

Your Community Needs You More Than You Know

T&E Care, Ten Years of Help for Tredyffrin Families, With More to Come

Tredyffrin Township is a special place to live. The schools are great, the parks are wonderful, and there are lots of terrific restaurants and small businesses to support. Yet, for some in the township, it is a daily challenge to pay bills and put food on the table. Yes - some of our very own neighbors struggle significantly on a daily basis. Their stories are heart-wrenching and hard to imagine, but they are real.

T&E Care, Our Story

Tredyffrin & Easttown Care is a 501(c)(3) non-profit all-volunteer organization that tries to offer hope to some of these families. Ten years ago, residents needing assistance had very few options. Beginning in 2005 with the idea that many in our own community could lend a hand if

they just knew about a situation, the assistance offered these past years has been humbling and genuinely appreciated.

T&E Care learns about families needing help through contacts at the schools, the local faith-based organizations, the police, your neighbors, and/or other sources. Rent is paid when an eviction is pending. PECO bills are paid when shut-off is threatened. Cars are repaired in order to help someone get to a job. Tuition bills are paid to keep a student in college. Dental bills are paid when no insurance is available. Camp tuition is paid so a child isn't sitting at home all summer. Over \$200,000 in various types of support was offered to local families in 2014. The situations are carefully vetted. The need is real.

T&E Care volunteers also run programs to help families with every day needs such as

the school supply drive, the holiday drive, and the clothing drive. Furniture is offered when a family is lacking items. Computers are refurbished so kids can keep up in school.

T&E Care prides itself in keeping confidential the details on the families we support because these are our neighbors and our kids attend the same schools. These families don't *want* the assistance, they *need* it. However, they don't want everyone to know about their situation. One mom told us:

"As a proud, independent individual it is hard for me to ask for help. However, when it comes to my children, I must do whatever I can to ensure they have what they need to succeed in school, over the summer, and in life!"



Volunteers at our clothing drive enjoy lunch treats donated from Starbucks and Whole Foods.



A local scout troop baked 150 dozen cookies for our holiday drive.

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Raising Funds - a Critical Task

Many community members and businesses make donations to the organization or hold fundraisers themselves to benefit T&E Care. With no government backing, this support from individuals and local organizations and businesses is our biggest and most important source of funding. T&E Care raises additional resources through various grants as well as our major Fall Fest fundraiser each year. (Mark your 2015 calendars now for the November 7th event!)

How YOU can help

Information about the programs being run and the assistance needed is distributed on the T&E Care website and via a monthly e-newsletter. Over 2,000 community members currently receive the e-

newsletter but many, many more email addresses are needed! If you would like to receive this newsletter via email, send your contact details to information@tecare.org. Signing up does not require you to participate in anything (and we promise not to share your email with others) but many times there needs to be just one right connection and a problem can be solved!

Monday evening, September 28th, we will be celebrating our 10 year anniversary with a recognition to all those in the community who have been part of our journey. Join us at the event which will be held at Surrey Services for Seniors in Devon. More details can be found on our website. As we embark on this important anniversary, we would like to significantly grow our email list. Please go to

www.tecare.org to learn more about T&E Care and to sign up.

A Final Note of Thanks from a Local Mom after Receiving Assistance

"Without the help of T&E Care, I shudder to think where my children and I would be right now. Thankfully, I do not have to worry, I know they are an e-mail away and will assist with everything when they can. The services offered by T&E Care are invaluable to our community."



A Johnson Matthey representative presents gift cards & school supplies to a T&E Care volunteer.



Eadeh Enterprises employees did a "day of painting" for a family in our community.



Volunteers wrap gifts donated by local families & businesses for holiday drive.