

Year 2 Hill District Neighborhood Partnership Program

2009-2010

Summary of Partner Services

Organization	Services
1. Hill District Federal Credit Union (HDFCU)	<p>1. Operates a Community Lending Program with 0% interest home improvement loans (up to \$25,000) and emergency repair loans (up to \$5,000) to low income Hill District homeowners who meet minimum credit and income qualifications</p> <p>2. HDFCU also markets, qualifies and originates the URA's loan products (Pittsburgh Home Rehabilitation Program and Home Emergency Loan Program) to low-income homeowners in the Hill District.</p> <p>3. Legal services are provided free to homeowners needing assistance with legal title through referrals to the Equity Protection Legal Clinic.</p> <p>4. Credit and payment delinquency problems preventing loan approvals are referred to NeighborWorks Western PA for credit repair/counseling and affordable workouts to enable them to reapply for loans when credit and delinquencies are corrected.</p>
2. NeighborWorks Western PA (NWWPA)	<p>1. Formerly known as Neighborhood Housing Services, NeighborWorks provides one-on-one counseling in credit repair and restoration, delinquencies, to help residents qualify for home improvement or repair loans. NWWPA also provides foreclosure mitigation counseling.</p> <p>2. NWWPA provides a financial literacy program for low-income youth called My Money, My Life and adult Financial Fitness workshops to help residents identify and avoid predatory financial activities through tracking spending to develop realistic financial goals and functional budgets towards better money management to increase savings and investments.</p> <p>3. NWWPA also provides mortgage or property tax delinquencies counseling in partnership with Freedom Unlimited.</p>

Organization	Services
3. Freedom Unlimited	<p>1. Operates a Home Preservation Program to provide free home rehabilitation services to low-income homeowners who live in targeted Hill District areas that have a significant number of owner-occupied housing in need of repair.</p> <p>2. Home repair and construction management is implemented through a partnership with Action-Housing who conducts the inspections, prepares the scope of work, provides technical assistance, and performs the final inspection. Freedom Unlimited procures the contractors and oversees the rehabilitation. Freedom Unlimited markets the program, conducts eligibility determinations, provides program oversight and assists with resolving owner-contractor disputes.</p> <p>3. Rehab grants range from \$7,500 to \$10,000 per house. Other sources are being pursued to enable Freedom Unlimited to provide rehab grants of \$20,400 per house. At a minimum, all health, safety and code issues must be resolved, then remaining funds are used for exterior work, energy efficiency upgrades and owner-requested repairs.</p>
4. Central Outreach Resource and Referral Center (CORRC)	<p>1. Conducts outreach, provides intensive case management services to low-income people struggling with drug and alcohol addictions, mental illness, homelessness, and connects these clients with agencies who can best meet their immediate needs.</p> <p>2. CORRC conducts complete intake and assessments on each client to determine the level of care and uses a fee-for-service model to pay for the specific services given by referred agencies. Confidentiality is critical to CORRC's services and family counseling is provided where accepted.</p> <p>3. CORRC also provides free HIV/AIDS testing and educational presentations as well as conducts mediation and violence prevention counseling to offender clients to no longer commit crimes to support drug addictions.</p>

Organization	Services
5. One Vision One Life Violence Intervention and Prevention (OVOL)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Mission is to prevent and/or reduce targeted violence through positive gang and group mediation and intervention strategies and targeted case management. 2. OVOL focuses on mitigating reactions and retaliations and provides community support after a violent incident occurs. 3. OVOL also strategically engages with women associated with groups and gangs and obtains confidential street-level intelligence through positive community presence to identify perpetrators and facilitate truces to de-escalate ongoing conflicts. 4. Referrals are provided to CORRC for services to further reduce violence as a means to support drug and alcohol addictions.
6. Center For Family Excellence, Inc. (CFFEI)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Focus is developing and implementing an academic excellence program through a three part strategy aimed at closing and reversing the academic achievement gaps in distressed public elementary schools and after school faith-based programs, including the Hill District. 2. The <i>Keep Hope Alive</i> strategy identifies successful principles nation-wide who have reversed educational gaps to present their techniques to local educators and residents through a series of presentations, conferences and work sessions. In addition, an online engineering and robotics math tutorial program is being implemented to dramatically improve academic performance. 3. The <i>Tell the Whole Truth!</i> strategy works with an advisory committee to design a database to document and track achievement proficiencies and generate reports to present a fuller understanding of the racial achievement gaps and their implications to support the community educational component. 4. The <i>Summon the Village!</i> strategy focuses on mobilizing community organizations, parent groups, political leadership and concerned citizens to provide specific skills needed to monitor the effectiveness of implemented strategies in accelerating the closure of racial achievement gaps.

Organization	Services
7. Surface Stripe-ing & Painting Scholarship Program	<p>1. Provides an incentivizing Hill District Youth program with renewable merit-based scholarships for 18 – 20 qualified low-income residents to supplement tuition and school-related fees not covered by other available financial aid.</p> <p>2. A partnership with the Negro Educational Emergency Drive (NEED), which matches scholarship amounts dollar-for-dollar, enables Surface Stripe-ing to increase the scholarship amount.</p> <p>3. Surface Stripe-ing selects student through a community-based advisory committee according to the following criteria: (1) Hill District residency, (2) acceptance into an accredited college, university, or vocational-technical training program, (3) minimum GPA of 3.0, (4) community engagement activities, (6) an essay identifying how students will give back to the community and articulation of future goals, and (6) income verification (household income can not exceed 150% of federal poverty guidelines).</p>
8. Find the Rivers! Hill District GreenPrint	<p>1. The Hill House partnership with the Pittsburgh Parks Conservancy focuses on engaging Hill residents, community leaders, artists, historians, preservationists and other important constituents to select one or more projects from the priorities identified in the Phase 1 GreenPrint Plan completed in the Year 1 (2009) for implementation.</p> <p>2. The Year 2 GreenPrint Phase 2 Plan (2009 – 2010) includes design standards, schematic designs and a construction cost estimate will serve as a land use plan to be integrated into the Hill Master Plan for a network of public green spaces, trails and river overlooks that connect to key locations in the Hill District and in surrounding neighborhoods.</p>