

MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR FUNDRAISING WALK

By Susan Houseman

This spring, TEEA will sponsor a run/walk to benefit **T & E Care** and **FLITE**, two community organizations helping students and families in the district.

T & E Care assists people in the area who have financial and material needs. This summer the organization provided 40 children with backpacks loaded with school supplies. Volunteers also repaired and distributed 25 computers to families who could use them. But that's just a snapshot of what T & E Care is doing to support local families in need.

The organization got its start following Hurricane Katrina, when a handful of residents pooled their resources to support families who moved into the district from New Orleans. Three years later, T & E Care has expanded its outreach to dozens of families. Currently, T & E Care is looking for support for its School Meal Assistance program, which helps families cover the costs of eating in the school cafeteria.

FLITE (Foundation for Learning in Tredyffrin/Easttown) works with the school district to support students who need financial and emotional support to succeed in this district. For instance, FLITE provides children in need with transportation to pre-school, after-school and remedial activities. Also, FLITE supplies Conestoga with graphing calculators to loan to selected students during their high school years. Homework Oasis at Valley Forge Middle School is one of several FLITE-sponsored after-school homework clubs at the district's schools. These clubs are staffed by district teachers.

Visit TEcare.org and flite-pa.org to see the volunteer organizations' current projects. Also, mark May 9 on your calendar as a day that you can take steps to support the programs that support our community.