



WISH BOOK 2021

SPECIAL OPERATING FUNDS EDITION



A beautiful day in Mister Rogers' neighborhood. Image by Dave DiCello.

Autumn, for many, is a time of reflection, a season to think back on all we are thankful for and consider how we might share our plenty. After nearly two years of the COVID-19 pandemic and the health and economic hardships it has wrought, “plenty” is in short supply for far too many of our friends and neighbors. Record numbers of individuals and families are turning to nonprofit organizations to meet their basic needs, from food to health care to child care. Environmental organizations are scrambling to address the impact of climate change on our region. Visual and performing arts nonprofits that provide emotional release and entertainment are also struggling to fulfill their missions in these times. With so many extraordinary nonprofits stepping up to help, deciding where to give can seem overwhelming. The Wish Book can help.

This year’s edition features 100 exceptional nonprofits whose staffs have demonstrated grace and ingenuity despite the seemingly insurmountable challenges presented by the pandemic. Last year, we asked you

to provide operating funds to these nonprofits rather than funds for specific items. We were amazed by the results. You gave \$700,000 to Wish Book organizations from your funds. New this year is that we’ve asked organizations to tell us if they are led by or serve Black and Brown people – including those who identify as Asian, Pacific Islanders, Hispanic or Latino, or Indigenous – as these groups experienced disproportionate health and economic effects from the pandemic. We thank you for enlisting with us through the 2021 Wish Book to help these organizations serve our community.

MAKING GRANTS IS EASY

To contribute, contact your donor services representative or visit **www.pittsburghfoundation.org/wishbook** and complete your transaction via email. Your grant, no matter the size, makes a special holiday, anniversary or birthday gift. From all of us at the Foundation, thank you for supporting the community we call home.



Panorama of the Pittsburgh skyline from the North Shore. Image by Dave DiCello.

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Artist Jessica Brown paints a bench at You Are Here, a gallery and creative reuse center in Jeannette. Image by Jason Cohn.

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Andrew Carnegie Free Library & Music Hall



Andrew Carnegie Free Library & Music Hall serves as an outstanding library, theater and historic site that welcomes, informs, entertains and engages the regional community in lifelong learning. The music hall and studio were particularly compromised by the pandemic. The library and music hall make up one organization, so when the state mandated library buildings to close in March 2020, the music hall closed as well. The library was reopened from mid-July through mid-November, when the COVID-19 surge forced it to close again until February. Music hall and studio performances are mission-advancing and generate much-needed revenue. The library and music hall is requesting \$5,000 in operating support for its music hall center, which has a full roster of programming scheduled. The funds would be a lifeline to more solid ground, when performers and audiences can confidently return.

PRIMARY COUNTY SERVED Allegheny

POPULATION SERVED The library had 44,788 visits, and the music hall and studio served 2,693 people in 2020.

BLACK- AND BROWN-LED OR SERVING N/A

WISH REQUESTED \$5,000

Artists Image Resource



Artists Image Resource is a nonprofit print and imaging studio that serves as an active learning laboratory where educators and youth work directly with artists. Because of COVID-19, AIR lost virtually all earned revenue from its community access, outreach and educational programs. Since 1996, the organization has collaborated with numerous area museums, institutions, schools and other educational partners. When its partners ceased programming, Artists Image Resource lost subcontracted revenue and programmatic funding opportunities. The nonprofit refocused its production print services, “open studio” community access services, and educational and youth support programming to provide individualized printmaking support. Artists Image Resource has gradually reopened the studio and continued supporting artists. It has engaged in substantive conversations with its partners about new ways to support neighborhoods. The organization seeks funding to replace lost revenue, reestablish stronger programs and build new ones.

PRIMARY COUNTY SERVED Allegheny

POPULATION SERVED Artists Image Resource serves some 5,000 people annually through direct programs and a broader audience through partner programs.

BLACK- AND BROWN-LED OR SERVING N/A

WISH REQUESTED \$5,000

Blackwood Theater Organ Society dba Blackwood Arts



Blackwood Arts supplements musical education in an underserved elementary school and provides music scholarships to high school graduates. Research shows that children who participate in music programs develop beneficial academic, social and behavioral skills over their lifetime. Among the organization's programs is the RHYTHM Project (Raising the Hopes of Youth Through Harmony and Music), which sponsors an annual event that encourages fourth grade students to join the school's band. Blackwood Arts had to cancel all 2020 concerts and curtail the 2021 series due to the pandemic. The loss of revenue prevented it from providing musical training. Due to the erosion of budgets for arts programs, the school has only one instructor to teach several hours per week. Operating support will fund new equipment and student teachers from the music department of a nearby college to provide supplemental online training.

PRIMARY COUNTY SERVED Butler

POPULATION SERVED Blackwood Arts concerts typically attract an audience of 600. Nearly 100 students benefit from the proceeds of these events.

BLACK- AND BROWN-LED OR SERVING N/A

WISH REQUESTED \$3,000

Braddock's Battlefield History Center Inc.



Braddock's Battlefield History Center illuminates the epic 1755 Battle of the Monongahela and how it spurred changes in the world, shaped the American Revolution and defined western Pennsylvania. As a result of COVID-19-mandated closures and cancellations, all part-time staff positions at the museum were eliminated in 2020. As it has increased hours of operation and educational programs, replacing a part-time staff position is necessary to assist with operations, educational program expansion, virtual programs, community engagement opportunities and visitation at the museum. As a small museum with the desire to make a big impact through teaching the diverse and rich history of the battle known as Braddock's Defeat, the museum seeks funds to hire someone from the surrounding communities, which helps build and sustain the local economy, creates a positive economic impact, and provides an important link to the area.

PRIMARY COUNTY SERVED Allegheny

POPULATION SERVED In pre-pandemic 2019, the museum served 1,139 people. Since resuming normal operations in May of 2020, it has served approximately 289 people.

BLACK- AND BROWN-LED OR SERVING N/A

WISH REQUESTED \$5,000

Casino Theater Restoration and Management Inc.



Casino Theater Restoration and Management is a nonprofit volunteer organization working to restore and maintain Vandergrift's historic Casino Theater, a regional performing arts center. Over 18 months of COVID-19 closures, the theater has received no incoming revenue to cover fixed operating costs. The nonprofit has no paid employees but does have a core group of volunteers who work tirelessly to maintain and restore the 121-year-old building in Westmoreland County. Due to its lack of paid staff, the organization is not eligible for COVID-19 government funding. The theater is in austerity mode and working on restoration projects that cost little to no money. Casino Theater Restoration and Management requests operating funds to continue renovation of this historic building.

PRIMARY COUNTY SERVED Westmoreland

POPULATION SERVED During a normal year, the organization sees as many as 4,500 people through shows, recitals and plays.

BLACK- AND BROWN-LED OR SERVING N/A

WISH REQUESTED \$5,000

The Filipino-American Association of Pittsburgh



The Filipino-American Association of Pittsburgh preserves, promotes and perpetuates – through cultural, charitable and educational activities – the Filipino heritage among its members and the public. In 2017, the association purchased a building, now known as the Philippine Center, in West Mifflin. It utilizes the building as a multicultural center, advancing and highlighting Filipino and other Asian cultures in West Mifflin and surrounding areas. COVID-19 caused cancellation of fundraising events and forced the association to rely heavily on donors and grants to remain operational. The association is in the process of reopening for limited in-person events and is seeking funding to complete furnishing of its stage. Operating funds will support continued use of the center as a multicultural event venue for Asian communities.

PRIMARY COUNTY SERVED Allegheny

POPULATION SERVED The association has more than 200 family memberships and serves all counties in western Pennsylvania.

BLACK- AND BROWN-LED OR SERVING Black- and Brown-led

WISH REQUESTED \$5,000

Greensburg Civic Theatre



Greensburg Civic Theatre is one of only a few long-established, volunteer-based, community theater organizations in Westmoreland County. From March 2020 to June 2021, the theater incurred severe financial losses due to COVID-19-related cancellations and reduced-capacity audiences. Revenue for in-person production, livestreaming and a multiweek theater class for youth ages 6–18 declined, while fundraising dollars also declined due to cancellation of the 2020 gala. New expenses include livestream licensing, royalties, technical services, and personal protective equipment for actors and audiences. The theater continues to pay rent for rehearsal, performance, storage and office space. With audience levels not expected to fully return to normal levels until fall 2021, operating dollars will help replenish reserves and support production of the next season.

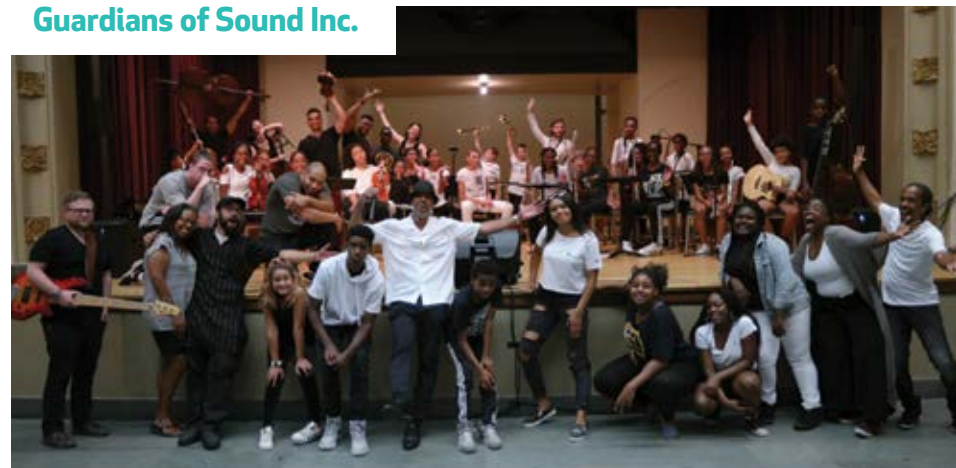
PRIMARY COUNTY SERVED Westmoreland

POPULATION SERVED Greensburg Civic Theatre typically serves 1,700 to 2,500 people annually.

BLACK- AND BROWN-LED OR SERVING N/A

WISH REQUESTED **\$5,000**

Guardians of Sound Inc.



Guardians of Sound enriches life and enlivens the human experience through music-making that engages, promotes and employs professional, pre-professional and youth musicians in its programs. It is the only primarily Black youth orchestra in the region. Due to the pandemic, the Hip Hop Orchestra was not able to meet with teaching artists for real-time live rehearsals, performances and recordings. The nonprofit now presents in one-to-one and small settings, and has transitioned to providing creative programming online. The Guardians strive to help the group's 20 students ages 12–19 to be more self-sufficient in creating music and recording vocals and instruments on home computers to stream to the Hip Hop Orchestra. Operating funds will be used to purchase additional equipment to help orchestra students collaborate, create and record more easily.

PRIMARY COUNTY SERVED Allegheny

POPULATION SERVED Each year, 35 to 50 youths are served through the Hip Hop Orchestra project and 5,000 more annually through performances.

BLACK- AND BROWN-LED OR SERVING Black- and Brown-led

WISH REQUESTED **\$4,000**

Laurel Arts



Laurel Arts works to enhance the quality of life in the community by offering an array of arts and educational opportunities and making them accessible to all. The organization was forced to cancel programming, including its dance program, fundraisers and community events, because of COVID-19, which led to lost revenue. Laurel Arts has made COVID-19 safety adjustments in an attempt to engage the community. The organization is requesting operating funds to support the development of new digital presentation methods for community programming and to continue popular outdoor music nights.

PRIMARY COUNTY SERVED Somerset

POPULATION SERVED Laurel Arts serves about 2,000 community members annually.

BLACK- AND BROWN-LED OR SERVING N/A

WISH REQUESTED \$5,000

Lincoln Highway Heritage Corridor



Lincoln Highway Heritage Corridor works to conserve, promote and interpret the cultural, historical, natural and economic resources along the Lincoln Highway in Westmoreland, Somerset, Bedford, Fulton, Franklin and Adams counties. The organization receives most of its revenue from group tours of its museum. Due to COVID-19, tours and museum events have been canceled, leading to a loss of revenue. At the same time, the number of people visiting the museum has increased as individuals and families look for ways to get out of the house. As a result, costs have increased for hand sanitizers, sanitizing supplies for video and restaurant areas, and other personal protection equipment for staff and patrons. The Heritage Corridor seeks operating support to continue its work along the Lincoln Highway.

PRIMARY COUNTY SERVED Westmoreland

POPULATION SERVED In 2019, the museum served more than 4,000 patrons and about 3,000 through special events.

BLACK- AND BROWN-LED OR SERVING N/A

WISH REQUESTED \$5,000

Off the Wall Productions



Off the Wall Productions strives to create a more conscious and compassionate community while providing a living wage for all artists. The production company aims to restage “Hoard,” a new play that premiered in March 2020 that was preemptively cut short after four performances due to the pandemic. The production company is also committed to open “The Carols,” its holiday musical, in December, with several smaller shows lined up for early 2022. During the pandemic, Off the Wall Productions made the stage available to several local artists, at no charge, to develop new works. Financial support will help sustain that work and allow for future performances to be added to the slate for 2022.

PRIMARY COUNTY SERVED Allegheny

POPULATION SERVED Before COVID-19, Off the Wall Productions served 1,500 to 2,000 patrons a year.

BLACK- AND BROWN-LED OR SERVING N/A

WISH REQUESTED \$4,000

Pittsburgh Center for Arts & Media



Pittsburgh Center for Arts & Media advances creative excellence in the arts, including studio, media and creative writing, by stimulating public awareness and understanding through classes, camps, workshops, artist residencies and exhibitions. Artistic exchange and the sharing of thoughtful experiences with others is at the core of PCA&M’s cultural philosophy. It is crucial that art – making it and sharing it – is accessible. In response to COVID-19, the organization pivoted to an online format in order to continue offering its arts programming during this difficult time. PCA&M seeks operating support to replenish significant lost revenue and provide opportunities for artists while transitioning back to in-person programs.

PRIMARY COUNTY SERVED Allegheny

POPULATION SERVED PCA&M serves 12,000 youths and adults annually at its Mellon Park location and via the Artists in Schools and Communities program.

BLACK- AND BROWN-LED OR SERVING N/A

WISH REQUESTED \$5,000

Pittsburgh Center for Creative Reuse



Pittsburgh Center for Creative Reuse inspires creativity, conservation and community engagement through reuse. The pandemic forced the center to close its retail center, cancel all education programs and suspend all in-person activities, resulting in an immediate elimination of revenue. Despite rapidly pivoting to provide innovative virtual programming and contact-free services, the center is still in a bare-bones financial situation and is in need of operating support. Funding will help uplift a recently completed strategic planning process that realigns the center's mission to sustain the planet and the local community.

PRIMARY COUNTY SERVED Allegheny

POPULATION SERVED The center's program participants, material donors, volunteers, interns, organization partners and visitors total 43,000 people yearly.

BLACK- AND BROWN-LED OR SERVING N/A

WISH REQUESTED \$5,000

Pittsburgh Youth Concert Orchestra



The Pittsburgh Youth Concert Orchestra educates and trains young musicians to pursue excellence in performance of chamber music and symphonic repertoire. Due to the pandemic, the orchestra had to pivot to virtual learning. The staff worked tirelessly to provide meaningful experiences for students online and has produced a virtual concert series to replace regular performances to keep the music alive in the community. All in-person performances have been canceled since March 2020, and the inability to raise funds through ticket sales and donations has harmed the orchestra's ability to operate. Funding for the operating budget and scholarships will lessen the financial strain on families and students and allow the orchestra to continue working with music coaches, providing hybrid opportunities and performing across Pittsburgh.

PRIMARY COUNTY SERVED Allegheny

POPULATION SERVED The orchestra enrolls about 200 students per year, and online performances this year have garnered more than 4,000 views.

BLACK- AND BROWN-LED OR SERVING Black- and Brown-led

WISH REQUESTED \$5,000

ProjectArt



ProjectArt provides tuition-free after-school visual arts classes to children and teens in public libraries. Resident artists teach and mentor students, helping them create, connect and thrive. ProjectArt is committed to providing classes free of charge, offering youth this enriching opportunity during their most impressionable after-school hours. Due to the pandemic, in-kind art supply donation has dropped by 80%. ProjectArt aims to continue providing participating students with free supplies for the duration of their classes. Operating support would allow ProjectArt to provide Pittsburgh's youth a safe space to create, helping them develop holistic, pro-socialization skills to become the artistic leaders of tomorrow.

PRIMARY COUNTY SERVED Allegheny

POPULATION SERVED ProjectArt serves 120 children ages 4–18 from low-income areas in Pittsburgh who otherwise do not have access to arts education.

BLACK- AND BROWN-LED OR SERVING Primarily Black- and Brown-serving

WISH REQUESTED \$5,000

South Hills Chorale Inc.



South Hills Chorale brings joy to the community through song and provides top-quality choral entertainment. In operation for 61 years, it is the oldest all-volunteer community choral group in the area. Over its history, the chorale has entertained more than 70,000 audience members through main concerts by 2,000 singers and musicians. The chorale also performed 400 outreach concerts at assisted living facilities, brightening the lives of some 10,000 senior citizens. COVID-19 has forced the chorale to cease all live performances, especially in assisted living facilities. The group misses performing and bringing joy to residents. South Hills Chorale seeks operating support to help prepare for when it is safe to resume lifting spirits and healing the community through music.

PRIMARY COUNTY SERVED Allegheny

POPULATION SERVED Pre-pandemic, the organization served 400 to 600 audience members per show.

BLACK- AND BROWN-LED OR SERVING N/A

WISH REQUESTED \$5,000

Southern Alleghenies Museum of Art



Southern Alleghenies Museum of Art is a nonprofit museum open to the public free of charge. It preserves, exhibits and advances American art with a genuine dedication to making its programs and educational activities accessible to everyone in the region. SAMA is looking to continue the development of its after-school programs for children and workshops for adults, both of which require an increase in classroom supplies. The organization plans to begin an art program to give children in the area an opportunity to learn new techniques, develop self-expression, learn problem-solving and develop their collaborative-cooperative skills. The museum requests operating funds to support expanded classes and more adult-level beginners workshops.

PRIMARY COUNTY SERVED Westmoreland

POPULATION SERVED Southern Alleghenies Museum of Art's Ligonier location serves more than 9,300 people.

BLACK- AND BROWN-LED OR SERVING N/A

WISH REQUESTED \$5,000

Steel City Improv Festival



Steel City Improv Festival aims to teach and advance the art of long-form improvisation, helping students embrace natural gifts, develop talents and perform professional-level improv. COVID-19 uprooted the theater's efforts to expand classes and programs. Mandatory closures and cancellations brought an end to performances, causing a loss of revenue. After a year of virtual engagement, the theater reopened in July 2021 to offer free improv shows and improv "jam" sessions to the community. In an effort to re-catalyze and stabilize community engagement, the theater is seeking operating support to build capacity. Funds would support reopening and rehiring staff along with building improv teams and meeting an increased demand for safe arts activities and entertainment.

PRIMARY COUNTY SERVED Allegheny

POPULATION SERVED Steel City serves 2,000–2,500 community members annually through improv performances, educational classes and personal development.

BLACK- AND BROWN-LED OR SERVING N/A

WISH REQUESTED \$5,000

Westmoreland Symphony Orchestra



The Westmoreland Symphony Orchestra performs classical music concerts and provides music education in the Greater Pittsburgh area and Greensburg. Orchestrating change because of COVID-19 became the norm in 2020 and 2021, as processes and operations were reformatted. The symphony moved to all-digital platforms and grew its reach geographically to households, states and countries. This left the symphony with far smaller margins and tight budgets. Because “in-person” performances are ideal, the symphony has adopted a smaller, nimble model with more concerts for smaller audiences to effectively reach and engage listeners. This has led to more travel and logistical expenses, plus technology and production equipment. Operating funds will support the Classical Encounters programs and collaborative work.

PRIMARY COUNTY SERVED Westmoreland

POPULATION SERVED In an average year, the orchestra reaches some 20,000 individuals, but from 2019 to 2020, it reached 200,000 individuals.

BLACK- AND BROWN-LED OR SERVING N/A

WISH REQUESTED \$5,000

You Are Here



You Are Here opened in Jeannette in August of 2018 with a gallery, a creative reuse center and an artisan walking cane donation project. The nonprofit was on track with an initial budget that included income from donations, grants, activity fees, art sales and thrift shop sales. COVID-19 severely affected revenue, leading to a 50% deficit in income and participation. Rebuilding in 2020, the organization has become more involved in taking art out into the community as well as showcasing local artists in the gallery. Operating funds will support monthly expenses and rebuilding of outreach, programs and community presence.

PRIMARY COUNTY SERVED Westmoreland

POPULATION SERVED You Are Here serves about 100 artists and logs more than 1,000 individual visits for events and exhibits.

BLACK- AND BROWN-LED OR SERVING N/A

WISH REQUESTED \$5,000



A Cherry Hill Township fireman sprays water on a fire inside the flashover simulator at the Indiana County Public Safety Academy during flashover recognition and survival training. Image by Jason Cohn.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP

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Beaver Falls Community Development Corporation



The Beaver Falls Community Development Corporation (CDC) is committed to the revitalization of Beaver Falls and making it a better place to live, work and do business. The organization's operating budget is funded primarily through donations and fundraising events. It holds costs down by utilizing volunteers and keeping expenses low. However, there are still staffing costs and expenses from new initiatives, marketing, office equipment and general expenses. Due to COVID-19 restrictions, Beaver Falls CDC has not been able to hold its annual fundraising banquet for the past two springs. To adapt to pandemic-induced changes, the organization held a virtual banquet and raised \$10,800, a shortfall of \$4,600. The organization requests funding to fill the gap in its operating budget.

PRIMARY COUNTY SERVED Beaver

POPULATION SERVED Beaver Falls Community Development Corporation comprises 120 individual and business members and serves the city of 8,500 through revitalization projects.

BLACK- AND BROWN-LED OR SERVING N/A

WISH REQUESTED **\$4,600**

Communitopia



Communitopia empowers individuals and their communities to play an integral role in developing solutions to climate change. It works to foster climate literacy and action with the goal of building a more equitable and resilient future for all. The organization is particularly interested in lifting the voices of those most impacted by climate change – youth from environmental justice communities. Its hands-on workshops introduce the science behind climate solutions to students. It also helps teachers incorporate climate change into curricula and supports school districts in drafting climate action plans. During the pandemic, Communitopia adapted 100% of its programs to a virtual format. While its staff still increased scientific literacy and motivation, student engagement dropped without hands-on materials. Operating support will help Communitopia get materials to students for in-person and virtual programs. It will use funds to stock STEM-based “climate solution kits” that are sent to students’ homes and used in the classroom.

PRIMARY COUNTY SERVED Allegheny

POPULATION SERVED Communitopia engages 400 youths, 50 educators and two school districts in climate action planning yearly.

BLACK- AND BROWN-LED OR SERVING Primarily Black- and Brown-serving

WISH REQUESTED **\$5,000**

Community Kitchen Pittsburgh



Community Kitchen Pittsburgh uses food as the foundation to change lives and strengthen communities by providing culinary training and opening career pathways to individuals who experience barriers to employment. During the COVID-19 crisis, the organization served more than 600,000 meals prepared by its students to people facing food insecurity, including people experiencing homelessness and families who are low-income. The students, who are themselves from vulnerable populations, are also learning about the culinary arts and giving back to the community. Over the past year, a portion of meal costs was covered by coronavirus relief money, but those funds have been expended. It is getting harder to continue feeding and shelter programs. Community Kitchen requests funds to continue critical services – educating students toward meaningful work and nourishing the hungry in the community – and to replace lost revenue that would normally sustain essential training programs.

PRIMARY COUNTY SERVED Allegheny

POPULATION SERVED Community Kitchen Pittsburgh served approximately 10,000 people this past year, up from 4,000 in a typical year.

BLACK- AND BROWN-LED OR SERVING Primarily Black- and Brown-serving

WISH REQUESTED \$5,000

Computer Reach



Computer Reach brings computer education and refurbished digital devices to those most in need to improve their employability and quality of life. This year it instituted two projects to increase impact and meet needs exposed by COVID-19. It began a lottery program through which low-income families can receive a complete computer bundle that includes a computer, monitor, keyboard, mouse and webcam along with software. Its Digital Navigators program sends people to install computers in clients' homes and provide one-to-one training plus a year of follow-up support. As expected, these two projects required the hiring of additional tech specialists to refurbish, deliver, install and provide tech support and supplies at no cost to residents of southwestern Pennsylvania. Computer Reach continues to have a strong ecology component and has kept more than 62 tons of e-waste out of landfills through recycling over the past 10 years. It is requesting funding to support its programs.

PRIMARY COUNTY SERVED Allegheny

POPULATION SERVED This year, Computer Reach will serve more than 5,000 people with computers, hot spots and technology training.

BLACK- AND BROWN-LED OR SERVING N/A

WISH REQUESTED \$5,000

Crop & Kettle



Crop & Kettle utilizes the food system to provide job training and social development to members of the community to overcome barriers to employment. In 2020 and early 2021, the organization experienced significant losses in revenue from event cancellations, delayed grants and decreased donor support. Additionally, it took on unanticipated expenses to provide new services to meet needs related to food insecurity, such as serving more than 5,000 meals and distributing over 2,500 pounds of home-grown produce to low-income residents. The impact from lost revenue and additional expenses exceeds \$85,000. Crop & Kettle continues to see increased demand for its workforce development programs for individuals who are experiencing job losses, reduced wages, increased mental disorders, addiction and other barriers brought on or exacerbated by the pandemic. Operating funds will support the positive impact the organization has on the residents of Beaver County.

PRIMARY COUNTY SERVED Beaver

POPULATION SERVED Crop & Kettle provides workforce training to 24 people, delivers produce to more than 25 families and serves more than 5,000 meals to the community annually.

BLACK- AND BROWN-LED OR SERVING Primarily Black- and Brown-serving

WISH REQUESTED \$5,000

Cultural Equity and Emancipated Education / Ujamaa Collective



Cultural Equity and Emancipated Education, through Ujamaa Collective, creates enjoyable, creatively enriching opportunities and a safe environment for children who are Black or African-identifying to learn to value and appreciate their cultural heritage. Due to the pandemic, the organization had to pivot to remote programming in summer 2020, changing the nature of its activities, which highlight gathering as a community. Its inability to expand to new sites in the city has also been difficult, as access to other communities shrank due to the crisis. This year, the organization identified and served children and youth in county housing authority communities who spent most of the summer inside with few creative outlets. Operating support will help the nonprofit to connect with these populations during the academic year and provide a modified version of the summer programming in a school-based setting that was offered to Homewood North, Hays Manor and Prospect Terrace.

PRIMARY COUNTY SERVED Allegheny

POPULATION SERVED In summer 2021, Cultural Equity and Emancipated Education / Ujamaa Collective engaged 45-plus students at Homewood North, Hays Manor and Prospect Terrace.

BLACK- AND BROWN-LED OR SERVING Black- and Brown-led, primarily Black- and Brown-serving

WISH REQUESTED \$5,000

GlobalPittsburgh



GlobalPittsburgh forges cultural, educational and business relationships between western Pennsylvania and the global community through citizen diplomacy. It successfully pivoted from in-person to virtual exchanges in 2020 to safely connect emerging international leaders with Pittsburgh community members. Staff completed training for virtual meetings and facilitated an Immigrant Entrepreneur awards event in 2020. It also arranged meetings for 211 exchange participants from 75 countries with 63 regional counterparts and community leaders in the first half of 2021. Operating funds will assist GlobalPittsburgh's mission to link diverse members of the community and emerging leaders in fields from around the world. Support will help create more virtual programs connecting underserved communities, such as Homewood, with international alumni of exchange programs to foster new dialogues, spark ongoing contact and initiate impactful experiences.

PRIMARY COUNTY SERVED Allegheny

POPULATION SERVED GlobalPittsburgh has served more than 2,400 diverse community members and international professionals, interns and students.

BLACK- AND BROWN-LED OR SERVING Primarily Black- and Brown-serving

WISH REQUESTED **\$5,000**

Hilltop Urban Farm



Hilltop Urban Farm is committed to growing food and creating and sustaining farming, a new regional asset in South Pittsburgh's Hilltop community, which is considered a food desert. The organization seeks to expand the capacity of its newly established half-acre community farm, which provides fresh, healthy produce directly to Hilltop residents. Food insecurity increased during the pandemic. Maintaining the community farm is a time- and labor-intensive endeavor that has been made more challenging by COVID-19. A small team of staff and volunteers has broken additional ground and removed tens of thousands of pounds of rocks and rubble left behind from the buildings that used to occupy the space. They have installed drip irrigation lines, and planted, weeded, harvested, packed and distributed thousands of pounds of fresh produce to residents surrounding the farm property. Operating funds will support the farm's mission and expansion.

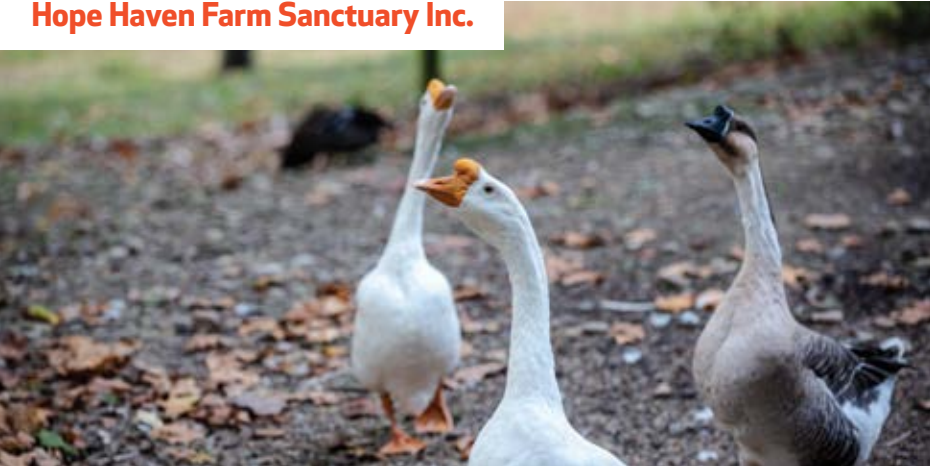
PRIMARY COUNTY SERVED Allegheny

POPULATION SERVED Hilltop Urban Farm provides weekly distributions of fresh produce to 115 Hilltop families, with 105 receiving through food banks and 10 through home deliveries.

BLACK- AND BROWN-LED OR SERVING Primarily Black- and Brown-serving

WISH REQUESTED **\$5,000**

Hope Haven Farm Sanctuary Inc.



Hope Haven's mission is to rescue abused and neglected farm animals and provide them a safe and loving forever home. Farm tours welcome the public to interact with these animals and teach the importance of animal welfare. Visitors meet the farm animals and learn about their personalities, uniqueness and love for life. When it finally reopened after last year's COVID-19 shutdowns, Hope Haven was inundated with families and individuals longing for safe and educational outdoor activities. The sanctuary seeks funds to create an enclosed garden area where it can offer activities such as children's camps and adult education classes. With new fencing, gates, and tables and chairs, the farm's teaching staff will be able to provide classes on animal welfare and compassionate care to teach people the kind, sentient nature of all farm animals. This new area will allow the sanctuary to offer numerous educational classes a year, which will influence hundreds of visitors.

PRIMARY COUNTY SERVED Allegheny

POPULATION SERVED Each year, with the exception of the COVID-19 closure in 2020, Hope Haven welcomes 200 to 300 visitors.

BLACK- AND BROWN-LED OR SERVING N/A

WISH REQUESTED \$5,000

Independence Conservancy



Independence Conservancy protects the land, water and wildlife of the Raccoon Creek Watershed in Beaver, Washington and Allegheny counties. Over two decades, the conservancy has built, operated and maintained five abandoned mine discharge treatment systems that keep 1,500 tons of pollution out of Raccoon Creek each year, yielding cleaner water, a rebounding ecosystem, and healthy outdoor recreation opportunities for people who live, work and play in the watershed. Its primary income is from the community tire collection program, a collaboration with the Beaver County Jail collection crew. Collections are temporarily discontinued due to the pandemic. Operating funds will help replenish needed funds to keep the Rocky Bend Nature Preserve in Potter Township litter-free and safe for hundreds of regional visitors who swim, paddle and fish in Raccoon Creek, and who rely on the land for free, family-oriented access to the water.

PRIMARY COUNTY SERVED Beaver

POPULATION SERVED Independence Conservancy annually serves at least 75,000 people in Beaver, Washington and Allegheny counties and beyond.

BLACK- AND BROWN-LED OR SERVING N/A

WISH REQUESTED \$5,000

Indiana County Public Safety Academy



Indiana County Public Safety Academy provides emergency service personnel with training in basic and advanced skills and the knowledge needed to respond to various situations encountered by field personnel. As a Pennsylvania State Fire Academy program, it serves first responders and industry agencies from Indiana, Westmoreland, Armstrong and Allegheny counties. Due to COVID-19 capacity limits and reduced site rentals, the academy lost \$75,000 in income in 2020. The pandemic has also demonstrated that there is a great need for virtual training for times when in-person instruction is impossible. Virtual training is also valuable to first responders who work shifts or are tending to emergencies and need to complete training courses when their schedules allow.

PRIMARY COUNTY SERVED Indiana

POPULATION SERVED The academy typically serves more than 1,000 students annually.

BLACK- AND BROWN-LED OR SERVING N/A

WISH REQUESTED **\$5,000**

The Junior League of Pittsburgh



The Junior League of Pittsburgh is an organization of women committed to promoting volunteerism, developing the potential of women, and improving communities through the effective action and leadership of trained volunteers. The organization obtains much of its revenue through fundraising and community events. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic and mandatory cancellations, these events were no longer possible. Revenue streams were lost, and community grants and programming funds were reallocated to cover operating expenses. The Junior League of Pittsburgh has been unable to provide the level of support it has historically contributed to local community partners to address food insecurity, which increased markedly during the pandemic. The Junior League of Pittsburgh is requesting operating funds to better serve the community by addressing food insecurity.

PRIMARY COUNTY SERVED Allegheny

POPULATION SERVED The Junior League of Pittsburgh serves about 1,000 people through direct service.

BLACK- AND BROWN-LED OR SERVING Primarily Black- and Brown-serving

WISH REQUESTED **\$5,000**

Lettuce Turnip the Beet Community and School Garden Association



Lettuce Turnip the Beet builds, cultivates and sustains a beautiful life by working to eradicate food insecurity. It was founded as a school garden and was inspired by a conversation between a kindergartener who often came to school hungry and the executive director. Its sustainability education programming concentrates on agriculture and local food system advocacy. The “Our Helping Meals” community outreach program was created during COVID-19 to support single-family households and those who are economically disadvantaged, immunosuppressed or elderly. The organization is also working to provide local produce to residents, dairy vending machines that accept SNAP, a community kitchen, and food delivery partnerships with local restaurants to produce and distribute meals with the goal of increasing access to fresh, local food. The organization’s greatest need is replacing revenue lost during mandatory COVID-19 closures.

PRIMARY COUNTY SERVED Allegheny

POPULATION SERVED Lettuce Turnip the Beet’s current education and outreach programs serve 1,200 people annually.

BLACK- AND BROWN-LED OR SERVING Primarily Black- and Brown-serving

WISH REQUESTED \$5,000

Loyalhanna Watershed Association Inc.



Loyalhanna Watershed Association works to conserve, protect and restore the Loyalhanna Creek Watershed through evidence-based initiatives and engagement with diverse audiences about the value of a healthy environment. The association celebrated its 50th anniversary this year after a tumultuous 2020. The celebration was possible thanks to the dedication and creativity of the board of directors and staff and the trust of its members and supporters who understand the need to “go with the flow.” Despite the hope for a return to normalcy, the lingering impacts of COVID-19 have led to attendance declines at fundraising events and fewer financial contributions from individuals. The association is seeking operating funds to move forward with planned restoration projects and adapt its environmental education programs to meet the needs that still exist in the watershed.

PRIMARY COUNTY SERVED Westmoreland

POPULATION SERVED The Loyalhanna Watershed Association serves about 40,000 residents, and the association directly involves more than 5,000 people annually.

BLACK- AND BROWN-LED OR SERVING N/A

WISH REQUESTED \$5,000

Mountain Watershed Association



Mountain Watershed Association protects, preserves and restores the Indian Creek and greater Youghiogheny River watersheds, which are located in Pennsylvania's Laurel Highlands region. Initiatives include abandoned mine restoration, water quality monitoring, educational programming, advocacy and trail development. Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, as more people looked for safe outdoor activities, use of the Indian Creek Valley hiking and biking trail has increased significantly, leading to higher maintenance costs. The association also has had to cancel several of its largest fundraising events to keep the community safe throughout the pandemic. Operating support will help the association continue to protect water resources from pollution, to educate people about safe water quality, and to provide healthy outdoor recreational opportunities to the community.

PRIMARY COUNTY SERVED Fayette

POPULATION SERVED The association has more than 2,250 members and serves many rural and low-income residents throughout the Youghiogheny River Watershed.

BLACK- AND BROWN-LED OR SERVING N/A

WISH REQUESTED **\$5,000**

Mwanakuche Farm



Mwanakuche Farm aims to provide reliable, healthy, culturally appropriate foods and land-based educational experiences to the Somali Bantu community in western Pennsylvania. Food insecurity increased as a result of COVID-19. Increasing farm production would enhance long-term food access for the community. Due to the lack of transportation and access to organic produce, the community needs the farm to provide access to fresh vegetables and encourage healthy choices, especially for families and children. The farm builds unity where community members from different backgrounds, regions, dialects and generations work together toward a common goal. Volunteers use traditional growing methods of the Somali people, keeping their heritage alive and teaching the new generation. Mwanakuche Farm is requesting operating funds to support efforts to increase farm production and extend the growing season.

PRIMARY COUNTY SERVED Allegheny

POPULATION SERVED Mwanakuche Farm serves about 500 Somali Bantu families currently living in Pittsburgh.

BLACK- AND BROWN-LED OR SERVING Primarily Black- and Brown-serving

WISH REQUESTED **\$4,912**

Pleasure Acres Equine and Feline Rescue Center



Pleasure Acres Equine and Feline Rescue Center is an end-of-life sanctuary for abused, neglected and unwanted horses and cats, providing them quality of life in their final days. The center, which is run by a fully volunteer staff, is at full capacity with 12 horses and 48 cats. The center relies on private donations and fundraising events, the latter of which were canceled due to the pandemic. Medication for horses is expensive, and costs have increased in recent months. The center's horses play a significant role in educating residents and introducing young people to caring for animals. Funding support will help the center continue to positively impact individuals in the local community.

PRIMARY COUNTY SERVED Westmoreland

POPULATION SERVED In 2021, the organization provided sanctuary to 12 horses and 53 cats. Pre-pandemic, it welcomed 1,125 people annually through education and events.

BLACK- AND BROWN-LED OR SERVING N/A

WISH REQUESTED \$5,000

Rodef Shalom Congregation



Rodef Shalom Congregation, through its botanic garden, provides a place of peace and meditation and educational programming entirely free of charge and open to all people. During the COVID-19 pandemic, the botanic garden was closed to the public, resulting in Rodef Shalom missing an entire season of donations from walk-in visitors. Rodef Shalom relies on those donations, about \$6,500 a year, to help maintain and repair the garden facilities, including the large waterfall and fish pond, which are focal points in the center of the garden. The organization seeks operating support to restore the waterfall lining and to continue expanding its offerings to the Pittsburgh community.

PRIMARY COUNTY SERVED Allegheny

POPULATION SERVED The botanic garden currently serves about 4,380 visitors during its normal operating season.

BLACK- AND BROWN-LED OR SERVING N/A

WISH REQUESTED \$5,000

Turtle Creek Watershed Association



The Turtle Creek Watershed Association works with the community to restore clean water. The COVID-19 pandemic limited the ability of the association to meet operational expenses, organize membership campaigns, lead trash cleanups, conduct environmental education events, and pursue corporate and foundation funding. Operating support would help fund a part-time executive director salary, officer and director insurance, general liability insurance for events, and operational expenses, including office supplies and the printing and production of newsletters, posters and educational displays. The association also plans to organize environmental education programs, membership campaigns and fundraising events, and to research and complete corporate and foundation grant applications.

PRIMARY COUNTY SERVED Allegheny

POPULATION SERVED The association helps provide clean water for all residents and businesses in 32 municipalities, boroughs and townships in Allegheny and Westmoreland counties.

BLACK- AND BROWN-LED OR SERVING N/A

WISH REQUESTED **\$5,000**

Westmoreland Land Trust



The Westmoreland Land Trust conserves and stewards lands and waters of Westmoreland County that harbor ecological, scenic or recreational qualities to offer a healthier and more sustainable future for all. COVID-19 greatly increased the demand for outdoor activity. The trust increased delivery of nature-oriented workshops, including virtual offerings. New workshops complement other outreach in communities located near a forthcoming art and nature park. Operating funds will facilitate making nature workshops and educational outreach accessible to Westmoreland schools and families, especially in Jeannette, Southwest Greensburg, South Greensburg, Greensburg and Hempfield Township, where residents may not have access to natural park lands.

PRIMARY COUNTY SERVED Westmoreland

POPULATION SERVED Programs are open to 340,000 county residents. Workshops served 68,500 people, half of whom are from low- to moderate-income families.

BLACK- AND BROWN-LED OR SERVING N/A

WISH REQUESTED **\$5,000**



Children at the STEMsteps full-day kindergarten in Gibsonsia participate in a highly engaging STEM-based curriculum. Image by Renee Rosensteel.

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Aliquippa Green



Aliquippa Green empowers residents of Aliquippa to become productive citizens and homeowners by providing youth and young adults with educational programming on urban agriculture, technology and home restoration. COVID-19 has caused a demand for new services in Aliquippa, with residents needing additional or more relevant educational programming. The organization was born out of this need, but the pandemic made its growth difficult to achieve. Aliquippa Green wishes to expand programming to meet these new and sophisticated needs and purchase the building where it is based. Funding will help the organization continue to push for the education of Black children in computer science, electronics and robotics, and increase students' logic and decision-making skills. Funds will also address technological illiteracy by offering computer classes to parents and other adults, giving them skills to increase earning potential and job possibilities.

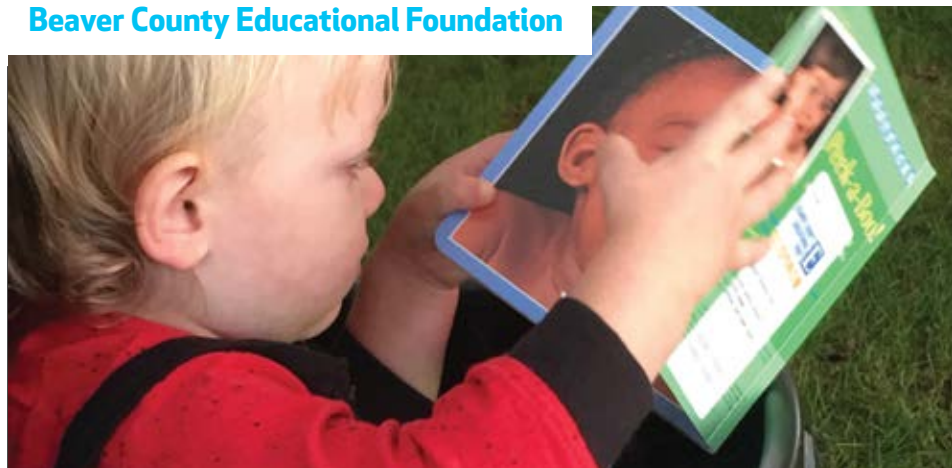
PRIMARY COUNTY SERVED Beaver

POPULATION SERVED Aliquippa Green serves 36 students – almost 4% of the school district – annually.

BLACK- AND BROWN-LED OR SERVING Black- and Brown-led, primarily Black- and Brown-serving

WISH REQUESTED \$5,000

Beaver County Educational Foundation



The Beaver County Educational Foundation inspires higher levels of motivation and achievement for students by broadening opportunities for educational experience and cultural enrichment in ways unattainable for individual schools. Its Growing with Books effort has distributed more than 70,000 books to children born in Beaver County, sending them a new age-appropriate book twice a year through age 5. Each year, some 5,000 books are mailed to Beaver County children. The trust, which leads the program in partnership with Heritage Valley Health System and the Beaver County Rehabilitation Center, provides all funding and manages the selection and acquisition of books. The program costs about \$30,000 a year to operate. Due to the coronavirus, the trust has not been able to fundraise as in years past and couldn't hold its signature fundraiser in 2020 or 2021. Funds will help keep this program viable.

PRIMARY COUNTY SERVED Beaver

POPULATION SERVED Beaver County Educational Foundation serves all youth of Beaver County, about 36,000. Approximately 2,500 children are enrolled in Growing with Books.

BLACK- AND BROWN-LED OR SERVING N/A

WISH REQUESTED \$5,000

Blairsville Underground Railroad



The Blairsville Underground Railroad preserves and promotes the history of the region's involvement in the Underground Railroad and the stories of the Freedom Seekers. The organization is dedicated to the men, women and children who used the Underground Railroad's network to freedom in pre-Civil War America. Blairsville Underground Railroad owns and operates the Underground Railroad History Center, which presents the stories of the 93 conductors in and around Indiana County, and stories of Freedom Seekers who settled in or passed through the region on their way to Canada. Since the onset of COVID-19, the organization has lost significant revenue from canceled high noon, twilight cemetery and historic house tours. The organization is seeking operating funds to help subsidize lost income and expand its online presence.

PRIMARY COUNTY SERVED Indiana

POPULATION SERVED In a typical year, the organization serves some 2,500 individuals who visit the museum or participate in events and lectures.

BLACK- AND BROWN-LED OR SERVING Primarily Black- and Brown-serving

WISH REQUESTED \$5,000

Community Library Association



The Community Library Association cultivates a community of lifelong learners. The association oversees the Cooper-Siegel Community Library and the Sharpsburg Community Library, which suffered significant losses in income due to the pandemic. Neither has been able to hold large fundraisers, rent rooms or sell donated books at previous levels. The association was forced to cut program budgets by 20%, which negatively affected the communities served by limiting access to materials and learning opportunities. The association was unable to host its first Human Library event in 2020, which would have brought together people from diverse backgrounds to share and learn about their personal experiences. These types of events build empathy, celebrate diversity and foster inclusion. The association's nearly 180% reduction in earned income makes hosting such an event impossible even after it is fully safe to gather in large groups again. It is asking for funds to offset these losses.

PRIMARY COUNTY SERVED Allegheny

POPULATION SERVED The association serves the nearly 30,000 people who reside in the six municipalities that make up the Fox Chapel Area School District.

BLACK- AND BROWN-LED OR SERVING N/A

WISH REQUESTED \$5,000

Delmont Public Library



Delmont Public Library promotes literacy, encourages learning and inspires creativity. Anyone can use library services, from public computers to educational programs, free of charge. In this time of COVID-19, the library cannot keep up with the demand for free extended-learning opportunities for Westmoreland County residents. It is overwhelmed with requests for tech help. Families are desperately seeking no-cost local educational events for their children. The library also provides empowering connections to service organizations. It recently helped a resident land a job by helping her fill out an online job application, obtaining clothing from the Export Friends Thrift Shop, and providing her with an armload of interview prep materials. A grant would help the Delmont Public Library provide these services for future generations so that everyone can imagine a world of hope.

PRIMARY COUNTY SERVED Westmoreland

POPULATION SERVED Delmont Public Library serves 2,000 people each month primarily from the communities of Delmont, Salem Township, Export and Greensburg.

BLACK- AND BROWN-LED OR SERVING N/A

WISH REQUESTED \$2,000

HeartPrints Center for Early Education



HeartPrints preschool strives for a more peaceful world by helping children discover cultural values, manage conflict respectfully and explore nature. COVID-19 has had a profound impact on young children. Teachers and adults wearing face masks in the school setting has caused young children to miss facial cues necessary for social and emotional development as well as phonetic skills required to read. These skills are extremely important for success in kindergarten and beyond. In response, HeartPrints seeks to fund bicycles to allow for safe social distancing and fun in its Outdoor Sensory Garden. Adding bicycles outdoors will allow children and teachers to interact mask-free while maintaining safe social distancing and helping to keep children on track with the milestones required for future success.

PRIMARY COUNTY SERVED Butler

POPULATION SERVED HeartPrints serves about 300 multicultural children annually, including many children with special needs.

BLACK- AND BROWN-LED OR SERVING N/A

WISH REQUESTED \$5,000

Neighborhood North: Museum of Play



Neighborhood North: Museum of Play fosters curiosity and connection and envisions diverse communities strengthened by families playing, making and innovating together. COVID-19 interrupted Neighborhood North's plans to open its children's museum in its preview space last year. Instead, Neighborhood North partnered with a local youth development organization and used the space to host learning pods to support Beaver County children. As the children's museum reopens this fall, the organization hopes to continue supporting students through an after-school reading and cooking lab for pre-K through second grade, an after-school program for kindergarten through fifth grade, and intergenerational literacy-based play days. During the past year, Neighborhood North saw the benefit of hiring teaching artists to work with students in learning pods. Funding will help the organization meet the increased educational, creative and social-emotional needs of children and families in the community.

PRIMARY COUNTY SERVED Beaver

POPULATION SERVED Neighborhood North's learning pods and reading labs served 170 students, while in-person and virtual programs helped 350 children and families in 2020–21.

BLACK- AND BROWN-LED OR SERVING Primarily Black- and Brown-serving

WISH REQUESTED **\$5,000**

New Florence Community Library



New Florence Community Library serves the rural population by providing more than just books. Wi-Fi and computer access, along with making copies and faxing, are services residents often cannot get anywhere else. Fundraising events have been largely nonexistent throughout the pandemic for the library, which typically raises \$12,000–\$15,000 but managed to raise only \$1,500 last year. Services have been greatly curtailed, and it is through the generosity of others that the library has made it through this trying time. The library was closed for about five months and then was open in a limited capacity. Patrons are beginning to return, but programming is limited. Funding would allow the library to return to full hours and offerings and to provide information, assistance and socialization to those it serves.

PRIMARY COUNTY SERVED Westmoreland

POPULATION SERVED The library's service area has 2,540 people. The library has 841 patrons but offers services to anyone, serving about 1,600 annually.

BLACK- AND BROWN-LED OR SERVING N/A

WISH REQUESTED **\$5,000**

Scott Township Public Library



The Scott Township Public Library serves as the community's center for lifelong intellectual growth and enrichment, enabling all patrons to explore the limits of their imagination. The library provides access to some 25,000 resources and more than 400 enrichment programs for individuals of all ages. The library lost revenue over the past two years as a result of COVID-19, as all in-person fundraising events were canceled. Despite the funding loss, the library adapted many outreach programs into YouTube videos and provided educational "Take and Make" kits for children, families and adults. Operating support for the library would help sustain the work of providing quality in-person and remote programming – ranging from virtual cooking clubs to outdoor gardening workshops and more – to connect community.

PRIMARY COUNTY SERVED Allegheny

POPULATION SERVED The library served 9,802 patrons through 695 programs and welcomed 50,863 visitors in 2019.

BLACK- AND BROWN-LED OR SERVING N/A

WISH REQUESTED \$5,000

STEMsteps



STEMsteps, an early childhood center offering full-day kindergarten, is dedicated to improving children's lives by providing a highly engaging STEM-based curriculum. Because of COVID-19, the organization experienced a decrease in enrollment and staffing. STEMsteps continues to struggle to staff and operate while also providing cleaning supplies, masks and equipment to practice social distancing. The center is now experiencing increasing demand to enroll children while not having enough staff to fulfill needs, and is also experiencing closures and loss of revenue. Additionally, the organization faces the need to buy more play and art items for the increasing number of children. STEMsteps is requesting funding to allow the school to purchase more items so that students won't always have to share.

PRIMARY COUNTY SERVED Allegheny

POPULATION SERVED STEMsteps serves about 65 families in the community annually.

BLACK- AND BROWN-LED OR SERVING N/A

WISH REQUESTED \$5,000

Woodland Hills Foundation



The Woodland Hills Foundation works to fill gaps in public education funding, build community, inspire volunteerism and help set the stage for post-secondary education aspirations. Its core programs are mini-grants, scholarships, the Dream Book – which includes Dreams for equipment and supplies that would enhance the teaching and learning experiences in Woodland Hills – and H.U.G.S. (Helping Unconditionally and Giving Support), its volunteer arm. When the COVID-19 pandemic caused the school district to move to virtual learning, most children did not have a computer. The foundation's one-person staff focused solely on raising money for the Chromebook Fund. To recoup funds and reboot programs that suffered, the foundation is requesting general operating support.

PRIMARY COUNTY SERVED Allegheny

POPULATION SERVED The foundation serves some 3,500 students and 475 staff and teachers in five Woodland Hills School District public schools.

BLACK- AND BROWN-LED OR SERVING Primarily Black- and Brown-serving

WISH REQUESTED **\$5,000**



Elaine Harris-Fulton helps Tyric Scott put on a light-up toy at Life Ain't Scripted in East Pittsburgh. Image by Kitoko Chargois.

FAMILIES, CHILDREN AND YOUTH

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The Alignment Chapter



The Alignment Chapter's mission is to provide same-day emergency assistance by delivering or shipping the basic necessities needed by single mothers to stay aligned with their financial obligations while maintaining a stress-free home. The chapter has served single mothers since November of 2019, providing aid to more than 4,000 mothers, including 2,313 in 21 counties and 91 communities during the COVID-19 pandemic. The chapter's goal has been to operate effectively by keeping a consistent amount of products in stock to fulfill every request. Requests have tripled during the pandemic. The chapter lost over \$20,000 in event funding in 2020. Operating funds would allow the group to continue purchasing household items, menstrual products, laundry detergent, baby formula, diapers and personal care items for mothers and families in need.

PRIMARY COUNTY SERVED Allegheny

POPULATION SERVED The Alignment Chapter serves 6,765 mothers annually, including mothers with children ages 0–12. The population is 47% pregnant mothers and 53% women with children.

BLACK- AND BROWN-LED OR SERVING Black- and Brown-led

WISH REQUESTED **\$5,000**

Brookline Teen Outreach Center



Brookline Teen Outreach Center provides free resources to youth ages 10–18 in the Greater Pittsburgh area to maximize youth potential through educational and social programming, life skills workshops, tutoring, community service opportunities and licensed counseling. Though the center functioned well during the pandemic, that was not the case for other nonprofits. The center seeks operating support to help bring its specific, successful model to other high-need providers that faced significant setbacks due to COVID-19 restrictions. Through the work of Carnegie Mellon University's Tepper School of Business Pro Bono Consulting Club, the center has established the framework, tools and scope to implement this project and has begun laying out terms of engagement with the Sto-Rox School District to provide support in program and resource assessment, community partnerships, training, brainstorming and problem-solving sessions, social-emotional engagement strategies, culture development, and team building, all with a trauma-informed approach.

PRIMARY COUNTY SERVED Allegheny

POPULATION SERVED Historically, the organization serves upwards of 370 students per year, but in 2020 and 2021, only 187 were served.

BLACK- AND BROWN-LED OR SERVING N/A

WISH REQUESTED **\$5,000**

Building Strong Foundations Inc.



Building Strong Foundations was established to serve as a source of hope and inspiration to those who are unsure of which way to go, and to help build strong foundations through leadership, education and resources. The organization provides annual holiday assistance and free Christmas gifts to both senior citizens and children in Allegheny County. As a result of COVID-19, there is a higher demand for services, and programming has expanded to provide baby supplies, clothing and school uniforms. Building Strong Foundations seeks operating support to develop extended programming and strengthen outreach efforts to the families it serves.

PRIMARY COUNTY SERVED Allegheny

POPULATION SERVED Building Strong Foundations serves up to 800 families, youth and children in Allegheny County annually.

BLACK- AND BROWN-LED OR SERVING Black- and Brown-led

WISH REQUESTED **\$5,000**

Center in Midland PA



The Center in Midland PA equips and empowers generations through Christ. It accomplishes this by fostering relationships and providing student programs, adult classes and programs, and mentoring. Midland is a community that struggles with unemployment, poverty and addiction. COVID-19 has exacerbated these problems. There is a lack of after-school support. Parents, children, the school and the borough have expressed the need for a safe place to build trust, teach life skills, promote fellowship among youth and help them develop emotionally, intellectually, physically and spiritually. The center is a place where children will be safe, nurtured and encouraged to grow in character and purpose. Over the past 12 years, the center has developed relationships with the children, families, schools and businesses of Midland, but it needs help and is asking for \$5,000 to support its after-school programs.

PRIMARY COUNTY SERVED Beaver

POPULATION SERVED The center serves an average of 80 families and nearly 1,100 individual students per month with its programming and enrichment classes.

BLACK- AND BROWN-LED OR SERVING Primarily Black- and Brown-serving

WISH REQUESTED **\$5,000**

Dragon's Den



Dragon's Den, a place of challenge, connection and culture in Homestead, provides a transformative learning environment to teach youth to overcome challenges in themselves and their communities. The organization serves youth and families, and youth-serving agencies that come to play and learn to embrace life with courage, joy and passion. Youth become successful and outstanding citizens through B.O.L.D. values: Brave, Organized, Loyal and Determined. Programs include summer camps, after-school activities, a therapeutic ropes course, a zip line, a rock wall and team-building workshops. With a ropes course that enforces social distancing, the nonprofit was open throughout the pandemic to fill the demand for safe out-of-school activities during closures. The organization requests operating funds to support programs and provide free and lower-cost tickets to low-income youth.

PRIMARY COUNTY SERVED Allegheny

POPULATION SERVED Dragon's Den serves 3,600 children and families, 70% children of color; 25 schools and youth agencies have been served since opening in September 2020.

BLACK- AND BROWN-LED OR SERVING Primarily Black- and Brown-serving

WISH REQUESTED **\$5,000**

ESTEEM Group Inc.



The ESTEEM Group empowers students through education, engagement and motion while instilling important social-emotional learning skills to help students thrive throughout their lifetimes. The demand for programming from pre-K to college has increased heading into the 2021–22 school year due to the effects of the pandemic on the students' physical, social, emotional and mental well-being. The program provides yoga, dance, fitness and team-building activities to help students learn and embody important social-emotional learning skills. While demand has increased, funds are still tight in many school districts, leaving some unable to pay for the full cost of programming. Operating funds will help pay for programming at new schools and expand the programs at schools that seek to serve more students.

PRIMARY COUNTY SERVED Allegheny

POPULATION SERVED This year, ESTEEM Group provided services to 87 classrooms and 1,827 students in pre-K through sixth grade.

BLACK- AND BROWN-LED OR SERVING N/A

WISH REQUESTED **\$3,600**

Genesis of Pittsburgh



Genesis of Pittsburgh is a social services agency dedicated to providing life-affirming programs and services to pregnant women, children and adoptive families. The organization provides essential items and invaluable educational resources for pregnant women and new parents in need. More than half of Genesis' clients are people of color, and nearly all of its clients are trying to make ends meet on a single or limited income. The demand for services has risen as a result of COVID-19. Program support has been negatively affected, especially the new infant and booster car seat program. Genesis of Pittsburgh is requesting funds for operating support to assist with purchasing car seats to ensure that families receive a new, safe car seat after completing educational parenting classes.

PRIMARY COUNTY SERVED Allegheny

POPULATION SERVED Genesis of Pittsburgh serves more than 600 individual clients annually and supports nearly 3,000 client visits each year.

BLACK- AND BROWN-LED OR SERVING Primarily Black- and Brown-serving

WISH REQUESTED **\$5,000**

Girls on the Run of Magee-Womens Hospital



Girls on the Run is dedicated to creating a world where every girl knows and activates her limitless potential and is free to boldly pursue her dreams. Girls complete the 10-week running program to increase confidence, connect with peers and coaches, gain skills to navigate tough situations, and know that they can make a difference in the world. The program removes financial barriers to ensure that all girls can participate. Every girl deserves a place to belong and thrive, especially during these times, and Girls on the Run provides that outlet and connection. COVID-19 had a drastic impact on the organization's programming and revenue, and a more severe impact on its ability to subsidize the program cost for those who cannot afford it. Operating support of \$5,000 would subsidize the full program cost for 34 girls.

PRIMARY COUNTY SERVED Allegheny

POPULATION SERVED Girls on the Run serves 1,400 girls in typical years but only 700 this past year.

BLACK- AND BROWN-LED OR SERVING N/A

WISH REQUESTED **\$5,000**

Jeremiah's Place



Jeremiah's Place protects children and strengthens families by providing a safe haven of respite, health, renewal and support for children when their families are experiencing a critical need for child care. During the COVID-19 pandemic, families have faced high levels of stress related to job losses, children completing school remotely from home, and health concerns. Jeremiah's Place remained open during the pandemic, serving essential workers and families throughout these difficult times by providing 24/7 crisis child care and respite to those in the community who need assistance as they try to get back to normal. This year, Jeremiah's Place has served more children than in any other year in the nursery's history. Operating funds will support increased need for staffing, supplies and continuity in leadership.

PRIMARY COUNTY SERVED Allegheny

POPULATION SERVED Jeremiah's Place served 300 children in 2021.

BLACK- AND BROWN-LED OR SERVING Primarily Black- and Brown-serving

WISH REQUESTED **\$5,000**

Life Ain't Scripted Inc.



Life Ain't Scripted aims to educate, inspire and empower people to be more accepting of others and to become a more tolerant society. The organization has worked to help families with emergency assistance. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, families are struggling financially to meet basic needs. The pandemic has affected the organization by prohibiting in-person interaction with clients and preventing the ability to provide essential human contact to people dealing with problems associated with isolation. It has provided "Kick Covid to the Curb" buckets, which include necessary items such as soap, toothpaste, toothbrushes, dish soap, toilet paper, deodorant, and personal protective equipment such as face shields and disposable gloves for adults and children. It also provides book bags with school supplies and some PPE supplies for in-school safety.

PRIMARY COUNTY SERVED Allegheny

POPULATION SERVED The organization serves about 100 people annually.

BLACK- AND BROWN-LED OR SERVING Primarily Black- and Brown-serving

WISH REQUESTED **\$5,000**

NurturePA



NurturePA provides an innovative text messaging program that creates meaningful relationships between volunteer mentors and parents to promote infants' mental health and early literacy. Becoming a mother during a pandemic takes an already vulnerable situation to a new level. NurturePA knows that when moms are supported, they are able to nurture their babies, and nurtured babies become children who thrive. When the pandemic hit, NurturePA's text-based parent-mentoring model was poised to fill a void by providing much-needed support to new mothers. However, COVID-19 prevented the organization from engaging in face-to-face enrollment at partner hospitals, so fewer moms who needed support were reached. Financial support would help NurturePA get back to full speed with in-person enrollment and expand its social media presence so new moms can learn about the service.

PRIMARY COUNTY SERVED Allegheny

POPULATION SERVED Prior to the pandemic, NurturePA served more than 500 moms; the numbers have decreased by 30% but are beginning to climb back to pre-pandemic levels.

BLACK- AND BROWN-LED OR SERVING N/A

WISH REQUESTED \$5,000

Outreach Teen & Family Services Inc.



Outreach Teen & Family Services provides affordable and accessible connection, education, coaching and confidential counseling to children, teens and families through safe, caring and responsive professional therapists supported by dedicated community advocates. The organization operates on a fee-for-service basis but does not turn anyone away due to an inability to pay; subsidies are provided to those with financial hardships. Depression and anxiety levels for high school students were at their highest levels in 2019, and then the pandemic hit. COVID-19-related depression and anxiety are beginning to emerge in youth. Outreach anticipated an increase in the number of clients exhibiting signs of anxiety, stress and depression once children returned to school in the fall. Financial support will help Outreach ensure that children and families have the resources and services necessary to help them live happy and healthy lives.

PRIMARY COUNTY SERVED Allegheny

POPULATION SERVED Outreach serves 350 to 500 youths each year with individual counseling services and school programming.

BLACK- AND BROWN-LED OR SERVING N/A

WISH REQUESTED \$5,000

Pine Valley Bible Conference dba Pine Valley Camp



Pine Valley is a year-round faith-based camp that serves inner-city youth ages 16–25 from the Pittsburgh metro area. The camp has experienced a demand for new services to stay in touch with its campers throughout the year. It has added several free weekend programs that accommodate from 30 to 75 children who attended the previous summer camp. However, the camp has also lost revenue due to cancellations of previously scheduled events at churches and a special fall fundraising dinner. It lost two weeks of summer camp last year due to mandatory closures and hosted smaller groups to accommodate social distancing and other safety measures. Funding support will help offset increased cleaning expenses and allow the camp to continue supporting youth.

PRIMARY COUNTY SERVED Allegheny

POPULATION SERVED Pine Valley Camp usually hosts more than 700 campers each summer – 450 in 2021 – and 30 to 75 for its weekend programs.

BLACK- AND BROWN-LED OR SERVING Primarily Black- and Brown-serving

WISH REQUESTED **\$5,000**

PitCare Inc.



PitCare breaks the chains of generational poverty through food distribution, educational programming, youth mentoring, tutoring and job readiness programs. PitCare has significantly expanded its services relating to food insecurity since the onset of COVID-19 in 2020 as other food pantries in the area have permanently closed their doors. The food pantry pre-packages boxes of food for clients to pick up during food distribution days. PitCare wants to offer a shopping experience that gives clients the dignity to choose their food, but it needs additional staff to expand distribution days. The organization has also seen an increasing demand for human services and tutoring. Operating support will help sustain PitCare's efforts to serve the community across each of these areas of need.

PRIMARY COUNTY SERVED Allegheny

POPULATION SERVED PitCare serves more than 1,000 people, with 650 people using the food pantry and Meals on Wheels, and hundreds participating in library and athletics programming and volunteering.

BLACK- AND BROWN-LED OR SERVING Black- and Brown-led, primarily Black- and Brown-serving

WISH REQUESTED **\$5,000**

Point of Pittsburgh Sailing League



Point of Pittsburgh Sailing League provides sailing opportunities to Pittsburgh-area high school students, particularly Pittsburgh Public Schools students from limited-income families. The league is an all-volunteer program that uses US Sailing Association-certified instructors and serves all who apply regardless of their ability to pay. After the league secured funding to acquire sailboats and related equipment, COVID-19 significantly delayed the start of the league's sailing program, disrupted its ability to meet operational expenses and significantly drained reserve funds. In recent months, restrictions have been lifted enough to allow lessons to resume. The league's scholarship fund helps defray the cost for students who cannot afford the registration fee. Operating support will help sustain the scholarship fund and break down barriers so that more youth can participate.

PRIMARY COUNTY SERVED Allegheny

POPULATION SERVED The league provided 25 students with a full season of sailing education after school in 2021 and hopes to serve 75 in 2022.

BLACK- AND BROWN-LED OR SERVING N/A

WISH REQUESTED **\$4,500**

Robin's Home Inc.



Robin's Home provides housing to individuals experiencing homelessness or unstable housing and to low-income female veterans and their children. Veterans often arrive at Robin's Home with very few belongings, and some are in need of help with transportation. The home is seeking operational funding to meet families' supplemental needs, including clothing, transportation and activities. Support will allow residents to access community resources, such as the Art Center, community-based exercise and wellness classes, and local baseball games. These services help participating families with their current symptoms and illnesses while also helping to link them to resources they can access when they leave the program.

PRIMARY COUNTY SERVED Butler

POPULATION SERVED The organization provides housing to 15 people annually.

BLACK- AND BROWN-LED OR SERVING N/A

WISH REQUESTED **\$5,000**



Joanne Dixon, foreground, takes part in a yoga class for seniors at The Aerobic Center in Greensburg. Image by Jason Cohn.

HEALTH AND SPECIAL NEEDS

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Adventures in Training with a Purpose



Adventures in Training with a Purpose helps those most in need improve their quality of life through purposeful physical training adapted to their health-related limitations. The organization works with individuals suffering chronic pain and disease who are largely underserved due to lack of insurance coverage. It provides a continuum of care, regardless of clients' ability to pay. Adventures in Training with a Purpose holds fundraisers that typically generate \$30,000 per year, but event revenue has suffered due to COVID-19. It is rare to find expertly trained staff devoted to spending the time needed to those with chronic illness, and maintaining long-term support for training specialists is a high-priority funding goal. Funding will help staff continue to serve clients with myriad mobility levels, and neuromuscular and mental and/or physical conditions, through balance, stability, mobility, strength and sensory integration exercise.

PRIMARY COUNTY SERVED Allegheny

POPULATION SERVED Each year, the organization serves approximately 265 clients from vulnerable populations, with 60% of them veterans.

BLACK- AND BROWN-LED OR SERVING N/A

WISH REQUESTED \$5,000

The Aerobic Center



The Aerobic Center has been serving Westmoreland County for 43 years, working to help both the healthy and the deconditioned populations improve their fitness levels. Established as a nonprofit, the center serves populations with special needs, including older adults, people with physical disabilities, people with intellectual disabilities, children, and severely deconditioned individuals. The center relies on membership to maintain operations. Mandated closures due to COVID-19 required the center to close for four months in 2020, devastating the center's membership and donation income. To make the center safe for the population it serves, extra cleaning and disinfection systems were installed. The center is seeking funding to offset the cost of these improvements. Operating support will help the center continue to offer its programs.

PRIMARY COUNTY SERVED Westmoreland

POPULATION SERVED The Aerobic Center has an average yearly membership of 3,000, of which 1,800 are over the age of 65.

BLACK- AND BROWN-LED OR SERVING N/A

WISH REQUESTED \$5,000

Cheryl Kay Foundation



The Cheryl Kay Foundation improves the quality of living and independence for seniors in financial need and for women enduring breast cancer by funding in-home caregiving services. It is a small organization operating with minimal staff. Its CareGifts program provides approximately 40 hours of care through its licensed home care agency partners. This often prevents hospital admissions or readmissions or postpones a move into an expensive skilled-care facility. The foundation anticipates requests for CareGifts to rise as the need for in-home care increases. COVID-19 has impacted people's ability to give to charitable organizations, and it has also caused a shortage of home care agency caregivers. There have been situations when the foundation has had to postpone or deny needed home care, but it strives to continue providing CareGifts. Operating funds will support these services in local communities.

PRIMARY COUNTY SERVED Allegheny

POPULATION SERVED In 2020, the Cheryl Kay Foundation provided 49 people with needed in-home care. Through June 2021, 21 people were helped.

BLACK- AND BROWN-LED OR SERVING N/A

WISH REQUESTED \$5,000

Friends of the Pittsburgh Fisher House



Since 2012, the Pittsburgh Fisher House has been providing a comforting home away from home for the families of veterans and active-duty military members who are hospitalized at the VA Pittsburgh Healthcare System locally. Fisher House provides free lodging, meals, love and kindness for family and friends who are serving as support people for veterans receiving medical treatment at the VA. During the pandemic, Fisher House has been providing free packaged meals, grab-and-go dinners and boxed options. With the number of veterans seeking treatment rising again, funds will support Fisher House staff in reengaging volunteers and donors to support as many veteran families as possible.

PRIMARY COUNTY SERVED Allegheny

POPULATION SERVED In 2019, Pittsburgh Fisher House provided 3,852 free room nights to 1,034 families and caregivers supporting veterans in treatment.

BLACK- AND BROWN-LED OR SERVING N/A

WISH REQUESTED \$5,000

Our Clubhouse / Cancer Bridges



Our Clubhouse, soon to be known as Cancer Bridges, offers a variety of free programs and services, including clinical support, to individuals and families who are affected by cancer, either through their own or a loved one's diagnosis. It provides support to children, youth and adults through one-to-one sessions as well as family counseling. COVID-19 has greatly increased the need for clinical cancer support, as those with cancer feel at risk, and caregivers don't want to pose a risk to immunosuppressed loved ones. Family and youth counseling sessions have increased 385%, and individual counseling sessions among adult members have increased 93%. The demand for services has created the need to waitlist those who need help the most. Funding would allow Our Clubhouse to secure additional certified counselors and facilitators to provide this necessary service to the cancer community.

PRIMARY COUNTY SERVED Allegheny

POPULATION SERVED Our Clubhouse / Cancer Bridges serves 2,254 individuals annually.

BLACK- AND BROWN-LED OR SERVING N/A

WISH REQUESTED \$5,000

Pediatric Palliative Care Coalition



The Pediatric Palliative Care Coalition provides resources to families and medical professionals caring for children who have life-limiting illness. The COVID-19 pandemic has created an overwhelming need for services among families of children with complex medical issues and the providers who care for them. Families face increased isolation and limited services due to health concerns and an overburdened health care system. The coalition has had to respond with new programs and services in a robust and timely manner as needs continue to arise during the pandemic. Additional educational and virtual programming, support groups and town hall discussions have been instrumental in helping families and providers throughout this challenging period. Funding support will ensure that families and the pediatric hospice and palliative care providers who care for them receive necessary resources.

PRIMARY COUNTY SERVED Allegheny

POPULATION SERVED More than 5,000 families and medical professionals who care for children with life-limiting illnesses were served by the coalition this past year.

BLACK- AND BROWN-LED OR SERVING N/A

WISH REQUESTED \$5,000

Pennsylvania Elks Major Projects



Pennsylvania Elks Major Projects supports and promotes the independence of individuals who have developmental disabilities by providing care coordination and advocacy services in their home environment. The COVID-19 pandemic had a serious impact on people with disabilities and the families who care for them, and many families with limited income found it even harder to meet their basic needs. Parents needed more support as they struggled to educate their children with special needs at home or worried about sending them back to school, especially those who are immunocompromised. Support and advocacy services provided by Pennsylvania Elks nurses are needed now more than ever. The fundraising activities typically held by the members of the Elks Lodges to support the program were negatively affected during the pandemic. Operating support will help sustain the important work the nurses offer.

PRIMARY COUNTY SERVED Somerset

POPULATION SERVED The PA Elks Home Service Program serves 900 children, youth and adults throughout the 13-county region each year.

BLACK- AND BROWN-LED OR SERVING N/A

WISH REQUESTED \$5,000

Pittsburgh Pastoral Institute



Pittsburgh Pastoral Institute enhances the health of individuals, families and communities through an interfaith ministry of counseling and education that integrates resources of faith and behavioral sciences. Since March 2020, the institute shifted in-person counseling services to virtual to preserve the essential connection between client and therapist. The need for outpatient care has escalated because more people are suffering from sickness, fear, isolation, loss, depression, grief, anxiety and much more related to COVID-19. This past year, the institute has had the smallest number of staff but provided more clinical hours than in the past five years. Operating support will help restart the programs that were put on hold because of the pandemic.

PRIMARY COUNTY SERVED Allegheny

POPULATION SERVED The Pittsburgh Pastoral Institute provides mental health support to hundreds of individuals and families and additional help and education for faith leaders and providers.

BLACK- AND BROWN-LED OR SERVING N/A

WISH REQUESTED \$5,000

Three Rivers Rowing Association



Three Rivers Rowing Association develops and delivers safe, sustainable, and inclusive programs and events that teach and promote the benefits of rowing and paddling in Pittsburgh. The organization had to pause all revenue-generating programming in March of 2020 and furlough 85% of its staff due to COVID-19. After considering how it could best serve the community, the association began focusing on making rowing available to people with disabilities and making TRRA a regional leader in adaptive sports. A director of adaptive and para-rowing was hired to grow its capacity to serve people with disabilities. It also launched the Row412 program to offer rowing directly to physical education classes, after-school programs and community centers. These new collaborative community initiatives are increasing awareness of and access to the sport for youth throughout southwestern Pennsylvania who do not traditionally participate in rowing. Operating funds will support hiring staff to lead these initiatives.

PRIMARY COUNTY SERVED Allegheny

POPULATION SERVED Three Rivers Rowing Association serves nearly 2,500 people annually.

BLACK- AND BROWN-LED OR SERVING N/A

WISH REQUESTED \$5,000

Westmoreland County Blind Association



Westmoreland County Blind Association assists in the prevention of blindness and improves the quality of life for people with impaired sight and/or intellectual challenges. These individuals may have limited options for achieving independence or income. Many rely on someone being available to care for them around the clock or may face placement in nursing homes or homelessness. The COVID-19 crisis has had a continued and significant financial and operational impact on nearly all of the association's programs and services. In 2020, several on-site programs had to be closed for nearly three months. Urgent modifications were made to provide remote and virtual services. The pandemic resulted in a loss of fee-for-service revenue, staff layoffs, and diminished fundraising opportunities and resources to adapt to social distancing and virtual programming. Operating support will help ensure access to this essential support system.

PRIMARY COUNTY SERVED Westmoreland

POPULATION SERVED The association served 200 adults with sight impairment, disabilities or low vision; performed 1,000 vision screenings; and conducted 600 children's eye safety sessions.

BLACK- AND BROWN-LED OR SERVING N/A

WISH REQUESTED \$5,000



In a therapy simulation at Our Clubhouse / Cancer Bridges, Abby Ziegler uses special medical play dolls to explain cancer to children in developmentally appropriate ways. Image by Kitoko Chargois.



Butler-based Don't Stop Dreamin' provides people who are near the end of their lives with meaningful memory-making experiences. Thomas Mangus' dream was to attend a Rolling Stones concert. He did just that in October with his nurse, Alexandra Crimaldi, and her husband, Alex Crimaldi. Image by Renee Rosensteel.

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Bhutanese Community Association of Pittsburgh



The Bhutanese Community Association of Pittsburgh mobilizes resources to ensure a high quality of life for the Bhutanese community locally and support integration into American society through culturally informed services and activities. The grassroots organization is the premier resource for local Bhutanese people, offering bilingual English as a second language and civics education classes, cultural celebrations, women's leadership training, service providers, counseling and much more. The COVID-19 pandemic has made it harder for its limited staff to provide existing services and, now, the emergency services needed by many Bhutanese people. Additionally, many have suffered financially, which has drained the community of the resources that were a source of fundraising. The pandemic has exacerbated existing health and wealth disparities that strongly affect resettled Bhutanese refugees. The association is seeking operating support to hire more full-time staff members to work directly with families to meet their needs.

PRIMARY COUNTY SERVED Allegheny

POPULATION SERVED More than 6,000 Bhutanese refugees are served annually throughout several South Hills neighborhoods. This number grows every year.

BLACK- AND BROWN-LED OR SERVING Black- and Brown-led, primarily Black- and Brown-serving

WISH REQUESTED \$5,000

The Blessing Board



The Blessing Board provides furniture and household goods at no cost to those who need them. Most donations come from scheduled pickups throughout Allegheny and surrounding counties, and a modest pickup fee is charged to offset the cost of drivers' salaries and truck maintenance. In March 2020, pickups halted for four months due to COVID-19. This seriously disrupted the supply of product and revenue. In July 2020, the organization resumed pickups but was only able to retrieve items located outside of homes or in garages until May of this year, when in-house pickups resumed. Revenue from pickup fees was 66% under budget last year and 48% under budget this year. Operating funds will help support getting drivers and trucks back on a regular pickup schedule in order to furnish more homes.

PRIMARY COUNTY SERVED Allegheny

POPULATION SERVED In 2020, the Blessing Board served 1,106 families. So far this year, 445 families have been helped.

BLACK- AND BROWN-LED OR SERVING Primarily Black- and Brown-serving

WISH REQUESTED \$5,000

Christian Layman Corps



Christian Layman Corps serves southwestern Pennsylvania by providing families in need with food, clothing, household items and furniture. Due to COVID-19 and the resulting volunteer hesitancy, the Christian Layman store has gone from being open six days a week to three, with a fourth day dedicated to distributing food. The organization still operates all of its outreach programs despite these obstacles. Operating support for Christian Layman and its programs comes from thrift store sales, so these limited hours directly impact finances. The pandemic also resulted in price increases and availability issues for the organization's bed programs. Despite these challenges, the organization still provided beds and cribs for children in need. COVID-19 showed how important Christian Layman services are to the community. The organization is requesting operating funds to continue to meet these needs despite the unexpected problems brought on by the pandemic.

PRIMARY COUNTY SERVED Westmoreland

POPULATION SERVED Christian Layman Corps serves an estimated 8,644 families in need each year.

BLACK- AND BROWN-LED OR SERVING N/A

WISH REQUESTED \$5,000

Christopher's Kitchen



Christopher's Kitchen is dedicated to providing food and drink to those waiting with their loved ones at UPMC Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh. Its wish is to feed as many patient families as possible in the coming year, working closely with the food insecurity task force at the hospital to get food to the people who need it most. As the number of COVID-19 cases among children increases, the organization is stocking pantries in the emergency department and pediatric intensive care units and is poised to deliver food to the COVID-19 unit. The pandemic prevented Christopher's Kitchen from holding its annual fundraising event last year, causing lost revenue. It is possible the organization will receive fewer donations if this year's event is canceled or if obstacles prevent people from participating. Christopher's Kitchen requests funding so it can continue to feed patient families.

PRIMARY COUNTY SERVED Allegheny

POPULATION SERVED Christopher's Kitchen estimates that it provides food for more than 23,000 patients and families annually at UPMC Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh.

BLACK- AND BROWN-LED OR SERVING N/A

WISH REQUESTED \$5,000

Church of the Advent



Church of the Advent's Laundry Love program washes the clothes and bedding of low- and no-income families and individuals in Westmoreland County. Partnering with diverse groups and RCS Laundromat in Irwin, Laundry Love brightens the lives of people twice a month through love, dignity and detergent. Prior to the pandemic, Laundry Love was principally supported by diocese grants, community businesses, churches and individuals. Pandemic restrictions made doing laundry for people without washers and dryers challenging. The basic human need for clean clothes is especially difficult to achieve when people must find rides to the laundromat, load the car with dirty clothes, laundry detergent, dryer sheets and quarters, and find something to do while waiting. Laundry Love is requesting operating funds to continue to alleviate the stress and anxiety that comes with doing this routine task.

PRIMARY COUNTY SERVED Westmoreland

POPULATION SERVED The organization serves 11-16 individuals twice a month, doing two to six loads of laundry per session.

BLACK- AND BROWN-LED OR SERVING N/A

WISH REQUESTED \$2,500

City of Champions Empowerment Corp



City of Champions Empowerment Corp publishes a newspaper that people experiencing homelessness can sell to earn the money needed to get off the street. The organization works to equip, empower and employ the people it serves to rise above their circumstances and become independent, productive members of society. The organization is experiencing a cash shortfall due to the pandemic's impact on retail. When many businesses experienced a steep decline in income, most of Empowerment Corp's advertisers canceled funding. Now that businesses are back up and running, they are concentrating on recouping their losses. City of Champions Empowerment Corp is able to publish only 500 magazines at a time, resulting in exorbitant costs for publication. The organization is seeking operating funds to support the organization's efforts to provide its clients with work.

PRIMARY COUNTY SERVED Allegheny

POPULATION SERVED City of Champions Empowerment Corp serves 20 people experiencing homelessness. The organization hopes to serve 40 people in 2022.

BLACK- AND BROWN-LED OR SERVING N/A

WISH REQUESTED \$2,500

Don't Stop Dreamin'



Don't Stop Dreamin' provides meaning, fulfillment and fun to residents of Quality Life Services personal care facilities or those in its hospice care. Residents are either people who are terminally ill or are elderly and nearing the end of life. The organization gives them and their families everlasting memories. Dreams that have been fulfilled include taking a man with terminal illness to see the Rolling Stones in concert and an elderly man on a hot air balloon ride. The majority of the dreams are on a smaller scale, such as taking a man to his daughter's wedding to walk her down the aisle. When the organization fulfills a dream, it also pays for two nurses and the resident's family members to go along. Don't Stop Dreamin' experienced a loss of \$25,000 in revenue when it was forced to cancel two fundraisers in 2020 due to COVID-19. Operating funds would help make up for those losses.

PRIMARY COUNTY SERVED Butler

POPULATION SERVED Don't Stop Dreamin' fulfills about 100 individual dreams annually. It also holds group dreams for residents, for a total of 150 dreams fulfilled.

BLACK- AND BROWN-LED OR SERVING N/A

WISH REQUESTED \$5,000

Dress for Success Pittsburgh



Dress for Success Pittsburgh ensures that women – especially women of color – have the professional attire and the support they need to further their careers. Since February 2020, women have lost 3.8 million jobs, threatening decades of advances in workforce equality and reducing the women's labor participation rate to the lowest levels since 1989. During the pandemic, Dress for Success began bringing clothing directly to the community. Through its mobile services program, it supplies heroic women in health care with scrubs and non-slip shoes, first-generation college women with suits for their first job interview, and women exiting homelessness with their own wardrobes. Operating funds will provide professional attire and employment readiness support to 120 women through six mobile suiting events, helping to ensure that local women aren't left behind as the economy reopens and recovers.

PRIMARY COUNTY SERVED Allegheny

POPULATION SERVED Dress for Success provides professional attire and employment readiness support to 4,000 women annually.

BLACK- AND BROWN-LED OR SERVING Primarily Black- and Brown-serving

WISH REQUESTED \$5,000

Faith in Action Laurel Area



Faith in Action Laurel Area program addresses isolation and loneliness while meeting the basic needs of area senior citizens so that many may remain in their homes. Due to health concerns related to COVID-19, the organization is experiencing a decline in the number of volunteers available to transport seniors to the doctor or to the store. Faith in Action has begun paying Veteran's Cab Co. to provide rides, resulting in new expenses for the organization. These new costs come at a time when donations from businesses and individuals have declined. Regular donations from area churches have also declined due to mandatory closures and fewer people attending church services. Wish Book donations will help Faith in Action cover the costs of helping seniors to remain independent.

PRIMARY COUNTY SERVED Westmoreland

POPULATION SERVED In 2020, Faith in Action provided 7,210 hours of service to 490 recipients.

BLACK- AND BROWN-LED OR SERVING N/A

WISH REQUESTED \$5,000

Faith United Methodist Church of Fox Chapel



Faith United Methodist Church, through its Roots of Faith program, addresses poverty and its consequences in the borough of Sharpsburg, where more than 23% of residents live below the poverty line. The goal of Roots of Faith is to build social capital – assets in a community that can improve the health, safety, education, economic well-being, political participation and quality of life – for low-income residents. This work leads participants to increased health and wholeness. The program offers food assistance, legal services, “ask the doctor” health screenings, finance clinics, small-group programs for women and men, and after-school programs. Demand for all of its core programs has increased during the pandemic, including the need for meals, crisis intervention and case management services. Operating support will help meet the increased and evolving needs of the community.

PRIMARY COUNTY SERVED Allegheny

POPULATION SERVED The program provides more than 500 people annually with tools and resources to help them build social capital and climb out of poverty.

BLACK- AND BROWN-LED OR SERVING Black- and Brown-led

WISH REQUESTED \$5,000

Giving It Forward, Together



Giving It Forward, Together is a nonprofit organization that provides socialization for students and seniors. It offers creative and community-based activities centered around giving back and helps seniors and the community focus on what they can do. The organization is combating ageism, providing a renewed sense of purpose, and reaching an untapped demographic through intergenerational volunteerism. GIFT primarily serves residents of senior apartment buildings or those living at home. Due to COVID-19, access to facilities has been limited, and seniors and adults sheltering in place are experiencing loneliness, depression and decline. Rising to the challenge, GIFT is offering a monthly giving day at four local senior apartment buildings per month to create flower bouquets to distribute to a local women's shelter. The organization seeks operating funds so it can continue to lift the spirits of students, seniors and the community.

PRIMARY COUNTY SERVED Allegheny

POPULATION SERVED 1,000 students and senior citizens annually.

BLACK- AND BROWN-LED OR SERVING Primarily Black- and Brown-serving

WISH REQUESTED \$5,000

Laurel Valley Senior Citizens



Laurel Valley Senior Citizens provides seniors the opportunity to enrich their lives through programs that foster involvement in the community, promote well-being and independence, enhance dignity and respect, and provide services and assistance. The pandemic made it impossible for the organization to hold its annual basket party fundraiser scheduled for May and the annual spaghetti dinner scheduled for September. The organization also lost the revenue from canceled bimonthly bingos, ticket sales and monthly bus trips. Its members have felt the loss of a meeting place and miss the enrichment to their lives that comes from being able to be involved in the community and keep up with social contacts. Laurel Valley Senior Citizens is requesting operating funds to support relaunching these activities.

PRIMARY COUNTY SERVED Westmoreland

POPULATION SERVED Since its inception, the nonprofit has served approximately 10,000 seniors.

BLACK- AND BROWN-LED OR SERVING N/A

WISH REQUESTED \$5,000

The Lighthouse Foundation



The Lighthouse Foundation encourages others to find hope in Christ, meets their immediate needs and empowers people toward self-sufficiency. Transitional housing provides a safe, stable place for individuals and families experiencing homelessness or who are at risk of homelessness but who are working toward their goals of self-sufficiency. The Lighthouse Foundation operates six transitional housing locations in and around the city of Butler, providing vital housing and programmatic support to 50–60 people a year, including children of all ages. Each location has outdoor space where children can play and families can gather. Residents support each other through their journeys to gain stability. Funds are needed for six durable picnic tables to replace the current wooden tables, which are broken, splintered and unusable. This will ensure that individuals, families and their children in transitional housing will enjoy outdoor spaces for years to come.

PRIMARY COUNTY SERVED Butler

POPULATION SERVED The Lighthouse Foundation serves an average of 7,300 people annually through its essential programs and services.

BLACK- AND BROWN-LED OR SERVING N/A

WISH REQUESTED \$3,000

MA's Pantry



MA's Pantry addresses food insecurity and nutritional deficiencies in East McKeesport and North Versailles. During the pandemic, the pantry experienced a 101% increase in the number of households served. This stressed infrastructure, increased utility costs and led to an unanticipated cost of \$5,600 for new refrigeration equipment. While donors understand hunger and the need for nutritional support for seniors, children, and people who are handicapped or are experiencing unemployment or homelessness, they do not always see the infrastructure required to deliver that food. Operating funds will support maintenance of freezers and refrigerators, electricity to operate that equipment, and the purchase of items such as paper grocery bags, sanitizing supplies, office supplies and personal protective equipment needed for the pantry to function efficiently, safely and in compliance with all health, safety and legal requirements.

PRIMARY COUNTY SERVED Allegheny

POPULATION SERVED MA's Pantry serves 3,600 to 4,000 people each year.

BLACK- AND BROWN-LED OR SERVING N/A

WISH REQUESTED \$4,000

Murrysville Meals on Wheels



Murrysville Meals on Wheels delivers two prepared hot and cold meals each day for a \$3 donation. It also provides welfare visits for homebound senior citizens and disabled, frail or ill individuals who are living independently. Throughout the pandemic, volunteers and staff provided meals without interruption and did not increase the cost to clients even as supply chain issues during the pandemic caused the cost of food and meal packaging supplies to increase. The organization had difficulty purchasing food in bulk and at discounted prices and often had to shop in the regular grocery store for food. Safety modifications to the kitchen area and deep cleaning and sanitizing also led to unanticipated costs. Operating support will help the organization continue to provide uninterrupted service to the communities of Murrysville and Export.

PRIMARY COUNTY SERVED Westmoreland

POPULATION SERVED Murrysville Meals on Wheels serves approximately 50 disabled and independently living senior clients year-round.

BLACK- AND BROWN-LED OR SERVING N/A

WISH REQUESTED \$5,000

Naomi's Place Transitional Housing Inc.



Naomi's Place provides up to two years of temporary affordable housing for young women and their children. During the COVID-19 pandemic, Naomi's Place residents have stayed at home for school and work, which has caused monthly utility and maintenance payments to increase dramatically. Because the agency pays all utilities for the residents, this has caused a significant strain on its budget. Operating funds would offset these utility fees, as well as cover increased costs for cleaning and sanitizing the building consistently to reduce COVID-19 risk.

PRIMARY COUNTY SERVED Allegheny

POPULATION SERVED Naomi's Place houses 20 to 30 women and their children each year.

BLACK- AND BROWN-LED OR SERVING Black- and Brown-led

WISH REQUESTED \$5,000

Sage's Army Inc.



Sage's Army is a recovery community organization whose goal is to offer support and guidance to those who have been affected by substance use disorder. Due to increasing needs during the COVID-19 pandemic, Sage's Army is expanding on its current programming to assist individuals who have a substance use disorder, branching into Zoom meetings and returning to some in-person events throughout western Pennsylvania. The organization is seeking operating funds to allow for the purchase of additional supplies for meetings, presentations and equipment. These funds would allow Sage's Army to refurbish its center to meet ever-changing needs.

PRIMARY COUNTY SERVED Westmoreland

POPULATION SERVED Sage's Army serves 2,500 people annually through recovery coaching services, groups, a phone line and community events.

BLACK- AND BROWN-LED OR SERVING N/A

WISH REQUESTED \$5,000

Society of Saint Vincent de Paul Christ the King Conference



The Society of Saint Vincent de Paul Christ the King Conference provides food, utility, rent/mortgage, furniture and burial assistance to low-income families. Since the start of the pandemic, the conference has spent almost \$23,000 on COVID-19-related housing assistance, as compared to the previous year's \$8,600. The conference projects that the end of the eviction moratorium will result in another surge in need for housing assistance, especially among contractors or cleaners who were not able to find adequate employment during the pandemic, and among people with children who are in need of day care. Operating support will help the conference continue to serve as many people in need as possible, especially at its food pantry when SNAP or other food assistance returns to pre-COVID levels.

PRIMARY COUNTY SERVED Allegheny

POPULATION SERVED This year, the conference will serve 700 families at the pantry and will provide at least 20 families with financial assistance.

BLACK- AND BROWN-LED OR SERVING N/A

WISH REQUESTED \$5,000

Table of Grace Feeding Ministry



Table of Grace Feeding Ministry feeds the hungry and helps ease food insecurity for those in need. The ministry is open Mondays and Thursdays, and serves 150 meals a day on average, running food giveaways and supplying fresh fruits, vegetables and milk. The ministry is currently seeking funds to purchase a commercial refrigerator for its soup kitchen at Central Methodist Church in Beaver Falls. Operating funds will help ease the current burden of sharing two refrigerators with other ministries and would ensure that donations are not declined for lack of space.

PRIMARY COUNTY SERVED Beaver

POPULATION SERVED The ministry serves 15,600 people, primarily in Beaver County and Ellwood City.

BLACK- AND BROWN-LED OR SERVING Primarily Black- and Brown-serving

WISH REQUESTED \$5,000

Take Action Mon Valley



Take Action Mon Valley, through activism and organizing, combats all forms of community violence. Due to COVID-19, the need to assist people with housing issues has drastically increased. Specifically, the organization is seeing increased demand for assistance with paying rent or mortgages and securing legal assistance for people facing eviction from their homes. Take Action Mon Valley requests operating support to allow it to assist more people through mini-grants to pay for rental assistance to avoid eviction and address other needs that arise from ongoing housing concerns.

PRIMARY COUNTY SERVED Allegheny

POPULATION SERVED Annually, Take Action Mon Valley serves 250 or more people through its community programming.

BLACK- AND BROWN-LED OR SERVING Primarily Black- and Brown-serving

WISH REQUESTED \$5,000

The Wellness Collective / Pittsburgh Contingency



The Wellness Collective, through Pittsburgh Contingency, responded to the COVID-19 pandemic by expanding its programs that offer rent and utility assistance and basic living essentials. Its volunteers also provide daily hot meal deliveries through its Community Delivery Hotline. The pandemic increased the need for its eviction intervention, mental wellness, crisis intervention, and relocation, transportation and livelihood assistance. The collective used crowdfunding to cover automobile repairs and uniform purchases to make sure that neighbors have what they need. Operating funds would allow continued support for COVID-19–related relief efforts through these programs.

PRIMARY COUNTY SERVED Allegheny

POPULATION SERVED 500 people are served each year.

BLACK- AND BROWN-LED OR SERVING Black- and Brown-led

WISH REQUESTED \$5,000

Willissae's Agency for Vision & Empowerment



Willissae's Agency for Vision & Empowerment partners with landlords and property management companies to assist individuals facing eviction. COVID-19 greatly increased the risk of eviction. During the pandemic, WAVE successfully continued to provide services online, including its eviction and homelessness prevention programs. Clients work with WAVE and participating landlords to address lease issues, avoid reporting the delinquency to the district magistrate's office and avoid eviction. Operating funds will help the agency continue to provide renters' eviction prevention and housing counseling services when eviction moratoria are lifted.

PRIMARY COUNTY SERVED Allegheny

POPULATION SERVED Willissae's Agency for Vision & Empowerment serves approximately 500 people annually.

BLACK- AND BROWN-LED OR SERVING Black- and Brown-led, primarily Black- and Brown-serving

WISH REQUESTED \$5,000

YWCA Westmoreland County



The YWCA Westmoreland County offers technology classes for seniors using smartphones and tablets. The classes teach seniors to communicate electronically using their smartphone or tablet when face-to-face communication is not possible. Students are taught how to use Zoom and FaceTime to see people and communicate, how to send pictures, and how to find reputable information on the internet. They also learn how to order groceries or food, attend virtual doctor's appointments, and use health care providers' apps for obtaining test results, scheduling appointments and communicating with doctors. Seniors also learn how to use pharmacy apps to order prescriptions. Cybersecurity and avoiding scams are also covered. Class size is limited, and the class is normally sold out. The YWCA Westmoreland County is looking to add additional classes to meet demand.

PRIMARY COUNTY SERVED Westmoreland

POPULATION SERVED The YWCA serves more than 850 individuals in Westmoreland County through computer, technology and wellness classes each year.

BLACK- AND BROWN-LED OR SERVING N/A

WISH REQUESTED \$5,000



Washington's Landing in the fall. Image by Dave DiCello.

ABOUT THE FOUNDATION

Established in 1945, The Pittsburgh Foundation is one of the nation's oldest community foundations and is the 14th largest of more than 750 community foundations across the United States. The Community Foundation of Westmoreland County (CFWC), established in 1995, merged with The Pittsburgh Foundation in 2015. Together as one, the community foundation manages endowment funds established by individuals, businesses and organizations with a passion for charitable giving

and a deep commitment to the region. There are currently more than 2,500 individual donor funds under management. These funds, combined with the assets of our supporting organizations, total more than \$1.46 billion. Grantmaking benefits a broad spectrum of community life within Allegheny and Westmoreland counties and beyond. We help our donors engage in critical regional issues, and we convene and lead collaborations with regional funding and civic partners.

Many thanks to the entire Wish Book 2021 team, especially the 100 nonprofits whose wishes and images are published in this book. All images are used with permission. City and landscape images are by Stacy Butera, Dave DiCello and Joshua Franzos. Additional nonprofit profile and landscape images are by Renee Rosensteel, Kitoko Chargois and Jason Cohn. Design is by Rachel Arnold Sager of Second Block Studio. Writing and editing is by Zoey Angelucci, Karen Carlin, Julia Maruca, Carol Pickerine and Jennifer Rignani. Wish Book 2021 is organized by Kitty Julian, Taren Lumley, Celeste Smith, Mahogany Thaxton, Kelly Uranker and Ceree Wilkerson through the Center for Philanthropy. Special thanks to the Wish Book Committee.

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The Duquesne Incline at dawn in the spring. Image by Dave DiCello.