



Annual Summary 2011

The mission of T&E Care is to maintain a network of people providing financial and other material assistance to persons in need in and around the Tredyffrin and Easttown township area.

In 2011 T&E Care remained focused on giving assistance to families living in or around Tredyffrin or Easttown Townships who were struggling with difficult or emergency situations. While most of T&E Care's efforts are reactive in nature (reacting to the needs of families who have been referred to us) the organization has established some ongoing proactive programs as well. T&E Care hopes that by providing assistance to families in a difficult situation, they will be able to recover and become self-sufficient.

Over 210 general support checks were written in 2011, totaling over \$116,000 in assistance of one form or another. The families that were supported came from many different backgrounds (emergencies happen to more than just chronically low-income families). Financial assistance related to the biggest areas of general support included housing, utilities, education and transportation. Additional assistance was provided to pay for medical bills, food, job-related fees (application fees, etc.), baby and child supplies, and emergency support (such as house fires and medical emergencies). Additionally T&E Care provided over \$3000 in general gift card support throughout the year (not counting the cards from the 2 drives listed below). Additional help was provided for budgeting advice, legal advice, tax preparation, resume review and job placement. Some families received furniture, household items, clothes, baby items and food. Over 180 different families were touched in one way or another at some point in 2011.

Program assistance to families

In order to respond to the individual needs of families, in 2011 T&E Care offered a number of programs for families in the community. Some of these programs follow a school-year calendar so they span more than one fiscal year.

- **Home and Hearth:** T&E Care gave some sort of housing assistance to over 40 families in the amount of approximately \$54,000. Most of this assistance was for rent or mortgage payments, but some was for home repairs. Utilities payments of over \$15,000 were paid for bills such as oil, PECO, water, etc.
- **Transportation Assistance Program:** Over \$12,000 in bills were paid for car repairs, inspections, car tag transfers, and train/taxi fares. We also transferred 3 car donations to local families, which are some of the most significant impacts we make to families.
- **College Assistance Program:** T&E Care made 30 different payments to 13 students in the CAP program, totaling almost \$15,000. Payments were made to cover college related expenses including tuition assistance payments, textbook purchases, college admission fees, and general college required fees. High school seniors who meet eligibility criteria can apply for assistance. Students can continue to receive this support throughout their college years, as long as their grades and activities demonstrate their efforts to be successful.
- **Computers For Kids Program:** We provided approximately 45 computers or related equipment to students in 2011. 7 were new laptops for college bound students, and the rest were refurbished computers, printers or other computer related supplies. Most expenses

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related to this program, especially the cost of the new computers, were covered by a \$6000 grant from FLITE, the local education foundation. (This was a 2010/2011 program.)

- Meal Assistance Program: Approximately 15 students were supported in 2011 as a result of this program. These are students whose parents make just over the federal guidelines for free/reduced lunch assistance. Each student received around \$30 per month in his/her lunch account, totaling almost \$3000 in assistance. (This was a 2010/2011 program.)
- Summer Camp Program: Almost 40 youngsters were provided with a week or two of summer camp in 2011 at no personal expense, and volunteers provided transportation for 8 of them. T&E Care spent almost \$4600 covering camp tuition fees, and many area camps also donated a week or two of camp.
- Textbook Scholarship Program (2010/2011): T&E Care awarded two Conestoga High School seniors going to college each a \$500 scholarship for the purchase of books. The students were selected on the basis of need, motivation in class, and their willingness to give back in the school community.
- School Supply Drive: Assistance was given in August 2011 to over 175 students from 98 families. Students received book bags, supplies, and gift cards (for clothing or food) to start the school year. Over \$5800 in gift cards were distributed. Community members or local businesses donated almost all of the items requested for this drive.
- Holiday Drive: Approximately 65 families (155 people) were given assistance, including gifts, boxes of food and cleaning supplies/toiletries, and gift cards. Over \$14,000 in gift cards were distributed through this drive. Community members or local businesses donated almost all of the items requested for this drive.

Administrative expenses

Administrative expenses for 2011 totaled approximately \$2660, or 2% of our total cash expenses. These costs included insurance, state filing fees, Pay Pal fees, and a small amount for supplies. T&E Care continues to have no paid employees, no office expenses, and very little overhead. Most of the supplies, including printing and postage costs, are donated. There is no official office, so there is no rent or utility fees associated with the organization. Donations truly do go directly back to the families T&E Care supports.

Fund Raising Efforts

All the assistance given requires financial resources. The 4th annual Fall Fest was again the main fundraiser, raising over \$30,000 in 2011. As in the past, a few community members or groups also held some smaller fundraisers on behalf of T&E Care. For example, in 2011 there were two 5-K events with proceeds going to T&E Care, donations in lieu of gifts at a few parties, and a number of school groups that ran special events for T&E Care (bringing in both cash donations and donations of items).

Our biggest source of financial assistance comes from our local neighbors who make donations throughout the year. A number of foundations and local organizations and businesses also supported T&E Care's general fund with grants or cash donations in 2011, including Fox and Roach Charities, The Connelly Foundation, the Citizens Bank Foundation, Bentley Systems, 555 Associates, and the Elite Companies Charitable Foundation. Additionally T&E Care received a PA State Grant and a grant from the Foundation for Learning in Tredyffrin/Easttown to help with the computer program, from the Comcast Spectacor Foundation and the Center on Central to help with the Summer Camp program, and the TD Bank Affinity Program and the Fairfield County Community Foundation to help with some expenses related to the College Assistance Program (CAP). The support of many local churches, school groups, and PTOs were also important in funding the 2011

programs. PayPal donations brought in over \$6300 from 40 donors, clearly an effective means for some people to make donations to the organization. Additionally, gift card donations totaled just under \$21,000 in 2011, donated by many individuals and groups, plus local businesses and foundations such as Wegmans, Johnson Matthey Inc., Coldwell Banker Preferred, and the ReMax Main Line Charitable Foundation. In total, T&E Care raised approximately \$137,000 in cash (not including gift cards) to fund T&E Care programs and provide assistance in 2011.

Other types of donations

T&E Care also received in-kind support from a number of local businesses in 2011, such as the annual financial statement review, discounted car repairs for local families, and free tuition from a number of area camps. Peter Zimmerman Architects again donated tickets to the Nutcracker at the Academy of Music for 8 local families. The Kitchen Workshop, Johnson Matthey, and students in the Amana Foundation (in addition to a number of area residents) provided food for Thanksgiving and Christmas dinners for 20 local families. Many area businesses and individuals made donations of prizes for the Fall Fest auction. Local Girl Scout troops and sports teams donated time and goods for various efforts assisting families. One Girl Scout troop baked over 800 cookies for the holidays for a number of families! Two retired IT gentleman continue to do most of the computer refurbishing and new computer set-ups at no charge. Three families donated used cars to local neighbors – one of the more significant ways to positively impact a family's situation. Finally many community members donated furniture, clothing, baby supplies, and other items to help families when the need was announced. All in all over 700 different community members, businesses, or groups made donations of one kind or another to T&E Care in 2011, with well over 100 people volunteering in the various drives or programs.

In 2012 and beyond

The main focus of T&E Care will continue to be the impact it can have when reacting quickly to a family situation. New programs are also being structured and current programs are being refined for 2012 and beyond. A Kids Clothing Grab Bag is planned for the spring 2012 – in an attempt to get nice clothing at low or no cost into the homes of the families who need them. More household financial programs are being created to give assistance to families who need budgeting advice. T&E Care will continue to mentor students in their college planning process as needed, including assistance with FAFSA preparation and college applications. The organization will continue to update its website with new information for both the donors (information about upcoming events and various needs) and those in need (information about local jobs, helpful links to local resources, available furniture, etc.). It is all about teamwork – everyone working together so everyone succeeds. As always, T&E Care thanks all those who contribute time, money, and goods to help out our neighbors in need.

Completed February, 2012