



School on Wheels

Inspire Learning • Empower Kids • End Homelessness

celebrating 10 years

IMPACT

School on Wheels' **mission** is to provide one-on-one tutoring and educational advocacy for school-aged children impacted by homelessness.

The **vision** is to equip children impacted by homelessness with the educational tools necessary to achieve success in life and break the cycle of homelessness.

What our students say about School on Wheels:

96% said that tutors helped them learn.

93% said that it is easier to do their homework when tutors help them.

82% said they like school better when they get help with homework.

"Ultimately, School on Wheels made me a better student, turning me into the successful young adult I am today."

– **Ronnie, former SOW Student**

What our parents say about School on Wheels:

100% said that their child was getting his/her homework done.

88% said that they had seen improvement in their child's attitudes toward school.

82% saw improvement in their child's confidence.

"My kids love School on Wheels and the tutors. Thank you so much for taking time out of your day to teach my kids."

– **SOW Parent**

What our tutors say about School on Wheels:

"Tutoring has changed my outlook on many things... I really love this program."

– **Coburn Place Safe Haven Tutor**

"I have been tutoring for eight years... I get as much out of it as the kids do."

– **Indianapolis Public School #14 Tutor**

Highlights from the School on Wheels 2010-2011 year:

- We served **415** homeless children.
- We distributed **320** backpacks filled with school supplies.
- We supplied **2,175** uniforms to homeless children.
- We provided **6,708** total tutoring sessions.
- We trained **322** volunteer tutors.
- We were the proud recipient of the Indianapolis Colts **2010 Golden Horseshoe Award**.
- We implemented a new high school mentoring program called **Project L.I.F.E.** that aims to reduce high school dropout rates.
- We launched our first **summer enrichment program**. The lessons focused on reading, creative writing and photography. The children's artwork was displayed in a gallery exhibit downtown.



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FACT SHEET

About School on Wheels:

- The **mission** of School on Wheels is to provide one-on-one tutoring and educational advocacy for school-aged children impacted by homelessness.
- School on Wheels, which was founded in 2001, is the **only organization in Indianapolis** that offers this unique service to the city's homeless community.
- In our first ten years, School on Wheels mobilized **1,740 volunteers** to tutor **over 3,299 school-aged homeless children**.
- The students that School on Wheels tutors represent **over 77 schools** in the Indianapolis area.
- The **vision** of School on Wheels is to equip children impacted by homelessness with the educational tools necessary to achieve success in life and break the cycle of homelessness.

What you need to know about Homelessness in Indianapolis:

- There are **over 3,150 children** experiencing homelessness in Marion County on any given night.
- 63 percent of these children who are homeless are **under the age of 12**.
- Homeless children are **twice** as likely to repeat a grade in school.
- Homeless children are **four times** more likely to have learning disabilities than their non-homeless peers.
- Homeless children change schools an average of **three times** while they are homeless, **needing four to six months each time** to recover academically.
- Families are the **fastest growing** segment of the homeless population.
- While panhandlers are visible in our city, **most are not homeless**. **Less than one percent** of the homeless populations are panhandlers.

Sources available upon request.



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HOW TO HELP

VOLUNTEER:

- Sign up to **tutor a homeless child** one night per week at an assigned location, assisting the student with homework completion, reading, writing and math.
(Visit www.indyschoolonwheels.org/tutor to apply)
- Register to become a **substitute** tutor: As a substitute, you would be on-call to tutor one to two times per month, one hour each time.
- Come into the School on Wheels office to help staff with data entry, mailings, sorting donations and other administrative tasks.



MAKE A FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTION:

- Visit the School on Wheels website, www.indyschoolonwheels.org, to make a donation. All donations support School on Wheels' mission.
- We rely on financial donations to serve homeless children of Indianapolis. Make an individual or corporate contribution, host an event or plan a fundraiser. There are countless ways to support our kids.

MAKE AN IN-KIND DONATION:

- It takes a lot of different items to make sure our kids are prepared for school and tutoring.
- You can help by organizing a drive for a specific need.

Please check out www.indyschoolonwheels.org/wishlist to see our most current and urgent needs.



For more information and to get involved,
Call **317.202.9100** or E-mail kids@indysow.org

We're on a mission to end homelessness through education. Join us!

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