



UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH

NEIGHBORHOOD

Commitments

Partnerships that
build stronger
communities and a
stronger University



A long-term commitment to neighborhoods

Neighborhood Commitments is a University of Pittsburgh initiative to build stronger communities and a stronger University by committing to long-term place-based partnerships with specific Pittsburgh neighborhoods.

In partnership with local communities, Pitt is making a minimum 15-year commitment of investment, infrastructure, programming, and dedicated staff in neighborhoods such as Homewood and the Hill District.

This is a shared effort shaped and led by the communities who have invited Pitt to become a partner in the future of their neighborhood. All 16 schools at Pitt are actively involved in the initiative and contribute to its community impact.

Collaborators come together to shape and lead projects that advance community agendas and enrich the University's teaching and research. Supported by neighborhood-based Pitt staff, this open and inclusive network of collaborators grounds the University in the life of the community and work to get things done in the neighborhood.

Neighborhood Advisory Councils in each neighborhood and an Internal Advisory Council at Pitt ensure that this is an ongoing dialogue as collaborations form, projects are born, and the commitment is made real.

Shaped and led a network of collaborators

A network of **community collaborators** power Pitt's Neighborhood Commitments. These community leaders, residents, and University faculty and students share a commitment to the neighborhood and to joint projects. Collaborators work together to put this commitment into practice.

Neighborhood Advisory Councils actively shape the ways that Pitt's Neighborhood Commitments benefit its local partners and the community at large. This group of community and faith-based leaders and long-time residents meets every two months to review proposed programs, recommend site locations, refer job candidates, and work together to ensure that a responsive and non-duplicative mixture of programs is offered at the Community Engagement Center.

Learn more about
the people behind
this effort at
cec.pitt.edu

Grounded by a front door to Pitt

Community Engagement Centers (CECs) are vibrant, welcoming spaces that create a front door to Pitt right in the heart of the community. Led by Center Directors, CECs foster collaboration and house services and programs offered by Pitt faculty, staff, and students.



Pitt CEC
COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT CENTERS

CECs make Pitt's neighborhood commitments visible and bring Pitt into the neighborhood. At CECs, community members can access resources and services they need, community organizations can partner with Pitt programs to strengthen their efforts, and Pitt faculty and students can work and learn *with* the community.

By revitalizing and leasing community space (not building new facilities or owning property), the CECs transform spaces into meeting rooms, classrooms, computer labs, art galleries, multi-purpose space, a science lab, wellness pavilion, STEAM studio, drop-in office space and more.



Stronger communities, stronger University

For a sample of the services and programs offered through CECs, visit cec.pitt.edu

When we combine the community's agendas and wisdom with the University's assets and resources, we can make a difference.

For **community partners**, this means deeper relationships and greater access to Pitt's expertise, resources, and connections to enhance the work they are doing in the community.

For **residents**, this means more opportunities in the neighborhood to pursue lifelong learning, improve their health and wellness, connect to employment opportunities, and get involved with the arts.



Communities are powerful partners for innovation and learning.

For **Pitt faculty**, this means better access to existing community connections and more support to establish new partnerships.

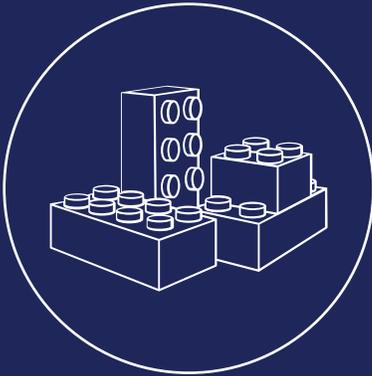
For **Pitt students**, this means more opportunities to learn from and with community members in real-world settings that broaden their perspectives and better prepare them for professional and clinical practice.



Community engagement helps Pitt to enroll community-minded students, attract and retain community-oriented faculty, and enhance the University's core mission of teaching, research, and service.

WHAT CAN WE DO TOGETHER?

Here are some examples



Build Capacity

Through support for local entrepreneurs, class projects that enhance community organizations' work, and various professional development programs we can build business and organizational capacity.

Improve Quality of Life

By offering health and wellness services, links to employment, family-support programs, computing and technology assistance, and opportunities to get involved with the arts, we can be a strong partner and asset to the neighborhood.



Conduct Relevant Research

Through more intentional community engagement and better coordination between projects, more of our urban research can be applied at the neighborhood level and lead to impact relevant to the community.

Support Young People

Through STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) programs, tutoring and mentoring, involvement in Pittsburgh Public Schools, and partnering with out-of-school-time organizations, we can help young neighbors learn and grow.



Pitt wants to engage because it provides opportunities for our students to gain valuable experience, enhances our researchers' work, and gives us the opportunity to put our mission into action within the community.



COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS

are invited to collaborate with Pitt faculty and program providers

COMMUNITY RESIDENTS

are invited to use the CEC and help make it part of the neighborhood

PITT FACULTY

are invited to work with communities through teaching or research

PITT STUDENTS

are invited to engage in these efforts through study and service



University of Pittsburgh

Community Engagement Centers

4227 Fifth Avenue
720 Alumni Hall
Pittsburgh, PA 15260

Tel **412-624-7719**
Web **cec.pitt.edu**
Email **cecinfo@pitt.edu**