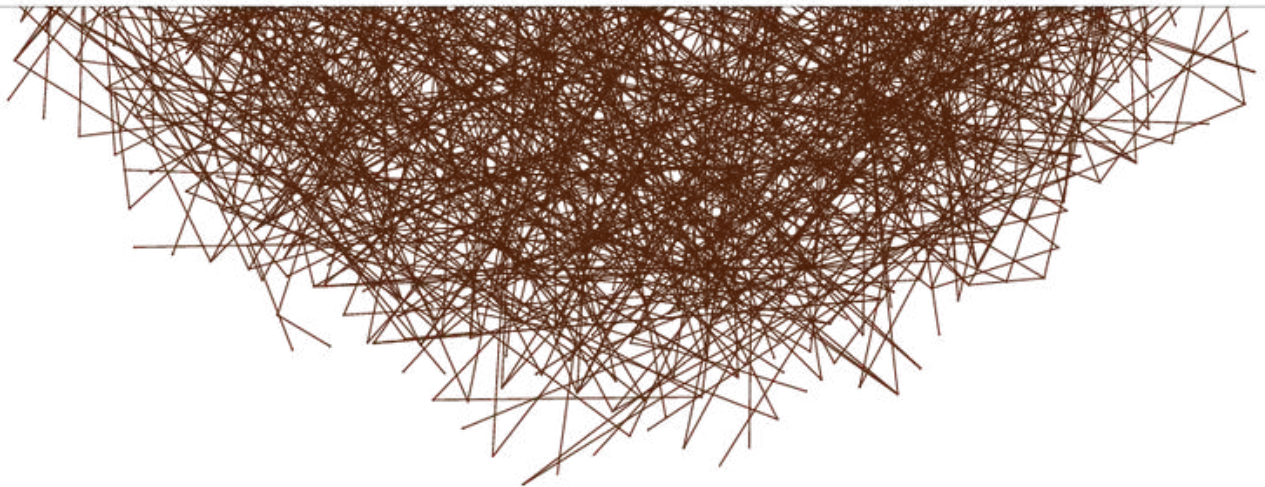


TEEN VIOLENCE PREVENTION SUMMIT

OUT OF CHAOS

SUMMER | 2023



Thursday, July 13th, 2023

Friday, July 14th, 2023

Petersen Events Center

3719 Terrace St, Pittsburgh, PA 15261

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NOTE FROM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Hello everyone,

Welcome to Youth Enrichment Services' second Youth Violence Prevention Symposium here at the Petersen Events Center. Gun violence - the sad reality too many of our young people face - has driven us to this point. Its impact and the long-term negative effects of this epidemic have spanned too long in our communities. However, lately we have seen a sparkle in the eyes of many of our young people. It is heartening to see how many of these youth are returning to programs and excitedly joining school and community activities.

We want you to join us in giving our youth what they need - at this symposium and beyond. Your mentorship, guidance, care, instruction, and investment will help youth grow into the leaders and advocates we desperately need in our communities.

This event, and work, would not be possible without our many funders. We want to publicly thank Michael Pennington and the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency, Lynne Ventress and The Richard King Mellon Foundation, Lauri Fink and the Hillman Family Foundations, Mark Lewis and the POISE Foundation, Michael Yonas and the Pittsburgh Foundation, Mayor Ed Gainey and the STOP the Violence funding we received, the YWCA of Greater Pittsburgh for their funding support, and Allegheny County Juvenile Probation for its continued support of our diversion program. We want to thank all of these individuals and organizations for their continued passion, work, and guidance. Their financial support through partnerships with us is integral to our violence prevention efforts. Without them, this symposium would not be possible.

Finally, we want to thank all of our partner agencies and our stakeholders. Even though we know youth are the fuel that will make our attempts to address gun violence successful, this event would not be possible without the leadership of our community organizations and stakeholders.

This year's theme, Out of Chaos, reflects our desire to help youth find a way out of turbulence and to reimagine their future. Today, we start that journey by reaffirming our youth with positive messages and encourage them to live, to heal, and to dream.

With God's help, and your leadership and engagement, we look forward to brighter days ahead for our young people.

#oneteamonedream #survivetothriveanddream

Thank you,



Dennis Floyd Jones, PhD
Executive Director, Youth Enrichment Services

BACKGROUND

Nearly two years ago, YES was rocked to its core as several of our precious youth were gunned down by teen-initiated gun violence. Six of our long-term participants were among those who died senselessly - three more youths had close family members who died at the hands of gun violence. These horrifying actions occurred in a short span of time - which felt more like eternity. Because of the wounds, the hurt, and grief left behind, YES felt no other cause than to keep all our youth alive. With this effort, YES adopted the theme "Year of Peace and Non-Violence". Since then, YES has dedicated over 40% of our time, resources, and efforts toward addressing youth gun violence with the help of foundations and PCCD. Our first major effort was our teen violence prevention summit held in the summer of 2022; following this positive activity, YES garnered a significant number of collaborators and interested stakeholders. A few committed agency partners have grown into a respectable cohort of like-minded community-based agencies and stakeholders who feel that the collective approach is a viable option to build our violence prevention strategies.

Up to this point, our efforts have focused on addressing youth trauma, processing grief, and helping youth deal with hurt and pain. We believe it is now time to focus on growth and creating more optimistic, resilient young people in the post pandemic environment. Although, in some cases, they are battered, bruised, and knocked down, we purposely and willfully want to give them hope and direction for the future. We want to allow them to feel whole and healed and therefore this year's summit has evolved into a symposium directed by the most skilled, expert, and qualified youth professionals and stakeholders who will allow youth to develop strategies, new ideas, and new ways of looking at themselves, in a social environment of their peers. Youth will attend presentations, panels, discussions, and other pro-social experiences.



COLLECTIVE IMPACT

For youth serving agencies, collective impact is more about the weakest link in the chain of support for families in crisis. We lose families because we “individually” lack the resources, capacity, and or expertise that is required. We find our youth and their communities in crisis. Through the ecosystem, we want each agency to run towards its resume. “Do what you do best!” Let others in the ecosystem fill in where you are not equipped with the expertise or structure to make it happen. Our ecosystem aligns likeminded agencies who maintain their own status and profile. Their only connection to each other is the shared work around gun violence. There has been no promise of funding, or use of anyone’s name or identity to obtain funding on behalf of the ecosystem members. Agencies and stakeholders alike are free to exit the group at any time. New organizations are free to join at any time. The focus is truly on the work of saving lives of young children and families by uniting in a shared community of professionals who lead community-based nonprofits with shared values, commitment, and passion.

Being an integral ecosystem member requires a significant amount of trust, commitment, understanding, humility, passion, and caring. The best teams trust each of their teammates to pull their own weight, play their role, and most importantly, stay in their lane.

Our students and families depend on each of us to deliver when our number is called! We must stay ready, so we do not have to get ready. Many folks say collective impact will not work in this “me” focused environment! However, I am convinced it has to! We do not have a choice. It may not be the only option, but it is a viable one to help our kids and families; we owe them nothing less.

Collective impact is a force multiplier!



Collective Impact Ecosystem Partners



pennsylvania
COMMISSION ON CRIME
AND DELINQUENCY

**PARTNER
WORK**



1HOOD

**BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS
OF WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA**

the kingsley association



**CLAIRTON CITY
SCHOOL DISTRICT**



gwen's girls
Inspiring new destiny



Amachi
PITTSBURGH



PHASE 4 Learning Center, Inc.



**McKEESPORT AREA
School District**



**CENTER
FOR
SHARED
PROSPERITY**

RISSE ROBOTICS INSTITUTE
SUMMER SCHOLARS



**CIVIC
CHAMPS**

GVCS
Greater Valley Community Services, Inc.

**THE HEAR
FOUNDATION**



**NORTH WAY
CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY**



Kyle's Hope



youthplaces



MYDC
Manchester Youth Development Center

**SENATOR JOHN HEINZ
HISTORY CENTER**
AN ASSOCIATION WITH THE SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION



**University of
Pittsburgh**
School of Education



**LEE DAVIS
& ASSOCIATES
CONSULTING**



**STO-ROX
SCHOOL DISTRICT**



LEARNING OBJECTIVES

Day 1

Upon completion of Day 1, participants will:

- Become more knowledgeable about the mental health impact of gun violence.
- Develop strategies to regulate emotions regarding trauma induced grief and loss due to gun violence.
- Improve help-seeking strategies to identify resources and communications with adults and caring professionals when feeling stressed or depressed.
- Become familiar with career opportunities presented by workshop leaders.
- Develop response strategies to defuse confrontations that could lead to more serious issues.
- Understand their role as peer mentors.
- Contribute ideas and solutions to addressing community gun violence.

Day 2

Upon completion of Day 2 seminar sessions, participants will:

- Develop strategic actions to address gun violence in their communities.
- Increase their peer mentorship knowledge and skills through participation in mentorship sessions.
- Build team consensus and understand how they can individually contribute to the county's violence prevention efforts.

Thursday, July 13th Schedule

8:00 AM	Arrival, check-in, and breakfast
9:00 AM	Program Kick-off
9:25 AM	Opening Welcome & Charge for the Day
10:05 AM	Introduction & Program Logistics
10:30 AM	Breakout Sessions*
12:30 PM	Lunch
1:30 PM	Afternoon Hype
1:45 PM	Mentorship App Presentation
2:15 PM	Keynote Address: <i>Deals x Decisions = Destiny</i>
2:50 PM	Panel Discussion
3:50 PM	Wrap-up & Next Steps
5:00 PM	Gateway Clipper Ride
8:00 PM	Return to Dock & Travel Home

*Youth and adult breakout sessions detailed on subsequent pages



Event Entertainment



Yusef Shelton



Marcell Johnson



Mikayla Keyes
Singer

Opening Welcome Speakers



Dean Valerie Kinloch
School of Education
University of Pittsburgh



Mayor Ed Gainey
City of Pittsburgh



Executive Director Michael Pennington
Pennsylvania Commission
on Crime and Delinquency



Senator Jay Costa
Pennsylvania State Senate

YOUTH BREAKOUT SESSIONS

Location

Session

#1

Charting Your Course

Facilitator: Geng Wang

#2

Cooking for Calm

Facilitators: Keith Butler & Judy Dodd

#3

Second Chances: A New Opportunity at Life

Facilitator: Amber Sloan

#4

The Reason for Your Existence

Facilitators: Marcell Johnson and Yusef Shelton

#5

Challenges You Face When Overcoming Trauma:
Moving Towards Success

Facilitator: Dr. Staci Ford

#6

Celebrating Loses -

How Hip Hop Culture Got Super Weird

Facilitator: Ayodeji Young

#7

You Good? Exploring Post-Traumatic Growth

Facilitator: Shirley Lyle

YOUTH BREAKOUT SESSIONS

Location

Session

#8

Healthcare Voice

Facilitators: Dr. Elizabeth Miller & Dr. Eveldora Wheeler

#9

Conversations with Law Enforcement

Facilitator: Dennis Logan

#10

Trauma & Identity: A Presentation Synopsis

Facilitator: Dr. Solomon Armstead

#11

Mentorship & Relationship-Building

Facilitator: Sophia Duck

#12

Road to Success: Challenges, Opportunities,
and the Fight for Success

Facilitator: Makaila Holston-Smith

#13

AI and Robotics in Everyday Life

Facilitators: Rachel Burcin, Leo Santos,
Will Scott & Nyomi Morris

YOUTH BREAKOUT SESSIONS

Location

Session

#14

Life Skills
Facilitator: Lee Davis

#15

Youth Civic Leadership Academy
Facilitators: Melinda Jones & Deanna Sinex

#16

Get it Off Your Chest
Facilitators: Aaron Wade & Chanelle Coleman

#17

Courage and Confidence
Facilitator: Donna Sanft

#18

Youth Public Safety Ambassadors
Facilitator: Harrison Maddox

#19

My Story My Voice
Facilitator: Jordan Allen Sr.

YOUTH BREAKOUT SESSIONS

Charting Your Course | Facilitator: Geng Wang

Join three-time Pittsburgh entrepreneur, Geng Wang, to hear his entrepreneurial journey and what it takes to launch your own company. Geng has sold his two prior companies and is a Harvard Business School graduate. This interactive session will teach you how you can get started even if you don't have the technical skills, equipment, or money you need. Plus, Geng will share which skills help prepare you to be a successful entrepreneur.

Cooking for Calm | Facilitators: Keith Butler & Judy Dodd

This session will discuss generational health and the importance of being mindful of what we eat and consume. This session will also include a smoothie-making demonstration and tangible practices for healthy eating.

Second Chances: A New Opportunity at Life | Facilitator: Amber Sloan

This session will draw on the personal experiences of the facilitator and address mental health. The facilitator will discuss their journey from #Prison2Purpose, second chances, and the facilitator's experiences with therapy. The session facilitator will tailor the conversation to the needs and interests of the youth in each group and focus on demystifying mental health in the Black community.

The Reason 4 Your Existence | Facilitators: Marcell Johnson & Yusef Shelton

The objective of this session is to build positive self-identity through hands on learning experiences while also exploring what purpose actually means, why humans exist, and how we move humanity forward progressively. Participants will leave with self-esteem-boosting tools and strategies to begin taking a more introspective dive into their personal reason for living. In this brief workshop, there will be breathing exercises, vision casting techniques, and call and response activities.

YOUTH BREAKOUT SESSIONS

Challenges You Face When Overcoming Trauma: Moving Towards Success
Facilitator: Dr. Staci Ford

We all experience trauma in some way. The key is how we handle what we have been through. *"Life is 10% what has happened in your life and 90% your response."* In this session, participants will learn how to take the challenges and obstacles of the trauma and loss we have experienced and then turning them into opportunities that will move us towards success. Let's work together to move towards a trauma informed path.

Celebrating Loses- How Hip Hop Culture Got Super Weird
Facilitator: Ayodeji Young

This session will discuss how hip hop culture has gotten increasingly more violent and sexually explicit over the last few years and the effects it has on our young people and the communities in which they live.

You Good? Exploring Post-Traumatic Growth | Facilitator: Shirley Lyle

This session will help students move beyond trauma and find ways to embrace growth and new beginnings. The facilitator will equip session attendees with the skills to navigate unknown terrains and the self-care strategies to check in with themselves and to develop resiliency through difficult situations.

Healthcare Voice | Facilitators: Dr. Elizabeth Miller & Dr. Eveldora Wheeler

Teen wellness and mental health challenges have been inextricably connected to family, schools, community, and society on the micro to macro levels. This workshop will focus on innovative ways for youth to learn and practice essential skills to promote their mental health and well-being. It will provide techniques and resources to improve individual and coping skills while learning "how to help a friend and others". This workshop will introduce strategies on ways to access quality mental health care and the benefits. Youth will engage in multiple fun, heartfelt, cognitive, and engaging gratitude circle activities to enhance their coping skills through as a way to learn effective communication.

YOUTH BREAKOUT SESSIONS

Conversations with Law Enforcement | Facilitator: Dennis Logan

This session will discuss youths' experiences living in inner-city environments and best practices when interacting with the police. The session will specifically discuss how youth should navigate interactions with law enforcement.

Trauma and Identity: A Presentation Synopsis | Facilitator: Dr. Solomon Armstead

Trauma can cause feelings of fear, shame, guilt, anger, sadness, and isolation. Trauma can make it hard for young people to cope with everyday challenges and to plan for the future. In this presentation, we will explore the causes and effects of trauma on young people's identity, and how they can heal and recover from their experiences. We will also discuss some strategies and resources to help young people who are struggling with trauma or supporting someone who is.

Mentorship & Relationship-Building | Facilitator: Sophia Duck

The Mentoring Partnership will offer a session to ensure youth know how to get the most out of mentoring. In this abbreviated session, we will help mentees learn how to assess their network of connections and reach out for help.

Road to Success: Challenges, Opportunities, and the Fight for Success Facilitator: Makaila Holston-Smith

In this session, Makaila Holston-Smith, YES alumnus, will chronicle her journey from middle school through college. As a current student at Penn State University, Makaila will speak to the steps she took to become successful in her current work. Makaila will also discuss her philanthropic endeavors as one of Pittsburgh's leading young philanthropists.

YOUTH BREAKOUT SESSIONS

AI and Robotics in Everyday Life
Facilitators: Rachel Burcin, Leo Santos, Will Scott & Nyomi Morris

In this session, facilitators will introduce scholars to preliminary robotic concepts with a focus on sharing our experiences as underrepresented minorities in STEM. We aim to provide our scholars with tangible materials to garner their interest in STEM, supporting their successful transition to and thriving in higher education.

Life Skills I Facilitator: Lee Davis

This workshop series is based on the premise that many youths we serve do not experience the adolescent stage of development as suggested by the behaviors and attitudes exhibited. Looking at the developmental milestones of adolescence and developing workshops to address maladaptive behaviors provides a model to address the needs of the participants as well as equips them with the proper tools to not only navigate through adolescence but also throughout life.

Youth Civic Leadership Academy I Facilitators: Melinda Jones & Deanna Sinex

The Youth Civic Leadership Academy (YCLA) is an immersive civic leadership program that provides insight into civic responsibilities and city government careers and exposes youth to research and leadership skill development. Through this program, young people learn to succeed in these careers and contribute to society as informed and empowered civic participants. Through exposure to various city governmental departments and non-profit organizations, youth understood how these entities are connected and how they impact their daily lives in the hopes that a stronger awareness of how local government operates will lead to career opportunities in city government. In this student-led breakout session, the goal is to hear the previous YCLA participants' reflections, hear about the next iteration, and for the audience to have the chance to ask questions regarding these points.

YOUTH BREAKOUT SESSIONS

Get it Off Your Chest | Facilitators: Aaron Wade & Chanelle Coleman

This session will create a discussion for youth to open up and speak about what is on their mind regarding what is going on in today's world. Facilitators will share their stories and explain how expressing oneself can help individuals better navigate through life.

Courage and Confidence | Facilitator: Donna Sanft

How do we handle the challenges we face in our daily lives? How do we react when we feel unsure of ourselves, find ourselves afraid to try something new, or arrive in a new setting or situation? All of us are on a journey to develop the confidence, courage and resilience we need to face our challenges so we can learn and grow. This breakout session will provide examples of how courage and confidence go hand in hand to strengthen us, and discuss some strategies we might use to strengthen these skills.

Youth Public Safety Ambassadors | Facilitator: Harrison Maddox

This session will provide youth with public safety resources, discuss the importance of effective teamwork with public safety entities, and encourage youth to become public safety ambassadors. This session will also cover stress and trauma and provide resources for healing.

My Story My Voice | Facilitator: Jordan Allen Sr.

The "My Story My Voice" and "My Black Is Resilient" breakout session empowers youth by encouraging them to share their personal narratives and embrace their identity, particularly within the context of being Black. This session recognizes the power of storytelling as a healing tool for young individuals, fostering resilience and self-expression. Providing a safe space for youth to articulate their experiences, allows them to process trauma, build empathy, and find their voice. Understanding and embracing one's unique story and identity is crucial in countering the negative impact of adolescent gun violence. Through this session, young people will develop a sense of belonging, pride, and strength, ultimately contributing to violence reduction and community healing.

PRO TEAM BREAKOUT SESSIONS

Alongside youth breakout sessions, the 2023 Violence Prevention Symposium will include opportunities for adult stakeholders to convene. The Pro Team brings adults from various organizations together to engage in strategic planning and resources sharing. The Pro Team sessions will occur during breakout sessions on Thursday and Friday of the event.

Collective Impact Ecosystem
Facilitator: David Jones

Strategic Planning
Facilitators: Michael Pennington & PCCD Staff

Empowering Teens to Thrive Resource-Sharing
Facilitators: Alison Culyba, Lauren Stoner, Keona Blankenship

Avoiding Children's Exposure to Violence Through Self-Reflection
Facilitators: Maria Lewis

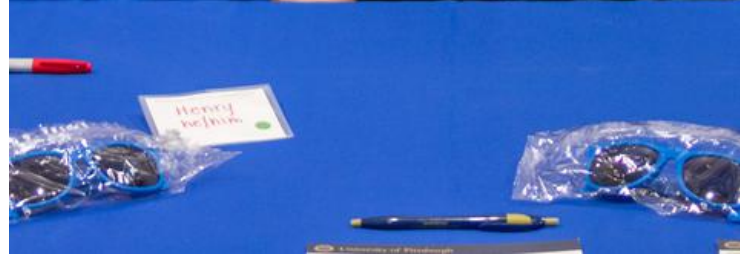
EXHIBITORS

University of Pittsburgh
Undergraduate Admissions

Slippery Rock University
Institute for Nonprofit
Leadership

Amachi Pittsburgh

Human Services
Administration Organization



MENTORSHIP COMMUNICATION APP

Civic Champs launched Mentoring Works in 2022 as a research-based pilot with the support of The National Mentoring Partnership. Since then, Civic Champs has partnered with The RK Mellon Foundation and now serves trusted customers such as Youth Enrichment Services, ALS Oregon, Big Brothers Big Sisters of Greater Pittsburgh, Milwaukee Public Schools, Dream Alive, and The Jewish Family and Community Services of Pittsburgh. Civic Champs has served over 1,500 youth in 10+ states and plans to build upon their success and grow to impact 10,000 opportunity youth by 2025 which would have a \$7 billion impact over the lifetime of these youths. Civic Champs has been working with YES for over a year on mentoring specific programs and app developments. The app will officially launch for Youth Enrichment Services and its partners at the 2023 Violence Prevention Summit.

Download Mentoring Works Here!



Apple
App Store



Google
Play Store



KEYNOTE ADDRESS

David D. Jones

President,

Human Capital Consulting for MalinHughes



David D. Jones is a nationally recognized HR Executive and transformational leader with more than 30-years of C-Suite experience developing and implementing innovative Human Capital strategies across multiple industries. As President, Human Capital Consulting for MalinHughes, David leverages his vast experience to design and build a Consulting Practice that equips their growing and dynamic Executive Search Enterprise and provides a full spectrum of services including broad-based Talent and Workforce Solutions.

Along with his role at MalinHughes, David serves as a trusted advisor to professionals in a variety of industries including healthcare, e-commerce and technology. David serves on the Advisory Board for two early stage technology companies; Incredible Health, and Arena Analytics.

David holds a master's degree in industrial and labor relations from West Virginia University, and is certified as a senior professional in human resources (SPHR) as an internal consultant in managing organization change. David is considered a thought leader in Human Capital Strategy and is a popular conference and keynote speaker, having lectured audiences across the country and globally on such topics as diversity and inclusion, wellbeing, human resources transformation and employee engagement. He has also written numerous published articles on related topics and is a contributing author of two books.

David was recognized within the Top 50 Diverse Leaders in Northern California Award by the California Diversity Council and received the OnCon ICON Award as a Top Ten HR Professional.

PANEL DISCUSSION

The afternoon panel discussion will be moderated by Denise Jones, Deputy Director of Youth Enrichment Services, and Jordan Allen Sr, Ambassadors Coordinator at Amachi Pittsburgh. A number of youth representatives will also participate in the panel discussion, representing their organization and peers.

Adult Panelists



Robert Cherry
CEO, *Partner4Work*



Michael Pennington
Executive Director, *PCCD*



Tiffany Sizemore
Judge, *Allegheny County Court of Common Pleas*



Maria Lewis
Project Director, *Office of Violence Against Women, Point Park University*



Richard McClain Sr.
Master Patrol Officer, *City of Pittsburgh Police*



Lee Davis
Director, *Lee Davis & Associates Consulting LCC*

SYMPOSIUM SPEAKERS

Listed in Alphabetical Order



Jordan Allen Sr.

Ambassadors Coordinator, *Amachi Pittsburgh*

Jordan P. Allen, Sr. is recognized as a visionary community leader, program development specialist, and content expert throughout Pittsburgh and surrounding communities. Jordan is an 8-year veteran of the United States Marine Corps and is currently studying social work. He has managed to tap the pulse of some of Pittsburgh's most troubled neighborhoods while offering solutions to chronic conditions and dilemmas. Jordan still finds time to serve as a committed youth leader at his home church Ebenezer Missionary Baptist Church, and a talented volunteer and personal mentor. While being a husband and a father of 7 amazing children.



Dr. Solomon Armstead

Trauma Informed School Program Manager,
Neighborhood Resilience Project

Dr. Solomon Armstead is a passionate educator and leader who has dedicated his life to serving youth and young adults. He holds a baccalaureate in Art Education and a minor in music, a master's degree in Curriculum Instruction, a Master of Divinity, and a Doctorate in Theology. He has experience working with diverse populations as a juvenile probation officer, director of a drug and alcohol treatment program, director of a residential treatment facility, and an alternative education teacher. Dr. Armstead is committed to empowering and inspiring the next generation of leaders through his work and his faith.



Rachel Burcin

Global Programs Manager, *Carnegie Mellon University*

Rachel Burcin is Global Programs Manager and Co-Director of the Robotics Scholars Program at Carnegie Mellon's Robotics Institute. Her work focuses on growing and diversifying the robotics workforce. Rachel holds a Master of Public Management from Carnegie Mellon University's Heinz College of Public Policy & Management and a bachelor's degree from the University of Pittsburgh in economics. In addition, Rachel has served as an advisor for multiple Carnegie Mellon spinoffs, a Boston-based technology incubator, and multiple education organizations.

SYMPOSIUM SPEAKERS

Listed in Alphabetical Order



Keona Blankenship

Violence Prevention Program Coordinator,
Empowering Teens to Thrive Program

For the past 4 years, Keona has provided support to youth and their families who have been impacted by violence. Keona has also had the honor of partnering with the Pittsburgh Study. She facilitates multiple violence prevention programming such as Job Skills, Sisterhood, YLIA, and Expect Respect with the youth throughout Pittsburgh area. Most importantly, she is a mother of a blended family of 14. In her life, Keona enjoys empowering, encouraging, and inspiring our youth.



Keith Butler

Instructor, *Culinary Arts Department, Bidwell Training Center*

Chef Keith Butler is a Pittsburgh native and Culinary Arts graduate of the Community College of Allegheny County. Chef Keith has instructed Culinary Arts for over 20 years at various institutions, workshops, and events. Chef Butler is the owner and Executive Chef of "Hannah's Catering" and "Chef's Outreach Association", a non-profit designed to educate the community on all aspects of culinary arts and focus on healthy cooking while promoting generational health. Chef Keith firmly believes in giving back to the community.



Robert Cherry

Chief Executive Officer, *Partner4Work*

Partner4Work CEO Robert Cherry is committed to a thriving workforce. He is an active champion for businesses and job seekers, implementing programs, policy initiatives, and community engagement. Robert previously served as the Deputy Secretary of the Department of Workforce Development (DWD) in Wisconsin. Robert received a Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice at the University of Wisconsin- Milwaukee. He serves as a board member of the HEAR Foundation, BEAM Collaborative, Pennsylvania Workforce Development Association, Remake Learning Council, and Center for Self Sufficiency in Wisconsin.

SYMPOSIUM SPEAKERS

Listed in Alphabetical Order



Chanelle Coleman

Board Member, A's Vision

Chanelle Coleman is a certified suicide prevention trainer and black mental health advocate. She works for Community Care Behavioral Health and is a member of their Steering committee for social and racial just and health equity. Ms. Coleman also serves as a Board Member for A's Vision.



Dr. Rebecca Cunningham

Assistant Superintendent, Hampton Township School District

Dr. Rebecca Cunningham has been serving the Hampton Township School District as the Assistant Superintendent since 2016. Prior to this appointment, she served as the principal at Pine-Richland High School and the assistant principal at Fox Chapel Area High School, and as an adjunct professor at the University of Pittsburgh's School of Education. Dr. Cunningham was honored to participate in Leadership Pittsburgh, Class of XXXVIII. She is continuing to study through the Harvard Graduate School of Education.



Special Agent David Daniels-Watanabe

Criminal Investigator,

NASA Office of the Inspector General's Cyber Crime Division

Special Agent David Daniels-Watanabe is a Criminal Investigator with the National Aeronautics and Space Administration Office of the Inspector General's Cyber Crime Division and is located at NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena, California. Formerly a Diplomatic Security Special Agent, SA David Daniels-Watanabe had been assigned to the Department of State's Cyber Threat Analysis Division since 2007. Prior to this assignment, he spent 2 years at the New York Field Office of the Bureau of Diplomatic Security.

SYMPOSIUM SPEAKERS

Listed in Alphabetical Order



Lee Davis

Director, *Lee Davis & Associates Consulting LCC*

Davis is a native of Braddock, PA. He is a graduate of Woodland Hills H.S. and attended West Virginia & Waynesburg Universities. In his early Street Outreach Coordinator days, he was responsible for creating and introducing afterschool and mentoring programs that specifically addressed gun violence, PTSD and mental health issues along with conducting gang interventions in Pittsburgh's most distressed, poor and oftentimes violent communities. Mr. Davis has coordinated numerous national youth summits and is Co-Founder/ ex-President of the non-profit Turning Corners Youth Mentoring Association, which provided free CDL training, financial literacy classes as well as mentors to the city's most vulnerable youth. Davis has received various prestigious awards and proclamations over the years.



Judy Dodd

Registered Dietitian/Nutritionist

Judy Dodd is a graduate of Carnegie Mellon University and the University of Pittsburgh. For over forty years, Judy taught campus-based and on-line graduate and undergraduate courses. Judy has worked with schools introducing nutrition education, serving as a WIC nutrition education director and as the food and nutrition advisor to Giant Eagle Supermarkets. Active in the profession of dietetics and in the community, Judy has held numerous volunteer positions, most notably serving as President of the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics.



Sophia Duck

Training & Engagement Manager,
Mentoring Partnerships of Southwestern PA

Sophia Duck actively leads trainings, helping to develop new content and manages an awesome team of trainers. Sophia has been intentional about getting to know other programs and learning how they can all work together to accomplish the same goals. Her passion for mentoring began when she started coaching high school volleyball in 2009. She is now the head coach at The Neighborhood Academy, but can also be seen at several local college campuses as a certified NCAA scorekeeper and line judge. Sophia holds a BA in Media Communications from Pitt and a MS in Sports Leadership and Professional Advancement from Duquesne University.

SYMPOSIUM SPEAKERS

Listed in Alphabetical Order



Dr. Staci Ford

Founder, *Kyle's Hope*

Dr. Ford is well known for her expertise in trauma-informed care, advocacy, and therapeutic approach to providing quality care for individuals with all needs. Dr. Ford went into the Navy, where she started her education to what was going to give her the most rewarding career that she could have. Dr. Ford had a son that was born with a terminal disease. In 2005, Dr. Ford started up her nonprofit in honor of her son Kyle, Kyle's Hope. Dr. Ford uses her own obstacles and life trauma to empower others with the tools needed to be successful in life so that we can add more supportive services to reach more individuals with a need.



Tonia Green

Program Director for Learning Enrichment,
University of Pittsburgh Center for Urban Education

Tonia Green is a highly dedicated professional in the field of human and social services. Tonia's passion lies in collaborating with students, families, and community organizations within Pittsburgh and Allegheny County. Furthermore, as a doctoral student specializing in Urban Education at the University of Pittsburgh, Tonia remains at the forefront of her field, driven by her unwavering commitment to advancing her knowledge and expertise. Her pursuit of fostering inclusivity and empowerment positions her to create a profound and lasting influence on the educational landscape, leaving an indelible imprint on the communities she serves.



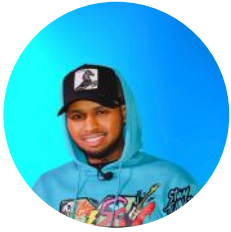
Rachel Hopkins

Program Director for Practices of Freedom,
University of Pittsburgh Center for Urban Education

Rachel Hopkins is Program Director for Practices of Freedom: A Model for Transformative Teaching and Teacher Education at the University of Pittsburgh. She also leads The NextGen Project: Let's Talk About Racism at Carnegie Mellon University's Cognitive Development Lab. Rachel has a bachelor's degree in psychology and sociology with a minor in social work and is a first-year doctoral student in Urban Education. Rachel is an affiliate of the Pennsylvania Educator Diversity Consortium and an active member of its Policy & Advocacy and Culturally-Relevant & Sustaining Education working groups.

SYMPOSIUM SPEAKERS

Listed in Alphabetical Order



Marcell Johnson

CoFounder, *Back 2 Purpose*

Marcell has worked with the students since his youth. He obtained a degree in Art & Science & Organizational Leadership. Marcell is the “Back 2 Purpose” program director who specializes in Personal & Professional Development, Project Management, Corporate Training & Progressive Innovation. Marcell curated his own TV show called “The Freedom Experience”. As a TV host, Marcell interviews entrepreneurs, entertainers and people from all walks of life, providing a platform for his guests to share their stories, use their gifts and walk in their purpose.



Dr. Dennis Floyd Jones

Executive Director, *YES*

As both the progenitor and senior leader of YES, Dr. Jones is charting the strategic direction and fostering YES' role as a vital community asset. Dr. Jones remains committed to YES' core mission and vision of empowering youth and their communities to become their own best resource - with agency and power in all aspects of their lives. Outside of his YES tenure, Dr. Jones is a former Associate Professor in the College of Physical Activity and Sports Sciences, Department of Sport Studies where he taught a variety of courses to both undergraduate and graduate students for more than 30 years.



Melinda Jones

Workforce Program Coordinator, *YES*

Melinda Jones is a program facilitator at Youth Enrichment Services. She was a participant in the program when she was in Middle school to High School and has routinely come back to support YES' summer visions. When Melinda Graduated with her Master's from West Virginia University she migrated to Woodbridge Virginia to teach second grade for seven years. She transitioned from teaching to come back and support the work that YES is involved in. Her first task back was supporting the Youth Civic Leadership Academy (YCLA) Program.

SYMPOSIUM SPEAKERS

Listed in Alphabetical Order



Mikayla Keyes

Singer

Mikayla Keyes is from Pittsburgh Pennsylvania, and is currently in her second year as a Musical Theatre Major and Dance Performance Minor at Slippery Rock University. Outside of her studies she continues to pursue her passion of performing. She has been part of many productions and events in the past and is more than happy to be part of this event.



Maria Lewis

Project Director, *Office of Violence Against Women, Point Park University*

Maria began working at Point Park University in August of 2022 as the Project Director for the Office of Violence Against Women grant from the Department of Justice. She has worked with the Mayor's Office, City Planning, and City Council in the City of Pittsburgh, CASA of Allegheny County, and founder of Promised Beginnings. Maria holds a Bachelor's degree in Public Administration with a minor in Legal Studies and Certificate in Communications from the University of Pittsburgh. She attended the University of Pittsburgh Graduate School of Public and International Affairs (GSPIA) in Public Policy Management for one year and received her Master's in Education from Point Park University. She is continuing her studies at Point Park University to receive her doctorate in Education Leadership & Administration.



Dennis Logan

Chief of Detectives, *Allegheny County District Attorney's Office*

Chief Logan is a proud, lifelong resident of the City of Pittsburgh and a graduate of Carrick High School. Chief Logan is a member of the Carrick High School's Sports Hall of Fame for both Football and Track. Chief Logan is a proud graduate of Allegheny County Community College and Point Park University, where he obtained both his Bachelors and Masters Degrees. Prior to joining the District Attorney's Office, Chief Logan was a member of the City of Pittsburgh Police Department, where he retired as a First Grade Homicide Detective. As the Chief of Detectives for the Allegheny County District Attorneys Office, Chief Logan is responsible for the safety and wellbeing of the 1.2 million residents that live here as well as the 745 square miles that encompass Allegheny County. Chief Logan is honored and happy to speak to this group of tomorrow's leaders.

SYMPOSIUM SPEAKERS

Listed in Alphabetical Order



Shirley Lyle

Educational Site Coordinator, *UPMC*

Reverend Shirley Lyle is the Teen Pastor at Macedonia Church of Pittsburgh with over 22 years of leadership and ministry experience. She is an ordained minister that enjoys illuminating hope and spreading the gospel through preaching, teaching, serving, motivational speaking, and the life that she lives. Outside of ministry, for the past 20 years, Pastor Shirley has been serving children and families as an educational liaison and currently serves as an educational site coordinator at a mental health facility. Pastor Shirley has a Bachelor of Science in psychology, a Master of Education and holds a Director Credential. In addition to serving others, Pastor Shirley is the mother of 2 wonderful young adult children and enjoys living life to the fullest.



Harrison Maddox

Sergeant, *City of Pittsburgh Zone 5 Police*

Harrison Maddox has worked in law enforcement for over ten years and is currently the Sergeant of Zone 5 Detectives and Zone 5 CRO. Harrison is a member of several speciality units including Flood Response, Special Response Team, and Bicycles. Harrison has previous experience as a field trainer, instructor, and investigatory experience and was previously deputized by the FBI.



Richard McClain Sr.

Master Patrol Officer, *City of Pittsburgh Police*

Master Patrol Officer Richard E. McClain Sr. has been a Pittsburgh Police officer for 33 years and counting. Richard grew up in the Homewood and continued his education at Tuskegee University. He graduated with a bachelor's degree in business administration in 1983. On November 27, 1989 Richard started his career as a Pittsburgh Police Officer, becoming a notable figure in the community. In 2020, Officer McClain worked with The City of Pittsburgh Police Civil affair unit to communicate with leaders to protect protesters during protests. Officer McClain's dynamic personality and warm friendly smile have earned him the respect and admiration of his fellow officers and command staff, as well as countless members of the community across the City.

SYMPOSIUM SPEAKERS

Listed in Alphabetical Order



Dr. Elizabeth Miller, MD

Director, Division of Adolescent and Young Adult Medicine, *UPMC Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh*

Dr. Miller is Distinguished Professor in Pediatrics, Public Health, and Clinical and Translational Science at the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine and Director of the Division of Adolescent and Young Adult Medicine, UPMC Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh. Her research addresses interpersonal violence prevention and adolescent health promotion in clinical and community settings. She is co-director of a community partnered, collective impact initiative to promote child thriving and racial equity in Allegheny County called The Pittsburgh Study.



Nyomi Morris

Scholar, *CMU Robotics Institute Summer Scholars*

Nyomi works to build a future where humans and robots collaborate seamlessly in real-world conditions. Nyomi, a rising senior at Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology, has developed a precise perception for recognizing the needs of human beings and aims to apply that understanding to robotics. By building trustworthy, human-centered robotic systems, Nyomi hopes to foster a world where people can rely on technology as catalysts for their personal achievements.



Michael Pennington

Executive Director,
Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency

Prior to his appointment as Executive Director, Mr. Pennington was responsible for providing leadership and direction to PCCD's Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) and Office of Criminal Justice System Improvements (OCJSI). Mr. Pennington is an active member of Pennsylvania's Juvenile Justice System Enhancement Strategy Leadership Team, served as the National Juvenile Justice Specialist to the federal Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention and Juvenile Justice Specialists throughout the U.S. and its Territories, and was recently elected as a member of the Board of Directors of the National Criminal Justice Association. Mr. Pennington holds a Master of Science in Administration of Justice from Shippensburg University.

SYMPOSIUM SPEAKERS

Listed in Alphabetical Order



Donna Sanft

Retired Executive Associate Athletics Director and Associate Dean of Students, *University of Pittsburgh*

Donna was a member of the Pitt Athletics staff for 40 years, 12 years as a head coach, and 28 years as a member of the Athletics Department senior staff. As an administrator she rose in responsibility, serving as Executive Associate AD in her final 7 years in Athletics. Donna's career in Athletics included work in student affairs, student life skills, compliance, fund raising, staff recruiting and hiring, staff development, event management, budgeting, and sport administration. Donna also served on numerous Pitt, NCAA, Big East, and ACC committees. She earned both her Bachelor and Master Degrees from the Pitt School of Education. Donna was inducted into the Pitt Athletics Hall of Fame in 2022.



Leo Santos

Scholar, *CMU Robotics Institute Summer Scholars*

Leonardo is a third year electrical engineering student at the Federal University of Minas Gerais (UFMG), Brazil. His primary research interest is motion-planning for autonomous robots. This summer, he will be working with Brady Moon and Dr. Sebastian Scherer in the AirLab on object-tracking and Informative Path Planning. Some applications of these systems include wildlife monitoring for conservation purposes and search-and-rescue missions.



Will Scott

Scholar, *CMU Robotics Institute Summer Scholars*

Will graduated from the University of Pittsburgh with a degree in computer engineering. This summer, he will be researching in the Social Haptics Robotics and Education Laboratory under the guidance of Dr. Melisa Martinez. Will cannot wait to use the technical knowledge and skills learned from RISS to empower his local community: building a framework for after-school programs designed to expose underrepresented minorities to robotic concepts in a safe environment.

SYMPOSIUM SPEAKERS

Listed in Alphabetical Order



Yusef Shelton

CoFounder, Back 2 Purpose

Yusef Shelton is a music artist, producer and teaching artist from Pittsburgh, PA. The artist & producer has been professionally practicing his craft and teaching artistry for close to a decade. Yusef is also the administrator of a multi-disciplinary arts collective in the city of Pittsburgh that hosts a space for the community to experience healing through the arts. Yusef serves in an administrative position for “Back 2 Purpose” handling bookings, Artistic expression exercises, Grant Writing , Social Media marketing, and Community outreach.



Dr. Deanna Sinex

Director of Research & Program Strategy, YES

Dr. Deanna Sinex serves as the Director of Research and Program Strategy for YES. She attended the University of Maryland, Baltimore County (UMBC) as a Meyerhoff Scholar where she earned a B.S. in Mechanical Engineering with a minor in Music. Dr. Sinex continued her education at the University of Pittsburgh earning a PhD in Bioengineering. In her role at YES, Dr. Sinex uses her past experiences and scientific training to ensure that YES’ programming, and services align with science based methodologies by developing robust infrastructures, curriculums, and implementation strategies for YES’ academic program offerings to support all YES students.



Judge Tiffany Sizemore

Allegheny County Court of Common Pleas

Judge Sizemore is a member of the Allegheny County Court of Common Pleas assigned to the Family Division where she primarily presides over juvenile matters. Prior to joining the court, Judge Sizemore was an Associate Professor of Clinical Legal Studies at Duquesne University School of Law. Previously, Judge Sizemore was the Deputy Director for the Juvenile Division at the Office of the Public Defender in Pittsburgh. She was also a trial attorney and supervisor at the Public Defender Service for the District of Columbia. Judge Sizemore is a graduate of Howard University School of Law and is a native Pittsburgher.

SYMPOSIUM SPEAKERS

Listed in Alphabetical Order



Amber Sloan

Community Activist

Amber Sloan was born in Pittsburgh, PA and graduated from Westinghouse High School. Amber received several D-1 basketball scholarship offers, however, due to activities as a gang member and drug dealer, she lost her scholarship offers. Subsequently, due to her street activities, she was arrested several times and imprisoned. Amber was released from prison to a halfway house in 2011; she eventually completed her sentence on February 17, 2012. Amber always had a special place in her heart for at-risk youth and had a vision while incarcerated to start a non-profit program, MADE IT, to help children not make the same mistakes that she made in the past. Amber continues to strive to make changes as well as an impact on the youth in the community today.



Lauren Stoner

Therapist, *ET3*

Lauren Stoner, MSW, LCSW is a therapist and Lead Violence Prevention Specialist for ET3. She works alongside ET3 mentors and other supports to meet the needs of youth impacted by violence and move from surviving to thriving. With nearly a decade of prior experience working in the criminal legal system, she recognizes the importance of early intervention and prevention to divert youth from the school-to-prison pipeline. Lauren utilizes a blended therapeutic approach of trauma-informed and healing centered modalities, including TF-CBT, EMDR, and Gestalt.



Geng Wang

Chief Executive Officer, *Civic Champs*

As CEO of Civic Champs, Geng leads a team of passionate change leaders to create technology solutions to create a seamless and rewarding volunteering experience for both volunteers and service organizations. Prior to Civic Champs, Geng co-founded and sold two companies, RentJungle.com (an apartment search engine), and Community Elf (a social media management firm). Geng is also a former McKinsey & Company consultant and is a graduate of Michigan State University and Harvard Business School.

SYMPOSIUM SPEAKERS

Listed in Alphabetical Order



Aaron Wade
Founder, *A's Vision*

Aaron Wade has been in the transportation field for over ten years. In 2019 he started the nonprofit A's Vision, which is a life skills/mentorship program for youth ages 16-22. The nonprofit's main focus is driver's education and financial fundamentals, important tools to prepare youth to be responsible adults. Aaron has always had a passion for helping youth and after losing his only son, Aaron Jr., he was determined to share his experiences and help as many youth as possible stay on the right path to success.



Dr. Eveldora Wheeler
Associate Professor, West Liberty University

Dr. Eveldora R. Wheeler is a tenured Associate Professor at West Liberty University. She lectures on the topics of Social Responsibility and Business Ethics, Ethnicity Culture Awareness, Trauma, Policy, Research, Theories of human behavior, culture, and addictions. Areas of research: Leadership, Emotional Intelligence, Sustained Dialogue, Human Diversity, Social Literacy, Socialization of Digital Technology, Sustained Dialogue, Mental Wellness, and Addictions Studies which overlap into teaching. She is engaged in community organizations in Greater Pittsburgh as a skilled project and program manager.



Ayodeji Young
Regional Site Manager, YouthPlaces

Ayodeji Young is originally from Cleveland, Ohio and moved to Homewood in Pittsburgh with his family when he was in the 4th grade. Ayodeji graduated from Westinghouse High School and attended Cheyney University. He has worked at Youth Places for 4 years. He is the Vice President of Homewood Community Sports and has been a coach for over 20 years. Ayodeji is also a board member for the Alliance for Police Accountability and a community activist who led marches and rallies against police brutality and violence in the Black community.

FRIDAY, JULY 14TH SCHEDULE

8:00 AM	Arrival, check-in, and breakfast
9:00 AM	Opening Remarks & Welcome
9:20 AM	Session Travel
9:30 AM	Breakout Sessions*
12:45 PM	Lunch
1:30 PM	Wrap-Up & Next Steps

*Adult attendees will participate in separate training during this time.

YOUTH BREAKOUT SESSIONS

FRIDAY, JULY 14TH

Strategic
Planning

Facilitator: Dr. Rebecca
Cunningham

Peer Mentor
Certification

Facilitator: Sophia Duck

Violence and
Education

Facilitator: Tonia Green

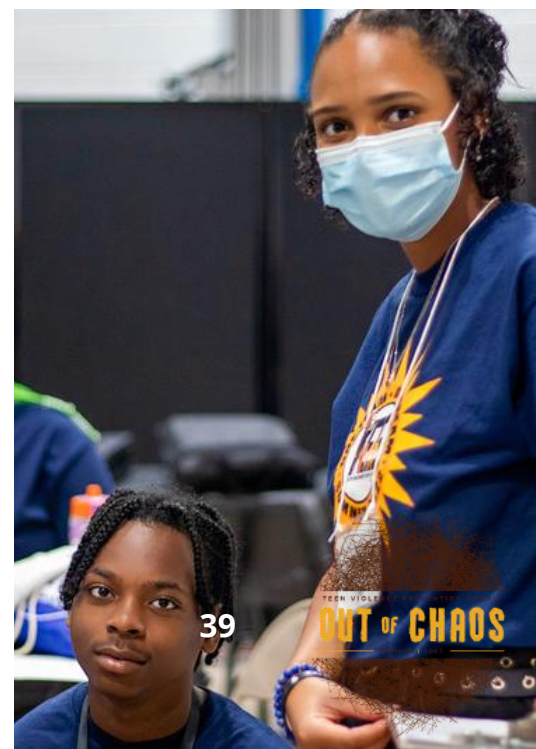
Understanding
the Roots

Facilitator: Rachel Hopkins

YOUTH BREAKOUT SESSION SCHEDULE

FRIDAY, JULY 14TH

	Session 1 Strategic Planning	Session 2 Peer Mentoring	Session 3 Violence and Education	Session 4 Understanding the Roots
9:30 - 10:15 AM	Group A	Group B	Group C	Group D
10:20 - 11:05 AM	Group B	Group C	Group D	Group A
11:10 - 11:55 AM	Group C	Group D	Group A	Group B
12:00 - 12:45 PM	Group D	Group A	Group B	Group C



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YOUTH ENRICHMENT SERVICES

OUR FUNDERS

- Allegheny County Health Department
- Allegheny County Department of Human Services
- Citizens Bank
- City of Pittsburgh Stop the Violence Grant*
- The Grable Foundation
- HEAR Foundation*
- Huntington Bank
- Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency*
- Program to Aid Citizen Enterprise (PACE)
- Partner4Work*
- The Pittsburgh Foundation*
- PNC Charitable Trust
- POISE Foundation
- Remake Learning
- Three Rivers Workforce Investment Board
- Whole Foods Market
- Pennsylvania Humanities Council
- Pennsylvania Council on the Arts
- Richard King Mellon Foundation
- Henry L. Hillman Foundation

*Collective Impact Ecosystem Member



YOUTH ENRICHMENT SERVICES

OUR PARTNERS

1Hood Media*
 A's Vision*
 AD99*
 Allegheny County Sanitary Authority
 Allegheny College
 Allegheny County Health Department
 Allegheny Front
 Amachi Pittsburgh*
 Bookminders
 Boys & Girls Club of Western PA*
 Buchanan Ingersoll & Rooney
 Cameron Consulting
 Carnegie Learning
 Carnegie Library
 Carnegie Mellon University Humanities Department*
 Center for Shared Prosperity*
 City of Pittsburgh Office of Youth Sports and Initiatives*
 City of Pittsburgh Mayor's Office*
 Civic Champs*
 Clairton City School District*
 Community College of Allegheny County
 Duquesne City School District*
 East End Cooperative Ministries
 Garfield Jubilee Association
 Greater Valley Community Services*
 Gwen's Girls*
 Heinz History Center*
 Homewood Children's Village
 Homewood Community Engagement Center
 Housing Authority City of Pittsburgh
 Kingsley Association*
 Kyle's Hope*
 Larimer Consensus Group*
 Lee David & Associates Consulting LLC
 Lincoln-Lemington Community Consensus Group
 Manchester Academic Charter School*
 Manchester Youth Development Center*
 McKeesport Area School District*
 Mentoring Partnerships of Southwestern PA*
 MotorMouth Multimedia
 Mount Ararat Baptist Church
 Never Fear Being Different
 Northway Ministry*
 Office of Violence Against Women, Point Park University*
 Phase 4 Learning Center*
 Pinback Consulting
 Pittsburgh City Theater*
 Pittsburgh Public Schools
 Pittsburgh Theological Seminary
 Remake Learning
 Robert Morris University
 Small Seeds
 Sto-Rox School District*
 Technology Rediscovery LLC
 The Place to Soar
 Tickets for Kids Charities
 Ujamaa Collective
 United Way of Southwestern Pennsylvania
 University of Pittsburgh
 University of Pittsburgh Bridging the Gaps Program
 University of Pittsburgh PUSH Program
 University of Pittsburgh School of Education*
 University of Pittsburgh School of Social Work
 Vlog University
 West Virginia University
 Western Pennsylvania Diaper Bank
 Whole Foods Market
 YMCA
 YouthPlaces*

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IN LOVING MEMORY

We would be remiss not to acknowledge those who have been senseless victims of violence. We carry them in our hearts and spirits. Their lives and legacies live on.

May we always remember them.

