

chicago
HOPES
'09 - '10 Annual Report

MISSION & GOALS

Chicago HOPES provides one-on-one shelter-based tutoring and enrichment programming for students in homeless shelters while upholding a commitment to the educational rights of homeless students. HOPES will increase awareness of homelessness and broaden the infrastructure for advocacy on the issue through its tutors, teachers and community partners.

1. Within five years, HOPES will be present in each Chicago homeless shelter catering to families and children.
2. We will strategically match students with volunteers that are selected from a highly talented, committed applicant pool.
3. Our tutoring will take place in an environment conducive to learning, which includes clean, well-lit and quiet spaces with adequate supplies.
4. We will foster positive parent involvement in the tutoring process.
5. We will work to connect our families to other city services that will bolster their child's educational opportunities.
6. Serving students that speak any language will remain a priority of HOPES.
7. Our organization will continue to measure, re-evaluate and adjust for student progress and success.
8. We will provide consistency and positive role models for our students at a time when stability is needed most.



“ HOPE is the bedrock of this nation; the belief that our destiny will not be written for us, but by us; by all those men and women who are not content to settle for the world as it is; who have courage to remake the world as it should be. ”



Dear Friends,

At the end of the 2009-2010 school year, the number of homeless children reported in Chicago reached a height that had never been seen before – over 15,000. With this statistic in mind, it is a priority of the Chicago Public Schools to ensure that each of these students receives the support they need to stay on the same academic level as their peers.

More importantly, however, I feel it is a responsibility to create stability in the lives of these students, so that this period of homelessness does not define them; that they are in fact strengthened by the experience.

Statistics tell us that when students change schools due to homelessness (something 69% of them will do), they fall four to six months behind their peers. We aim to change that.

This is where Chicago HOPES (Heightening Opportunity and Potential for Educational Success) is so important. Going into 26 of Chicago’s homeless shelters, we have provided after-school tutoring and enrichment for over 2,000 students. Each shelter site has at least one teacher from a Chicago Public School and a handful of dedicated volunteer tutors.

Through one tutoring session at a time, we increase our students’ capacity to learn, strengthening their skills, especially in the areas of reading and mathematics. Our success stories are endless and you can read just a few in this annual report.

We share these triumphs with you, our stakeholders and supporters.

Warmly,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Patricia Rivera". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending from the end of the name.

Patricia Rivera, MSW, ACSW
Chicago HOPES
Founder

In 2006, the former manager of Chicago Public Schools Students in Temporary Living Situations, Patricia Rivera, saw a need for more services for homeless students and decided create a program to meet this need. In order to reach this goal, she enlisted the help of AmeriCorps VISTAs. This first group of VISTAs created Chicago HOPES, a free after-school tutoring and enrichment program based in Chicago homeless shelters that serve families with children.



In the fall of 2006, Chicago HOPES began in two shelters, Cornerstone Community Outreach and Maria Shelter. The following spring HOPES expanded to include Thelma's Place and Ubuntu Community Center. The fall of 2009 saw Chicago HOPES experience its largest growth ever as it expanded into 27 shelters throughout the city.

Chicago HOPES currently has tutoring programs in the fall, spring and summer semesters. During the school year, tutoring focuses on homework help and getting students caught up in school. Summer sessions focus on academic reinforcement to bridge the months between school years and are primarily dedicated to our core values of literacy, math, and independent learning skills.

In addition to academic help, Chicago HOPES also partners with local arts organizations to provide enrichment opportunities for students year-round. Enrichment partners provide interactive lessons in subjects as wide ranging as science, theatre, and ceramics. Students also participate in academic field trips to places such as the Lincoln Park Zoo and the Chicago Children's Museum during the summer months.

In Spring 2010, Chicago HOPES started Grow Hope, a community gardening project in some of its shelters. Students at those sites are helping to nurture the plants and learning hands-on about agriculture, nutrition and our environment.

In the future Chicago HOPES intends to establish more innovative initiatives, such as Grow Hope, in addition to growing the shelter tutoring program to all Chicago homeless shelters that serve families with children or unaccompanied youth.

Chicago HOPES After School and Summer Tutoring Program Locations

- Clara's House
- Cornerstone Community Outreach
- Family Restoration
- Hope Village
- Independence House
- It Takes a Village
- La Posada
- Lena Washington
- Madonna House
- Maria's
- New Life
- Olive Branch
- Roseland
- Salvation Army
- San Jose de Obrerero
- TAB House South I
- TAB House South II
- TAB House West
- Thelma's
- Ubuntu

Chicago HOPES operates in 7 additional domestic violence shelters which are not represented here due to privacy concerns.



While Chicago HOPES primarily aims to raise hope through education for Chicago's homeless students, the experience and connections built also transform many of our volunteer tutors. Jon Malysiak is a prime example of the impact of HOPES on tutors as well as students.

After spending several years in the publishing field, Jon returned to school and is pursuing a master's degree in education at Roosevelt University in Chicago, with plans to become a high school English teacher. His course of study required a certain number of tutoring hours, so Jon found HOPES and signed up for the summer, despite having no previous experience tutoring or otherwise working with homeless populations.

Yet Jon soon found himself attached to the students and invested in the issues surrounding their education and other circumstances. Jon tutored three days a week at longtime HOPES site Ubuntu Community Center, a transitional shelter in Brighton Park. While Jon recognized the importance of HOPES' academic support, he also felt that a real strength of the program comes in its prioritizing of one-on-one tutoring. In observations for his coursework, Jon saw classes where students rarely, if ever, received personal attention with educators. At HOPES, Jon embraced the personal connection he developed with several students. He said, "I feel like often the students simply need a positive presence in their lives and just being able to talk to them and give them undivided attention can be so valuable."

The students affirm the connection. Whenever the students streamed into the Ubuntu tutoring room, Andrea, age six, would always hop up onto the chair next to Jon, usually with a giggle and a greeting. Students and tutors often develop special relationships that only enrich the academic work that is the focus of HOPES. The students recognize the academic effect as well. When asked about how HOPES is effective, Jose, age nine, one of Andrea's siblings, attributes some of his success in school to help in math and reading from tutors like Jon. Jose, who hopes to be a chef when he grows up, especially loves to read, draw on whiteboards, and quiz tutors on history facts. All four of the siblings have been in HOPES tutoring for the past several months.

HOPES, along with its parent department at Chicago Public Schools, Educational Support for Students in Temporary Living Situations (STLS), aims to provide academic support for the 15,027 CPS students registered as homeless. STLS serves students living in shelters, living doubled-up, or on the streets, while HOPES provides tutoring in shelters.

The venture into HOPES tutoring at Ubuntu has turned Jon into an interested advocate for his students at the shelter and others affected. Through his summer tutoring with HOPES, Jon said, "I've changed a lot in who I am, my values. I know that sounds like a cliché, but it's true." In the new volunteer-based model of HOPES next year, Jon will use his education and tutoring experience as a lead tutor at one of the HOPES shelters, coaching and acting as a resource for other volunteer tutors. He said it seems like an appropriate way to continue his commitment to the students, like Jose and his siblings, with whom he connected in the spring. HOPES has already affected his approach to his education studies and future work. He's just one of the many success stories at HOPES from both our students and our tutors.



VOLUNTEER

Volunteers are integral to the Chicago HOPES program, providing the children we serve with a stable environment for learning. Volunteers may serve as tutors, committing to one tutoring session per week for the length of the semester. Volunteers also have the opportunity to serve as enrichment partners who plan and facilitate three to four artistic or cultural enrichment activities throughout the semester.



DONATE

By making a donation to Chicago HOPES, you will be supporting our mission to provide academic and enrichment opportunities for homeless youth. As HOPES is entirely managed by a volunteer staff, every penny of your donation will go straight to the program itself. Big or small, your generosity will go a long way! You can donate by going to ChicagoHOPES.org. Your donation will help us:

- Provide a safe and supportive atmosphere for students to finish their homework and learn outside of the classroom
- Provide the necessary math and literacy workbooks to ensure that there are no gaps in their education
- Provide educational games and books to encourage learning outside of the classroom
- Provide funds and supplies for enrichment activities and field trips
- Provide sustainable funding for programs Chicago HOPES implements to get students involved in helping their community and learning about the world
- Extend our services to every Chicago homeless shelter and reach more students

PARTNER

Chicago HOPES strives to connect our students with services that they sorely need. While we work to provide our students with a stable and welcoming educational environment, we realize that there is so much more that our children need and deserve. Does your organization share our passion for serving at-risk youth? Chicago HOPES wants to partner with you!

- Can your organization provide our students with winter wear, toiletries, and/or feminine hygiene products?
- Can your organization arrange and participate in a one-time service project, such as painting, cleaning, or a donation drive?
- Is there something your organization offers that you think our students would benefit from?

2009-2010 Donors

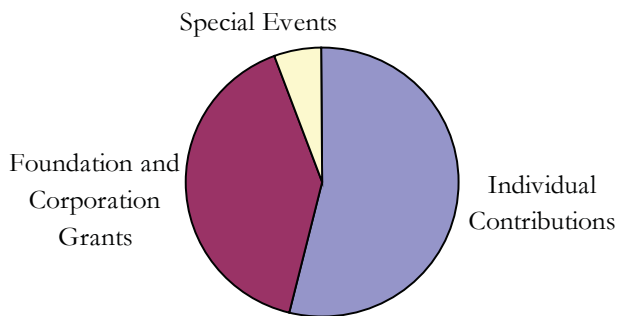
Lisa Bleed	Patricia H. Hartmann	Kathy O'Connor	Lavada Summers
Shelly Brim	Jamie Hetherington	Kevin J. O'Connor	Kathleen and Patrick Vaughan
Colleen Broderick	Mary Jandris	Maureen O'Connor	Elizabeth and Thomas Vaughan
Jeffrey Brown	Jennifer Johnson	Tim O'Connor	Katherine Vaughan
Stephanie Chacharon	Kelsey Kaufmann	Wendy Pepin	Suzette Vela
Anne K. Clausing	Johanna Keifert	Michael and Elaine Purcell	Graciela Vigil
John Coulter	James Kingsland	Elizabeth Redmond	Eugene Walowski
James Danaher	Fred Kornick Family	Adrienne and Harry Rosenberg	Adam Walter
Caroline DeYoung	Charitable Foundation	Beth Ruzoff	Bill and Lucky Wieland
Connie Fabbrini	Patricia Laux	Art Safer	William C. Wesselman
Kenneth and Carol Faig	Michael Best and Friedrich LLP	Samuel Sandoval	
Gabriella Garcia	J.P. Morgan Chase Foundation	Samantha Scalabrino	
Lynn Gerbac	Rene A. Nunez	Anne and Richard Schaefer	
GreenLaudry.com	O'Connor Associates	Carol Southern	

2009-2010 Volunteers

Ann Abdelnour	Timothy Dennis	Julie Lehrman	Jennifer Prokop
Merlyn Abraham	Chiara DiMeglio	Sara Lim	Jessica Rangel
Taha Ahmed	Kathleen Donahue	Keija Lin	Mary Rewerts
Katherine Albing	Zachary Durst	Jessye Lowe	Siretha Ruff
Lizzie Andriese	Aya Eid	Meher Malapaka	Victor Rzentkowski
Fiona Barbour	Madeleine Elfenbein	Jhoanna Maldonado	Anirudh Sankaranarayanan
Jessica Bates	Geoffrey Elfers	Anna Delia McDonald	Amelia Scales
Rachel Beiersdorf	Lauren Fernandes	Margo McFarland	Jasmine Shah
Francisco Benavides	Gregory Fisher	Marcelle McVay	Rikara Skaggs
Steven Bennett	Billy Fitzpatrick	Mike Meuris	Fran Smith
Laurie Bertagno	Paulette Fowler	Andrew Meyer	Maryanne Sorour
Sukanya Bhalla	Kendra Freeman	Jeffrey Meyerowitz	Angela Wells
Briley Bollinger	Jenna Gales	Brian Meyers	Claire Volini
Aisha Bowen	Gabriella Garcia	Marilyn Miller	Sarah Stanciu
Rachel Tao Briley	Ereka Glass	Amanda Mount	Lauren Stanczak
Dafina Brooks	Lucy Gonzalez	Ameenah Muhammad	Adriana Stanovici
Lauren Bushnell	Elaine Gray	Melanie Munsey	Daniela Stellino
Severine Cao	Amy Griffin	Matthew Murphy	Andrew Tichenor
Christina Carpenter	Carol Guerra	Jawahar Muthukrishnan	Cherisse Tillman
Aaja Carr	Brittany Hannaford	Jacqueline Myer	Christine Tsuchida
Hannah Carrillo	Nina Harvey	Anne O'Brien	Carla Vaughn
Eileen Casey	Jennifer Hatton	Worlynn Ow	J. Lewis Wallace
Meshon Chase-Fayson	Leslie Hiquiana	Estefania Palafox	Unnati Wardan
Norma Chilaca	Anjanetta Huntley	Arlene Paolicchi	Kimberly Watson
Katarzyna Chwascinska	Denise Johnson	Karin Aleah Papes	Michelle Watters
Ryan Cisler	Daeyong Kim	Andrea Parga	Megan Whalen
Sherry Clayton	Azmath Kamran	Chanya Park	Damiete Whyte
Reilly Cleare	Selena Kohel	Ashley Payton	Emily Wilensky
Addison Cochrane	Eric Krietz	Sara Peck	Valerie Williams
Patrick Collins	Samantha Krzyston	Sarah Perez	Krzysztof Wojciechowski
Heather Coman	William Kung	John Perry	Diana Zurawski
Gerando DeAnda	Jennifer Lee	Briana Pitassi	

Funding

Individual Contributions	13,566
Foundation and Corporate Grants	10,422
Special Events	1,381
<i>Total</i>	<i>\$25,369</i>



Expenditures

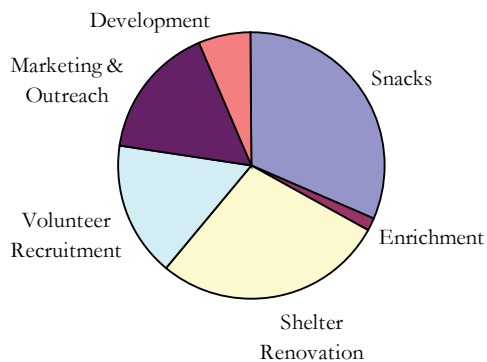
Program Services

Snacks	7,830
Enrichment	325
Shelter Renovation	6,873

Operating Costs

Volunteer Recruitment	4,087
Marketing & Outreach	4,000
Development	1,600

<i>Total</i>	<i>\$24,715</i>
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In addition to academic support, Chicago HOPES offers opportunity to its students: opportunity in the form of artistic and cultural enrichment programs.

Since its inception in 2006, HOPES has sought out partnerships with creative groups within the city that offer our students opportunities to express their innate creativity.

Today, some form of enrichment is present at each tutoring location, working with our students twice-a-month. Since many of our students participate in summer school programs, the academic support of Chicago HOPES continues year-round. In addition to its normal tutoring and enrichment sessions, we also provide field trips for our students.

Whether we're touring a museum, letting loose in a roller rink or shaping clay into mugs, Chicago HOPES will ensure our students receive the same opportunities as their peers.



2009-2010 Enrichment Partners

Amber Fults, artist

Asbly Woods, comic book artist

Beverly Arts Center

Carolyn Mubammad, martial arts instructor

Chicago Children's Musum

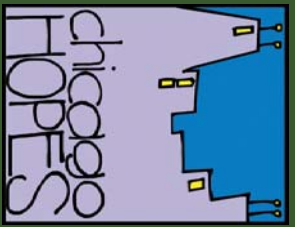
Hyde Park Art Center

Lill Street ArtReach

Lookingglass Theatre Company

Mad Science





Chicago HOPS
125 S. Clark St., 9th floor
Chicago, IL 60603

Place
Postage
Here