



# The Fund to Benefit Children & Youth

Autumn 2018

*the last hope for those in need*

No mission statement illustrates what we do as well as the actual requests we get every day to help Lehigh Valley's neediest children.

## The Fund

provides abused, neglected, and at-risk children in Lehigh and Northampton Counties with the beds, clothing, heating, and other bare necessities they cannot receive through traditional government resources.



100% of your donations go directly to meet children's needs.

*that's right: 100%*

Each fall, requests for school uniforms are continual. The Allentown School District requires that children wear uniforms to school. They don't last very long, for children outgrow, stain, and rip the previous year's uniforms. After all, they're kids. They're supposed to get taller, eat pizza, and run around.

## Every week The Fund meets needs like these

**Request:** School uniforms for three children, ages 6, 10 and 12 (PB-787)

**Amount:** \$350.00

**Category:** Clothing

**Appeal:** *A single mother and her four children are currently homeless and staying at a motel. She works full-time, paying the motel costs and trying to save for an apartment. Recent car repairs hindered her ability to get to work. She needs assistance to purchase required school uniforms for the three older children.*

**Status:** Appeal was unanimously funded.

**Request:** School uniforms for two children, ages 9 and 12 (PB-788)

**Amount:** \$250.00

**Category:** Clothing

**Appeal:** *A single mother has a full-time job paying minimum wage, and the family receives food stamps and Welfare benefits. She is barely able to pay rent and utilities, and cannot afford to purchase the uniforms that her children need for school. Their uniforms from last year are in bad shape and do not fit. Other community resources were explored, but cannot provide the needed items.*

**Status:** Appeal was unanimously funded.



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## Why does The Fund buy so many beds?

A lot of kids sleep on bug-infested beds, on a towel on the floor, on a collapsed air mattress, or share a single bed with a sib or parent. The Fund spends about \$190 for each bed: a single for one child; bunk beds for two; full beds for a larger teen; a futon doubling as bed and couch.

### ----- BED TALLY -----

**January - August 2018: 386 Beds Purchased**

## SUMMER SNAPSHOT

From June 1 - August 31, The Fund provided

**\$37,528.48** for Family Needs

**\$9,617.00** to Northampton County Children, Youth & Families and Early Intervention

and **\$2,196.00** to Lehigh County Office of Children and Youth Services

and

**\$25,715.48** to **11** unique community service providers:

6th Street Shelter, Casa Guadalupe Center, East Penn School District, Hispanic Center of the Lehigh Valley, Holcomb Behavioral Health, Migrant Education Program, PA Mentor, Pinebrook Family Answers, Signature Family Services, Valley Youth House, and Youth Advocate Program

## Do You Know This about Dolly?



Fund trustee Dolly Butz (left) with Loretta Wiltraut holding a blanket for donation

### She Helps Blanket Lehigh Valley Children

The ladies at St. Timothy's Lutheran Church gather weekly under the guidance of Loretta Wiltraut to make quilts and flannel blankets. When Fund trustee Dolly Butz met these ladies through Reverend Brian Riedy, they began to make blankets for us or, rather, for the kids in the Lehigh Valley. Dolly has delivered 100 blankets they've made (as well as some that she made) to local agencies working with The Fund.

The cycle of life is real: When Dolly was 7, her grandmother took her to a Fullerton church where she quilted with a group of women, one of whom was Loretta Wiltraut's mother-in-law.

### She Helps Clothe Them, Too

The bundles of clothes from the clothing drive and the piles of dollars from the clay shoot are testament to the Exchange Club of Western Lehigh's support of kids. And Dolly helps distribute the items to the agencies working with The Fund.



Dolly Butz (seated in red), with current Fund President Laura Black (in black), former Fund President Paul Eifler (standing, fifth from right), and Exchange members.