

The  
Delaware  
**KIDS**  
Fund



# 2012 Annual Report

## History & Mission

Established in November 2008, the Delaware KIDS (Kids In Distressed Situations) Fund is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization dedicated to providing goods and services to Delaware's children who are "at risk" or are currently facing distressed circumstances.

The mission of the Delaware KIDS Fund encompasses the following types of support services for Delaware youth, including, but not limited to, the following:

- Financial support for essential needs, such as clothing, shelter, and food;
- Financial support for counseling and/or mentoring abused, neglected, grief-stricken, or disease-afflicted children;
- Scholarships, fellowships, and educational grants for students in grades K-12, including support for special needs and learning-challenged students.

## Benefactor and Investment Report

Since its inception in November 19, 2008, through January 31, 2012, the Delaware KIDS Fund raised \$96,116.31 in contributions, drawn from 265 gifts from business and individual benefactors (excluding individual entrant fees for special events), representing an average gift from all donors of \$362.70. The Delaware KIDS Fund gratefully acknowledges the single largest gift of \$5,000 in December 2011 from the New Castle County branch of Amazon.com. Revenue was raised from the Annual KIDS Fund appeal, special holiday events, and the KIDS Annual 5-K Walk/Run event. Contributions were apportioned as follows: businesses, \$52,246.76 (54.5% of the total); individuals, \$21,839 (22.7% of the total); and special events and other revenue sources, \$21,930.55 (22.8% of the total).

The 5-K Walk Run, initiated in August 2010 in Newport, has proven tremendously successful in bringing attention to the work of The Delaware KIDS Fund, making contact

with new friends and benefactors, and raising money for KIDS Fund efforts. Over a two-year period (5-K event in both August 2010 and August 2011), the 5-K Walk Run raised \$17,407.55, or 18% of all KIDS Fund revenue since inception. Nearly 400 persons participated in the 5-K events to help focus interest on food security for Delaware families. The Delaware KIDS Fund is pleased to acknowledge the following business partners who helped sponsor the 5-K events: PIU of Delaware; Bridget Erhard Financial Consultant; Scharp Insurance Inc.; Drinker, Biddle & Reath; Links Worldwide; McBride & Ziegler; Studio Fit; Buffalo Wild Wings; MySherpa; Horty & Horty, PA; Harvey, Hanna & Associates, Inc.; Total Health & Rehab; Phoenix Restoration; Dom's Pizza & Steaks; Tech Solutions, Inc.; Limestone Open MRI; Risk Managers & Consultants, Ltd.; Empower Fitness; James Street Tavern; and Premier Wine & Spirits – Newport.

Total disbursements during the period November 2008 through January 31, 2012 were \$17,427.53, representing a disbursement ratio in excess of 18%. As described in detail below, The Delaware KIDS Fund designates gifts directly to programs and services that directly impact at-risk children in Delaware. We make every dollar count and put every dollar to work for KIDS. Special emphasis has centered on food security initiatives in Delaware, with disbursements to this effort totaling \$10,000, or nearly 60% of all disbursements.

As of January 31, 2012, the Delaware KIDS Fund had cash assets of \$54,965.07.

## KIDS Fund in Action

Feeding America, the non-profit network of the nation's largest food banks, recently provided a sobering assessment of the state of food security in America. In their report ["Food Banks Fear They Will Fall Short in Efforts to Feed the Nation's Hungry."](#) Feeding America states that "higher food costs and rising gas prices could prove to be damaging to the nation's food banks and their ability to provide adequate emergency food to the nearly 49 million Americans who are currently living at risk of hunger." (April 4, 2012 press release).

Delaware families are still experiencing the impact of the economic downturn of 2008-2009. These economic challenges - which still persist into 2012 – resulted in a chronic need for expanded food assistance for children and families throughout Delaware. Food banks and other delivery networks throughout the State repeatedly signaled record demand and inadequate supply for food support. Accordingly, in the spirit of first priorities, since its inception The Delaware KIDS Fund focused most of its efforts to provide and expand food assistance for Delaware children and families during this period of economic contraction and increased societal need. No child of any age can flourish and grow without adequate nutrition.

Our food security objectives since inception were as follows:

- Bring attention to this escalating food security crisis;
- Identify responsible and accountable channels of support;

- Target gifts from the Delaware KIDS Fund to worthy food security organizations throughout the State; and
- Assemble financial resources to continue our efforts, including special events and the annual appeal campaign.

Consistent with these objectives, our food security activity from January 1, 2009 through January 31, 2012 included disbursements totaling \$10,000 (excluding in-kind gifts) to the following organizations to help protect at-risk youth:

- \$2,000 - Bridge of Hope Food Bank – Wilmington, DE (2 gifts)
- \$1,000 – Jack & Jill of America – New Castle County Chapter (1 gift)
- \$3,000 – Our Lady of Grace Orphanage – Newark, DE (2 gifts)
- \$2,000 – Cape Henlopen Food Basket – Rehoboth Beach/Lewes, DE (2 gifts)
- \$2,000 – Delaware Food Bank – serves the entire First State (2 gifts)

Additional detail relative to each of these gifts can be found at The Delaware KIDS Fund website, [www.dekidsfund.org](http://www.dekidsfund.org) or <http://www.facebook.com/DEKIDSFund>.

The balance of disbursements, totaling \$7,427.53, focused on other organizations supporting Delaware families, as well as crisis intervention donations. These efforts included a \$1,000 gift to Delaware Guidance Services; \$1,000 gift to Crisis Bed Shelter in Lewes, Delaware; and the balance to other Delaware non-profit organizations aligned with our mission, as well as emergency response to individuals with children in crisis circumstances.

## Looking Ahead

Expanding upon the momentum from ongoing activities, the Delaware KIDS Fund will continue to focus on food security throughout Delaware until the demand for food support is alleviated. We anticipate that food security needs will persist throughout 2012 and into 2013, until full employment is re-attained in Delaware.

With heartfelt thanks to the continued support from our many benefactors, we expect to maintain or increase our targeted level of support to food security organizations throughout Delaware. We will continue to secure financial and in-kind gifts from individual and corporate benefactors, and we envision several KIDS Fund special events with our business network in 2012, including the third annual 5-K Walk/Run tentatively scheduled for August 4, 2012.

As we look back on our four-year efforts, we are proud of many accomplishments to help deliver support to Delaware youth. While our non-profit is young, it is also productive, energetic, and determined to make every dollar count. We thank our many business and individual benefactors for their generous support in making our work possible.

For more information, including feedback, suggestions, and inquiries, please visit [www.dekidsfund.org](http://www.dekidsfund.org). Please also find us at [Facebook/The-Delaware-KIDS-Fund](#). You may also contact Thomas J. Hanna at (302) 323-9300 ext 12 or [thanna@harveyhanna.com](mailto:thanna@harveyhanna.com) or [info@dekidsfund.com](mailto:info@dekidsfund.com).

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The Delaware KIDS Fund is located at 2060 Limestone Road, Suite 203, Wilmington, Delaware, 19808.