



ourfuturehilltop.org



info@ourfuturehilltop.org



412-321-6816



FINEVIEW CITIZENS COUNCIL



DIONDRE JOHNSON
PRESIDENT

2022 has been a busy year! However hectic, the silver lining was being able to finally step out of our virtual ZOOM boxes and back into real rooms filled with smiling faces. You already know that we exist to build a C.A.R.I.N.G. community + we strive to acknowledge that vision with a hardened focus in everything we're doing in this season.

We hope to continue to do this as our community's needs change + takes on new challenges + directions, but we can't do that without you! We could certainly benefit from the knowledge + unique experiences that you offer. Your perspective is key to ensuring that Fineview is a community where we all belong + thrive in the coming decade. We can't wait to meet you. Peace + love.



JOANNA DEMING
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

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PERRY HILLTOP CITIZENS' COUNCIL

Perry Hilltop Citizens' Council will continue to put our communities' voices and needs first. We have done some great things in 2022, and are really excited to be moving forward into 2023.

We partnered with Common Cause Consultants by way of The Pittsburgh Foundation, in hope to get some feedback from our Seniors, Youth, Homeowners / Renters and our Homeless populations. We were able to receive amazing feedback from all but one of our participating groups during the time frame we had, however we will rethink our approach and make it our priority to get the voice of all groups documented so that we continue to push our Equity mission.

We will continue asking community members to help us make our community better, to become a member and consider running for a board seat in our November elections.



DWAYNE BARKER
PRESIDENT

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Fineview

Diondre Johnson

President

Cheryl Gainey

Vice President

Greg Manley

Secretary

Jeremy Tischuk

Treasurer

Jerry Gaines

Josh Eisenfeld

Jon Hanrahan

Marsha Moore Reed

Perry Hilltop

Dwayne Barker

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Gwen Marcus

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Betty Davis

Donna Ilochi

Micki McDonough

Lance McFadden

Genafie McKnight

Antjuan Washington

STAFF

CARLA ARNOLD

COMMUNITY OUTREACH DIRECTOR

NANCY NOSZKA

COMMUNITY REAL ESTATE DIRECTOR

RHONDA STROZIER

CHOICE PLANNING LIAISON

LISA VASSER

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

CHRISTINE WHISPELL

COMMUNICATIONS SPECIALIST

This work would not be possible without the enormous contributions of our neighbors, staff and partners. Thank you...

BOARD OF DIRECTORS :

Fineview Citizens Council
Perry Hilltop Citizens' Council

Allegheny City Brewing Co.
Allegheny Cleanways
Allegheny Health Network
Allegheny County
Department
of Human Services
Allegheny Dwellings Tenant
Council
Allegheny Goatscape
BNY Mellon
California Kirkbride
Neighbors
Center for Victims of
Violence
& Crime
Charles Street Area Council
City of Bridges Community
Land Trust
Dollar Bank
First National Bank
Friends of the Riverfront
Foundation of Hope
Grounded Strategies
Highmark Blue Cross Blue
Shield
Highmark Foundation
Hillman Family Foundation
Housing Authority of the City
of Pittsburgh
Infinite Lifestyle Solutions
Landforce
Legacy International
Light of Life
Memorial Park Church
Moms Demand Action
Northside Christian
Health Center
Northside Coalition
for Fair Housing
Northside Partnership
Project
Northside Properties
NovaCare

One Northside
Pamela's Diner
PA Dept of Community
& Economic Development
Pittsburgh Higher Ground
Foundation
Pittsburgh Parks Conservancy
Pittsburgh Regional Transit
Pittsburgh Water & Sewer
Authority
PNC Bank
PNC Charitable Trust
PNC Foundation
Project Destiny: Thrive 18
Propel Northside
Rising Tide Partners
Scenic Pittsburgh
The Buhl Foundation

THE CITY OF PITTSBURGH

Mayor's Office
Councilman Daniel Lavelle
Councilman Bobby Wilson
Dept of City Planning
Dept of Mobility &
Infrastructure
Pittsburgh Police Zone 1
Public Safety
The Heinz Endowments
The Pittsburgh Foundation
The Pittsburgh Project
The Steelworkers Tower
The Upper Room
TREK Development
University of Pittsburgh
UPMC
Urban Impact
Urban Redevelopment
Authority
Wesbanco

VOLUNTEERS 2022

Adrienne Crowe
Asher Deming
Bill Casey
Bryan Keys
Catherine Gowl
Cecilia Ware
Chris Caldwell
Christina Lane
Daenaire Barker
Dianne Jackson
Diann Malcolm
Evelyn Vaughn
Fiona Indovina
Janet Mundy
Jenna Ammer
Kim Metheny
Leonard Edmunds
Lisa Patterson
Maeve Indovina
Marcus Daniel
Maria Searcy
Matt Indovina
Mike Dixon
Ms Liz
Ms Lola
Nancy Andrews
Nicole Barker
Nicole Lawrence
Paul Matthews
Robin Alexander
Robyn Pisor-Doyle
Sandy Kessler Kaminski
Stephanie Johnson
Tina Helena Edwards
Tricia Patsilevas
Will Thompkins

OUR FUTURE HILLTOP

VISION

We are a C.A.R.I.N.G community; one that's Collaborative, Advocating, Respectful, Inspiring, Neighborly and Gracious



Fineview and Perry Hilltop began their partnership in 2016 by sharing staff and holding joint board meetings, community gatherings and resources for the communities well-being.



MISSION

Fineview Citizens Council and Perry Hilltop Citizens' Council are non-profit organizations whose mission is to foster and participate in the strengthening and improvement of their neighborhoods; to increase affordable rental and home ownership opportunities; to stimulate civic and social action on a non-sectarian, non-partisan and interracial basis; to improve the quality of life for all residents and economic enterprises.

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PUBLIC INVESTMENT

Fineview
2017 - 2021



⤴ **\$993,175**

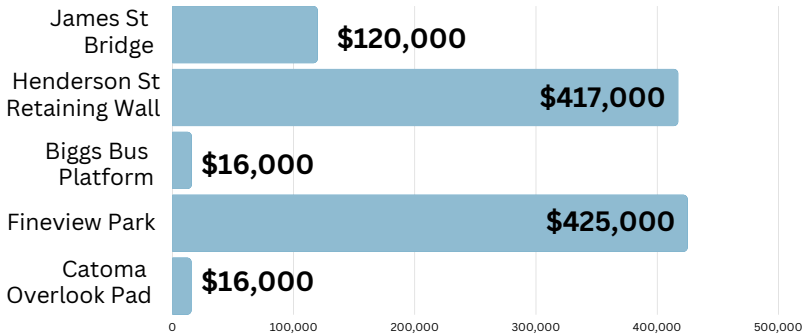
The City has invested in our infrastructure and park improvements. The numbers show that advocacy works. Investments include repairs and remediation to stairs and hillsides; new bus stop and platform; new pad at the Overlook and park improvements. In addition, Fineview Citizens Council received \$450,000 for the Choice Neighborhoods Planning Grant.

FUTURE COMMITMENT

Rising Main Steps

Fineview Field Improvements

Breakdown of investment



Perry Hilltop

2017 - 2021

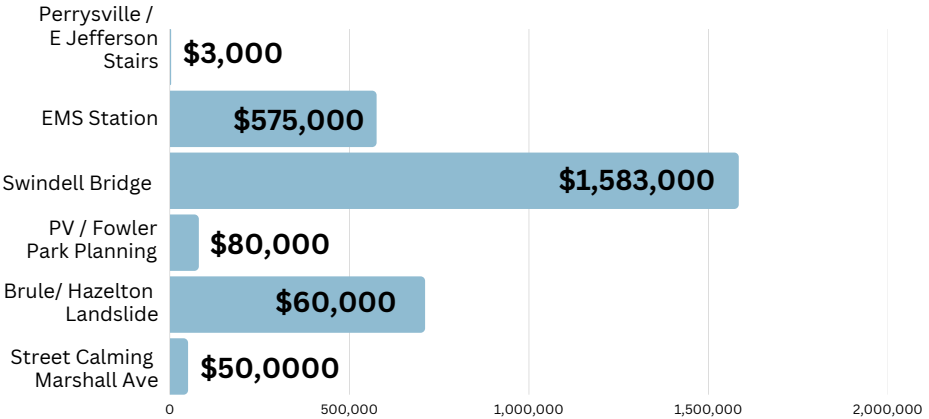


⤴ **\$3,264,505**

The City has invested in our infrastructure and needed improvements after years of disinvestment. The numbers show that advocacy works. Investments include repairs and remediation to bridges, stairs and hillsides; traffic calming; and a new EMS building.

FUTURE COMMITMENT
\$4,430,000

Breakdown of investment



Fineview Citizens Council

BALANCE SHEET DEC 31 2022

Income

Current Assets

Bank Accounts

Checking Account	\$ 381,056.54
Money Market	5,027.50
Savings	9,190.69
Checking Interest Reserves	650.01
Individuals	1,040.20

Total Accounts **\$ 397,864.94**

Accounts Receivable	\$ 39,310.37
Other Current Assets	\$ 486.45

Total Current Assets **\$ 437,661.76**

Fixed Assets

Furniture & Equipment	\$ 10,680.47
Property	615,135.56
Depreciation	- 60,518.88
Construction in progress	\$ 40,956.66

Total Fixed Assets **\$ 605,893.81**

Other Assets	\$ 1,996.04
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Total Assets **\$ 1,045,551.61**

Liabilities

Accounts Payable	\$ 19,193.65
Total Credit Cards	\$ -638.85
Total Other Liabilities	\$ 8,156.04

Total Current Liabilities **\$ 26,710.84**

Long Term Liabilities.	\$ 108,186.13
------------------------	---------------

Total Liabilities **\$ 134,896.97**

Equity

Unrestricted Net Assets	\$ 471,637.05
Restricted Net Assets	\$ 192,114.05
Net Income	\$ 246,903.54

Total Equity **\$ 910,654.64**

Total Liabilities and Equity

\$1,045,551.61

Perry Hilltop Citizens' Council

Income

Current Assets

Bank Accounts	
Checking Account	\$ 272,406.97
Money Market	5,015.12
Savings	1,150.65
Individuals	4.37

Total Accounts **\$ 278,577.11**

Accounts Receivable	\$ 494.00
Other Current Assets	\$ 463.72

Total Current Assets **\$ 279,534.83**

Fixed Assets

Property	\$ 433,549.45
Other Fixed Assets	\$ 235,000.00

Total Assets **\$948,084.28**

Liabilities

Accounts Payable	\$ 23,075.00
Other Current Liabilities	\$ 1,250.00
Long Term Liabilities	\$ 60,000.00

Total Liabilities **\$ 84,325.00**

Equity

Unrestricted Net Assets	\$ 184,584.32
Temporary Restricted Net Assets	\$ 269,687.55
Net Income	\$ 409,487.41

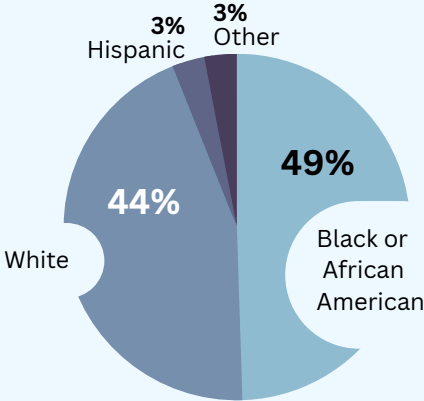
Total Equity **\$ 863,759.28**

Total Liabilities & Equity **\$948,084.28**

DEMOGRAPHICS

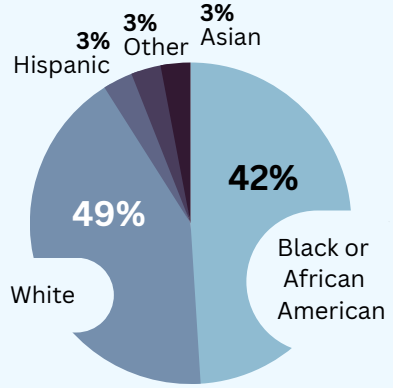
POPULATION BREAKDOWN

Fineview



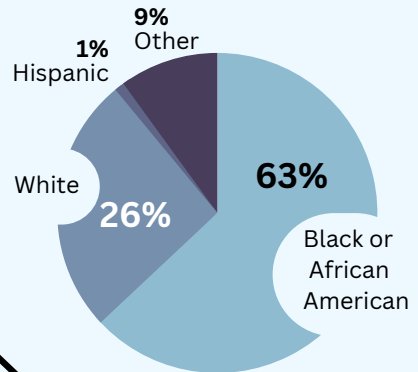
SOURCE: THE AMERICAN COMMUNITY SURVEY 2021, CENSUS TRACT 2509

Perry Hilltop, South

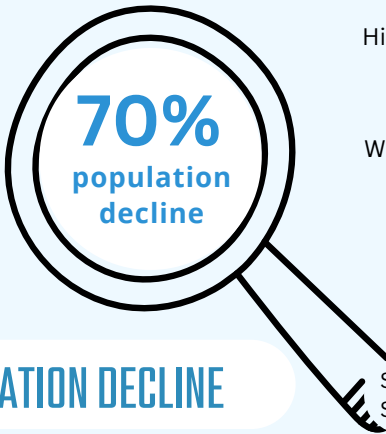


SOURCE: THE AMERICAN COMMUNITY SURVEY 2021, CENSUS TRACT 2614

Perry Hilltop, North



SOURCE: THE AMERICAN COMMUNITY SURVEY 2021, CENSUS TRACT 2615



70%
population decline

POPULATION DECLINE

Fineview

YEAR	POPULATION
1940	4,192
2010	1,285
2021	1,162

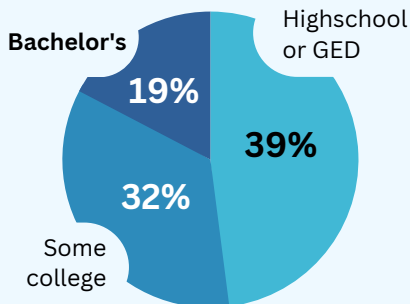
Perry Hilltop

YEAR	POPULATION
1940	14,666
2010	4,145
2021	4,584

SOURCE: THE AMERICAN COMMUNITY SURVEY 2021

EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT

Fineview

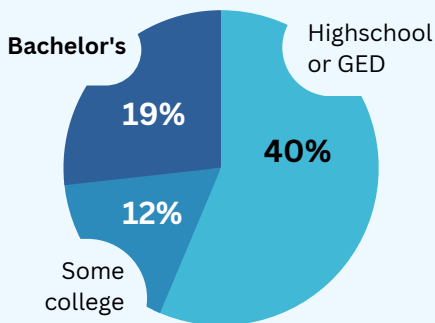


SOURCE: THE AMERICAN COMMUNITY SURVEY 2021, CENSUS TRACT 2509

Pittsburgh Bachelor's

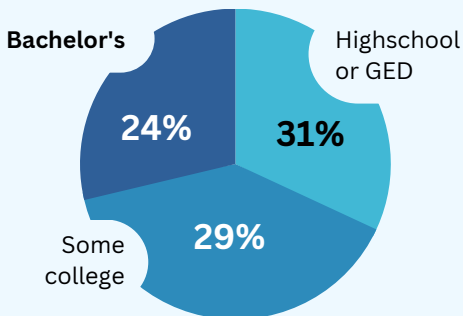
46%

Perry Hilltop, South



SOURCE: THE AMERICAN COMMUNITY SURVEY 2021, CENSUS TRACT 2614

Perry Hilltop, North



SOURCE: THE AMERICAN COMMUNITY SURVEY 2021, CENSUS TRACT 2615

MEDIAN HOUSEHOLD INCOME

**Fineview
2509**

\$27,380

50%

**Perry Hilltop
2614**

\$41,652

75%

**Perry Hilltop
2615**

\$44,016

80%

**Pittsburgh
\$54,306**

SOURCE: THE AMERICAN COMMUNITY SURVEY 2021

RAISING STANDARDS OF EQUITY

... To become a race-conscious community, we have to be intentional about equitable inclusion and examine the ways residents experience multiple forms of discrimination. As we identify and understand barriers to inclusion, and who the most marginalized are, we will build a community for all to belong.

Fineview Citizens and Perry Hilltop Citizens' Councils recognize the Racial divide that exists in today's climate. We are saddened because Racism is alive and as profound as it was in the 60s and throughout American history. This is largely through systemic racism, meaning this country was built on racist policies and laws. We don't subscribe to the one bad apple theory, which points at an individual as the problem, or the cause behind racism. We have been watching our Neighborhoods (Fineview and Perry Hilltop) transform around us. Neighborhoods that once were diverse have aggressively been moving toward upscale white communities, while the displacement of Black and poor families occurs at a rapid rate. Other Northside communities have experienced gentrification at an alarming pace; this phenomenon continues to threaten our community.

Fineview Citizens and Perry Hilltop Citizens' Councils are committed to building internal capacity for further understanding the impact of racism on Black, Indigenous, People of Color (BIPOC) communities, interrogating our own structures and systems, and improving how we address racial equity within the organization.

THROUGH TRANSPARENCY, INCLUSIVITY, EMPOWERMENT AND TRAINING

DEVELOPING POLICIES

- Equity Statement
- Volunteer Handbook

Fineview Citizens and Perry Hilltop Citizens' Council worked with Amber Thompson of de-bias to analyze where challenges and inequities might exist within the structures of their organizations.



To learn more visit: ourfuturehilltop.org

MEASURING OUTCOMES

- Development Scorecard
- Program Scorecard

WORKING GROUPS

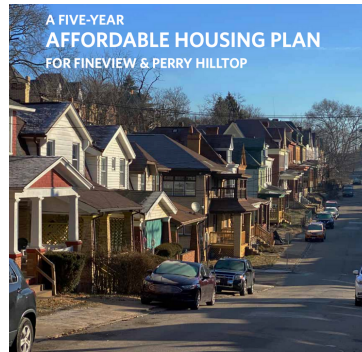
Working groups are made up of passionate volunteers who focus on specific challenges in the communities. Challenges and opportunities have been identified in the community plans. The working group develops strategies to reduce challenges and improve well-being for all residents with an emphasis on those who have been historically marginalized.

WORKING GROUPS MET MORE THAN 52 TIMES
CONTRIBUTING OVER 100 HOURS

From our working groups, several plans materialized. We hope you will find more details information about our organizations priorities helpful in the folloing plans:



FINEVIEW CITIZENS AND PERRY HILLTOP CITIZENS' COUNCIL COMMUNITY PLAN - 2018



FOR INTERNAL USE ONLY

PREPARED BY:
Studio for Spatial Practice
Valentina Vavasis Consulting
Ariam Ford Consulting



FIVE YEAR AFFORDABLE HOUSING PLAN FOR FINEVIEW & PERRY HILLTOP - 2020

VIOLENCE PREVENTION



- Fineview Citizens and Perry Hilltop Citizens' Councils worked with the University of Pittsburgh School of Social Work through Pathways to Community Safety, Healing and Wellness, an 8 week series addressing community violence and mental health. Sessions included areas of indirect / direct intervention; building trust among neighbors; restorative and respectful strategies; effective listening and communication skills; and a community project to build healthy relationships. The basketball court at PV / Fowler Park was restored and a game between youth, police and adults was arranged.

VIOLENCE PREVENTION

Our Pathways to Community Safety, Healing and Wellness project trained youth and adults to build strong relationships with neighbors as ways to feel supported and to confront behaviors that violate neighborhood norms and values.

- MICKI McDONOUGH, PHCC BOARD OF DIRECTOR



Discussions and intentional meetings continue with partners at Northside Partnership Project. We know that violence in our communities is a direct reflection of a systemic problem. Solving this is going to take continued patience, strength, training and involvement between youth, organizations and neighbors.

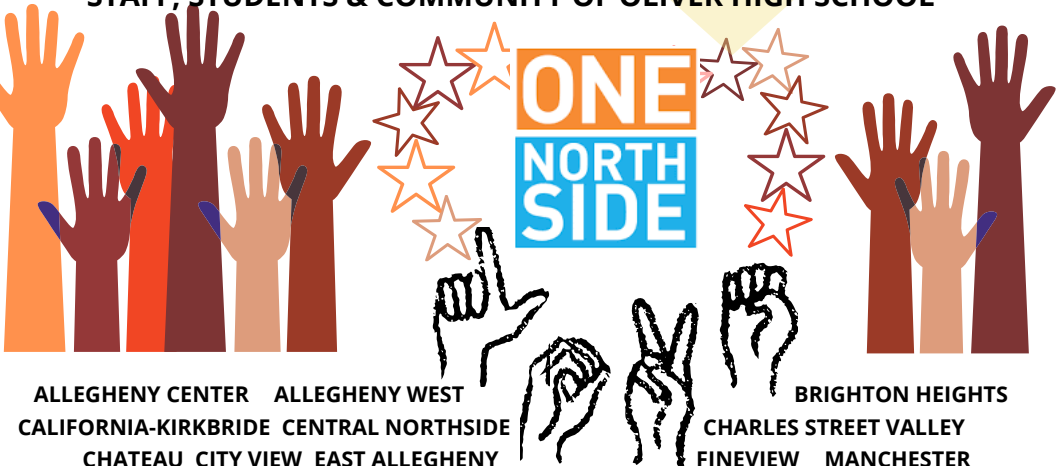
“ Violence prevention programs are best implemented in collaboration with community partners and members. ”

- DR. MARY L. OHMER PhD,
MSW, MPIA

Associate Professor
Chair, COSA (Community,
Organization and Social Action)
School of Social Work,
University of Pittsburgh

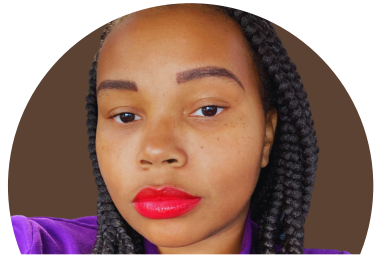
>> Following violence at Oliver High School, communities came together to create a banner. The banner acts as a reminder that we CARE.

STAFF, STUDENTS & COMMUNITY OF OLIVER HIGH SCHOOL



- ALLEGHENY CENTER
- ALLEGHENY WEST
- BRIGHTON HEIGHTS
- CALIFORNIA-KIRKBRIDE
- CENTRAL NORTHSIDE
- CHARLES STREET VALLEY
- CHATEAU CITY VIEW
- EAST ALLEGHENY
- FINEVIEW
- MANCHESTER
- MARSHALL-SHADELAND
- NORTHVIEW HEIGHTS
- NORTH SHORE
- PERRY NORTH
- PERRY HILLTOP
- PERRY SOUTH
- SPRING GARDEN
- SPRING HILL
- SUMMER HILL
- TROY HILL

YOUTH + PEOPLE



LEARN & EARN PROGRAM

RHONDA STROZIER
COORDINATOR LEARN
& EARN PROGRAM

Guided by the youth working group Chairs - Dwayne Barker, Giannie Haley Braafhart and staff, Rhonda Strozier - Fineview Citizens and Perry Hilltop Citizens' Councils hired two youth coordinators to lead the Learn and Earn Program in 2022. 8 youth were employed from June through August.

- There were 18 guest speakers that engaged the youth in interactive lunch and learn series which included a focus on leadership, career planning, mental health and well-being.
- Over the six week program, youth learned landscaping skills, including the use of small equipment, and worked in the community on new housing developments such as Sandstone Quarry.
- Youth collected litter throughout Fowler Park and the surrounding neighborhood.
- Youth attended a field trip to Phipps Conservatory
- Youth volunteered at Light of Life Food Pantry, located at The Pittsburgh Project, to disburse healthy food donations to residents.



YOUTH + PEOPLE

Great partnerships help our residents feel loved. Fineview Citizens and Perry Hilltop Citizens' Councils showered our seniors with love this year through these programs:

SENIORS

GINGERBREAD CONTEST

Community voting for the Seniors' Gingerbread Contest



The organizations received grants to provide Senior Serenades in 2021 and 2022. The program coordinated by Greg Manley and Carla Arnold made such a nice impression in 2021 that they asked us to do it again in 2022. We did a serenade with Light of Life, Steelworkers Tower and the Reformed Presbyterian Home - The Upper Room.

Dwayne Barker's leadership with Perry Hilltop Citizens' Council, Urban Youth Camping Venture and the Urban Camping Divas coordinated our annual Gingerbread contest with four participating senior centers in the Northside. Seniors have fun creating and competing for great prizes donated by partners.





In 2023, Fineview Citizens and Perry Hilltop Citizens' Councils will curate two more senior serenades. Funding for this program provides musical performances and social opportunities for our seniors with limited access to outside programming. It is a highlight among our senior living facilities.

Adult Home resources

Living Facilities

Reformed Presbyterian Home -
<https://rphome.org/>

The Upper Room -

<https://rphome.org/independent-living/the-upper-rooms/>

Steel Workers Tower -

<https://www.ehdoc.org/property/steelworkers-tower-housing-senior-pittsburgh/>

Lunch / Fitness

Pittsburgh Higher Ground -

3505 Perrysville Avenue. -
Fitness and lunch
(412)475-6785

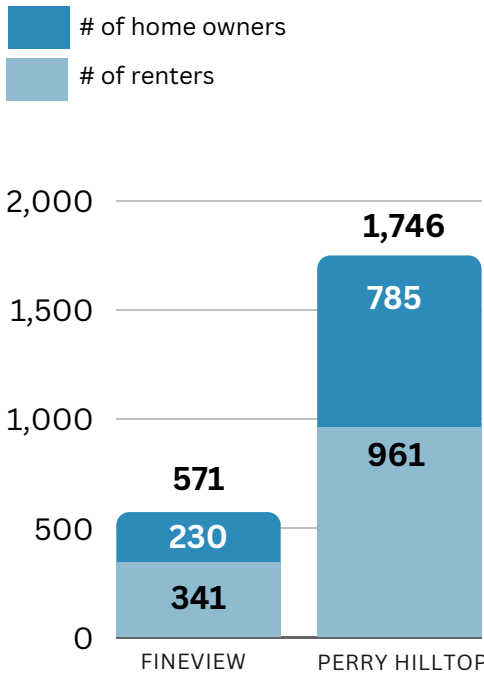
Sarah Heinz House - Silver Sneakers Program - Tues & Thurs 9:30am-10:30am



HOUSING + EQUITY

The mission of the Housing Working Group is to preserve and expand permanently affordable rental housing, and to expand opportunities for affordable homeownership. We also encourage appropriate commercial development and address blighted and abandoned properties that affect our quality of life. We work to prevent resident displacement, and create a cooperative, vibrant, sustainable, and thriving community as detailed in our community plan.

HOME OWNERSHIP VS RENTAL



SOURCE: ANALYSIS BY STUDIO FOR SPATIAL PRACTICE
2020, 5-YEAR AFFORDABLE HOUSING PLAN PAGE 23



NANCY NOSZKA

COMMUNITY REAL ESTATE DIRECTOR

GOALS

- increase density and incomes
- remedy zoning policies
- reduce gentrification and blight
- utilize diverse mix of housing



2133 PERRYVILLE

With the completion of this 2-story brick renovation, Perry Hilltop is able to provide two quality, affordable rental units along Perrysville Avenue.

LOWER LANARK

>> After completion of 9, 19 and 21 Lanark street, we have 3 affordable rentals in Fineview.

>> A partnership with City of Bridges Community Land Trust ensures that 8 more affordable home ownership options remain for 99+ years.

RESERVED PRIORITIES

FINEVIEW

- Upper Lanark
- Carrie Street

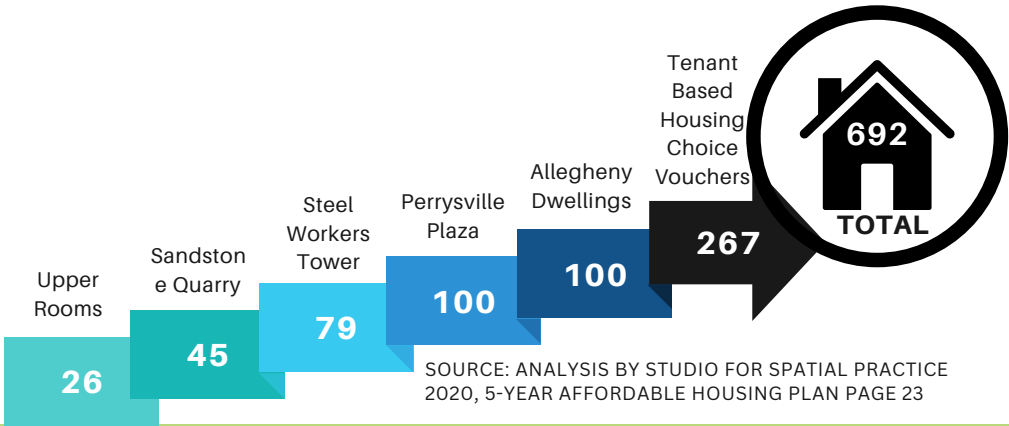
PERRY HILLTOP

- Perrysville at N Charles
- Perrysville at Wilson

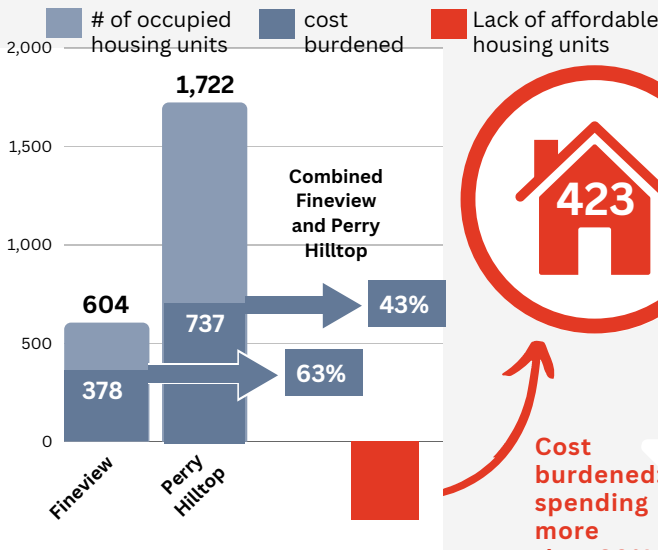


AFFORDABLE HOUSING

According to the Five-Year Affordable Housing Plan, **there are ~ 692 affordable housing units** in Fineview and Perry Hilltop. According to the US Census American Community Survey, there is a total of 2,326 occupied housing units in this area. By these counts, 29% of all occupied housing units provide a form of subsidized affordable housing.



affordable housing urgency



According to the Five-Year Affordable Housing Plan, there are a total of 2,326 occupied housing units in our neighborhoods. Of these occupied units, 1,125 residents are cost burdened. If there are 692 affordable units in Fineview and Perry Hilltop, then there is a lack of 423 affordable units.

Cost burdened: spending more than 30% of their income on housing.

GAPS

households who own homes

39%
black

66%
white

ELIGIBILITY FOR HOMEOWNERSHIP

60 - 80%

Area Median Income

Many of our residents fall in the 30-50% AMI bracket, therefore wouldn't qualify for affordable home ownership programs.

TWO IMPORTANT TAKE-AWAYS

> income effects home ownership access

Due to institutional disinvestment and inequities, black households tend to have lower income levels making them at higher risk for displacement

> intentional stepping stones

Our communities need intentional stepping stones which help build financial stability so individuals are eligible for mortgages - workforce training, higher paying jobs, educational opportunities

PROJECTS >> FINEVIEW

Priorities

- Increase density and provide diverse styles of housing for people with diverse needs.
- Transformation of Allegheny Dwellings with a 1:1 replacement option is the ONLY way to proceed
- Preserve affordability of neighborhood

Completed Lanark Street

- 9 Lanark
- 19 Lanark
- 21 Lanark

21 Carrie Street

- Exploring for sale or future development

NEW CONSTRUCTION DESIGN

Lanark Street





3 affordable units created in Fineview

Lower Lanark Street

- collaborate with City of Bridges Community Land Trust

May 2023

Finalize Construction Estimates & Contract

June 2023

Finalize Funding

September 2023

Groundbreaking >> has been delayed due to zoning challenge

Upper Lanark Street

- preserve for future affordable development



PROJECTS >> PERRY HILLTOP



2 affordable units created in Perry Hilltop

Priorities

- Help rebuild the business district at North Charles and Perrysville
 - URA released the Avenues of Hope Plan
- Public space improvements
- Investing time and technical assistance for small business development

2133 Perrysville

- 2 affordable rental units completed

2115 Perrysville

- future business + affordable residential

+ 2000 hours, mwbe technical assistance



business district

98%
vacant

2603 Perrysville

- Former Atlas Theater
 - preservation / stabilization

2610 Perrysville

- former American Legion
 - will be daycare / event centers
 - owned by black business woman, LaTeresa Blackwell

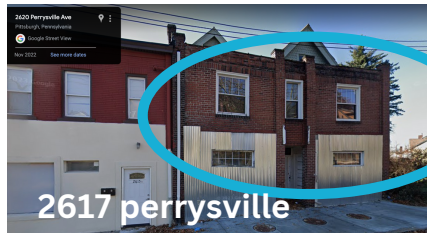
2617 Perrysville

- Process of acquiring

2133 before

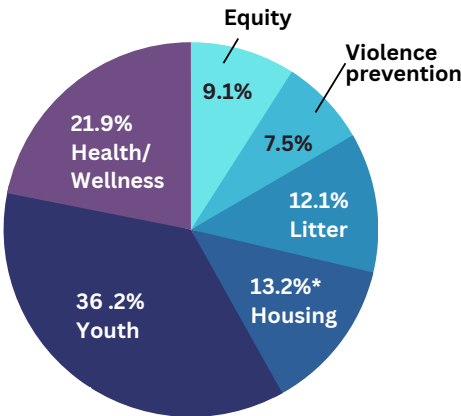


2133 after



OUTREACH RESOURCES & VOLUNTEERS

The pie chart represents where volunteer hours were spent. Fineview Citizens and Perry Hilltop Citizens' Councils hosted 11 community gatherings and a holiday appreciation party. Board of Directors met 11 times.



- Doesn't include Allegheny Dwellings Choice Neighborhoods Planning

SCHOOL SUPPLIES

Fineview Citizens and Perry Hilltop Citizens' Councils partnered with Legacy International, Propel School & Urban Strategies to distribute school supplies to **103** youth. Another **72** packs of school supplies were distributed at Allegheny Dwellings in August 2022.



CARLA ARNOLD

COMMUNITY OUTREACH & ENGAGEMENT DIRECTOR



FOOD & RESOURCES

>> Volunteers bagged and distributed **3,600** bags of produce in 2022.
>> Our volunteers helped to serve **840** people at Light of Life Food Pantry, located at the Pittsburgh Project.

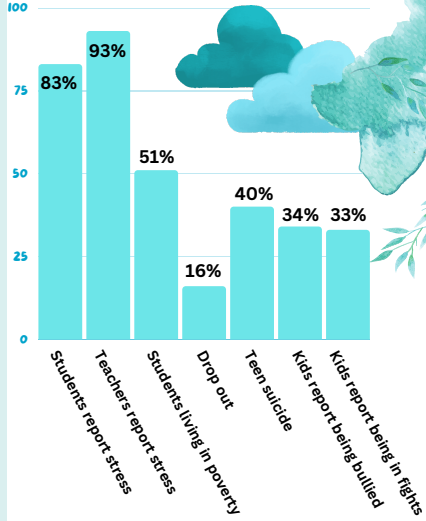
WELCOME KITS

Neighbors who moved into Fineview or Perry Hilltop received a Welcome Kit. Each kit offers info about the neighborhood, resource packets and membership forms.

OUTREACH HEALTH & WELLNESS

Our mindful programming provides simple access to taking mindful moments. The goal is to help residents increase familiarity with mindful moments. Benefits include the ability to self-regulate and self-manage basic levels of stress. Mindful Mondays feature a different modality with which to increase awareness, focus and reduce stress through basic breathing techniques.

WHY Mindfulness?



SOURCE: innerexplorer.org/research.html



Mindful Movement >

move your body intentionally for the goal of improved physical and mental health. Mindful walking / dancing / stretching

Mindful Making >

promotes social and mental health benefits. When you create something with an intention, it makes the act of creating meaningful.

Mindful Meandering >

thoughtful listening and journaling.

Mindful Moments >

Deep relaxation infused with Reiki

**MINDFUL WARRIORS -
GWEN MARCUS + DONTE**

EVENTS + BEAUTIFICATION

ANNUAL FINEVIEW + FRIENDS BBQ



The annual BBQ brings neighbors together for fun and connection. Residents play games, dance and enjoy raffles. In 2022, Greg Manley taught his game Circle Rules Football. This year an active community enjoyed basketball, pickleball, dancing, bouncy house, face painting and balloon art. Each year our neighbors look forward to the event.



FCC & PHCC raffled costumes, toys, back to school supplies and house hold items.



EVENTS + BEAUTIFICATION

ANNUAL NATIONAL NIGHT OUT



The best way to build a safer community is to know your neighbors and your surroundings. National Night Out supports communities and police partnerships which challenge a culture of isolation. Neighbors take part in National Night Out across thousands of communities throughout the US. Perry Hilltop has partnered or hosted National Night Out over the past three years. This is an annual event that the community has come to look forward to.



FUNDRAISER - FINEVIEW STEP CHALLENGE



Pittsburgh is home to the largest number of public steps in the country, and we love all 800 of them. Our ancestors built these staircases during Pittsburgh’s industrial era, using them to navigate the hilly terrain to commute to work. Residents still use public steps to commute, but use of the stairs has evolved to include recreation; as connectors between walking trails; and for training outside of the gym.

Fineview has established an identity around its staircases, and we are proud to sponsor such a unique Pittsburgh event. The Fineview Step Challenge is held on the second Saturday in October. The step challenge was established in 1995. The fundraiser supports FCC's goals to preserve steps, hillside remediation, beautification and event programming.

This is the Fineview Citizens Council’s largest fundraiser. Proceeds from the event benefit our programming related to beautification, affordable homes, and youth. If you want to show your commitment to promoting healthy lifestyles, diversity, and neighborhood investment, please contact:



Christine Whispell
christine@ourfuturehilltop.org





**Runners take on
5 miles, 10 sets of steps,
and a finish which
triumphs a 17-story
building #371**



**Volunteers help
to prepare, clean the
trails and guide runners
along the course**

GET INVOLVED

"OH! What a View!"

Fineview Overlook

\$7500

No Elevator Here

Rising Main Steps

\$5000

Worth the Trek

James Street Steps

\$2500

Who's afraid of heights?

Peekskill Trail

\$1500

Keep Looking Up

Sandstone Quarry Steps

\$1500

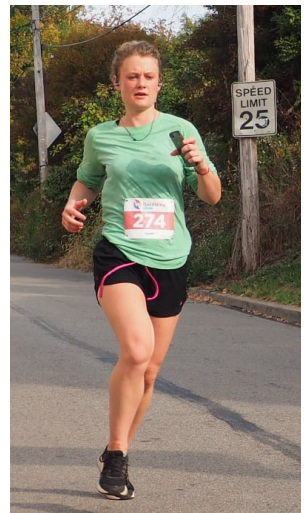
Friend / Supporter

\$150

Water Stations

Awards

Marshals



GREEN SPACE / BEAUTIFICATION



**FOSTER
YOUTH PARTICIPATION**

FINEVIEW COMMUNITY GARDEN

The community garden is an edible, pollinator garden accessible to all neighbors. Residents have an opportunity to participate in the garden with limited knowledge of gardening or with a lot of experience. FCC offers community plots which everyone can plant and harvest together or work individual plots. The community gardening tasks are split up and watering and weeding is a social, mindful activity for all ages.



**CURIOSITY
YOUTH PARTICIPATION**



**FAMILY / FRIENDS
COMMUNITY GARDENING**

Bio-diversity, native plants and pollinators, are important to the health of our communities. Pollinators contribute to our edible gardens, flora and fauna health. We aim to educate neighbors about producing their own food and providing healthy choices.

UNITY CORNER GARDEN CLUB

This garden marks the first collaborative community project between Fineview and Perry Hilltop Citizens councils. The mural was designed and created by residents along with artists Linda Wallen and Sandy Kessler Kaminski. Youth and elders engaged about what is important to them. Today the garden is stewarded by Master Gardener, Tricia Patsilevas and coordinated by Community Outreach & Engagement Director, Carla Arnold. Volunteers make this a successful, vibrant garden.



COLLABORATION
FINEVIEW & PERRY HILLTOP



PARTNERSHIP
ALLEGHENY GOATSCAPE



VOLUNTEERS
KIM METHENY



POLLINATORS / NATIVES
BLACK EYED SUSAN

GREEN SPACE + BEAUTIFICATION

LITTER BRIGADE / LITTER LEAGUE

Volunteers meet weekly to combat litter and dumping in our neighborhoods March - November. Litter walks bring people together to improve neighbor relations. April - June, they compete in a Litter League coordinated by Allegheny Cleanways and Friends of the Riverfront which tackles large dumpsites and heavy lifting across Allegheny County.

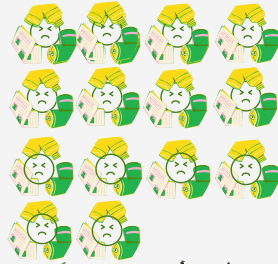
BEFORE

HOWARD STREET DUMP SITE



Litter Collected

Each pile of YUCK below represents 1,000 lbs of garbage collected by volunteers in 2022.



*Sarah Axtell,
Catherine Gowl
(Kip), Jon
Hanrahan,
Matt Indovina +
(Maeve and
Fiona), Diann
Malcolm, Greg
Manley and
Christine
Whispell*



AFTER

HOWARD STREET DUMP SITE

OPEN SPACE + TRAILS

Partnerships cultivated with Scenic Pittsburgh, Landforce and Allegheny Goatscape have increased trailways and greenspaces within our community. The trails provide connectivity to geographical areas that residents feel cut off from including the Overlook and Park.

Denham Trail

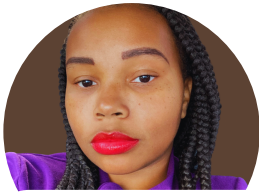
Denham Way to Lanark Street -
Trail system improves connectivity to Fineview Community Park.



Fountain Street Overlook

Fountain Street to Henderson Street -
Trail system improves connectivity to Allegheny General Hospital and Central Northside. Residents enjoy the views.





RHONDA STROZIER
CHOICE PLANNING LIAISON

CHOICE NEIGHBORHOODS

PRIORITIES

- » **People** — Re-establish community connections and trust to foster a safe, family- friendly neighborhood, where residents are active parts of their community and thrive as individuals.
- » **Housing** — Integrate Allegheny Dwellings into the surrounding community and invest in safe, quality, affordable housing.
- » **Neighborhood** — Create a green, connected, well-served, livable neighborhood where residents have convenient access to rich opportunities and resources to meet their daily needs.

- RESIDENTS OF ALLEGHENY DWELLINGS
- RESIDENTS OF BROADER COMMUNITY
- BOTH

HOME OWNERSHIP

would like to work towards *buying a home* in near the future



52%

of Allegheny Dwellings residents

41%

of neighborhood renters



Community Walk-shops, February 2022
Fineview Citizens Council

ALLEGHENY DWELLINGS CHOICE NEIGHBORHOOD

OUR CHOICE, OUR FUTURE



Housing Authority
City of Pittsburgh

ALLEGHENY
DWELLINGS
TENANT
COUNCIL

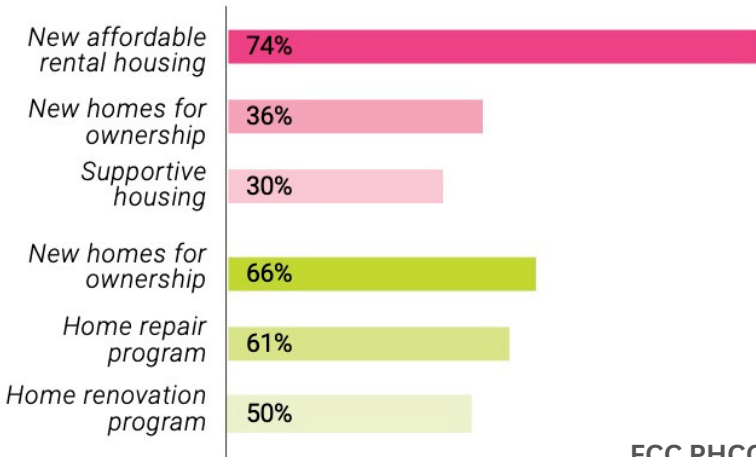


The Needs Assessment survey was administered by Project Destiny / Thrive 18, who regularly survey Northside residents to identify needs and then work to connect community members with services. **83% of Allegheny Dwellings residents took the survey between June and September 2021, exceeding the goal by 30 households.**

115 Allegheny Dwellings residents
139 neighborhood residents
TOOK THE SURVEY!

SUPPORTIVE COMMUNITY AND BELONGING

What type of housing is needed in the Choice Neighborhood?



AMBASSADOR PROGRAM

The Allegheny Dwellings Choice Neighborhood Ambassador Program aims to:

- 1 Educate about the Choice Neighborhood planning process
- 2 Promote resident advocacy
- 3 Build community capacity
- 4 Encourage integration within the Fineview neighborhood at large

It is a great program. I enjoy working with others and it is all about my community. I love my community!

- DARRYL WHARTON



Dwellings Choice Neighborhood Community Ambassadors, May 2021

It is a great program! It connects you to your community and surrounding areas. It also teaches us things we do not know and keep us updated with things we do know or changes that are happening and going on in our community.

- NATASHA HOWARD

What programs would be most helpful to work towards homeownership?

#1

Home repairs
Down payment

#2

Help with
credit history

#3

Homebuyer
education

SUNRISE & SUNSET

JAN 1951 - FEB 2023

Ms. Cheryl was Ms. Cheryl

*Honest Calm Courage
Dedicated Leader
Brave Fearless Warrior
Patient Community Strength
Inclusive Love History
Vision Advocate Matriarch
Empathy Irreplaceable Collaborative*

many, many, many thanks!

Family, friends and colleagues gathered to honor Ms. Gainey, the matriarch to many at the Allegheny Dwellings Community where she lived. She was passionate about community and residents' rights. Ms. Gainey sat on the Board at the Housing Authority City of Pittsburgh, and was President of the Allegheny Dwellings Tenant Council as well as an executive member of the Fineview Citizens Council for many years. Additionally, Ms. Gainey was a leader in the Allegheny Dwellings Choice Neighborhood Initiative planning process and instrumental in Fineview and Perry Hilltop Citizens Councils Equity Working Group discussions.

Housing Authority of the City of Pittsburgh Executive Director, Caster Binion, stated that a scholarship would be named in her honor. He said that the existing and future wellness center would also be dedicated to Cheryl Gainey.

Reverend Gregg shared that Cheryl was an active, loving individual who never stopped fighting for the community and her loved ones.



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OURFUTUREHILLTOP.ORG

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Pittsburgh, PA
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