



APRIL | 2019 Homewood-Brushton Family Support Center Newsletter



Month of the Young Child

Designated as the “Month of the Young Child” by Trying Together, April is a time to celebrate early childhood and plan ways to better meet the needs of all young children, families, and caregivers.

On April 27, nearly 300 people joined Trying Together and Homewood Early Learning Hub staff

to celebrate Homewood’s children, families, and early childhood professionals. The event featured free activities, face painting, performances, and information from Trying Together and community partners. Additionally, Mayor Bill Peduto announced that a free book program will be launching in Pittsburgh, providing countless families with monthly, age-appropriate books for children birth to age five. To learn more and sign up, visit: pittsburghpa.gov/mayor/imaginationlibrary

See pictures and videos from the event by visiting Trying Together’s Facebook page.



Family Support Takes Cleveland, Ohio

Fourteen families joined the Homewood-Brushton Family Support Center for a day trip to Cleveland, Ohio. There, children and families watched the Cleveland Cavaliers and San Antonio Spurs face off at the Quicken Loans Arena. Everyone was excited to attend their first professional basketball game.

Several other families met us at the arena, joining together to meet our host and chaperone, Mr. Derrick Yost, who provided us with food vouchers, a parking coupon, and the opportunity to watch from courtside as the players warmed up.

The arena was almost filled to capacity as fans participated in activities such as face painting, shooting contests, and taking pictures with the mascot. In addition, a dance team performed and all organizations in attendance were acknowledged on the scoreboard, including Trying Together.

The game came to an end with the Spurs winning by 23 points and the Cavaliers giving a video tribute to Channing Frye, one of their players who was ending his 17th year in the NBA. It was a great trip and many of the families are looking forward to the next outing.



Dressers Built and Delivered

This Christmas, Center staff purchased two dressers for two families.

Because they were not able to construct them on their own, Trying Together staff member Brandon Phillips, along with two Center fathers and two local high school students, assembled and delivered the dressers to the families this month.



Parent Perspective: Khayla Mosley

The Center is love, support, and learning about your children's growth and ability to learn at his or her own pace. The Center teaches families from all over about togetherness, love, and unity. I am satisfied with all that I have learned and will continue to learn. I seek unexpected kindness from people I don't know and never met before, and I have developed a few friendships that seem genuine. The Center is a safe haven for my family.

The family I created consists of my beautiful kids and my husband. Three of our four children live in another house, but we make it work. The Center has taught me enough about growth and maturity, and how to love both the family you come from and the family you create!

I really have tried to pay it forward by showing gratitude and being prompt, productive, polite, fully attentive, and involved to my the best of my ability. When in need I can rely on support from my peers, the

people who are around me, and my family. While I was growing up, I had six siblings to help care for in a single-parent home, but my mother did a great job. In life although there were trying times, we still remained as humble as we possibly could. My mom made us all aware of the importance of education, and two of her five adult sons and daughters graduated college, and two are still attending. My mom is proud to say she beat the odds of her children being teenage parents and her sons being dead or in jail. Today, my family is flourishing and full of abundance and love. The family I come from consists of my mom, my deceased father, my grandmother, and altogether seven siblings (including myself).

I want to thank the Family Support Center for being my family as well, and showing me that it's okay to take care of me. I love you lots, all of you. Much love to you and your family!

At Family Support, we want to celebrate our parents' growth and achievements in education, employment, community, and interacting with their child.

Reach out to your Family Development Specialist to learn how you can share your thoughts and accomplishments surrounding your and your child's development.

Upcoming Events

Homewood-Brushton Family Support Center: 579 Rosedale Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15208

- Community Check-Up - Mondays | 1:00 - 5:00 p.m. | Ages 21 and under
- Financial Empowerment Center - Mondays and Tuesdays | 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
- Lamaze Childbirth Preparation Classes - Tuesdays, Now - 4/23 | 5:00 - 7:00 p.m.
- Father's Trying Together* - First and Third Fridays | 6:00 - 8:00 p.m.
- Women's Rap - Second and Fourth Fridays | 6:00 - 8:00 p.m.

* Parent-Child Interactions - Third Wednesdays | 6:00 - 8:00 p.m.

The Homewood Early Learning Hub: 7219 Kelly Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15208

- Come Play - Tuesdays, 4/30 - 6/24 | 10:00 - 11:30 a.m. | *No session on 5/28
- Raising Readers Together Club - Thursdays, 4/18 - 6/6 | 5:45 - 7:30 p.m. | Ages 6 and under

Homewood Community:

- Open Computer Lab Hours - Mondays through Fridays | 2:00 - 5:00 p.m. | Pitt Community Engagement Center
- Raising Readers Together Club - Wednesdays, 4/17 - 6/5 | 5:30 - 7:00 p.m. | Ages five and older | Willie T's Barbershop
- Homewood Event Series: Get Up - Sunday, 5/5 | 6:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. | Homewood House
- Making Together - Sunday, 5/19 | 3:00 - 6:00 p.m. | The Shop

Other Events:

- PPS: Take a Father to School Day 2019 - Friday, 5/17 | 7:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. | Pittsburgh Public Schools



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