



HOMEWOOD
CHILDREN'S VILLAGE

An extraordinary year. An exceptional community.

Annual Report 2019–2020

Includes Special 2020 COVID-19 Report

A MESSAGE FROM THE CEO



It takes a village to raise a child, support families, and transform a community.

If there's ever been a time in recent history to truly need our village, it's now.

Navigating a global pandemic has been extremely challenging (to say the least). It has severely impacted our community, and as the COVID-19 infection and death rates increased, inequities were magnified, further straining the community.

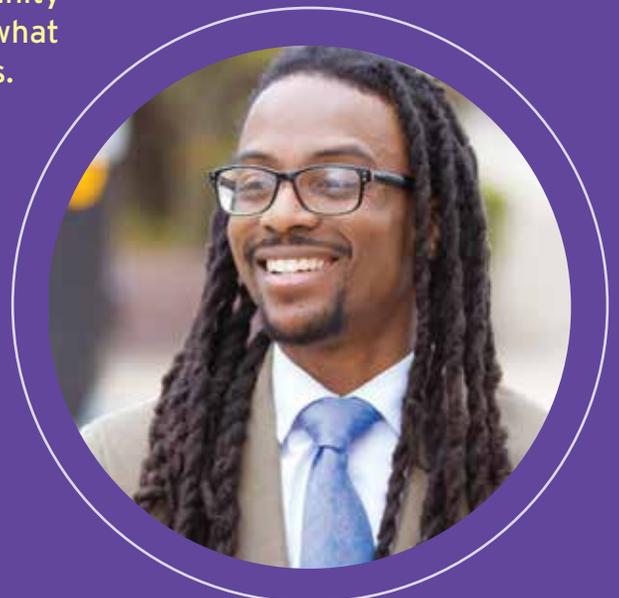
As an organization and as a community, we've had to reevaluate and realign. Still, most importantly, we've had to rely on each other—our colleagues, our partners, our friends, and our neighbors. Schooling changed; needs changed; programs changed; and services changed. However, our commitment to the success of the children and families in Homewood was unwavering. We have been and will continue on our path to improve the lives of Homewood's children, support families, and transform a community.

It is paramount that we acknowledge all of the hard work in hard times and the dedication to the community in a year that has been nothing but extraordinary.

We want to thank the team for adjusting, pivoting, working while at home, delivering food, and everything else they do for HCV and the community. Likewise, we want to recognize our board members for their time and attention, support, and advisement, and other partners and residents who've supported the community and our efforts along the way. We simply cannot do what we do without the support of our funders and donors. And to the children and families, thank you for showing up, giving us feedback, allowing us to help out, and being a part of our village.

Thank you!

Walter Lewis
President & CEO



THE WORK

Children Families Community

Homewood Children's Village serves children, families, and the community by breaking down the social and economic barriers to success. Through collaboration, engagement, advocacy, and research, HCV offers a continuum of direct services and learning support for children and their families from cradle to career, working diligently to address the complex challenges facing Homewood's youth.

Our mission is realized through a child-centered model designed to provide support from cradle to career. HCV is the lead partner agency for Homewood Community Schools (Faison, Lincoln, and Westinghouse). With the help of many partners, HCV offers academic, social, environmental, and health programming to children, families, schools, and the community.

HCV also provides programming for families and adults, centered on the core belief that parents are children's first teachers, and the research suggesting that increasing adults' capacity can improve child outcomes. We connect families to resources that include continued education, job training, and anti-poverty and leadership programs. The ultimate goal for this multigenerational (2Gen) programming approach is to support families toward self-determination and physical and economic well-being, which provides the foundation for self-sufficiency.

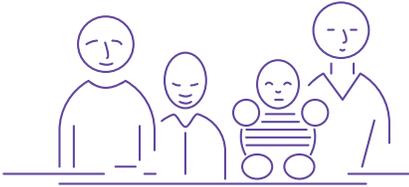


1687

total individuals served, including
1,316 youth and 371 adults

We believe in the power of collective impact.

Collective impact is crucial for solving complex problems and creating systemic change. Therefore, HCV continually works to convene partners, strengthen relationships, establish a collective vision, coordinate services, and build capacity to maximize impact for children, families, and the entire community.



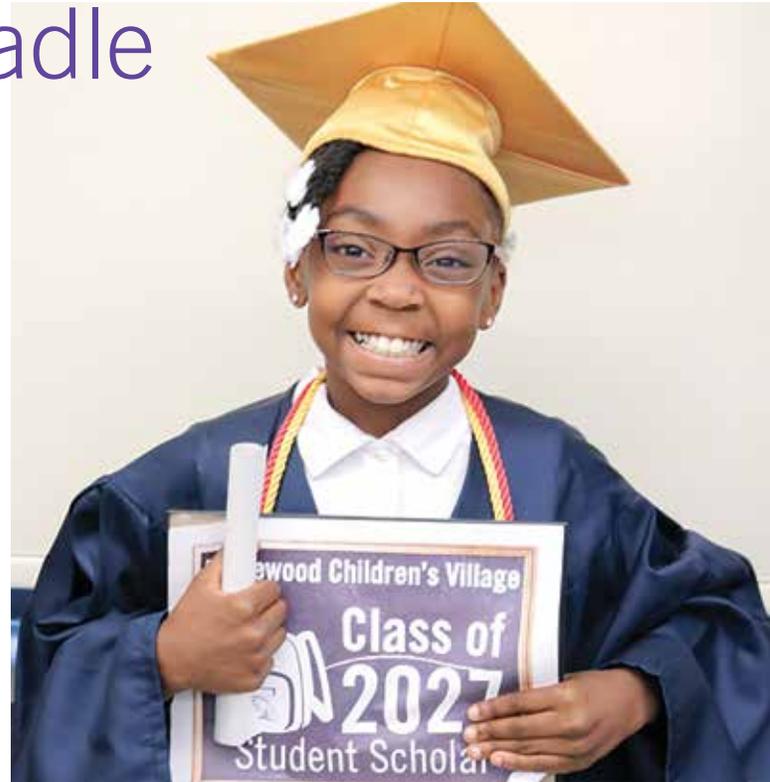
CHILDREN

Children need support from cradle to career.

Advancing Academic Achievement

HCV AmeriCorps Members

provide in-school and after-school support to Homewood youth (K-5) to help build literacy skills, collectively serving more than 10,000 hours throughout an academic school year. Under the guidance of school teachers and HCV community school site managers, members train in evidence-based literacy and math interventions in one-on-one and group settings. HCV AmeriCorps members mentor students and provide a deeper level of support as HCV Advocates for a portion of the total students they serve, and contribute to the broader school community through team and individual service projects. At the end of their service, AmeriCorps members receive an education award recognizing their pursuit of higher education.



319

youth served



Building Next-Generation Leaders

Through **The Bridge Program**, Homewood Children's Village provides in-school, after-school, and summer programming for middle and high school students to promote college and career readiness, bridging the gap to create a pathway to postsecondary success.

The Scholar Project

provides high school students with after-school programs to prepare them for work, high school, and education beyond high school graduation.

26 youth engaged in The Scholar Project

308

hours of engagement

Learn & Earn

In partnership with the City of Pittsburgh, Allegheny County, and Partner4Work, HCV provides meaningful work opportunities for youth during the summer. Homewood Children's Village is proud to serve this initiative by connecting students to work opportunities during the summer.

139

youth served

828

hours of support

Regardless of whether students choose to attend college or trade school, launch a business, or go straight to the workforce, HCV wants students to be prepared to thrive after high school. Students participate in project-based learning, workforce readiness, job placements, college tours, field trips, job shadowing, and other activities that provide relevant experience and preparation. Students receive academic support and academic enrichment that promote learning and content mastery. The goal is for every student to create a robust postsecondary



plan utilizing HCV's Personal Opportunity Plan (POP) and to set SMART goals along the way that help them accomplish their goal.

100%

passed, 100% matriculated [or enrolled in college]



FAMILIES

When families thrive, children succeed.



By keeping the child, the parent, and the community at the intersection of our 2 Generation (2Gen) framework, we build family and community stability—the foundation for children to realize their full potential.

268

students were assigned an HCV Advocate

Connecting Families to High-Quality Programs and Services

Advocates

At the center of this approach is HCV's Advocate Model.

Advocates are caring adults who work with families for at least two years at a time and play a central role in connecting students and families to services, ensuring resources make their way to students. Advocates monitor their students' progress through regular contact and collaboration with the youth, caregivers, school staff, and other stakeholders, like after-school programs or organizations that provide additional resources. The Advocates' primary role is to support youth with goal-setting, develop and monitor individualized action plans, and help students achieve success in school and life. To this end, Advocates work with youth and families holistically to support emotional, environmental, financial, intellectual, occupational, physical, social, and spiritual development.

Providing Nutritional Support for Families

The Power Pack Program

To combat weekend hunger among students, HCV provides families with a box of nonperishable food items on a biweekly basis during the school year. The Power Pack Program is an essential service that addresses food scarcity for many of our students. Each pack contains nutritious, nonperishable food items.

Distributed to

254

families

Hungry children cannot learn.



COMMUNITY

Collective impact is crucial for solving complex problems and creating systemic change.

Providing academic, social, environmental, and health programming and support to children, families, schools, and the community by convening organizations that share services, information, and opportunities.

TLI's 2019-2020 Cohort

35

participants engaged in leadership development

Creating Change-Makers and Cultivating Community Leaders

The Leadership Institute (TLI)

This 10-week program builds resident capacity so they can influence environmental and policy change. Adults and youth attend classes on air & water quality, healthy foods & greenspaces, and organizing & advocacy.

TLI embodies our collective impact goals, intentionally designed to equip and encourage residents to be active agents of change in Homewood.



Community Equitable Development Research for Equity and Power

The Research for Equity and Power or REP is a partnership between HCV and the University of Pittsburgh. This project aims to foster resident civic engagement in and influence over equitable development in Homewood. Thirty-five residents participated in this first cohort, patterned from the HCV's Leadership Institute model. Together they learned civic engagement strategies to equip them for an active role in their communities. They also explored equitable development approaches designed to ensure that all residents participate in and benefit from Pittsburgh's economic transformation, especially communities that have historically faced the greatest inequities. This partnership received the 2020 University of Pittsburgh, Senior Vice Chancellor for Engagement's Partnerships of Distinction Award.

Maximizing Impact to Improve Outcomes for Students

Community Schools

Homewood Children's Village manages three Full-Service Community Schools (FSCS) located in Homewood: Westinghouse 6-12, Faison K-5, and Lincoln PreK-5. All three schools are part of the Pittsburgh Public School system. At each school, an HCV Site Manager supports HCV staff and coordinates partner organizations' services, playing a critical role in liaising among the community of school staff, partnering programs and services, and the youth and families they serve. This year, our site managers have supported in-school and out-of-school activities, tutors, social work interns, and partner services. These coordinated and collaborative efforts are critical to long-term sustained impact for our youth.

43

Community Schools Partners

"New technology in the hands of my scholars has completely changed my ability to teach [remotely]. Before receiving and implementing the new technology from HCV, my teaching included individual calls to students to work through their paper-based workbook.

Now I can simultaneously deliver my lesson, allowing me to spend the rest of my time supporting students and connecting with families. This has brought a sense of comfort and excitement to teaching and learning. Thank you from the bottom of my heart!"

– **Ashley Henderson**, 4th Grade Teacher, Faison

"When I came on as an administrator at Pittsburgh Westinghouse, the concept of Community Schools was foreign to me. As I began to work with my school site manager, I realized that being a principal at a community school was exactly what I have been looking for in my career. As our lead school liaison, The Homewood Children's Village has been a critical partner of mine in my mission of meeting the needs of my kids and community. The Homewood Children's Village has connected me with various resources and community partners and strategically focuses their efforts to ensure continuous school improvement. I am blessed to work with such dedicated people!"

– **Stephan Sereda**, Principal, Westinghouse

Events

Serving the Homewood community, fostering new relationships, and sharing our work.

2019 Turkey Drive

119

turkeys distributed

2019 Holiday Party

2019 Community Dinners

August 8

December 5

200

community members in attendance



The COVID-19 Pandemic

“Navigating a global pandemic has been profoundly challenging. That impact has been especially hard on communities of color, specifically Black communities like Homewood. Inequities such as lack of educational attainment, trauma, poor environmental health, and food insecurity are magnified, further shocking the community. Youth already face many challenges in Homewood; COVID-19 only exacerbates those challenges and increases the need for HCV to increase our support efforts in the community.”

Water Lewis, President & CEO

RESPONSE EFFORTS + IMPACT

April 2020–December 2020

HCV’s work to build a culture of innovation positioned the organization well to quickly respond to schools’ shutdown and quarantine, playing a critical role in liaising among the community of school staff, partnering programs and services, and the youth and families they serve within our respective homes. Our programmatic teams’ pivot to functional teams demonstrated the organization’s culture of innovation and agility, attacking the most critical issues for families, starting with basic needs, including food, shelter, and safety, while also addressing learning loss and increasing collaboration and coordination.

Community Outreach

- 517 families received needs assessments within the first three weeks of the shutdown
- HCV Advocates reached out to the families of 251 students engaged in the Advocates program
- HCV’s food distribution system captured responses from 99 households, representing 447 individuals
- HCV partnered with the University of Pittsburgh’s COVID-19 Volunteer program to train 25 volunteers (Pitt Care and Connection Callers), expanding HCV’s outreach to 366 additional HCV families who have received food support over the past three years



757

individuals, both adults and youth, received resources during the pandemic from April through December



COVID-19 Response Learning & Education

Program staff rallied to make sure students remained connected to valuable employment and training opportunities during the COVID-19 crisis. In the summer of 2020, 139 youth participated in the Learn & Earn program.

Key Partners

Carnegie Mellon University
Henry L. Hillman Foundation
MetaMesh
Neighborhood Allies

Basic Needs Support

Key Partners

Bible Center Church Oasis Project
Greater Pittsburgh Food Bank
Western PA Diaper Bank

- Child Meals: 6 breakfasts and 6 lunches per child each week, serving 491 children, resulting in 108,672 meals served
- Produce Boxes: 30-lb boxes of produce weekly to families, serving 196 individuals, totaling 5,988 boxes
- Diapers: 1 pack of 25 diapers each per child weekly, totaling over 1,378 diapers to 70 people
- Wipes: 1 pack per child distributed, when available, to 68 youth and 2 adults
- Steelers Convoy of Hope Totes: 158 totes distributed with cleaning supplies and snacks

112

Laptops distributed to Pittsburgh Public School students at Lincoln and Faison

- K-5 School Supply Packs: 133 packs distributed to students receiving food
- Wifi Access: Partnered with CMU and MetaMesh for free public WiFi in Homewood

139

youth placed in summer jobs

108,672

child meals served

Community Learning Hubs

HCV works with several partners, creating a collective approach to supporting learning hubs in and around Homewood. We provide students and families with a much higher level of service by leveraging our collective strengths through partnerships. Last fall, HCV launched its Community Learning Hub at The Shop in Homewood and currently supports one at Bethany Baptist Church and another at the University of Pittsburgh's Community Engagement Center in Homewood. In addition to educational support, we take care of participants' nutritional needs and PPE while at the hubs.



57

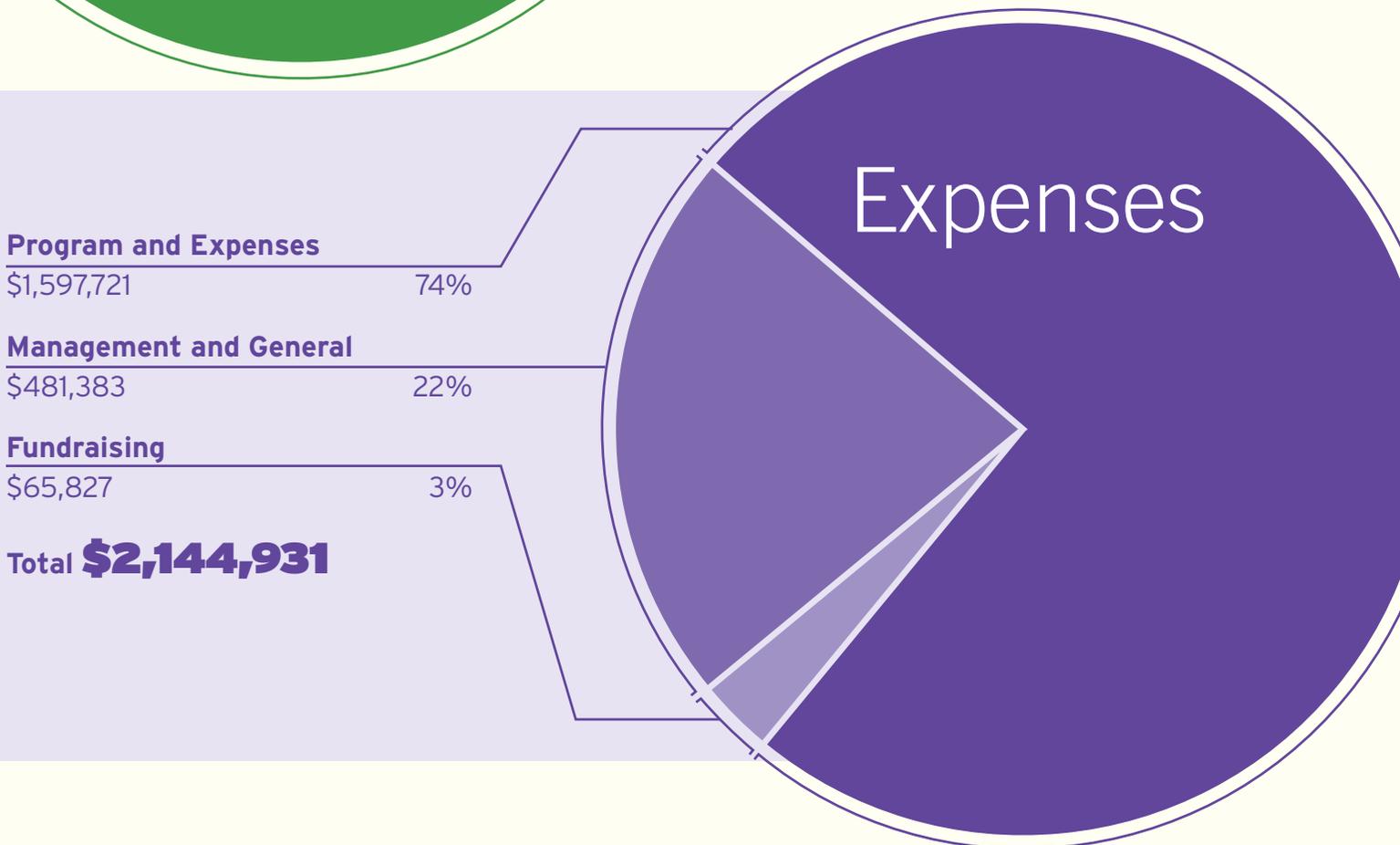
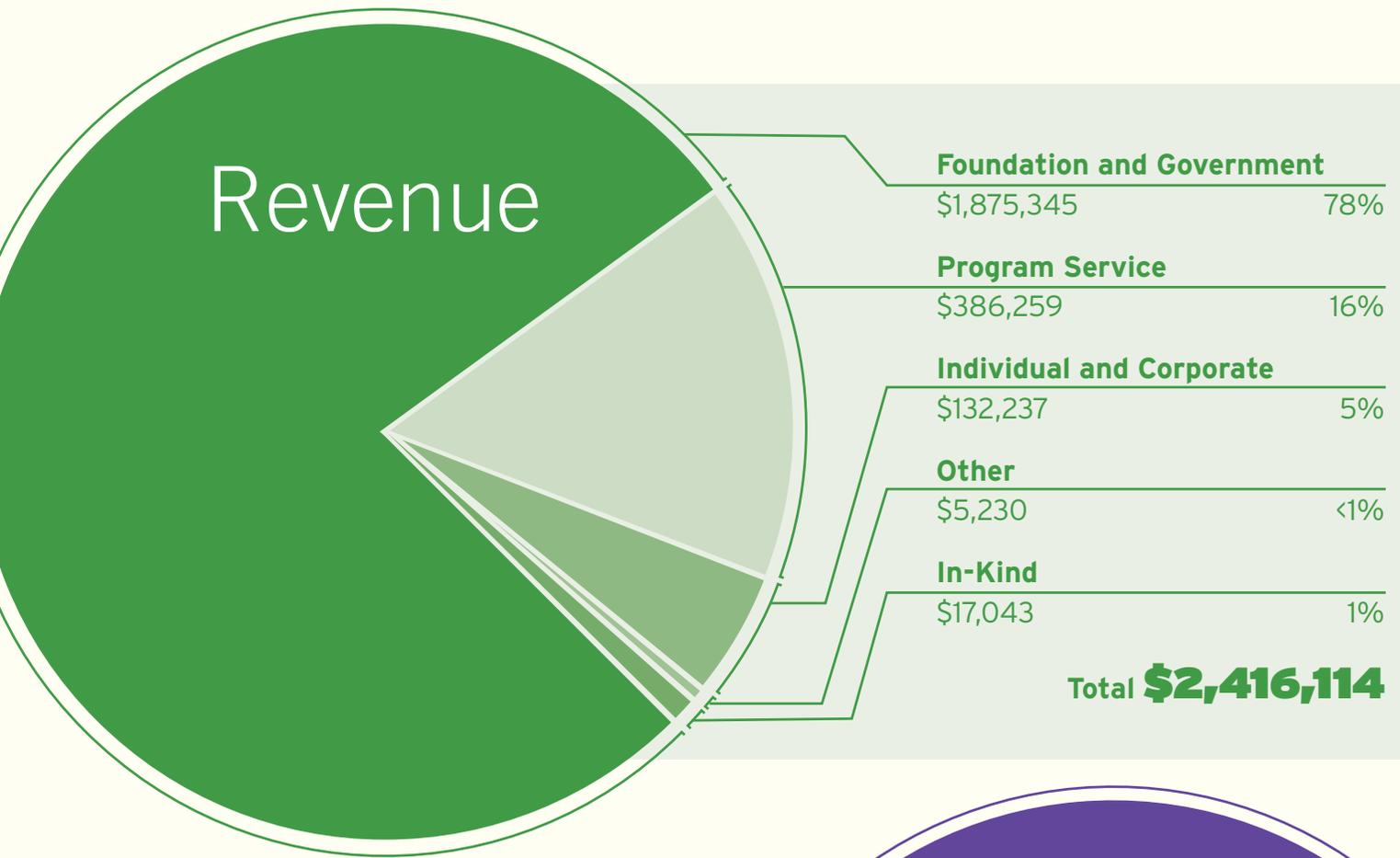
youth impacted since launching in September 2020

8,005

hours of engagement



FINANCIALS



STAFF

Charis Alton
AmeriCorps Public Ally

Lisa Marie Benavides
**Program Manager,
College & Career**

Rashaa Brown
Program Coordinator

Stanley Budhram
Data Manager

JaLissa D. Coffee
Director of Operations

Renee Durham
Controller

Shannah Tharp-Gilliam
**Director of Office Research
and Evaluation**

Kiva Fisher-Green
Social Worker

Tyree Ford
Advocate

Kiersten Jones
PULSE Fellow

Erica Lewis
Advocate

Walter Lewis
President & CEO

Katherine Marshall
Data Intern

Larette McCoy
Advocate

Rebecca McDonough
Data Coordinator

Isaac Mulamba
Data Manager

Monte Robinson
Coaching Boys Into Men Manager

Raymond Robinson
Manager, Social Services

Bianca Suggs
Community Schools Site Manager

Jeanne Taylor
Director of Programs

Benjamin Walker
Program Manager, College & Career

Denise Washington
Coordinator, HCV AmeriCorps

Thomas Washington
Community Schools Site Manager

Sylvia Williams
Executive Assistant / Office Manager

Andrew Zima
Community Schools Site Manager

AMERICORPS MEMBERS

Nasir Butler

Mykaila Cogburn

Juliandra Jones

Keanna Jones

Andrew Rabare

Jocko Rabare

Kashet Sandling

Tionne Street

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Board President

Dr. John M. Wallace Jr.

Board Vice President

Dr. Aliya D. Durham

Board Secretary

Dr. RaShall Brackney-Wheelock

Board Members

Rebecca Bagley

Dr. William R. Glaze

Jason Jones

Christine Mondor

Mamadou Ndiaye Jr.



DONORS, SPONSORS & SUPPORTERS

Thank You!

To all donors, volunteers, champions, and friends—you are all members of our village.

PARTNERS

Allegheny County Health Department
ALCOSAN
Amachi Pittsburgh
Bible Center Church
Bike Pittsburgh
Black Urban Farmers and Gardeners (BUGS)
Bloomfield Garfield - College & Career Readiness Program
Boy Scouts of Laurel Highlands
Cancer Free Economy Network
Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh
Carnegie Mellon University
Community College of Allegheny County
Children's Environmental Health Network
Children's Homeless Education Fund
Citiparks, City of Pittsburgh
Citizens Bank
City of Pittsburgh
Community Empowerment Association
Department of Human Services (DHS)
Dollar Bank
Duquesne University, School of Nursing, Service Learning Program
East End Cooperative Ministries - EECM
Family Guidance (LAMP Mentoring)
Fathers Collaborative Council of Western Pennsylvania (FFCWPA)
Google
Green Building Alliance
Grow Pittsburgh
Homewood Brushton Business Association
Homewood Community Development Collaborative (HCDC)
Homewood Community Ministries
Homewood Community Sports
Human Service Administration Organization (HSAO)
Innovation Works
Literacy Pittsburgh
My Brother's Keeper, City of Pittsburgh

Oasis Intergenerational Tutoring
Operation Better Block
Pittsburgh Black Elected Officials Coalition
Pittsburgh Parks Conservancy
Pittsburgh Police Department Zone 5
Pittsburgh Public Schools
Pittsburgh Technical College
Primary Care Health Services
Strong Women, Strong Girls
Reading Is Fundamental
Trying Together
University of Pittsburgh
Urban Academy
Vision to Learn
Wesley Family Services
Western PA Diaper Bank
Western PA Food Bank
Western PA HBCU Council of Alumni
Women for a Healthy Environment
Youth Enrichment Services-YES - AAM
YMCA
Youth Places
YWCA

FOUNDATIONS, CORPORATIONS, & ORGANIZATIONS

Allegheny County Health Department
Allegheny Partners for Out-of-School Time (APOST)
Clare Foundation
Dollar Bank
The Forbes Funds
Healthy Ride
Hefren-Tillotson
The Heinz Endowments
Highmark Foundation
Hillman Family Foundations
Innovation Works
Kresge Foundation
Operation Better Block, Inc.
PA Department of Health
Partner4Work
Penn SERVE
Pittsburgh Black Elected Officials Coalition
The Pittsburgh Foundation
Pittsburgh Steelers
The POISE Foundation
RAND Corporation
Remake Learning
Richard King Mellon Foundation
The Shop
The United Way of Southwestern PA
University of Pittsburgh
University of Pittsburgh Medical Center
US Department of Education

How can you support us?

Visit our website to make a one-time donation, or to set up a monthly recurring donation.

Contribute with each paycheck you earn through the United Way #10248896.

Go to smile.amazon.com to choose us as the organization you would like to support through your purchases. LEARN MORE AT www.hcvpgh.org



**HOMEWOOD
CHILDREN'S VILLAGE**

It takes a village
to raise a child,
support families,
and transform
a community.

801 N. Homewood Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15208

412.727.7605

www.hcvpgh.org

