



**For Immediate Release**

May 15, 2020

Development Administrator

Chicago HOPES for Kids

641 W. Lake St. Chicago, IL 60661

[alex@chicagohopesforkids.org](mailto:alex@chicagohopesforkids.org)

**Alexandra Kirchner**

(630) 414-6109

## ***Chicago HOPES for Kids Receives Grant from SC Johnson***

Funding will support remote education opportunities for homeless students during COVID-19

CHICAGO, Illinois - Chicago HOPES for Kids is pleased to announce it has received a grant from SC Johnson to support our virtual academic support program for children experiencing homelessness in Chicago during COVID-19.

The \$12,500 grant will support our ongoing efforts to distribute technology and ensure WiFi access for families living in homeless shelters across Chicago, as well as the creation and distribution of online learning resources to supplement students' remote learning. These online resources include recorded read-aloud videos of age-appropriate books and regular distribution of curated educational activities via email and on our website, [www.ChicagoHOPESforKids.org/parent-resources](http://www.ChicagoHOPESforKids.org/parent-resources). On average, students experiencing homelessness fall 1-2 grade levels behind their peers due to the trauma of homelessness. Without targeted educational support, they are at risk of falling even further behind during a period of remote learning.

“We are so grateful to SC Johnson for their partnership in providing educational resources and support to some of Chicago’s most vulnerable families during the pandemic.” - Rita Kahn, Executive Director of Chicago HOPES for Kids.

Virtual support will continue until it is safe to resume in-person programs, and our program staff are continuously innovating new ways to connect with students. With the support of generous funders like SC Johnson, Chicago HOPES for Kids remains committed to our mission to empower students to succeed in school and beyond, despite the challenges of homelessness and COVID-19.

**About Chicago HOPES for Kids:** *Chicago HOPES for Kids is the only organization in Chicago providing direct academic support to children living in homeless shelters. Our after school programs consist of three main components: homework help, literacy support, and educational enrichment. Our overall goal is to help break intergenerational cycles of poverty by equipping children to succeed in school, despite the challenges of homelessness. To learn more about Chicago HOPES for Kids, visit [www.ChicagoHOPESforKids.org](http://www.ChicagoHOPESforKids.org).*