Information and Input
Community Forum

Agenda

5:00 p.m. Registration

5:20 p.m. Senior Vice Chancellor, Dr. Kathy Humphrey: “Why a Community Engagement Center? Why Homewood?”

5:40 p.m. Partners panel: “What value do you see the Community Engagement Center bringing to Homewood and the nearby communities?”

6:15 p.m. Dinner and visiting Pitt tables to provide input, ask questions, and learn more

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Thank you to our Event Cosponsors!

- Bible Center
- Homewood Concerned Citizens Council
- Homewood/Brushton
- PCHS
- Operation Better Block
- BUSP
- HCS
- YMCA
- Afro-American Music Institute
- Homewood Children’s Village
- PAEYC
- YWCA Greater Pittsburgh
- CCNC

Event Services Provided By

- Indulge Catering Events
- Jones Printing
- Kidsburgh.org
Community Advisory Council

Council members review proposed plans for the Community Engagement Center and ensure that the proposed programs and activities are a good fit for the community, bring the community meaningful benefits, and ensure that the CEC does not duplicate any currently existing initiatives within the community. They help to involve fellow residents and community-based organization staff in discussions about the Community Engagement Center. Council members assist in making introductions between Pitt faculty and staff and potential partners so that collaborations between Pitt and the community are possible.

We are continually seeking to enhance the advisory council. We aspire to have as many resident members on the council as we have community organization and faith-based leaders. Please visit the CEC table or contact Daren Ellerbee (412-852-7551) if you are interested in serving on the Advisory Council.

Current Members:

- Rick Adams, Board President, Primary Care Health Services, Inc.
- Dina (Free) Blackwell, Executive Director, Homewood Renaissance
- Nisha Blackwell, Homewood Resident, Founder, Knotzland Bow Ties
- Fred Brown, President & CEO, Homewood Children’s Village
- Tracy Bulls, Director, Homewood-Brushton Family Support Center
- T. Rashad Byrdsong, President & CEO, Community Empowerment Association
- Cara Ciminillo, Executive Director, Pittsburgh Association for the Education of Young Children (PAEYC)
- Rev. Kevin Cooper, East Hills Resident, Founder, Mulberry Community Church
- Cherylie Fuller, Homewood Resident, Executive Director, Homewood Concerned Citizens Council
- Elwin Green, Homewood Resident, Owner, Homewood Nation blog
- David Hopkins, Chief Executive Officer, Primary Care Health Services, Inc.
- Mubarik Ismaeli, President, Homewood Community Sports
- Jerome Jackson, Executive Director, Operation Better Block
- Dr. James T. Johnson, Jr., Executive Director, Afro American Music Institute
- Dr. Sharon McDaniel, Founder, President & CEO, A Second Chance
- Monique McIntosh, Chief Administrative Officer, Homewood-Brushton YWCA
- Candie Moore, Homewood Resident, Parent
- Adam Paulisick, Owner, The Shop
- LaToya Rainey, Vice-President, Homewood-Brushton Business Association
- Dr. Vladimir St. Surin, Assistant Dean of Students, CCAC Homewood-Brushton Center
- Rev. Samuel Ware, Executive Director, Building United of Southwestern PA
- Dr. John M. Wallace, Jr., Senior Pastor, Bible Center Church
- Dr. Cynthia Wallace, Senior Pastor and Director, Bible Center’s Oasis Project
- Julie Williams, Director of Operations, Homewood-Brushton YMCA
- Shimira Williams, Homewood Resident, Founder & CEO, Productivity, LLC & TekStart
- Danielle Winstead, Homewood Resident, Parent
In an effort to have the Community Engagement Center initiative be guided by residents and community organization partners, we have formed a community advisory council. **We are expanding that council to include even more residents and seek nominations of individuals who will make a positive contribution to the council.**

Council members review proposed plans for the Community Engagement Center and ensure that the proposed programs and activities are a good fit for the community, bring the community meaningful benefits, and ensure that the CEC does not duplicate any currently existing initiatives within the community. They help to involve fellow residents and community-based organization staff in discussions about the Community Engagement Center. Council members assist in making introductions between Pitt faculty and staff and potential partners so that collaborations between Pitt and the community are possible.

Please complete this nomination form and return to:
Daren A. Ellerbee, Community Engagement Center Director
Email: d.ellerbee@pitt.edu

### COMMUNITY ADVISORY COUNCIL: RESIDENT NOMINATION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of person nominated to serve on the Council:</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Do they: □ Live □ Work □ Pray</td>
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<tr>
<td>In one or more of the communities adjacent to the CEC?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>□ Homewood □ Larimer / Lincoln-Lemington □ East Hills □ Wilkinsburg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Street Address:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mailing Address:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Contact Phone Number:</td>
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<td>Email:</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
### Nominated by:

Do you:  
☐ Live  ☐ Work  ☐ Pray  
In one or more of the communities adjacent to the CEC?  
☐ Homewood  ☐ Larimer / Lincoln-Lemington  ☐ East Hills  ☐ Wilkinsburg

Contact Phone:  
Email:  

### Skills & Experience of Person Being Nominated

Please describe why you feel this person would be a valuable member of the community advisory council:

1) How have they been involved in the community? What groups do they belong to or how do they support their community?
2) Why is it important that they be a part of the council?

I confirm that the nominee agrees for me to provide their name and contact information.

Signed:  
Date:  

* Please note that meetings are held every other month and are scheduled according to the council’s availability.*
How We've Engaged So Far

Make a suggestion for other ways to get the word out!

Aug. 2016
- Request for partnerships sent to community and faith-based organizations

Mar. 2017
- Advisory council invitations extended
- First advisory council meeting

July 2017
- Third advisory council meeting
- First community forum
- OBB monthly meeting

Sept. 2017
- Homewood Concerned Citizens Council Meeting: Update given
- Bennett Place Senior Center: Luncheon presentation and discussion
- Silver Lake Commons: Luncheon presentation and discussion
- Info table at Pride Pop-Up Event
- Homewood House: Luncheon presentation and discussion
- Fourth advisory council meeting
- Cluster 8 & 9 Monthly Meeting: Update given
- Student Volunteer Community Cookout
- Homewood Collaborative presentation and discussion

Sep. 2016
- Town hall held with interested organizations

June 2017
- Second advisory council meeting

Aug. 2017
- Homewood Concerned Citizens Council Meeting: Presentation and discussion
- Info Table at Homewood Children’s Village Fall Community Dinner
- Introduction of CEC at Cluster 8 & 9 monthly meeting
- Presentation at Grind Time, Everyday Café
- Marian Plaza Senior Center: Luncheon presentation and discussion
- OBB monthly meeting: Presentation and discussion

Oct. 2017
- Willie Tee’s Barber Shop: Discussion & Q&A
- East Hills Consensus Group: Presentation and discussion
- Neighborhood canvassing
- Second community forum

Next Up: November 13 - Fifth Advisory Council Meeting
Community Partner Tables

While eating dinner, please visit with our Community Partners: community-based organizations who can tell you more about the services and programs they offer every day to the community.

Everyday Café
Bible Center Church
YMCA
YWCA
Afro American Music Institute
Primary Care Health Services
Operation Better Block
Homewood Children’s Village
Each table has a number above it in the gym that matches the numbers listed in this program. For your convenience, a “quick list” of topics and table numbers is provided on this page, followed by full descriptions for each table on pages 4-8.

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1. **Community Engagement Center**: This table will provide information about the Community Engagement Center, show you plans for one of the buildings, and answer any questions you have about the whole concept. We will be collecting questions asked of us this evening and will display them here with our Community Advisory Council.

   - *What value do you hope the Community Engagement Center will bring to your community?*
   - *What should we know about your community before opening the Community Engagement Center?*

   Contact: Daren Ellerbee, Center Director, [d.ellerbee@pitt.edu](mailto:d.ellerbee@pitt.edu), 412-852-7551 or Lina Dostilio, Assistant Vice Chancellor, Community Engagement, [LDD20@pitt.edu](mailto:LDD20@pitt.edu), 412-624-7719

2. **Pittsburgh Admission Collaborative**: This table will provide information about the work Pitt is doing with Pittsburgh Public Schools and CCAC to create a pipeline from middle school to high school to college. This is the first year of the program and they are recruiting a cohort of 80 students grades 9-12 from Westinghouse Academy to participate in the program.

   Contact: Tasha Peacock, [pac@pitt.edu](mailto:pac@pitt.edu), 412-648-1287

3. **Manufacturing Assistance Center**: This table will provide information about job training opportunities at the Manufacturing Assistance Center at 7800 Susquehanna Street.

   Contact: Claire Guth, [macoutreach@pitt.edu](mailto:macoutreach@pitt.edu), 412-826-3535

4. **Pitt Human Resources**: This table will provide information about what employment opportunities exist at the University of Pittsburgh.

   Contact: 412-624-7000

5. **Institute for Entrepreneurial Excellence**: The Institute for Entrepreneurial Excellence’s Urban & Community Entrepreneurship Program (UCEP) is committed to being the leader of economic development in underserved, urban communities in the Greater Pittsburgh area. The program will help build a vibrant entrepreneurial environment that fosters regional growth. Through its four major resources—educational programs, collaborative partnerships, consulting services and the Community Power to Prosper program—UCEP empowers entrepreneurs to reach their goals and plan for their future success. The CEC in Homewood will be used for the UCEP programming offered to existing business owners in the community.

   - *Are these programs wanted in your community?*
   - *As a small business owner, would you use these educational programs? Why or why not?*

   Contact: Nicole Hudson, [nhudson@innovation.pitt.edu](mailto:nhudson@innovation.pitt.edu), 412-648-1545
6. **Pitt Assisted Communities & Schools**: The mission of Pitt-Assisted Communities & Schools is to mobilize University of Pittsburgh resources in ways that enrich the lives of Homewood children and youth, while simultaneously advancing the university’s commitment to transformative teaching, learning, and community impact. The goal is to improve academic, physical health, mental health, and social and economic outcomes for the children and families who live, learn, work, and play in Homewood. Specifically, PACS intentionally collaborates with community partners to provide meaningful engagement opportunities that serve to enhance learning experiences and meet the needs of our schools.

- *What are the greatest educational needs in your community?*
- *How can the University support educational outcomes in your community?*

Contact: Esohe Osai, pittpacs@pitt.edu, 412-624-1346

8. **Social and Urban Research**: The University Center for Social and Urban Research operates two projects that have been used to understand community trends in Homewood: the Western Pennsylvania Regional Data Center and the Southwestern Pennsylvania Community Profiles. We want to help organizations and residents in Homewood build their data literacy skills and use information to better understand what is happening in the community around them. We also want to enable people to incorporate information into their work and lives. We have partnered with Operation Better Block over the past few years, and look forward to expanded relationships in Homewood.

- *What do you most want to know about your neighborhood?*
- *How should we share information about the neighborhood with you and your neighbors?*

Contact: Bob Gradeck, wprdc@pitt.edu, 412-624-9177

9. **Office of Child Development**: The Office of Child Development is a university-community partnership that has been dedicated to improving the lives of children, youth, and families for over 30 years. The Community Engagement Center complements our mission of building collaboration with communities, and in transforming interdisciplinary research, scholarship, and knowledge into action (for example, our existing programs in Family Support, PRIDE – Positive Racial Identity Development in Early Education, and Early Head Start). The CEC in Homewood would provide an opportunity for OCD and community agencies to partner in developing new services and programs to meet community needs.

- *What are the most important needs for children and families in Homewood?*
- *What would you like us to know about the best ways to support children and families in your neighborhood?*

Contact: Denise Casino/Maura Falchetti, (412) 383-4447
10. **Center for Interventions to Enhance Community Health (CiTECH):** CiTECH is designed to help people who are experiencing stress, depression, anxiety, and other challenges that affect their overall well-being to live longer, healthier, and happier lives. This collaboration builds on the community expertise of the School of Social Work and the clinical knowledge of the Department of Psychiatry to conduct research on new interventions designed to help people in their communities improve their quality of life. Through partnering with local communities, CiTECH aims to develop better ways to help children and adults manage stress and stress-related conditions, get access to high quality resources, and improve overall community health and well-being.

- **What programs exist in your community for helping people to manage stress, depression, anxiety, or other behavioral health conditions?**
- **What kind of programs would you like to see in your community to help people manage stress, depression, anxiety, and other behavioral health conditions?**

Contact: Shaun M. Eack, sme12@pitt.edu

11. **School of Nursing:** The School of Nursing has a focus on community nursing. From their sophomore through senior years, student nurses work in community spaces such as health clinics and Pittsburgh Public Schools. What we could offer residents through the Community Engagement Center is: 1) health teaching about conditions such as diabetes, how to stop smoking, and asthma 2) health assessments on adults, women who are pregnant, and children 3) hold classes on teaching adults, parents and children how to do simple assessments such as taking a temperature or blood pressure and how to know when you should go to your health care provider or the emergency room 4) in partnership with Alma Illery, provide drop-in triage visits.

- **Are there services or programs we have not listed you want in your community?**
- **We are interested in expanding the community-based partners we are working with. What other organizations in Homewood do you suggest we approach?**

Contact: Willa Doswell, wdo100@pitt.edu, 412-624-8977

12. **The Center for Parents and Children:** The Center for Parents and Children would join the CEC in Homewood to provide family-based preventive mental health services in your community. Services include evidence-based interventions that promote child and parent well-being, school readiness, and healthy family relationships. Initially, families seen would be part of existing partnerships we have established with community agencies serving children and families (e.g., Head Start, WIC, Family Support Centers, Primary Care) and our hope would be to make these services more widely available pending funding and as we grow our collaborations with your community.

- **As a parent, what kind of support do you wish you had more of? What is missing in your community that would help you parent more effectively?**
- **What do you think is important for us to know before we begin working with families in your community?**

Contact: Daniel Shaw, casey@pitt.edu, (412) 624-1836; Anne Gill, Anne.Gill@pitt.edu, (412) 613-4234
13. **School for Health and Rehabilitation Sciences Wellness Pavilion**: Pitt’s School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences will create a Wellness Pavilion at the CEC in Homewood to expand community health and wellness services for people of all ages. Our students, supervised by licensed professionals, will offer Physical Therapy; Occupational Therapy; Nutrition, Mental Health and Rehab Counseling; health and wellness interventions; chronic disease management; falls prevention and management; health and wellness interventions and screenings; educational classes and demonstrations; support groups and health fairs – all at no charge. Working in partnership with Alma Illery Primary Care Services, we expect to enhance and expand health services available to the community.

- *Would you take advantage of these programs and services? Why or why not? Which ones most specifically?*
- *What are the best hours of operation for the Wellness Pavilion? Would weekday hours work for you?*

Contact: Patty Kummick, pkummick@pitt.edu, 412-383-6548; Vicki Hornyak, vhornyak@pitt.edu, 412-624-1026

14. **School of Pharmacy**: Pharmacists and student pharmacists from the University of Pittsburgh School of Pharmacy will work closely with individuals at the CEC in Homewood to empower them to effectively manage their health. We will seek input from the community to understand their medication-related needs and equip them with tools and skills to improve their medication-related outcomes.

- *What medication-related services would you value from the pharmacist at this site?*
- *What do you see as the most pressing medication-related needs in this community?*

Contact: Renee Fry, rlf24@pitt.edu, 412-624-9892

15. **PittServes**: (table shared with Honors College) PittServes has a mission to enhance the culture of service on campus. The department works with students and community agencies to meet volunteer needs of communities and nonprofit organizations. With focuses on sustainability, education, and community development, we work to increase student community service while broadening our impact.

- *How would you like to see student volunteers utilized in your community?*

Contact: Shenay Jeffrey, Shenay.jeffrey@pitt.edu, 412-624-1065; Misti McKeehen, misti@pitt.edu, 412-624-1065
15. **Honors College**: (Table shared with PittServes) The University Honors College is a non-membership community dedicated to the values of academic attainment, intellectual curiosity, and social consciousness. We provide a variety of resources and opportunities for students. Our Community-Based Research Fellowship enables students to collaborate with community partners and Pitt faculty to answer pertinent community questions. Examples include: creation of a community asset map in the Hill District, an evaluation of community perspectives on nutrition in Millvale, an efficiency study of 412 Food Rescue, and more. If your organization has questions to answer or data to analyze, this could be an opportunity for collaboration.

- *What would you like others to know about your community or organization?*
- *What information could help you improve your organization?*

Contact: Holly Hickling, hlh39@pitt.edu, 412-624-6655

16. **Science Lab/Science Learning**: The Swanson School of Engineering and the Mascaro Center for Sustainable Innovation would like to utilize the Science Learning spaces to create side-by-side science activities for student-family pairs that highlight engineering concepts in a real-world context. We are looking for ways to engage and collaborate with the community through our core competencies in Sustainability/Engineering research and education.

- *Are these services or programs wanted in your community?*
- *What do you think is important for us to know before we begin this work?*

Contact: David Sanchez, david.sanchez@pitt.edu, 412-624-9793

17. **School of Medicine**: The University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine is based in Oakland and has about 580 medical students from all over the United States who are in training to become doctors and researchers. Our students are driven, in part, by serving other people and look forward to opportunities to work together with people in their communities. As part of the CEC, we look forward to exploring ways that the medical students can learn from, and work with, people in the Homewood community.

- *What is one thing you would like to teach a medical student to help them be a better doctor?*
- *Would you be interested in working with a medical student to understand something about your own, or a close friend or family member’s, health?*

Contact: John Maier, jsmaier@pitt.edu, 412-383-2319

**Note**: In addition to the programs that are ongoing throughout the year and featured at tables here tonight, we also have a few more that could be offered periodically upon request or once a year:

**Preserving Family Treasures/African American Musicians/Writers**: Staff from the University Library System’s Archives & Special Collections department are willing to offer workshops on organizing and
preserving family treasures (including basics of digitization); accessing and contributing to our Historic Pittsburgh neighborhood photograph collections (www.historicpittsburgh.org); and exploring neighborhood histories and culture through our archival collections, which could also include an introduction to the African American jazz pianist/composer Erroll Garner and his archives. Other ideas could be exploring the works of Homewood authors, such as John Edgar Wideman, Elisa Palombo Sapienzo, Albert French, and Mark Whitaker as well as highlighting the ULS African American Collection print collection and its importance to the Homewood community. The ULS could also offer a workshop on how to identify fake news and check facts, as well as understand how to access and use print and online US government information.

- Contact: Ed Galloway, edwardg@pitt.edu

**Program Evaluation Institute:** The Graduate School of Public Health (Department of Behavioral and Community Health Sciences) offers an Intensive Evaluation Institute with follow-up training and technical assistance. The program offers training in developing program metrics, logic models, and evaluation designs for small non-profit organizations. These approaches help organizations to better monitor their activities and effectiveness. It will also position them to make strong applications to funders. The Intensive Evaluation Institute builds on a program first offered in Summer 2017.

- Contact: Steve Albert, smalbert@pitt.edu, 412-624-3102

**The Regional Medical Library (RML) program** could provide health information education for staff at community and faith-based organizations and clinics in Homewood. We could offer programs and workshops to connect staff at these organizations with reliable health information resources on a variety of applicable topics such as general health and wellness, nutrition, environmental health, opiate addiction, as well as generate ideas for these organizations to create health programs for their community. We also offer funding for interested organizations that could assist with technology to supply computers with access to these resources for the community.

- Contact: Renae Barger, rbarger@pitt.edu

**Technical and Information Help:** The School of Computing and Information, working in partnership with PittServes, offers skills-based assistance to any local community organization with technical and information needs. Undergraduate and graduate students sign up for a 3-4 month commitment to the organization; their assistance includes such things as building websites, organizing/setting up databases, providing technology training, helping with networks and security, teaching how to make the best use of social media, and more. We have had this partnership for over two years with more than 100 students assisting in over 50 different projects.

- Contact: Alka Singh, adsingh@pitt.edu, 412-624-0879

**University Center for International Studies (UCIS)** is the “nerve center” of Pitt’s global engagement. We explore world regions and contemporary global issues through academic programs and community engagement activities ranging from projects with local businesses to K-16 teacher training workshops, student competitions, and art exhibitions. UCIS is committed to working with our community partners to provide resources, sponsor activities, and develop innovative programming that enriches intellectual and cultural life and connects Pittsburgh to the world. Find us at http://www.ucis.pitt.edu

- Contact: Belkys Torres, btorres@pitt.edu, 412-624-6651
Frequently Asked Questions

1. What is the Community Engagement Center (CEC)?

The Community Engagement Center (also called a CEC) is a physical facility that helps Pitt to be a better partner in the community. Pitt’s job (like all universities) is to facilitate teaching and research. Teaching and research can be engaged with the community, and in doing so, benefits the community while also strengthening the University. It’s a place where Pitt can align student projects with community efforts, faculty research with community concerns, and teach Pitt faculty, staff, and students about the history and life of the neighborhood so they can effectively participate in efforts throughout the community. Different parts of the building facilitate different kinds of collaborations between the University and the community: there are seminar rooms, workspaces, a youth-friendly science lab, a computer lab, and more.

2. How is the CEC different from other community organizations already in this neighborhood? Will the CEC duplicate the work already happening in this community?

The CEC does not duplicate the programs and services already found in the community. The activities and programs offered through the CEC complement and enhance what is already available. For the most part, Pitt isn’t a community service provider like the YMCA, Family Support Center, or neighborhood health clinic. Through the CEC we partner with organizations like these on collaborative initiatives. We can offer research-based programs or student projects that benefit the neighborhood, but that don’t replace the existing network of community organizations.

3. Why is Pitt opening CECs?

The creation of the CECs is one of the strategies that Pitt is using to strengthen its community engagement efforts. The Plan for Pitt, the University’s strategic plan, calls upon the University to expand and enhance our engagements and collaborations locally, regionally, nationally, and globally. The CECs are a place-based strategy; they help us to focus our engagements in a set of communities, pulling from all 14 schools at Pitt to come alongside community leaders addressing challenges found within those communities. This results in Pitt having a deeper impact, being a more effective partner, and being able to develop meaningful partnerships over a long period of time.

4. What are the current plans for the CEC?

The first CEC will be located in two places in Homewood, at 622 N. Homewood Avenue and another building to be determined.

5. Will the CEC offer college degrees? Can we take classes there?

The CEC is an outreach and engagement center, but not a place to earn a degree. The CECs are located a short distance from the Oakland campus where the full array of undergraduate and graduate programs are offered. From time to time, workshops or seminars on special topics might be offered, but they are not credit-bearing classes.
6. How can residents access the center?
The CEC will be open to the public during regular business hours. The facility at 622 N. Homewood Avenue will have a gallery space with seating right inside the front door. We hope that you will come in, speak with our staff, and learn about what the center has to offer.

7. How long will the CEC be around?
The CEC will be open for a minimum of 15 years. We’re here for the long haul. 15 years, or more, will allow Pitt to develop strong partnerships and to be well integrated in the agendas and assets of the community.

8. When will the CEC officially open and where will it be located?
Phase 1 of the CEC in Homewood will be located at 622 N. Homewood Avenue and is projected to open in late spring 2018.

9. Is the CEC only for Homewood residents?
Anyone can access the programs at the CEC. We hope that CEC activities and programs will help to improve the quality of life for residents in Homewood and adjacent communities throughout Pittsburgh’s East End that include, but are not limited to, East Hills, Lincoln-Lemington, Wilkinsburg, and Larimer.

10. I am interested in collaborating with the CEC. Who should I contact?
Contact Ms. Daren Ellerbee, director of the Community Engagement Center in Homewood at d.ellerbee@pitt.edu, or by calling 412-852-7551.