places. Fifty people participated in bowling and games of skill such as bowling with opposite hand, fewest pins knocked down and bowling through the legs of a favorite bowler on the lane. A split-the-pot, and sales of the highly sought after “Bowling Stones”, shirts raised **\$528** for Faces without Places.

The event has raised approx \$2000 for Project Connect/Faces without Places over the last several years. In these tough economic times when individuals are struggling with their own bills and budgets this is just one example of how friends can come together and positively impact children and youth experiencing homelessness. A big **Thank You** to Dan and Tammy!!!!



Bill and Annie Bangert

## AIKEN STUDENTS EXPERIENCE HOMELESSNESS

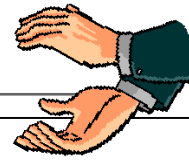
The courtyard area of Aiken High School became a "Shanty Town" on Thursday evening, October 16th. Over 50 students and staff members slept under the stars in boxes to explore the world of the homeless. The project was developed by the Leadership Team of the Aiken campus.

Speakers from the Homeless Coalition, Project Connect, and the College Hill community shared with the participants offering information about the plight of the homeless. The group learned that homelessness is a growing problem in Cincinnati and that there are agencies in place to assist those in need.

The experience taught the participants that people who find themselves in a homeless situation struggle with many problems; perhaps the most challenging is self-esteem. Students and staff members developed a new empathy and a greater understanding for the homeless community.



Allen Middleton, A'lexus Gordon and Angela Abney present the four boxes of socks they helped collect to Project Connect representatives. Dana Beasley watches the presentation.



## SUCCESSFUL FUNDRAISERS

On August 23, 2008, Crystal Haymes (friend of Faces without Places), Allegra Nicodemus, and Sandra Pierce organized a successful Sand Volleyball Fundraiser that raised over \$900 for Faces without Places. **Thank you to Kevin and Debbie Westerkamm from Setters Volleyball in Anderson** and all the wonderful participants for making this possible. The wonderful participation in this event demonstrates the community's willingness to support children experiencing homelessness.

Katie Haumesser was a speech pathologist who dedicated her life to providing services to children. In order to celebrate the inspirational life that she lived and continue her life's work, the Katie Haumesser Foundation was created. Faces without Places received \$500 from this foundation in order to continue their educational support for children experiencing homelessness. In order to find out more information about the Katie Haumesser Foundation or to extend gratitude for this generous donation, please visit

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

## DUKE ENERGY STAYS CONNECTED TO KIDS



Cedric Lampkin, Marvin Blade, & Dale Butler present a \$5,000 sponsorship to Faces without Places Trustee Bill Hutchinson and Project Connect Director Karen Fessler.

The staff at Duke Energy continue to stay involved in the lives of children experiencing homelessness through many ways of giving. The leadership of Cedric Lampkin and Mary Turner, and the efforts of the African-American Network at Duke Energy has led to an enormous impact on children's lives.

In addition to supporting our annual benefit, Duke Energy teams have come together to sponsor families for the holidays and collect items needed for the summer program. Since 2006, 20+ staff members have come out each spring to help Project Connect prepare for the Summer Program—they've done deep cleaning, gardening, sorted inventory, and put up bulletin boards. They aren't afraid to get their hands dirty and consistently give both time and resources to support children in Cincinnati—thank you Duke Energy!

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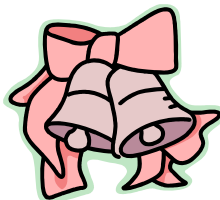


Audrey's I Love You Brownies will be sponsoring "Quarters for PC Kids" for her annual Christmas fundraiser. Who would think that a quarter could be a barrier to education for our kids? It's true that sometimes our families don't have a quarter to put with bus tokens, so either the students have to use additional tokens, walk a distance, or not go to school at all. With this in mind, Audrey's will be selling delicious brownies by the dozen to help students in need. Those patrons paying with "rolled" quarters will be given a 5% discount or a "free brownie". The proceeds will go to the "Quarters for PC kids Fund."



## A WONDERFUL ACT OF KINDNESS

Long time supporter Lisa Garofalo, and her fiancé Bob Hanneken, came up with an innovative way to support homeless children. In honor of their marriage set for December 27<sup>th</sup>, instead of requesting the traditional blenders, linens, or place-settings, they are asking friends and families to support PC students. We cannot thank Lisa and Bob enough for 'registering' to help children experiencing homelessness with shoe cards, uniforms and backpacks.



 **COMMUNITY  
SHARES**  
of Greater Cincinnati  
Member Organization

Start by doing what's necessary; then do what's possible; and suddenly you are doing the impossible. ~ St. Francis of Assisi