

HOMWOOD CHILDREN'S VILLAGE
Annual Report
August 2011–July 2012



IT TAKES A
VILLAGE



A core belief of the Homewood Children's Village is that we best serve our children by leveraging relationships and the existing resources of service providers in Homewood. We have used our time during the past two years to engage those providers; build relationships; define roles; and develop activities and programs. Because of this foundational work, we can begin to move our efforts forward to improve the lives of Homewood's children.

I have been humbled by the privilege of serving the people of Homewood. Fulfilling our mission "to simultaneously improve the lives of Homewood's children and to reweave the fabric of the community in which they live" has been challenging—after all, we did not get here overnight. Yet, Homewood's greatest assets are its residents and the rich history they bring to the conversation. It is not only their stories of misfortune, but also their resiliency that inspire us to work tirelessly every day. They, the people of Homewood, give me the confidence that we, together, will succeed.

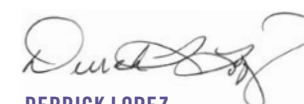
When our exploratory work began in 2008, the Village embedded our team in Homewood and engaged children and families, faith- and community-based groups, educators, legislators, and private and public funders in a community planning process. Through those interactions, we observed the challenges that



our children and families face and have sought to understand the needs expressed in each voice raised and every story told.

In response to those poignant interactions, we built a structure to systematically address the most pressing issues. Since its official launch in 2010, the Village has evolved to advance our children's progress along the developmental pipeline. That journey so far is the subject of this, our first Annual Report.

A proverb from the African diaspora states simply: "The health of a village is measured by the well-being of its children." The Homewood Children's Village is committed to working with all stakeholders to meet the challenges our children face academically, emotionally, and socially. We are determined to partner with you to regain a sense of community, where our children are safe and thriving; where our adults are empowered and respected; and where all of our citizens are proud to call Homewood home again. In short, we, in partnership with you, hope to spark a renaissance movement, envisioning and rebuilding Homewood as a Village, where "Every Child Succeeds."


DERRICK LOPEZ
 President and CEO

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OUR MISSION

Simultaneously improve the lives of Homewood's children and reweave the fabric of the community in which they live

OUR VISION

Every Child Succeeds

OUR DONORS

The Homewood Children's Village would like to acknowledge those who have supported the work of the Village through cash contributions and in-kind donations.

Your generous support has enabled the launch of this comprehensive community initiative and has placed the organization on a solid path toward fulfilling its mission to "improve the lives of Homewood's children and reweave the fabric of the community in which they live."

Thank you on behalf of the children and the community we seek to serve!

Individuals

\$25–\$49

James and Elizabeth Barnes
Blanche Becoate
Kristi Burry
Raquel Branchik
Connie Cantor
Paulette Davis
Devon Estes
Marteen Garay
Vanessa German
Nanci Goldberg
Megan Good
Anna Kasunic
Anita Lengvarsky
Marie Lewis
Marva Lewis
Walter Lewis
Joshua Litvik
Carol Moye
Sylvia Padgett
Lisa Perry
Jancey Rietmulder-Stone
Lindsay Ruprecht
Ellen Sandidge
Sylvia Shropshire
Marcus Smith
Wendy Smith
Mark Stalczynski
Sandra Stoner
Sarah Stroney
Damen Taylor
Shannah Tharp-Taylor
Phu Van
David Voll
Camara Watkins
Derrick Weston
Rita Zolot

\$50–\$99

RaShall Brackney
Sara Davis Buss
Milton Butts
Elizabeth Houck
Jon Kasunic
Donnell Lewis
Kathleen Millward

Ramen and Martha Raak
Moseeta and Muranda Ragin
A. Francisco Santiago
Charmayne Shealey

\$100–\$249

Mary Kasunic
Tomasena Lewis
Robert Millward
David Sandborg
Sharene Shealey
Ruth Thomas
Meisha Watkins

\$250–\$500

Aliya Durham
Maria Guyette
Justin and Florence Johnson
Cleva Long
Derrick Lopez
John and Cynthia Wallace
Milt and Nancy Washington

Faith-based Organizations

Bible Center Church
Bethany Baptist Church/
Diakonia Ministries, Inc.
North Way Christian Community, Inc.
Temple Sinai

Institutions

Pittsburgh Public Schools
RAND Corporation
University of Pittsburgh Medical Center
University of Pittsburgh,
Department of Psychology
University of Pittsburgh,
School of Social Work

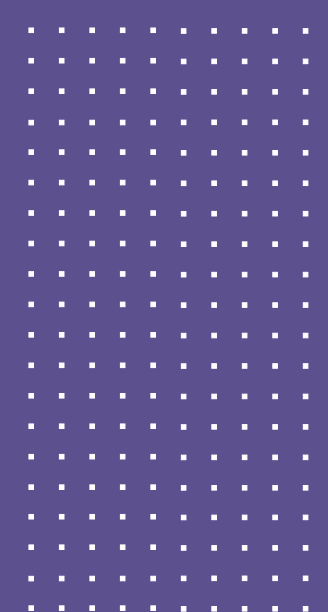
Partners & Affiliates

Allegheny Housing Rehabilitation
Corporation (AHRCO)
MAYA Design
Pennsylvania Motor Truck Association
Pittsburgh Association for
the Education of Young Children
The Pittsburgh Promise
PNC Bank
Primary Care Health Services, Inc.
ThoughtForm Inc.
Tickets for Kids Charities
United Way of Allegheny County
Wolfe Design
YMCA of Greater Pittsburgh

Foundations

Allen H. and Selma W. Berkman
Charitable Trust
The Buhl Foundation
The Grable Foundation
The Heinz Endowments
Hillman Family Foundations
The Pittsburgh Foundation
PNC Foundation
Richard King Mellon Foundation





CONVENE

We convene individuals and existing service providers who work with Homewood's children and families.

We coordinate services that individuals and organizations provide to the children and families of Homewood along our developmental pipeline.

COORDINATE

BUILD CAPACITY

We build capacity of individuals and organizations to develop, deliver, and track the services provided to Homewood's children and families.

SUPPORT COMMUNITY

We support broader community initiatives to develop the physical and socio-emotional environment of the Homewood community.

FULL SERVICE COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

Staff

CAMARA WATKINS

Director

DETRIA DIXON

Site Director, Pittsburgh Faison

HARPREET SARAO

5th Grade Transition Coordinator

MONTÉ ROBINSON

Site Coordinator

Lead Agency

Homewood Children's Village

Partners & Affiliates

Diakonia Ministries, Inc.

Heinz Endowments

Higher Achievement Pittsburgh

KEYS Service Corps

AmeriCorps Program

National Center for

Community Schools

Neighborhood Learning Alliance

Pittsburgh Public Schools

S D Transit, Inc.

University of Pittsburgh,

School of Social Work

YMCA of Greater Pittsburgh,

Homewood-Brushton Branch



A Full Service Community School is both a place of learning and a set of partnerships with community organizations—working together to strategically improve student success.

Pittsburgh's first Full Service Community School (FSCS) launched in August 2011 at Pittsburgh Westinghouse 6–12 as a partnership between Homewood Children's Village and Pittsburgh Public Schools. Following the nationally recognized model for community-school partnership, the FSCS director from the lead agency had a full-time presence at the school and participated in school planning and resource allocation.

Over the 2011–2012 school year, Homewood Children's Village provided 26 consistent, caring, literate adults to assist students during and after class with academic coaching,

mentoring, and role modeling. In addition, interns from the University of Pittsburgh School of Social Work helped prepare 12th graders for life after high school, including assisting them in applying to at least one college. The IOU (I'm Moving Onward and Upward) Teen Parent Program was created, teaching teen parents about budgeting, planning, goal setting, and parenting; distributing concrete resources such as strollers, books, and holiday gifts; and fostering multi-generational mentoring at a nearby senior center. HCV also provided enrichment opportunities, such as sponsoring Pittsburgh Westinghouse's first musical in 10 years and taking students to sporting events, museums, and plays. Students also received after-school enrichment through the YMCA Lighthouse Project, which teaches leadership and career readiness through media arts.

The FSCS department also worked in Pittsburgh Faison K–5 to conduct a needs assessment with school staff, students and families, and community resources. This assessment led to a jointly developed plan for bringing student support personnel and resource coordination into the school for the 2012–2013 school year.

★ DAILY BUS

★ STUDENT MENTORING

★ HIGH SCHOOL MUSICAL

★ IOU TEEN PARENT PROGRAM

LOOKING FORWARD

- **Expand the FSCS strategy** to other schools that serve Homewood children.
- **Evaluate the impact of this strategy** on student success.
- **Acquire resources as the department expands** to support its structures and personnel.

PROMISE FULFILLMENT



Our services help students build a strong foundation for post-secondary learning in high school and then go on to successfully attend and graduate from college.

The Office of Promise Fulfillment takes its name from the Pittsburgh Promise, a scholarship program for youth graduating from Pittsburgh Public Schools with at least a 90% attendance record and minimum 2.5 GPA. Most of Homewood's children do not qualify for the Pittsburgh Promise—in fact, many do not graduate at all.

We are working to change this reality by preparing students to first graduate from high school and qualify for the Pittsburgh Promise Scholarship, and then fulfill that Promise by earning their degree. Building close, ongoing relationships—with our students and with colleges and universities—is a critical component of our work.

Staff
ELIZABETH JOHNSON BARNES
Director

Lead Agency
Homewood Children's Village

Teacher/Advocates
Walter Lewis
Evan Mallory

Partners & Affiliates
Higher Achievement Pittsburgh
Neighborhood Learning Alliance
The Pittsburgh Promise
Pittsburgh Public Schools
YMCA Lighthouse Project

The Bridge to College after-school and summer program, piloted in Spring 2012, currently serves students in grades 9–12. Its high attendance, behavior, and academic expectations affirm our belief that *all* of the students can go to college. The program offers:

- College-prep coursework in Math and English
- Service learning projects within the Homewood community
- College, financial aid, and financial literacy workshops
- SAT exposure, practice, and preparation
- Discussions and field trips to increase students' awareness and appreciation of college and the world-at-large

The Promise Fulfillment network takes the next step. It brings together college students, faculty, staff, programs, and organizations aimed at increasing college retention and graduation rates. Faculty and staff members act as dedicated liaisons between the Homewood Children's Village and their institutions, advising students academically and in taking advantage of on-campus support and enrichment programs.

LOOKING FORWARD

- **Create robust networks** to provide internship, graduate school, and career opportunities.
- **Expand our programming** to include younger, elementary and middle-school students.
- **Serve more students** at all levels, such as providing Bridge to College as part of the YMCA Lighthouse Project.



EVALUATION

Tracking and analyzing the impacts of the Village's core services and the effectiveness of our organizational infrastructure confirm our progress and help us continue to improve.

Evaluation and accountability are a part of nearly every planning conversation in the Village. This year the Office of Evaluation and Research maintained evidence of our practices, provided technical assistance and coaching in data collection and analysis, and produced informative evaluation reports for funders and stakeholders.

With an adaptation of the “Plan, Do, Study, Act” cycle as our guide, our approach to evaluation and accountability uses both formative and summative evaluation approaches. Our process starts with deliberate program design that clearly delineates goals and objectives and identifies activities, deliverables, and outcomes from the outset. Program planning includes collaboration among administrators, directors, and managers to develop evidence-based services and also to respond to ongoing program needs. We conduct various types of planning sessions to (1) brainstorm and generate ideas, (2) develop logic models to determine program outcomes, activities,

metrics, and indicators, and (3) draft and edit program plan descriptions. We also help draft documents, emails, letters, and surveys in support of the Homewood Children's Village's direct services, the networks and collaborative efforts in which we participate. After each implementation cycle, we meet to update program plans and data, and to synthesize successes and lessons learned.

Our goals are to understand the processes involved in what we do and to assess how well Homewood Children's Village's activities or services have supported our participants. Further, we hope to increase our understanding of what assisted or limited our interventions by analyzing and reflecting on lessons learned, so we can use that knowledge to improve and grow.

LOOKING FORWARD

- **Use Efforts to Outcomes database** to streamline data entry and provide a data management system.
- **Create quarterly mini-reports and briefs** to present qualitative and quantitative data to internal and external audiences.
- **Publish peer reviewed journal articles** to showcase our work to education and social service professionals.
- **Launch the Rising Tide Program** to offer fee-based technical assistance to organizations.

Staff
SHANNAH THARP-TAYLOR
Deputy Chief Executive Officer
Director of Evaluation

KRISTI BURRY
Manager of Evaluation

ANNA KASUNIC
Manager of Research

Partners & Affiliates
RAND Corporation
University of Pittsburgh,
School of Social Work

COMMUNITY

Staff

LISA J. PERRY

Director of Community Affairs,
Marketing and Public Relations

HARRIET C. JACKSON

Special Events Coordinator
Office Manager

★ ANNUAL BLOCK PARTY

Every year, Homewood residents look forward to helping children prepare to go back to school. The large turnout reflects the community's desire to come together in strong support and love for their children as well as their recognition of the importance of education.

★ HEALTH AND WELLNESS FAIR

This convening linked various health and wellness resources with Homewood community residents as an anchor for the larger initiative of the Homewood Children's Village. Opening the school-based health clinic at Pittsburgh Westinghouse further supports our vision of wellness as a vital community builder.

★ HOMEWOOD SPEAKS SERIES

The series gives community residents an opportunity to share their views, voice issues, and provide historical perspectives on Homewood and, in return, allows Homewood Children's Village to share our mission and vision with the community.





EARLY LEARNING

We are convening many of the organizations and individuals who serve Homewood’s children from birth through age 4 to coordinate and bring consistency to early childhood programs and services.



HEALTH AND WELLNESS

Staff
KAYLA WATKINS
Executive Manager

Lead Partner
Primary Care Health Service, Inc.

Partners & Affiliates
Addison Behavioral Care, Inc.
Allegheny County Health Department
Allegheny County Department of Human Services
Community Care
Grow Pittsburgh
Higher Achievement Pittsburgh
Pittsburgh Promise
Pittsburgh Public Schools
University of Pittsburgh Medical Center
University of Pittsburgh, School of Social Work
UPMC Department of Family Medicine
UPMC Western Psychiatric Institute and Clinic
YMCA Lighthouse Project

Believing that good physical, mental, and emotional health is the basis for lifelong success, we are working to improve health as part of our commitment to improving lives.

Many risk factors adversely affect the health of families in Homewood, including lack of access to fresh fruits and vegetables; high rates of violence; poor air quality; aging housing containing lead paint and asbestos tiles; and a large number of vacant and abandoned properties.

While the Village has focused on improving the well-being of the families of Homewood since its inception, we officially launched the Health and Wellness Network (HWN) in 2012 to address these risks and serve as the lead convener of partners and service providers. The HWN has three overarching objectives for Homewood’s children and families:

- To establish a medical home for all children who live or learn in Homewood where they can receive general dental, health, and vision screenings and follow-up care.
- To establish a model of mental and behavioral health to prevent, intervene in, and manage the undiagnosed trauma that pervades the lives of our children.
- To provide a forum for the community to identify and address other pervasive health issues, such as asthma, exposure to lead, and other concerns.

LOOKING FORWARD

- **Target health promotion initiatives** emphasizing prevention and early intervention.
- **Address the acute need for mental/behavioral health care** for students, families, and the community.
- **Establish a School-Based Health Center** as a medical home providing a range of health services.

Staff
TBD
Executive Manager

Lead Partner
Pittsburgh Association for the Education of Young Children

Partners & Affiliates
Healthy Start, Inc.
Pittsburgh Public Schools
PNC Bank Foundation
Reading is Fundamental
United Way of Allegheny County
University of Pittsburgh, Office of Child Development
YMCA of Greater Pittsburgh, Homewood-Brushton Branch
YWCA of Greater Pittsburgh

As Frederick Douglas once said, “It is easier to build strong children than to repair broken men.” Working with other organizations, our goal is to ensure the optimal development of Homewood’s children by engaging all of the adults in the child’s ecosystem—including both parents and primary caregivers—and promoting developmentally appropriate practices among them.

In today’s world, college and career readiness actually starts with healthy development and productive early childhood experiences. With the Pittsburgh Association for the Education of Young Children (PAEYC) as our lead partner, a network of 10 organizations meets each month to devise a comprehensive strategy to serve the approximately 500 children ages 0–4 in Homewood.

Discovering that approximately 60% of Homewood’s children enter kindergarten without having experienced a structured classroom, the network worked with the University of Pittsburgh Office of Child Development to host two “Kindergarten Clubs” during the summer of 2012 to simulate the kindergarten experience and promote kindergarten readiness.

Moreover, PAEYC holds monthly meetings for primary caregivers to promote evidence-based developmental practices for Homewood’s children. During our “Parent-Child Get Together” sessions, our goal is to introduce

parents to positive parent-child interactions that will foster curiosity and language development—both gateways to positive learning outcomes for their children. Additionally, during monthly professional development meetings, those who operate family-run daycare centers are provided with training in evidence-based instructional practices for the children they serve and financial literacy practices for the “micro-businesses” they run.

LOOKING FORWARD

- **Distribute Newborn Gift Baskets** containing baby supplies that meet basic needs.
- **Establish Nurse-Family Partnership** for Homewood’s new parents that will work with new parents for two years.
- **Launch Kaboom! Playground** at the Early Learning Center to promote play as an essential developmental activity.

FAITH, FAMILY, AND OUT-OF-SCHOOL TIME

Staff

TBD

Executive Manager

Partners & Affiliates

Bethany Baptist Church

Bible Center Church

Higher Achievement Pittsburgh

Homewood Community Sports

Neighborhood Learning Alliance

Pittsburgh Public Schools

YMCA Lighthouse Project

YWCA of Greater Pittsburgh

We have strengthened our relationships with Homewood sports teams and the faith community, recognizing that many of these programs have served our young people for decades without support and recognition.

Homewood Children's Village has embraced these organizations—the historical linchpin for community pride and goodwill—to support the more than 300 young people they serve each year. These partnerships are strategic in that the Village is supporting athletics to institute the monitoring of attendance and academic achievement, aiming to augment players' love of sport with a love of learning. One primary objective is to reintroduce the word “student” to the phrase “student-athlete.”

We sent the Westinghouse Bulldog football team to camp at Slippery Rock University in August. This was the first time the team had been away as a unit, leaving the day-to-day challenges of Homewood behind to concentrate on football, team-building, and just being better young men and students.

The Village purchased new uniforms for the Westinghouse Lady Bulldog basketball team, who have been either City League Champion or runner-up each of the past several years. In addition to being tough competitors, these young women serve as role models, tutors, and mentors for girls throughout the community. They are the citizens that we hope to grow and build.



We have partnered with Homewood Community Sports (the Homewood Dawgs) to improve its infrastructure and business practices to ensure its sustainability for the next generation. The Village conducted a coaching clinic on head injuries in partnership with UPMC; purchased liability insurance to ensure access to city parks and recreation fields; and worked with leaders to develop standard business practices for its yearly operations.

The Village has also begun to deepen our partnership with faith institutions, supporting the work of Bible Center Church in its after-school soccer program. We also partnered with Bethany Baptist Church's Diakonia Ministries, which supports Homewood mothers.

LOOKING FORWARD

- **Hold Academic All-Homewood Recognition Ceremony.**
- **Launch The Village: Project 240** to support and coordinate strong academic, arts, and athletic programming from 3PM to 7PM daily.

- ★ **HOMWOOD DAWGS SPORTS GROUP**
- ★ **UNIFORMS FOR THE WESTINGHOUSE LADY BULLDOG BASKETBALL TEAM**

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Homewood Children's Village supports children and families from cradle to college, and beyond. Here is a glance at what has kept us busy over the past year.

600+ **CHILDREN**
have been involved in the Village's programs and services

35+ **STUDENTS**
use free daily busing services provided by the Village

200 **STUDENTS**
were honored at Pittsburgh Faison K–5 honor roll breakfast

36 **HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS**
participated in the Bridge to College program

14 **COLLEGE STUDENTS**
are in our Promise Fulfillment Network

688 **COMMUNITY RESIDENTS**
attended the block party and the "Homewood Speaks" series

15 **PRESCHOOLERS**
participated in kindergarten readiness clubs

29 **ORGANIZATIONS**
convened as affiliates and partners to grow the birth through college and career pipeline

26 **ADDITIONAL STAFF**
supported Pittsburgh Westinghouse students daily

302 **STUDENTS**
attended Out-of-School Time programs and events sponsored by the Village

100+ **COMMUNITY RESIDENTS**
attended the health and wellness fair

Staff
DAMEN TAYLOR
Executive Manager of
Budget and Operations

FINANCIALS

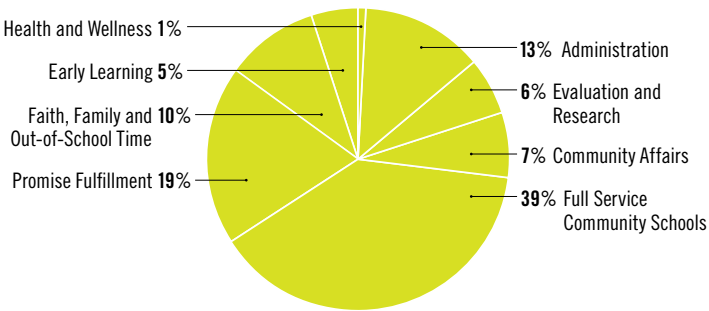
The financial health of Homewood Children’s Village remains strong as a result of continued support from private philanthropy and individual donors.

With the generous support of the “Friends of the Village,” our work continues to move forward to serve the children and families of Homewood. Organizational appropriations for the first three years are reflected in the adjacent chart. Our financial position, as noted in the table, was audited by ParenteBeard for FY 2010, FY 2011, and FY 2012.

During its first three years, Homewood Children’s Village operated under the fiscal agency of the YMCA of Greater Pittsburgh and had a fiscal operating year of April 1 through March 31. In July 2012, the YMCA of Greater Pittsburgh launched the Homewood Children’s Village to financial independence. Following the transition, the fiscal year for the Village was changed to July 1 through June 30.

FISCAL YEAR TOTALS	2010	2011	2012
Total Assets	\$157,201	\$1,974,918	\$1,480,278
Total Liabilities	\$29,361	\$194,325	\$150,898
Total Net Assets	\$127,840	\$1,780,593	\$1,329,380

APPROPRIATIONS 2010–2012



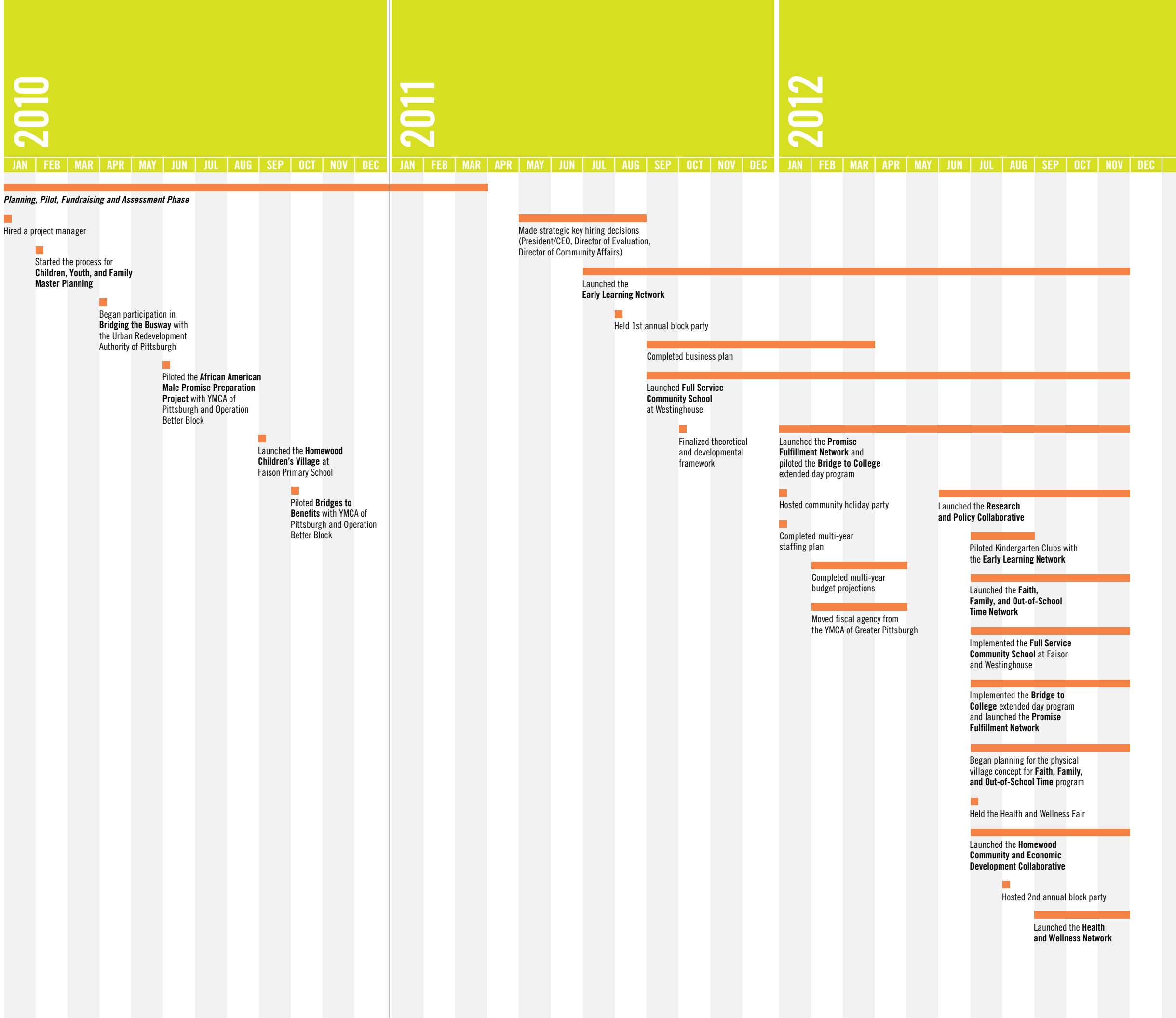
OUR JOURNEY

The work of the Homewood Children’s Village has evolved in an iterative, dynamic manner, yet strategically builds toward full implementation over five years.

During our first fiscal year, we developed the capacity of our internal offices (Evaluation & Research, Community Affairs, and Budget & Operations). The Village also piloted activities for our direct service offices (Full Service Community Schools and Promise Fulfillment) and convened partners in our networks (Early Learning, Health and Wellness, and Faith, Family, and Out-of-School Time).

During our second year of operation, the Village moved into full implementation of our direct service offices and piloted activities and programs in each of our networks. We also convened partners and submitted planning grant opportunities for our broader community work (Community and Economic Development Collaborative and Research and Policy Collaborative).

During the next three years, Homewood Children’s Village will work toward full implementation of the entire Village infrastructure, with the full operation of our internal offices, direct service offices, networks, and collaborative endeavors.



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University of Pittsburgh

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Capital Solutions for
Community Reinvestment

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