

Pittsburgh Community Services, Inc.  
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*Surrounding The City With Committed Services*

Funded by the PA Department of Community and Economic Development-Community Services Block Grant Funds and the City of Pittsburgh-Community Development Block Grant Funds



PITTSBURGH  
COMMUNITY  
SERVICES, INC.




*Surrounding The City With Committed Services*



Pittsburgh Community Services, Inc. is proud to recognize and celebrate 22 years of service as the mandated Community Action Agency for the City of Pittsburgh. PCSI joins its 1100 national member network and the 43-member state network in acknowledging Community Action Month. We also take this momentous opportunity to thank the dedicated men and women of our agency who have committed their professional lives to serving this agency for 15 years or more. They have indeed been the enablers and the facilitators of support mechanisms which have augmented anti-poverty solutions. Our 22 years of collaborations and partnerships have been permeated by the life-sustaining talents and gifts which these fine individuals have shared with us and our communities over the years.

More than ever, this current era requires that we understand and embrace the tenets of the Community Services Block Grant statutory goals which include coordinating the ways that Community Action Agencies can impact the lives of the poor through processes of employment, education, income management, housing, emergency services, nutrition, linkages, and self-sufficiency. Our challenge is to commit to empowering the manifestation of hope and change by diligently and efficiently moving resources where they will be most useful to those whose lives have been impacted by the causes of poverty.

We also take time to salute our partners, subcontractors and friends for the work and service that have emanated from the hearts and minds of the many individuals who, on various levels, have committed their time and attention to the plight of Pittsburgh communities and neighborhoods. We remain grateful to those who have carried the torch for more than forty years as part of the War on Poverty. Together we continue to Surround the City with Committed Services.



CECELIA A. JENKINS  
Executive Director



Surrounding The City With Committed Services





"Surrounding The City With Committed Services" is a fitting theme line for the work of the Pittsburgh Community Services, Inc. While the current economic climate brings new challenges and opportunities, the Board of Directors of PCSI is committed to providing needed services to the City of Pittsburgh.

This is accomplished through programs such as the Community Action Center; Project Life Line; the Community Action Learning Center; the Supported Work Program; the Neighborhood Safety Program; and partnerships with the Hill House Association, the Brashear Association, the Community Human Services Corporation, and the YMCA of Pittsburgh.

We are focused on doing everything we can to be successful in surrounding the City with services that improve the lives of the disadvantaged. We are grateful for the organizations and individuals who have embraced that vision by becoming partners with us in this effort.

*Gwendolyn J. Elliott*

DR. GWENDOLYN J. ELLIOTT  
Board President



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"Pittsburgh Community Services, Inc. is in the process of identifying and additional sources of funding and partnerships. We are excited and optimistic as we embark on a new fundraising campaign. We are enlisting the community to join us as we work together to meet the growing needs of the poor in this region."

*Jim Cimino, Jr.*

JAMES R. CIMINO, JR.  
President Elect



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The Community Action Learning Center (CALC) is dedicated to delivering educational programs and services that respond to the needs of individuals, communities, workforces, and economic development. By creating a comfortable atmosphere for learning, providing a broad range of continuing educational opportunities, and supporting one-on-one assistance, the Community Action Learning Center staff guides individuals to attain their career and life goals.

The Community Action Learning Center provides the following:

- Computer availability
- Internet connectivity
- General Equivalency Degree preparation
- PLATO – Life skills, adult education including literacy, career and professional development, and college-level courses

*One of the clients attending the CALC entered the Center reading only 50 words. After participating in individual learning sessions, he was able to read 250 words. He also read and comprehended a short story. Before moving to another program, the client was able to independently complete an application form.*

The goal of Project Life Line (PLL) is to "promote the interpersonal growth and development of referred youth, so that they discontinue their delinquent and at-risk behaviors and function more effectively and productively in their families, schools, and communities."

Services are provided to youth from 12 to 18 years of age who reside in the City of Pittsburgh and whose families meet the income eligibility requirements. Referrals are received from the Allegheny County Juvenile Court; the Department of Human Services; Division of Children, Youth, and Family Services; and other social service agencies. Clients can also refer themselves.

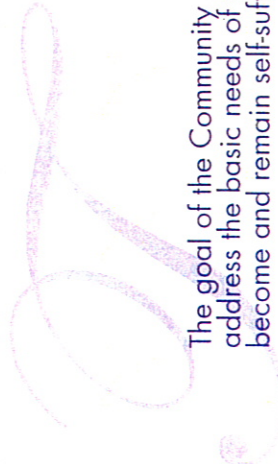
*A youth enrolled in Project Life Line, who was a junior at Schenley High School, had been suspended from school prior to finals week. The PLL coordinator met with school officials, and the junior was able to attend school in order to take her finals.*



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The staff consults and interacts with Pittsburgh Public Schools personnel, mental health professionals, and other service providers.





The goal of the Community Action Center (CAC) is to address the basic needs of the clients, enabling them to become and remain self-sufficient.

The Community Action Center provides case management services to low-income individuals and families. The service categories include employment, education, income management, housing, legal referrals, emergency services, nutrition, health and wellness linkages.

Referrals are also made to appropriate agencies.

**One of the clients seen in the CAC was first depressed when he received counseling and was able to obtain employment.**

Another client was chosen to represent PCSI and to receive the annual Self-Sufficiency Award. The award was presented by Community Action Association of Pennsylvania in Harrisburg in October 2004.



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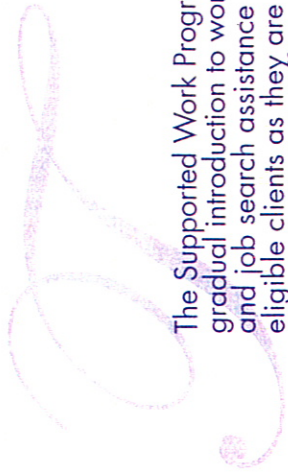


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**Pittsburgh Community Services, Inc. recognizes the following employees for many years of quality service.**

Seated (left to right): Ethel M. Wall, 19 years; Rosa D. Thomas, 17 years; and Israel V. Trueheart, 21 years.  
Standing (left to right): Gregory Tol, 19 years; John M. Dolansky, 15 years; and Donald J. McEachern, 19 years.





The Supported Work Program provides a positive and gradual introduction to work by offering job readiness and job search assistance to TANF and Food Stamp eligible clients as they are referred by the Allegheny County Assistance Office. The expected outcome is a job placement into employment for a minimum of 30 hours a week with the placement agency paying at least a minimum wage.

Extended support includes ongoing coaching and support services to help clients maintain employment and move to self-sufficiency.

***One woman, who completed the Supported Work Program in 2004, is now self-sufficient and supporting her seven children. When she entered the program, she had experience as a housekeeper and dreamed of attending college to become a social worker. She is now employed full-time and attends the Community College of Allegheny County, pursuing her degree in Social Work.***



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The Neighborhood Safety Program provides and installs deadbolt locks, smoke detectors, lifelines, door peepholes, and house numbers to persons at-risk of abuse, senior citizens, and low-income families who reside within the City of Pittsburgh and Allegheny County. The purpose is to assist households to become more secure and to feel safer in their own homes. Households can receive up to three deadbolt locks and three smoke detectors.

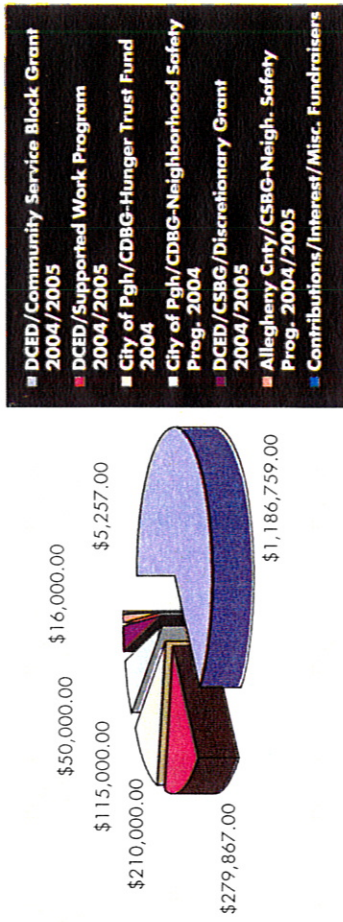
During 2004, priority was given to persons who had obtained Protection from Abuse Orders (PFAs) and to persons who were victims of domestic violence.

A total of 378 households and 707 persons living within the City of Pittsburgh and Allegheny County received safety and security hardware.

**Smoke detectors were installed in the home of a woman whose abuser threatened to set her house on fire. Another woman with a PFA against her husband had new deadbolt locks installed. With the new locks she felt safer and more secure, because her husband had keys to the old locks. Many more people now feel safer due to the Neighborhood Safety Program.**

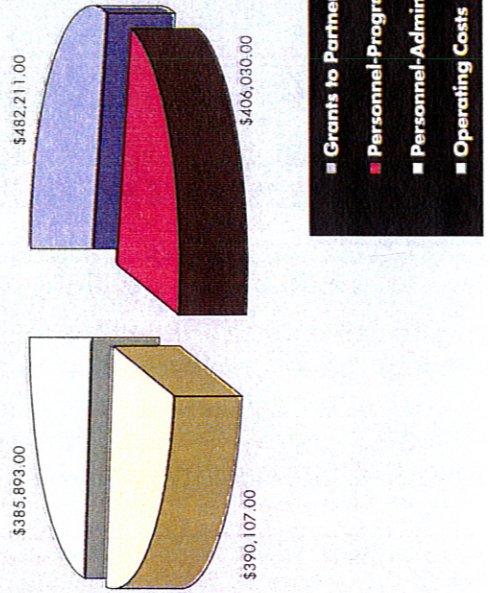
2004/2005 GRANT AWARDS/REVENUE

Total Agency Funding  
\$1,862,883.00



2004 AUDITED EXPENSES  
\$1,664,241.00

Data A





### Brashear Association

Brashear Association, Inc. comprehensively case manages 35 families. A case manager has been working with a client to find and retain employment. During the job search process, the client was provided with job listings and bus tickets to travel to interviews. While unemployed, the client accessed the Brashear Association Food Pantry. The client recently found employment at UPMC as a housekeeper working 40 hours per week. She received bus tickets for the first two weeks of her employment until she received a paycheck. She then purchased a monthly bus pass. The client loves her new job.

## Brashear Association



### Hill House Association

The Hill House Association (HHA) provides services to "the hard to serve Population" through the Non-Custodial Parents Program (Young Father's Program) and the Older Out-of-School Youth Program. While the main focus of the programs is attaining employment, the curriculum includes pre-job training, parenting skills, and life skills. HHA continues to work closely with the Court of Common Pleas Allegheny County Family Division Adult Section to ensure that non-custodial parents abide by their support orders.


## Hill House Association




### Community Human Services Corporation

Community Human Services Corporation (CHSC) offers programs for employment and training, youth after-school homemaker services, and health services. CHSC has assisted 300 individuals to improve and maintain their health status for at least three months, and 50 persons have maintained independent living through the in-home homemaker services. The youth program helped 60 young people increase their academic and social skills through the after-school program.

## Community Human Services Corporation



## YMCA



### YMCA

Every year the Centre Avenue YMCA serves 10 male youth and employs them at the facility. During this employment, the youth receive on-the-job training.

The Homewood Brushton YMCA operates an after-school program for elementary and high school youth. The program is designed to increase the academic and social skills of the students and help them become successful in school. Youth may participate in the Kids Computer Classes and the Male Mentoring Program.

The Allegheny YMCA provides job search and assistance for income-eligible youth and places them in appropriate employment opportunities.



The Hunger Trust Fund (HTF) is a network of neighborhood-based food and nutrition programs which are managed by Pittsburgh Community Services, Inc. through subcontracts. PCSI annually receives Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds from the City of Pittsburgh. With these funds, it then subcontracts with approximately 13 neighborhood-based organizations to operate food pantries, congregate feeding sites, food voucher and card distributions, and nutrition education programs at 20 separate locations. Clients must live in the City of Pittsburgh and meet low or moderate income standards to receive services from the subcontractors.

**Collectively, the 20 Hunger Trust Fund sites annually serve approximately 18,000 individuals.**

Pictured below (left to right) are PCSI Partners: Eric K. Mann – President and CEO, YMCA of Greater Pittsburgh; Mike Printz – Executive Director, Community Human Service; Evan Frazier – Executive Director, Hill House Association; and Hugh J. Brannon – Executive Director, Brashear.



# Mission

**Pittsburgh Community Services, Inc. mobilizes resources to empower individuals, families and communities through advocacy and quality services that promote self-sufficiency, economic empowerment and improved quality of life.**

Pittsburgh Community Services, Inc. (PCSI) is a Community Action Agency. It is the only agency mandated to serve low-income individuals and families in the City of Pittsburgh and fight to eliminate poverty.

The agency has embarked on a venture to strengthen our direct service program components and to add new components which provide appropriate outreach to the citizens of Pittsburgh. These services are enabled by the Community Service Block Grant (CSBG) and the Community Development Block (CDBG) grant funds. CDBG funds which emanate from the Pittsburgh City Council and the Mayor's Office are channeled through PCSI to neighborhood nonprofit entities.

PCSI also offers direct program services through the Community Action Center, Project Life Line, the Community Action Learning Center, the Neighborhood Safety Program, and the Supported Work Program. Our strong liaison with our partners, the Hill House Association, the Brashear Association, Human Community Services Corporation, and the YMCA of Pittsburgh continues to advance our mission on a large and measurable scale.



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