

Do you know a homeschooling family in crisis? With your help, the Home School Foundation may be just the resource needed to help them during this time.

Please set aside ten minutes to look over this very important message about this valuable resource that exists within the homeschooling community.

The Home School Foundation (HSF) is a nationwide organization whose mission is to bless homeschool families during a time of crisis and to further the cause of home education. HSF is the charitable arm of the Home School Legal Defense Association (HSLDA) and was founded in 1994 as a non-profit 501(c)(3). These two organizations are very closely tied in their mission to help and support the homeschool community. HSF offers assistance to homeschooling families with specific needs, such as widows, single parents, special needs, military families, curriculum relief, disaster relief, and more.

### *A Family's Story:*

*"We know firsthand the blessing that HSF can be to a family faced with a sudden, substantial, and uncontrollable hardship. After seeking treatment [for leukemia] in four different internationally known medical institutions across the country over a 25-month period, our beloved son went home to be with the Lord at the end of November 2012. As we look back at our family's home-life and homeschooling journey during this time, we are forever grateful for the practical help, encouraging notes, and prayer support offered by the HSF. Under the shadow of uncertainty and unforeseen medical expenses, we never had to worry about whether or not we would be able to continue to homeschool."*

As you think about ways that you and your family can reach out to others this year, please consider one or more of these requests that will directly support the mission of the HSF and benefit another homeschooling family in our state:

### **GIVE your TIME - ". . . a faithful ambassador brings healing." Proverbs 13:17b (Amplified)**

Pray for the work of the HSF and that the Lord will bring together homeschooling families in a significant way so that no substantial need or situation of crisis goes unaddressed.

Consider serving as a Community Ambassador in your homeschool support group or community. Many families are not even aware of the resources that HSF has to offer. If you are part of a homeschool support group, please consider serving as a Community Ambassador -- the contact in your area who will regularly coordinate prayer and identify needs within your group of families. Community Ambassadors assist with service projects to help families and will share substantial needs with me for consideration from the state fund. They also direct families to the application process when appropriate to apply for help through one of several HSF funding sources. Our goal is to have a Community Ambassador designated from each local homeschool support group in our state!

Organize a fundraiser for a homeschooling family in need. With support, Community Ambassadors in our state are encouraged to recruit event-specific Service Ambassadors who will work with them to organize at least one fundraising event a year to help replenish HSF funds earmarked to help families in our state who continue to homeschool during hard times. Be creative! There are many different ways to raise funds on behalf of the HSF that your homeschool support group families can rally around as an annual service project.

**GIVE your TALENT – “. . . you will be called Repairer of Broken Walls, Restorer of Streets with Dwellings.” Isaiah 58:12b (NIV)**

Offer specific service or trade skills to a homeschooling family in need. When a crisis or disaster hits, homeschooling families often find it difficult to continue funding their homeschooling efforts because of sudden and uncontrollable expenses. Sometimes having extra hands come in and help with home repairs, painting, yard clean-up, plumbing needs, moving services, child care, or even professional services can be a huge help to the family. What talents or skills do you have that you are able to offer to a homeschooling family in need in your area? Just being willing and available is a huge blessing! As we are building a base of Community Ambassadors in this state, please contact me directly about your specific skills offerings so I can put you in touch with the right contact.

**GIVE your RESOURCES – “Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: To look after orphans and widows in their distress . . .” James 1:27a (NIV)**

Consider making a cash donation to HSF. Just as important as praying for opportunities and helping families through a time of crisis is funding the work of HSF. HSF maintains several different funds including contributions that go to organizations that support home education in various ways. It is truly a “one-stop-shop” for putting your money to work in a variety of ways that have eternal consequences and express timely compassion to those within the homeschool community. Furthermore, if you donate to HSF and write “[Alabama Ambassador Fund]” on the memo line of your check, those funds will be specifically earmarked to help a homeschooling family in your state who is in need. Furthermore, this year’s donations to your state fund will be matched dollar for dollar up to \$2000!!! This will stretch contributions twice as far! If your church already has dedicated money to help the needy, ask them to consider donating a portion or all of it to the Alabama Ambassador’s fund to double the impact of that money. Contact me for a supply of contribution slips to facilitate this donation.

Or, you may process your donation online at the HSF website ([www.homeschoolfoundation.org](http://www.homeschoolfoundation.org) > Give Help > Give) selecting “Ambassador” for the fund and “[Alabama]” for the state at this link: [On-line donation](#). Donations are fully tax deductible.

Give an HSLDA membership scholarship to another family. Even though the best support system includes membership in a local support group, a state support organization, and a national support organization like HSLDA (Home School Legal Defense Association), many times families cannot afford to do all three. For this reason, the HSF offers the Members Helping Members Fund so that families in need can apply for a partial or full scholarship towards the HSLDA annual membership fee.

Utilize "Clicks" for homeschooling when purchasing various every day products and services that you are going to purchase anyway! Become familiar with the participating product and service providers and add the link to your computer for easy shopping. All proceeds from purchases made through this link go directly to support the HSF's largest fund that helps homeschoolers across the country -- The Compassion Fund.

Purchase the HSLDA Cookbook. A little can go a long way. For every HSLDA cookbook purchased (called Family Favorites from the Homeschool Kitchen), a portion of the purchase price goes to HSF's Compassion Fund.

Thank you for making it a priority to homeschool your children and for considering ways that you can encourage others in your community to stay the course even during a difficult season in their life.

Please contact me for more information about any of these items or to express your interest in serving as a Community Ambassador for HSF in your area. Together, we have the opportunity to connect with struggling homeschooling families who may not otherwise ever be helped.

Lori Herring

[Ala.Ambassador@gmail.com](mailto:Ala.Ambassador@gmail.com)

334-301-4253

Alabama State Ambassador

Home School Foundation

"Many Hands Making a Difference in Your Homeschool Community"

[www.homeschoolfoundation.org/volunteer](http://www.homeschoolfoundation.org/volunteer)