

## **SMC Business Councils**

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Beverly's Birthdays and SMC Business Councils/BuyPittsburghFirst Partner to Raise Funds to provide Birthday Cheer for Children Experiencing Homelessness

CRANBERRY TOWNSHIP, PA (May 26, 2016) - There are approximately 3,000 homeless children under the age of 18 in the Pittsburgh region. These children often go without a birthday celebration or even a birthday gift, but one local organization's mission is to change that. Beverly's Birthdays, a Pittsburgh nonprofit organization, provides birthday cheer for children experiencing homelessness and families in need.

Beverly's Birthdays currently partners with agencies across the Pittsburgh region to ensure that no child is forgotten on his or her special day. Since their inception in 2012, they have created over 10,000 birthday experiences.

SMC Business Councils and its affiliate BuyPittsburghFirst have teamed up with Beverly's Birthdays to raise money for their various birthday programs. Funds raised by a golf outing taking place on June 27<sup>th</sup> at Cranberry Highlands Golf Course will benefit this cause.

"We are really excited to partner with this local grassroots charity," stated Stacey Dranikoski, Industrial Outreach Manager at SMC Business Councils/BuyPittsburghFirst. "A birthday party, a simple childhood tradition many may take for granted, can make a homeless child feel so special, and more importantly, like a 'regular kid.' It gives them an opportunity to forget about how unsettling their lives are at the moment. That's the most gratifying part."

"Being in a position to celebrate with the kids and their families on their birthdays is incredibly special and humbling," says Josh Whiteside, founding member and Development Director of Beverly's Birthdays. "Homelessness is a temporary setback. We make sure that when the family gets back on its feet the children will look back and have positive memories about this time in their lives."

To learn about the programs Beverly's Birthdays offers, and ways to donate or volunteer, visit **Beverly's Birthdays.** For more information on SMC/BuyPittsburghFirst's Golf Outing, to get involved, or to register to golf, visit the **event page.** 

Attachment: Photos of recent parties hosted by Beverly's Birthdays.

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