Pittsburgh Chapter Basic Needs

Family Empowerment

Angel’s Closet Program Self Esteem Building

Reading and Literacy

**Timing, duration, frequency of program**

Annually, Once a week for six weeks, October – November

**Fiscal Information**

Budgeted expense total for program last year: $6,000

**Partnerships**

15 agencies: Catholic Charities, 3 large Food Pantries, All parishes in Allegheny County, Mercy Behavior North, Hill House, Providence Center, Casa San Jose, (SNAP- M.B.H.), Women's Shelter of Pittsburgh, (Mom's House), now Angels Place) (South Hills Outreach), Family Promise, North Side Ministries\_

What role does your partner(s) have in the program? These agencies refer and qualify eligibility for the program

**Clients**

Number of children/families served your last fiscal year: 416

Age range of clients served: birth - 13

**Volunteers**

How many volunteers participate in this program (planning and working): 30

What roles do the volunteers have in this program? Buy coats on sale year round (also hats and gloves); sort and hang coats/ keep center in order; distribute to children during open house; help children try on coats for size; help children pick books from our book nook to take home with them

**Program Description**

Overall goal of this program: keeping children warm

What service/materials do you provide to your clients? New winter coats, hats and gloves and age appropriate books

During “off season” volunteers purchase quality coats in sizes newborn to extra-large teens- and some adult sizes. They continue to buy during “open season” to keep inventory available for children who come for “try-ons” by appointment or approved by social workers from the agencies mentioned above. Parent or guardians or social workers must be present with the child. This policy is strictly kept. CCS members truly enjoy interaction with the families and “receive much more than they give.” Forms are filled out and sent to the CC Center two weeks before the desired appointments so that they have the right sizes available.

Coats are usually bought on sale and range from $23-$26 dollars. (CCS members are really good shoppers who buy at bargain prices! Many are $80.00 coats!)

Children are encouraged to read in the “Book Nook” while waiting and also take a book home for free. Books are donated by a local bookstore or through book drives.

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