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Pittsburgh®

Homewood
Community Engagement Center

Homewood Organized Report Summary

Homewood Organized Report Summary

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Non-Exhaustive:

The purpose of this document is to gather and summarize previously collected data, research, and information in and for Homewood to prevent replicated/repeated engagement with community members and to educate future research. This summary is a non-exhaustive report. Pages 3-8 consist of organized charts of resources and links, pages 9-15 are a cohesive annotated bibliography of the same information listed on the charts. The charts are listed by category, and by date in each category.

University Statement:

The University of Pittsburgh strives to be a strong partner with community collaborators to achieve long-term impact in communities while at the same time strengthening our core mission of teaching and research. As part of our place-based engagement strategy, we leverage the diversity of Pitt's community engagement assets and develop sustainable community- university partnerships in a focused number of neighborhoods. The material contained in this document helps us to advance, strengthen, and focus our place-based engagement efforts.

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University of Pittsburgh Homewood Community Engagement Center.

Research and Data Conducted in Homewood

Title	Summary	Date Published	Author	Link OR pdf
PHRESH 2020 Homewood Community Newsletter	This newsletter, published by Pittsburgh Hill/Homewood Research on Neighborhood Change and Health (PHRESH), shares information to the Homewood community about neighborhood change and health and reports on results from recent studies, including Household Survey Responses on sleep, food shopping, diet, health, neighborhood safety perceptions, and neighborhood characteristics, as well as how the community has fared during the COVID-10 pandemic.	Summer 2020	RAND Corporation; PHRESH	https://www.rand.org/content/dam/rand/www/external/ew/cnep/phresh/newsletters/PHRESH_Newsletter_Homewood_SUMMER_2020_FINAL.pdf
Food Insecurity in a Low-Income, Predominantly African American Cohort Following the COVID-19 Pandemic	A report examining the impact of COVID-19 shutdowns on food insecurity among a predominantly African American cohort residing in low-income racially isolated neighborhoods.	March 11, 2021	RAND Corporation; PHRESH	https://www.rand.org/pubs/external_publications/EP68555.html
Violent Crime, Police Presence and Poor Sleep in Two Low-income Urban Predominantly Black American Neighbourhoods	A research study on the correlation between the presence of violent crime in neighborhoods and wakefulness after sleep onset (WASO), and whether perceptions of safety can be measured through sleep and health patterns.	March 11, 2021	RAND Corporation	https://www.rand.org/pubs/external_publications/EP68558.html
A Preliminary Study of a Composite Sleep Health Score	This research study investigates associations of five sleep dimensions (duration, satisfaction, efficiency, timing, and regularity), analyzed separately and simultaneously, with psychological distress, body mass index, and physical functioning in the Hill District and Homewood neighborhoods.	March 16, 2021	RAND Corporation; PHRESH	https://www.rand.org/pubs/external_publications/EP68567.html
Research Project Will Probe Role of Structural Racism in Development of Dementias and Cognitive Decline Among African Americans	This research project, developed by RAND and the University of Pittsburgh, examines how exposure to the legacies of structural racism at the neighborhood and individual levels may contribute to the risk of Alzheimer's disease and related dementia in African Americans.	March 14, 2022	RAND Corporation; PHRESH	https://www.rand.org/news/pres/2022/03/14.html
Information and Data Equity in Homewood	This program, led by HYPE (Homewood Youth Powered and Engaged) Media and the Information and Equity Project at University of Pittsburgh, created a space for youth from Westinghouse Academy to learn how to gather info and data about their community to change narratives online through editing their school's Wikipedia page.	April 8, 2022	University of Pittsburgh	https://d-scholarship.pitt.edu/43198/

Information / Projects/ Updates in Homewood

Title	Summary	Date Published	Author	Link OR pdf
Homewood Voices: Crossing Fences: Connecting African American Men and Boys Through the Oral Tradition	In partnership with the Saturday Light Brigade and YMCA Lighthouse Project at Pittsburgh Westinghouse 6-12, a collection of first-person accounts of African American men living and working in Homewood, conducted through interviews by young boys from the neighborhood, who also reflect on the men and their stories, featuring Derrick Lopez, John Brewer, Jerome Jackson, James Brown, and more. The students learned about digital audio recording, identifying male role models to interview, then arranged, conducted, and edited the interviews with support as needed. The interviews were presented in book form and CD.	December 11, 2012	Saturday Light Brigade	Book: https://neighborhoodvoices.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/12/homewoodVOICES_final2.pdf Audio recordings: https://neighborhoodvoices.org/cf/homewood
Homewood Voices, Vol. II: Crossing Fences: Connecting African American Men and Boys Through the Oral Tradition	In partnership with the Saturday Light Brigade and Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh, a second collection of first-person accounts of African American men living and working in Homewood, conducted through interviews by young boy from the neighborhood, who also reflect on the men and their stories, featuring Walter Lewis, Sean Means, and Mubarak Ismaeli. The students learned about digital audio recording, identifying male role models to interview, then arranged, conducted, and edited the interviews with support as needed. The interviews were presented in book form and CD.	December 5, 2018	Saturday Light Brigade	Book: https://neighborhoodvoices.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/12/Homewood-Vol-II.pdf Audio recordings: https://neighborhoodvoices.org/crossing-fences-2018-homewood-ii
Homewood Comprehensive Community Plan	In collaboration with the Department of City Planning and the Urban Redevelopment Authority, this comprehensive community plan identifies goals, recommendations, and implementation strategies to steer planning and development in Homewood, focused on nine key areas: housing; public health and safety; culture and recreation; education; workforce development; mobility; business and innovation; sustainability; and urban design and development.	February 21, 2020	Homewood Community Development Collaborative; Department of City Planning	https://www.pittsburghpa.gov/files/assets/city/v/1/dcp/documents/8613_homewood_plan_final_draft.pdf
'I Moved into Systemic Racism': Pittsburghers Speak Out on Displacement of Black Residents	An article summarizing a Pittsburgh City Council special public hearing on the crisis of Black Pittsburghers leaving the city, including testimonies from residents of displaced neighborhoods like Homewood, concerned neighbors, and those active in advocating for affordable housing.	May 9, 2021	Pennsylvania Capital--Star	https://penncapital-star.com/civil-rights-social-justice/i-moved-into-systemic-racism-pittsburghers-speak-out-on-displacement-of-black-residents/

<p>'What Homewood Can Become is Limitless,' Pgh Community Activist Says</p>	<p>An article highlighting the work of Homewood Children's Village's CEO, Walter Lewis, who says he sees the neighborhood full of creative energy, with the capacity to improve children's lives through the mission and programs of HCV and other partner organizations.</p>	<p>July 8, 2021</p>	<p>Pennsylvania Capital--Star</p>	<p>https://penncapital-star.com/civil-rights-social-justice/https-www-pghcitypaper-com-pittsburgh-black-led-community-spotlight-walter-lewis-ceo-of-homewood-childrens-village-contentoid19786630/</p>
<p>URA Requesting Information and Project Concepts for Greater Pittsburgh Coliseum in Homewood South Neighborhood</p>	<p>A press release announcing the URA, owner of the Greater Pittsburgh Coliseum, is looking for feasible project concepts that include industrial and commercial components that align with the neighborhood plan and provide benefits to the community.</p>	<p>July 20, 2021</p>	<p>Urban Redevelopment Authority of Pittsburgh</p>	<p>https://www.ura.org/news/ura-requesting-information-and-project-concepts-for-greater-pittsburgh-coliseum-in-homewood-south-neighborhood</p>
<p>Homewood Mobility Plan</p>	<p>This plan, developed by the City of Pittsburgh Department of Mobility and Infrastructure (DOMI), identifies goals for creating consistent sidewalks in Homewood compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and provides an in-depth analysis of existing conditions, including a neighborhood-wide sidewalk and ramp inventory, crash analysis, in-person neighborhood safety audits of three corridors, transit service and ridership, and bicycle facilities.</p>	<p>January 2022</p>	<p>City of Pittsburgh</p>	<p>https://www.pittsburghpa.gov/files/assets/city/v/1/domi/documents/17844_homewood_mobility_plan.pdf</p>
<p>URA Set to Clean Up Multiple Blighted Properties in Homewood</p>	<p>A press release announcing URA's plan to address publicly owned properties along the North Homewood Avenue business district that have been vacant and blighted for a long time and position them for future development opportunities.</p>	<p>October 10, 2024</p>	<p>Urban Redevelopment Authority of Pittsburgh</p>	<p>https://www.ura.org/news/ura-set-to-clean-up-multiple-blighted-properties-in-homewood</p>
<p>Remediation and Demolition Work Starting in Homewood South</p>	<p>A press release announcing the remediation and demolition as part of a long-term strategic effort in collaboration with the Homewood Community Development Collaborative (HCDC) to clean up blighted sites and position them for redevelopment.</p>	<p>February 18, 2025</p>	<p>Urban Redevelopment Authority of Pittsburgh</p>	<p>https://www.ura.org/news/remediation-and-demolition-work-starting-in-homewood-south</p>
<p>With Wheels and Some Willpower, Pittsburgh's Teens Find Access to the City's Greenspaces</p>	<p>This article details how programs are helping Homewood teens gain experience and skills needed to take advantage of greenspaces, like bike riding.</p>	<p>June 13, 2025</p>	<p>90.5 WESA</p>	<p>https://www.wesa.fm/environment-energy/2025-06-13/homewood-teens-biking-pittsburgh-parks</p>
<p>Pittsburgh City Council to discuss new approach to anti-violence fund</p>	<p>This article explores the potential pitfalls and efficacies of the Stop the Violence Fund, passed during former Mayor Gainey's term, as the city discusses an overhaul of the initiative five years after implementation. The new bill is spearheaded by critics, who find the reporting and funding of certain programs to be lacking oversight. Proponents and recipients of the funding, including Homewood Children's Village, argue that there are positive effects to funding grassroots organizations and prioritizing community-level approaches to ending violence.</p>	<p>(2025, July 2).</p>	<p>90.5 WESA.</p>	<p>https://www.wesa.fm/politics-government/2025-07-02/pittsburgh-city-council-to-discuss-new-approach-to-anti-violence-fund</p>

Building Climate Resilience through Community Trees	This article outlines a data-driven, community-focused initiative to grow Pittsburgh's urban canopy, improve resilience to climate change, and invest in at-risk neighborhoods. The initiative proposes to plant a total of 21 trees in Homewood over the course of two years.	October 9, 2025	City of Pittsburgh	https://www.pittsburghpa.gov/News-articles/Homepage/Planting-with-Purpose-Building-Climate-Resilience-Through-Community-Trees
With Scores of New Homes Planned, Homewood Sees Citations, Funding Hurdles, and Eviction	This article offers an overview of the involvement of Rising Tide Partners, a nonprofit with a mission to restore communities, in Homewood, citing resident concerns, funding, and legal issues, featuring the voices of Homewood residents, as well as supporters and critics of Rising Tide.	October 23, 2025	Pittsburgh's Public Source	https://www.publicsource.org/homewood-redevelopment-efforts-rising-tide-partners/
Westinghouse Academy 6-12 Information	This is a short profile of the Pittsburgh Westinghouse Academy 6-12 school including school activities and extracurriculars, school hours, contact information, school address, and a directory, as well as links to commonly used resources.	2025	Pittsburgh Public Schools	https://www.pghschools.org/schools/6-12/westinghouse
Faison K-5 Information	This is a short profile of the Pittsburgh Faison K-5 school including school activities and extracurriculars, school hours, contact information, school address, and a directory, as well as links to commonly used resources.	2025	Pittsburgh Public Schools	https://www.pghschools.org/schools/k-5/faison
Pittsburgh Invokes Eminent Domain to Seize Homewood Apartment Building	This article reports on the recent seizure of an apartment building in Homewood, owned by controversial private landlord company NB, through eminent domain by the city, in the hopes to restore conditions for current residents and maintain its affordable housing status in the neighborhood.	December 29, 2025	TribLive	https://triblive.com/local/pittsburgh-invokes-eminent-domain-to-seize-homewood-affordable-housing-complex/
Building science: A training center in Homewood teaches home energy efficiency	This article introduces a program through Penn College of Technology, called the Building Performance Lab, housed inside the former Westinghouse Factory at 7800 Susquehanna St that teaches students residential weatherization skills, including taking apart furnaces, blowing insulation, and testing air leaks to increase energy efficiency in homes, particularly low-income houses.	January 11, 2026	Pittsburgh Post-Gazette	https://www.post-gazette.com/business/powersource/2026/01/11/building-better-homes-weatherization-pittsburgh/stories/202512310043
Mayor O'Connor Announces Main and Main Initiative for Business District Renewal	In Homewood, Mayor Corey O'Connor announced his "Main and Main" initiative to promote revitalization and investment in neighborhood business districts.	January 13, 2026	City of Pittsburgh	https://www.pittsburghpa.gov/News-articles/Homepage/Mayor-OConnor-Announces-Main-and-Main-Initiative-for-Business-District-Renewal

Articles, Reviews, and Dissertations mentioning Homewood

Title	Summary	Date Published	Author	Link OR pdf
A Case Study: Diabetes Interventions and Self-Care Opportunities (DISCO) Program for Supporting Diabetes Management Needs in a Predominantly Black Community	This graduate school of public health thesis describes a pilot offering of the DISCO (Diabetes Interventions and Self-Care Opportunities) program where the author discusses the program's design, implementation, and effectiveness on educating and empowering individuals with pre-diabetes, diabetes, or a caregiver of someone with diabetes. The program's long-term goals are to build support systems, trust in a community, and increased health literacy.	2022	University of Pittsburgh - Umeka Ganjoo	https://d-scholarship.pitt.edu/42698
Healthy Teeth, Healthy Me: Utilizing Community Engaged Research to Develop a Community Generated and interprofessional infant oral health program in Homewood	This research project developed a community generated infant oral health program through interprofessional training sessions and family telehealth visits with Homewood residents to meet community oral health needs.	March 1, 2022	University of Pittsburgh - Jacqueline Burgette, Toni Beasley, et al.	https://d-scholarship.pitt.edu/42849/
Seeking Self-determination for Black Communities: Toward Revolutionary Place-based Community Engagement	This evaluative dissertation in practice examines the perception of Pitt in Homewood and whether the institution's place-based practices were in alignment with principles of Black self-determination and freedom.	2024	University of Pittsburgh - Daren Ellerbee	https://d-scholarship.pitt.edu/45582/
Visit Pittsburgh: Homewood - A Neighborhood Guide	Visit Pittsburgh provides a brief history and background of Homewood, while also giving some insight on the neighborhood's present and future. There is also a list provided of popular things to do, places to eat, as well as key places to see in Homewood.	2025	Visit Pittsburgh	https://www.visitpittsburgh.com/blog/homewood-neighborhood-guide-pittsburgh/

General Relevant Pittsburgh / Allegheny County Info and Articles				
Title	Summary	Date Published	Author	Link OR pdf
Allegheny County, Community Need Index	This report shows the 2021 update of the Community Need Index conducted by the Allegheny County Department of Human Services, which maps and ranks census trends by levels of social and economic need. It highlights strong correlations between racial composition, specifically the proportion of Black residents, and higher levels of community need, bringing attention to structural factors such as segregation, lending practices, and disinvestment. This analysis is useful when looking into spatial inequality, resource allocation, and the intersection of race and place in urban settings.	May 12, 2021	Allegheny County - DHS	https://www.alleghenycountyanalytics.us/wp-content/uploads/2021/05/21-ACDHS-06-CommunityNeedIndex-05-12-2021_final.pdf
Allegheny County Health Plan	This public health assessment gives a comprehensive look at health disparities, social variables, and disease trends across Allegheny County. It highlights key statistics on chronic disease, mental health, maternal and child health, and environmental risk factors, while connecting these health disparities to underlying factors such as poverty, housing instability, and community infrastructure.	2023	Allegheny County-Health Department	https://www.alleghenycounty.us/files/assets/county/v1/government/health/documents/healthier-allegheny/allegheny_county_pha.pdf
Allegheny County Health Data	This page provides access to public health information and statistics, including disease rates, environmental health factors, maternal and child health statistics, and social determinants of health.	2025	Allegheny County-Health Department	https://www.alleghenycounty.us/Services/Health-Department/Health-Department-Data
Allegheny County's Compulsory Treatment Plan Aims to Avoid Arrests	This article explains Allegheny County's decision to implement assisted outpatient treatment, or AOT, and its potential effects in the county, particularly among Black people and people of color, who are disproportionately impacted by involuntary treatment. The article includes statements from mental health experts who voice criticism and county officials whose goal is to see a trend of decarceration among people with serious mental illness.	January 12, 2026	Pittsburgh's Public Source	https://www.publicsource.org/allegheny-county-assisted-outpatient-treatment-oversight/
Neighborhood Planning	The Department of City Planning's Neighborhood Planning site includes an overview of and detailed information on the Public Engagement Guide, Neighborhood Plan Guide, Planning Education Series, and Registered Community Organizations, in addition to links to current master and neighborhood plans for the city.	January 28, 2026	City of Pittsburgh	https://www.pittsburghpa.gov/Business-Development/City-Planning/Neighborhood-Planning

Homewood Reports Annotated Bibliography

Allegheny County Department of Human Services. (2021, May 12). *Community Need Index: Update for 2021 with a Focus on the Connection between Race and Community Need.* https://www.alleghenycountyanalytics.us/wp-content/uploads/2021/05/21-ACDHS-06-CommunityNeedIndex-05-12-2021_final.pdf

This report shows the 2021 update of the Community Need Index conducted by the Allegheny County Department of Human Services, which maps and ranks census trends by levels of social and economic need. It highlights strong correlations between racial composition, specifically the proportion of Black residents, and higher levels of community need, bringing attention to structural factors such as segregation, lending practices, and disinvestment. This analysis is useful when looking into spatial inequality, resource allocation, and the intersection of race and place in urban settings.

Allegheny County Health Department. (2023). *Healthier Allegheny: Public Health Assessment.* https://www.alleghenycounty.us/files/assets/county/v/1/government/health/documents/healthier-allegheny/allegheny_county_pha.pdf

This public health assessment gives a comprehensive look at health disparities, social variables, and disease trends across Allegheny County. It highlights key statistics on chronic disease, mental health, maternal and child health, and environmental risk factors, while connecting these health disparities to underlying factors such as poverty, housing instability, and community infrastructure.

Allegheny County Health Department. (2025). *Health Department Data.* <https://www.alleghenycounty.us/Services/Health-Department/Health-Department-Data>

This page provides access to public health information and statistics, including disease rates, environmental health factors, maternal and child health statistics, and social determinants of health.

Beasley, T., Gloster, J., Ellerbee, D., Chew, C., Tharp-Gilliam, S., Burgette, J., D'Alesio, A., Watson, K., & Rosen, D. (2022, March 1). *Healthy Teeth, Healthy Me: Utilizing community engaged research to develop a community generated and interprofessional infant oral health program in Homewood.* <https://d-scholarship.pitt.edu/42849>

This research project developed a community generated infant oral health program through interprofessional training sessions and family telehealth visits with Homewood residents to meet community oral health needs.

Burdelski, J. (2025, December 29). Pittsburgh invokes eminent domain to seize Homewood apartment building. *TribLive.* <https://triblive.com/local/pittsburgh-invokes-eminent-domain-to-seize-homewood-affordable-housing-complex/>

This article reports on the recent seizure of an apartment building in Homewood, owned by controversial private landlord company NB, through eminent domain by the city, in the hopes to restore conditions for current residents and maintain its affordable housing status in the neighborhood.

Casas, A. D., Hardy, H. E., Cunningham, S. C., Ogoreuc, A., Méndez, D. D., & Gary-Webb, T. L. (2025, February 1). *Approach to supporting Black communities in planning and developing pedestrian and active transportation infrastructure to improve the built environment*. Journal of healthy eating and active living.

<https://pmc.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/articles/PMC11887926/>

The Live Well Allegheny-Lifting Wellness for African Americans (LWA2) Racial and Ethnic Approaches to Community Health (REACH) Initiative was created to address racial health disparities in chronic disease, as well as structural determinants and systems of oppression at their root, among the Black community in Allegheny County, Pennsylvania. This work is a model for how to apply multi-sector, resident-engaged chronic disease prevention initiatives in predominantly Black communities as part of a comprehensive strategy to increase racial health equity by reducing racial health disparities.

City of Pittsburgh, Department of Mobility and Infrastructure. (2022, January). Homewood mobility plan.

https://www.pittsburghpa.gov/files/assets/city/v/1/domi/documents/17844_homewood_mobility_plan.pdf

This plan, developed by the City of Pittsburgh Department of Mobility and Infrastructure (DOMI), identifies goals for creating consistent sidewalks in Homewood compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and provides an in-depth analysis of existing conditions, including a neighborhood-wide sidewalk and ramp inventory, crash analysis, in-person neighborhood safety audits of three corridors, transit service and ridership, and bicycle facilities.

City of Pittsburgh. (2025, October 9). *Building climate resilience through community trees*.

<https://www.pittsburghpa.gov/News-articles/Homepage/Planting-with-Purpose-Building-Climate-Resilience-Through-Community-Trees>

This article outlines a data-driven, community-focused initiative to grow Pittsburgh's urban canopy, improve resilience to climate change, and invest in at-risk neighborhoods. The initiative proposes to plant a total of 21 trees in Homewood over the course of two years.

City of Pittsburgh. (2026, January 13). *Mayor O'Connor announces Main and Main Initiative for business district renewal*.

<https://www.pittsburghpa.gov/News-articles/Homepage/Mayor-OConnor-Announces-Main-and-Main-Initiative-for-Business-District-Renewal>

In Homewood, Mayor Corey O'Connor announced his "Main and Main" initiative to promote revitalization and investment in neighborhood business districts.

City of Pittsburgh. (2026, January 28). *Neighborhood planning*.

<https://www.pittsburghpa.gov/Business-Development/City-Planning/Neighborhood-Planning>

The Department of City Planning's Neighborhood Planning site includes an overview of and detailed information on the Public Engagement Guide, Neighborhood Plan Guide, Planning Education Series,

and Registered Community Organizations, in addition to links to current master and neighborhood plans for the city.

Chew, C., Rosen, D., Watson, K., D'Alesio, A., Ellerbee, D., Gloster, J., Tharp-Gilliam, S., Beasley, T., & Burgette, J. M. (n.d.). *Implementing a community engagement model to develop a community-driven oral health intervention. Progress in community health partnerships: research, education, and action.*
<https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/38661828/>

Partnering with the Homewood Community Engagement Center, researchers engaged and surveyed key community partners to assess the need for an infant oral health intervention. Community partnerships can be leveraged to develop oral health programs that fit specific community needs and provide resources to families at greatest risk for child dental caries. Community engagement can be used to modify the intervention to meet oral health needs of other vulnerable communities.

DeSantis, A. S., Dubowitz, T., Ghosh-Dastidar, B., Hunter, G. P., Buman, M., Buysse, D. J., Hale, L., & Troxel, W. M. (2019). A preliminary study of a composite sleep health score: Associations with psychological distress, body mass index, and physical functioning in a low-income African American community. *Sleep Health, 5*(5), 514–520.
<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.sleh.2019.05.001>

This research study investigates associations of five sleep dimensions (duration, satisfaction, efficiency, timing, and regularity), analyzed separately and simultaneously, with psychological distress, body mass index, and physical functioning in the Hill District and Homewood neighborhoods.

Dubowitz, T., Dastidar, M. G., Troxel, W. M., Beckman, R., Nugroho, A., Siddiqi, S., Cantor, J., Baird, M., Richardson, A. S., Hunter, G. P., Mendoza-Graf, A., & Collins, R. L. (2021). Food insecurity in a low-income, predominantly African American cohort following the covid-19 pandemic. *American Journal of Public Health, 111*(3), 494–497.
<https://doi.org/10.2105/AJPH.2020.306041>

A report examining the impact of COVID-19 shutdowns on food insecurity among a predominantly African American cohort residing in low-income racially isolated neighborhoods.

Ellerbee, D. (2024). *Seeking self-determination for black communities: Toward revolutionary place-based community engagement.* [Doctoral dissertation, University of Pittsburgh School of Education]. <https://d-scholarship.pitt.edu/45582>

This evaluative dissertation in practice examines the perception of Pitt in Homewood and whether the institution's place-based practices were in alignment with principles of Black self-determination and freedom.

Forstadt, J. (2025, June 13). *With wheels and some willpower, Pittsburgh teens find access to the city's greenspaces.* 90.5 WESA. <https://www.wesa.fm/environment-energy/2025-06-13/homewood-teens-biking-pittsburgh-parks>

This article details how programs are helping Homewood teens gain experience and skills needed to take advantage of greenspaces, like bike riding.

Ganjo, U. (2022). *A case study: Diabetes interventions and self-care opportunities (DISCO) program for predominantly Black communities* [Master of Public Health Administration thesis, University of Pittsburgh]. <https://d-scholarship.pitt.edu/42698>

This graduate school of public health thesis describes a pilot offering of the DISCO (Diabetes Interventions and Self-Care Opportunities) program where the author discusses the program's design, implementation, and effectiveness on educating and empowering individuals with pre-diabetes, diabetes, or a caregiver of someone with diabetes. The program's long-term goals are to build support systems, trust in a community, and increased health literacy.

Homewood Community Development Collaborative. (2020, February 21). Homewood Comprehensive Community Plan.

https://www.pittsburghpa.gov/files/assets/city/v/1/dcp/documents/8613_homewood_plan_final_draft.pdf

In collaboration with the Department of City Planning and the Urban Redevelopment Authority, this comprehensive community plan identifies goals, recommendations, and implementation strategies to steer planning and development in Homewood, focused on nine key areas: housing; public health and safety; culture and recreation; education; workforce development; mobility; business and innovation; sustainability; and urban design and development.

Janae, D. (2021, May 9). 'I moved into systemic racism': Pittsburghers speak out on displacement of Black residents. *Pennsylvania Capital-Star*. <https://penncapital-star.com/civil-rights-social-justice/i-moved-into-systemic-racism-pittsburghers-speak-out-on-displacement-of-black-residents/>

An article summarizing a Pittsburgh City Council special public hearing on the crisis of Black Pittsburghers leaving the city, including testimonies from residents of displaced neighborhoods like Homewood, concerned neighbors, and those active in advocating for affordable housing.

Janae, D. (2021, July 8). 'What Homewood can become is limitless,' Pgh community activist says. *Pennsylvania Capital-Star*. <https://penncapital-star.com/civil-rights-social-justice/https-www-pghcitypaper-com-pittsburgh-black-led-community-spotlight-walter-lewis-ceo-of-homewood-childrens-village-contentoid19786630/>

An article highlighting the work of Homewood Children's Village's CEO, Walter Lewis, who says he sees the neighborhood full of creative energy, with the capacity to improve children's lives through the mission and programs of HCV and other partner organizations.

Jankiewicz, E. (2025, October 23). With scores of new homes planned, Homewood sees citations, funding hurdles and eviction. *Pittsburgh's Public Source*. <https://www.publicsource.org/homewood-redevelopment-efforts-rising-tide-partners/>

This article offers an overview of the involvement of Rising Tide Partners, a nonprofit with a mission to restore communities, in Homewood, citing resident concerns, funding, and legal issues, featuring the voices of Homewood residents, as well as supporters and critics of Rising Tide.

Litvak, A. (2026, January 11). Building science: A training center in Homewood teaches home energy efficiency. *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette*. <https://www.post-gazette.com/business/powersource/2026/01/11/building-better-homes-weatherization-pittsburgh/stories/202512310043>

This article introduces a program through Penn College of Technology, called the Building Performance Lab, housed inside the former Westinghouse Factory at 7800 Susquehanna St that teaches students residential weatherization skills, including taking apart furnaces, blowing insulation, and testing air leaks to increase energy efficiency in homes, particularly low-income houses.

Luster, T., Butler, K., Dixon, N., Silva, E., Brown, L., Taylor, A., Carey, S., Scott, K., & Booth, J. (2022, April 8). *Information and data equity in Homewood*. University of Pittsburgh. <https://d-scholarship.pitt.edu/43198>

This program, led by HYPE (Homewood Youth Powered and Engaged) Media and the Information and Equity Project at University of Pittsburgh, created a space for youth from Westinghouse Academy to learn how to gather info and data about their community to change narratives online through editing their school's Wikipedia page.

Maruca, J. (2025, July 2). Pittsburgh City Council to discuss new approach to anti-violence fund. *90.5 WESA*. <https://www.wesa.fm/politics-government/2025-07-02/pittsburgh-city-council-to-discuss-new-approach-to-anti-violence-fund>

This article explores the potential pitfalls and efficacies of the Stop the Violence Fund, passed during former Mayor Gainey's term, as the city discusses an overhaul of the initiative five years after implementation. The new bill is spearheaded by critics, who find the reporting and funding of certain programs to be lacking oversight. Proponents and recipients of the funding, including Homewood Children's Village, argue that there are positive effects to funding grassroots organizations and prioritizing community-level approaches to ending violence.

Pittsburgh Westinghouse Academy 6-12. (2026). *About our school*. <https://www.pghschools.org/schools/6-12/westinghouse>

This is a short profile of the Pittsburgh Westinghouse Academy 6-12 school including school activities and extracurriculars, school hours, contact information, school address, and a directory, as well as links to commonly used resources.

Pittsburgh Faison K-5. (2026). *About our school*. <https://www.pghschools.org/schools/k-5/faison>

This is a short profile of Pittsburgh Faison School including school activities and extracurriculars, school hours, contact information, school address, and a directory, as well as links to commonly used resources.

RAND. (2020). PHRESH 2020 Homewood Community Newsletter. https://www.rand.org/content/dam/rand/www/external/sew/chep/phresh/newsletters/PHRESH_Newsletter_Homewood_SUMMER_2020_FINAL.pdf

This newsletter, published by Pittsburgh Hill/Homewood Research on Neighborhood Change and Health (PHRESH), shares information to the Homewood community about neighborhood change and health and reports on results from recent studies, including Household Survey Responses on sleep, food shopping, diet, health, neighborhood safety perceptions, and neighborhood characteristics, as well as how the community has fared during the COVID-10 pandemic.

RAND Corporation. (2022, March 14). *Research project will probe role of structural racism in development of dementias and cognitive decline among African Americans.*
<https://www.rand.org/news/press/2022/03/14.html>

This research project, developed by RAND and the University of Pittsburgh, examines how exposure to the legacies of structural racism at the neighborhood and individual levels may contribute to the risk of Alzheimer's disease and related dementia in African Americans.

Richardson, A. S., Troxel, W. M., Ghosh-Dastidar, M., Hunter, G. P., Beckman, R., Collins, R., Brooks Holliday, S., Nugroho, A., Hale, L., Buysse, D. J., Buman, M. P., & Dubowitz, T. (2021). Violent crime, police presence and poor sleep in two low-income urban predominantly Black American neighbourhoods. *Journal of Epidemiology and Community Health*, 75(1), 62–68. <https://doi.org/10.1136/jech-2020-214500>

A research study on the correlation between the presence of violent crime in neighborhoods and wakefulness after sleep onset (WASO), and whether perceptions of safety can be measured through sleep and health patterns.

Saturday Light Brigade. (2012, December 11). *Crossing fences: Homewood: Neighborhood voices.* <https://neighborhoodvoices.org/cfhomewood>

In partnership with the Saturday Light Brigade and YMCA Lighthouse Project at Pittsburgh Westinghouse 6-12, a collection of first-person accounts of African American men living and working in Homewood, conducted through interviews by young boys from the neighborhood, who also reflect on the men and their stories, featuring Derrick Lopez, John Brewer, Jerome Jackson, James Brown, and more. The students learned about digital audio recording, identifying male role models to interview, then arranged, conducted, and edited the interviews with support as needed. The interviews were presented in book form and CD.

Saturday Light Brigade. (2018, December 5). *Crossing fences: 2018 Homewood II: Neighborhood voices.* <https://neighborhoodvoices.org/crossing-fences-2018-homewood-ii>

In partnership with the Saturday Light Brigade and Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh, a second collection of first-person accounts of African American men living and working in Homewood, conducted through interviews by young boy from the neighborhood, who also reflect on the men and their stories, featuring Walter Lewis, Sean Means, and Mubarik Ismaeli. The students learned about digital audio recording, identifying male role models to interview, then arranged, conducted, and edited the interviews with support as needed. The interviews were presented in book form and CD.

Siriwardane, V. (2026, January 12). Allegheny County's compulsory treatment plan aims to avoid arrests. *Pittsburgh's Public Source.* <https://www.publicsource.org/allegheny->

[county-assisted-outpatient-treatment-oversight/](#)

This article explains Allegheny County's decision to implement assisted outpatient treatment, or AOT, and its potential effects in the county, particularly among Black people and people of color, who are disproportionately impacted by involuntary treatment. The article includes statements from mental health experts who voice criticism and county officials whose goal is to see a trend of decarceration among people with serious mental illness.

Urban Redevelopment Authority of Pittsburgh. (2021, July 20). *URA requesting information and project concepts for greater Pittsburgh coliseum in Homewood South neighborhood.* <https://www.ura.org/news/ura-requesting-information-and-project-concepts-for-greater-pittsburgh-coliseum-in-homewood-south-neighborhood>

A press release announcing the URA, owner of the Greater Pittsburgh Coliseum, is looking for feasible project concepts that include industrial and commercial components that align with the neighborhood plan and provide benefits to the community.

Urban Redevelopment Authority of Pittsburgh. (2024, October 10). *URA set to clean up multiple blighted properties in Homewood.* <https://www.ura.org/news/ura-set-to-clean-up-multiple-blighted-properties-in-homewood>

A press release announcing URA's plan to address publicly owned properties along the North Homewood Avenue business district that have been vacant and blighted for a long time and position them for future development opportunities.

Urban Redevelopment Authority of Pittsburgh. (2025, February 18). *Remediation and demolition work starting in Homewood South.* <https://www.ura.org/news/remediation-and-demolition-work-starting-in-homewood-south>

A press release announcing the remediation and demolition as part of a long-term strategic effort in collaboration with the Homewood Community Development Collaborative (HCDC) to clean up blighted sites and position them for redevelopment.

Visit Pittsburgh. (2025). *The Hill District: A Neighborhood Guide.* <https://www.visitpittsburgh.com/blog/homewood-neighborhood-guide-pittsburgh/>

Visit Pittsburgh provides a brief history and background of Homewood, while also giving some insight on the neighborhood's present and future. There is also a list provided of popular things to do, places to eat, as well as key places to see in Homewood.