

Rubye's Kids Backpack Project

Goal: To provide children living in homeless shelters with school supplies essential for success when they go back to school, and to provide Welcome Backpacks for children arriving in the shelter during the year

Prepared annually in August

Distributed in September

- 200 Back to School Backpacks
- 100 Welcome Backpacks (include school supplies, personal care items - i.e. toothbrush, soap, a book and a stuffed animal)

Contents:

- Backpacks are filled with pencil cases, pencils, erasers, sharpeners, rulers, whiteboard markers, glue, folders and tissues
- 100 backpacks for young students include composition books, crayons, and colored markers
- 100 backpacks for older students include binders, filler paper and spiral notebooks

Result:

- 300 backpacks were distributed to several shelters



Needs for Projects:

- Funding / Sponsorship
- Computers
- Printers
- School Supplies
- New Children's Books
- New Toys

Our Mission: Rubye's Kids mission is to empower impoverished children through joyful, enriching experiences that promote strong values, education, respect for self and others and commitment to community.

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Rubye's Kids



Rubye's Kids Story

Humble Beginnings

In 1994, Roz and Don Weiss offered to host a holiday party for underprivileged children in Philadelphia. Instead of being warmly received, they were turned down by one organization after another. They contacted Rubye Caesar, known for her dedication to children in her North Philadelphia neighborhood and together invited 75 children to a holiday party. Each child received a warm meal, a gift, lots of attention and love.

Love & Learning

The following year, February 1995, Rubye Caesar suddenly passed away. Roz named that year's party, and subsequent parties in Rubye's honor. Parties now serve 500 children from ten schools and four homeless shelters, and provide books, school supplies, carnival activities, music, and true to our beginnings, a warm lunch and gift of each child's choosing. As "Rubye's Kids Holiday Party" volunteers collaborated with educators and shelter personnel, we learned about children living in our city, especially about their educational and emotional needs. Roz and Don created an all-volunteer non-profit organization with a working board in 2004 and "Rubye's Kids" began providing year-round programs and services.



Rubye's Kids Today

Young adults, once Rubye's Kids themselves, have begun returning to volunteer. Schools and shelters have Rubye's Kids Closets full of school supplies, and Rubye's Kids volunteers and shelter staff host birthday parties for the children residing there. In 2006, we launched our Back to School Backpack Project. In 2008, we dedicated the first Rubye's Kids Library & Learning Center with a shelter partner in West Philadelphia. Six networked computer stations, a library of more than 1000 books, and kid-friendly furniture create an oasis for children to study, parents to read to them, staff to assist with homework, and children to relax and get the attention they need to succeed in their education.

Join Us For Our Second 15 Years!

Effectively expanding our programs into more shelters and schools is our top priority. We need volunteers and financial support to continue giving unconditional love and possibility to children living with the challenges poverty brings. Please help us write the next 15 years of the Rubye's Kids story!



Our Needs And How YOU Can Help Our Organization!

- Support (Individual / Corporate)
- Volunteer
 - Events
 - PR and Marketing Specialists
 - Grant Writers
 - Photographers

Rubye's Kids Projects

Rubye's Kids Holiday Party: Historically held the second Saturday in December-8:00 am to 3:00 pm

Goal: To provide a day of joy and celebration during the holidays for children in need. Also, to provide them with essential school supplies and winter gear, encouraging them to share the joy and give back by volunteering when they are older.

Result:

- Serves 500 needy 6, 7 and 8 year-old children
- Has served over 3,500 children
- Provides a holiday "feel good" for children and volunteers
- Former Rubye's Kids return to volunteer and give back



Rubye's Kids Learning Centers:

Goal: To provide homeless children a space to enhance their reading abilities, practice computer skills, complete homework assignments, and experience some much needed joy in a pleasant environment. Features include:

- Dedicated room in homeless shelters
- Quiet space to promote education
- Library with age appropriate books, networked computer stations, board games

Result:

- Encouraging a positive attitude toward learning



Rubye's Kids School Supply Closet:

Prepared semi-annually in August and January, distributed in September and February

Goal: To provide needy children essential school supplies and board games for indoor recess

Contents: Containers filled with composition books, crayons, markers, pencil cases, pencils, sharpeners, rulers, white-board markers, glue, folders, binders, filler paper, spiral notebooks and assorted board games.

Result:

- Several inner-city schools and shelters have Rubye's Kids Closets



Rubye's Kids Shelter Birthday Parties:

Held quarterly

Goal: To celebrate the birthday of each child living in the shelter system, promoting self esteem and self worth. Children share birthday cake and refreshments, receive a gift and a book, participate in craft projects and enjoy entertainment.

Result:

- Hundreds of children have been celebrated since 2007

