

Neighborhood Commitments

Partnerships that build stronger communities and a stronger University

A model of civic-minded development

“Efforts from Pitt send a strong tone for community participation and bring stakeholders together to talk more specifically about how we see Pitt in the community.”

— Rashad Byrdsong, Community Empowerment Association

The CEC initiative is committed to spurring economic growth in Homewood and the surrounding communities, supporting local business, and to hiring a diverse workforce. These commitments extend to the renovation of the CEC facility. The CEC served as an ideal workforce training site, supporting the employment and skill development of local labor.

Pitt selected Waller Corporation, a minority-owned general construction company, as the General Contractor on the project and contracted with Community Empowerment Association to recruit local laborers from Homewood and surrounding neighborhoods to be a part of the job. MA'AT Construction (the for-profit construction training and apprenticeship arm of CEA) was hired as one of the subcontractors that did interior work on the site.

Other minority-owned subcontractors working on the renovation included J&S Handyman Services, All Systems, Inc., and Nexus Construction. Minority labor involved in the CEC renovation totaled 37% of the labor force and 40% of the contracts were fulfilled by minority or women-owned businesses. This commitment to civically-minded construction will continue through the second phase of facility renovations expected to begin in December.



40%

Contracts with minority- and women-owned businesses



37%

Minority labor rate



43

Average daily full-time employees

Get Involved:

COMMUNITY LEADERS
collaborate with us

COMMUNITY RESIDENTS
visit the CEC and meet our staff

PITT FACULTY
partner with communities on research projects

PITT STUDENTS
engage in place-based study and service

Learn more at cec.pitt.edu

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