

PHILANTHROPIC RESOURCES

New Philanthropic Leaders

Image by Dave DiCello.

Over the last decade, Pittsburgh has experienced a renewal of prosperity across the region.

Economic growth, however, hasn't reached everyone. Research indicates that for 30 percent of residents—those living near, at, or below the federal poverty line and in underresourced geographic areas—the new opportunities in Pittsburgh are inaccessible. These challenges have only been exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic and the resulting economic fallout, as well as by the crisis of racial injustice.

Those of us lifted by Pittsburgh's economic resurgence can't afford to leave our neighbors behind—especially people of color and others who have been excluded in the past. Our continued growth and social cohesion depends on building a Pittsburgh where everyone has the opportunity to thrive.

New Philanthropic Leaders is an annual initiative of The Pittsburgh Foundation's Center for Philanthropy with the goal of developing the next generation of Pittsburgh's philanthropic leaders. Continue reading to learn more.



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About New Philanthropic Leaders

Image by Lamar Davis.

New Philanthropic Leaders is an annual initiative of The Pittsburgh Foundation's Center for Philanthropy with the goal of developing the next generation of Pittsburgh's philanthropic leaders. Each year, a **cohort of 15-25 early and mid-career professionals, ages 25-40**, dedicate their time and resources to improve the Pittsburgh region through philanthropy. NPL members make a **donation of \$250, \$500, \$750 or \$1,000¹** to the New Philanthropic Leaders Fund, and with professional guidance and financial support from The Pittsburgh Foundation, embark on a year-long philanthropic learning journey, focused on the following goals:

1 MAKING PITTSBURGH WORK FOR ALL

Understand the challenges facing our city and learn about local nonprofit and social impact organizations and strategies addressing these challenges.

2 REDEFINING YOUR PHILANTHROPY

Learn about new best practices in philanthropy and how they might intersect with your personal giving to inform your community involvement, now and in the future.

3 COLLECTIVE GIVING FOR COLLECTIVE IMPACT

Pool your NPL donation together with other NPL members, your community and The Pittsburgh Foundation, to amplify the impact of your grantmaking.

4 RELATIONSHIP BUILDING AND NETWORKING

Network and build relationships with a diverse group of other young and mid-career professionals motivated to make a difference in our city.

5 GETTING OUT THERE

Visit new neighborhoods, nonprofits and spaces around Pittsburgh to see philanthropy and community work in action.

The year of learning culminates in an inspiring pitch-in party.² The New Philanthropic Leaders cohort selects local nonprofit organizations to receive their pooled funds and invites the selected organizations to attend a pitch-in party to share their mission. NPL members invite family, friends and colleagues to attend the pitch-in party. and as part of the ticket for the party, each attendee donates \$20 to one of the three organizations being celebrated. Each nonprofit gets to keep the amount donated by the attendees and is also awarded a grant from the New Philanthropic Leaders Fund.

¹ May be given in installments and is fully tax deductible as of February 2025. Employers may sponsor participation.

² The party may be held with certain restrictions depending on the recommendations of the CDC and local guidelines.



NEW PHILANTHROPIC LEADERS

Session Schedule: 2026*

Session 1: Your Philanthropy & the Collective

TUESDAY, FEB. 10, 2026

Community Nonprofit | 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

- Explore your personal philanthropy.
- Identify priority interest areas for collective impact.

Goals: 1, 2, 4, 5*

Session 2: "The Most Livable City?"

THURSDAY, MAR. 12, 2026

Community Nonprofit | 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

- Take a deep dive into your collective areas of impact and hear from experts to understand Pittsburgh's greatest needs.

Goals: 1, 2, 4*

Session 3: Power & Voice

TUESDAY, APR. 14, 2026

Community Nonprofit | 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

- Learn about power, privilege and using your voice to amplify the voices of others.
- Hear from experts in your area of collective giving.

Goals: 1, 2, 4, 5*

Session 3.5: Finding Focus

TUESDAY, APR. 28, 2026

Virtual | 6:00 - 7:00 p.m.

- Learn about grantmaking best practices and considerations.
- Refine group giving statement.

Goals: 1, 2, 3*

Spring Social

THURSDAY, MAY 21, 2026

Outdoor brewery or BYOB park picnic | 5:30 - 7:00 p.m.

- Optional mixer.

Goals: 4*

Session 4: Selections and Site Visits

THURSDAY, JUNE 11, 2026

Community Nonprofit | 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

- Select nonprofits for site visits.
- Break into groups for site visits.

Goals: 1, 3, 4, 5*

Nonprofit Site Visits or Interviews

On site or remote | Times vary

- Learn more about selected nonprofits.

Goals: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5*

Session 5: Make Your Impact

TUESDAY, AUG. 11, 2026

Community Nonprofit | 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

- Rank and review organizations to receive a grant and participate in the pitch-in party.

Goals: 1, 3, 4*

Pitch-In Party!

THURSDAY, SEPT. 17, 2026

Location TBD | 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

- Crowd source additional donations and celebrate the work of finalist organizations.

Goals: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5*

Session 7: Giving Thanks

WEDNESDAY, OCT. 9, 2026

Community Nonprofit | 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

- End of year wrap-up & celebration.

Goals: 4, 5*

*All dates, times and locations are subject to change. All in person events will be held in accordance with health and safety guidelines.

*Reference the previous page for description of goals.

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Ready to Get Involved?

Image by Lamar Davis.

About The Pittsburgh Foundation

Established in 1945, the community philanthropy for the Pittsburgh region is one of the nation's oldest community foundations and is the 14th largest of more than 750 similar foundations across the United States. It set a new record for grantmaking, \$67 million, in 2020. As a community foundation, its resources comprise endowment funds established by individuals, businesses and organizations with a passion for charitable giving and fulfilling the Foundation's mission of improving quality of life for all in the region. The Foundation currently manages about 2,500 individual donor funds and, together with its supporting organizations and its affiliate, The Community Foundation of Westmoreland County, has assets of \$1.4 billion. Grantmaking benefits a broad spectrum of basic needs and development opportunities within Pittsburgh and beyond. Learn more at www.pittsburghfoundation.org.

Join Us!

For more information, please contact Katie Belonus, belonusk@pghfdn.org. To join New Philanthropic Leaders, visit www.pittsburghfoundation.org/npl-join.

NPL members may receive fiscal sponsorship from their employers. If you are interested in being sponsored, or sponsoring a group of your employees, please contact us. Please note, this program does not accept participation from nonprofit professionals due to the potential for conflicts of interest.

The application opens on Oct. 13 and the deadline to apply is Jan. 12, 2026. Applicants will be notified on a rolling basis beginning in November and continuing through January 2026.