

ANNUAL REPORT *2006*

SURROUNDING THE CITY WITH COMMITTED SERVICES

Mobilizing Resources Towards Self-Sufficiency



PITTSBURGH
COMMUNITY
SERVICES, INC.

DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

We take this opportunity to celebrate the twenty-fourth year of program operations as the designated Community Action Agency for the City of Pittsburgh. We also take this time to celebrate and acknowledge the life and service of our former Board President, the late Dr. Gwendolyn J. Elliott.

Gwen served as my guiding light during the first two years of my tenure with Pittsburgh Community Services, Inc. During my first year "on the job," Gwen and I communicated and spent time together each and every day. It became very obvious to me that her light was a beacon to me and to all those who passed within her aura. Her presence captured the essence of her belief in the true connectedness of the human family, and she manifested the true "power of love" within her own being. As I matured in understanding my position as Executive Director, the essence of Gwen Elliott continued to guide my steps as the periods of time we spent together lessened. Like a mother releasing her "baby" into the universe, Gwen Elliott nurtured my steps and then released me to fly on my own! She was never more than a phone call away, and I knew that we would be special friends for the rest of our lives. Now, her memory serves as a true beacon of hope and we dedicate this special time in tribute to the commitment that Gwen had in being a servant to others over her lifetime.

I also take this opportunity to share my grateful appreciation to our current Board President, Jim Cimino, for his love and compassion toward all people in our community. Gwen nominated Jim as candidate for the board presidency once her term had expired, and she knew that Jim would continue the "legacy" of love and commitment for the vision and mission of PCSI. As we move and evolve toward becoming a "Great" institution, I am reminded of the guiding lights of Dr. Elliott, Mr. Cimino, and the members of the Board of Directors. These wonderful "points of light" continue to remind me that there is still much that must be accomplished as servant leaders in our quest to mobilize resources and promote the attributes of self-sufficiency.

It takes a village to raise collective consciousness about poverty and the impact that lack of resources and limitations of choices have on individuals and families within our communities. We must raise the bar and exhort the truth that reminds us that when one is negatively affected — we all are negatively affected. When we lift the self-sufficiency of one — we lift the well-being of all. Our collective connectedness rests with service to our human family.

Cecilia G. Jenkins



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 Grant (CDBG) funds. CDBG funds which emanate from the Pittsburgh City Council and the Mayor's Office are channeled through PCSI to neighborhood nonprofit entities.



CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE



During this past year, the joint commitment from the Pittsburgh Community Services, Inc. (PCSI) staff and board has enabled the agency to provide a very high level and quality of services to the individuals and families in our community.

The board has continued to move the agency from "Good to Great" following the Jim Collins Model.

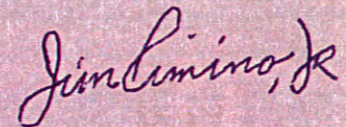
In addition to this, the agency completed its five-year strategic plan. The board of directors is evaluating what has been achieved and is now in the process of designing a new plan. This new strategic plan will set the pace and identify the agency's goals for the next five years.

The board conducted its second annual fundraising campaign to help replace the reduction in government funds. This effort has been successful under the capable leadership of board member Mike Wagner.

I wish to convey my appreciation to our staff and to Cecelia A. Jenkins, our agency's outstanding executive director, for their good work during this past year.

Also, a big thank you goes to the elected public officials who have supported our agency.

And finally, I want to convey my deep appreciation to my colleagues who serve on the board of directors, for their tireless efforts and continued support of our agency's mission.



PCSI PROGRAMS...

YOUTH EDUCATION INITIATIVE

On March 1, 2007, Pittsburgh Community Services reinstated its youth programming. Youth have been referred from social service agencies, schools, and self-referrals. Funding from State Senator Jim Ferlo and State Representative Jake Wheatley has given PCSI the opportunity to focus on offering youth ages 14 through 18 counseling and case management services. These services will include consultation with schools and other service providers involved with the youth. The youth programming will also focus on education by offering GED preparation, a pre-college experience (which involves taking classes at Community College of Allegheny County), tutoring, and time for homework. The Youth Education Initiative also plans to offer cultural enrichment activities and workshops with guest speakers to provide information on various topics. The program will work with youth on PLATO. Stay tuned for more interesting reports from this new initiative!

COMMUNITY ACTION LEARNING CENTER

The CALC provides computer, email and internet access to individuals in the Pittsburgh community who might not otherwise have access to these resources. In addition, in-class instruction and distance learning opportunities are offered. These courses provide students with access to GED preparation, adult basic education, English as a second language, and hundreds of college courses. CALC provides computer availability, internet connectivity, General Equivalency Degree preparation, and PLATO (Life skills and adult education; including literacy, career and professional development, and college-level courses).

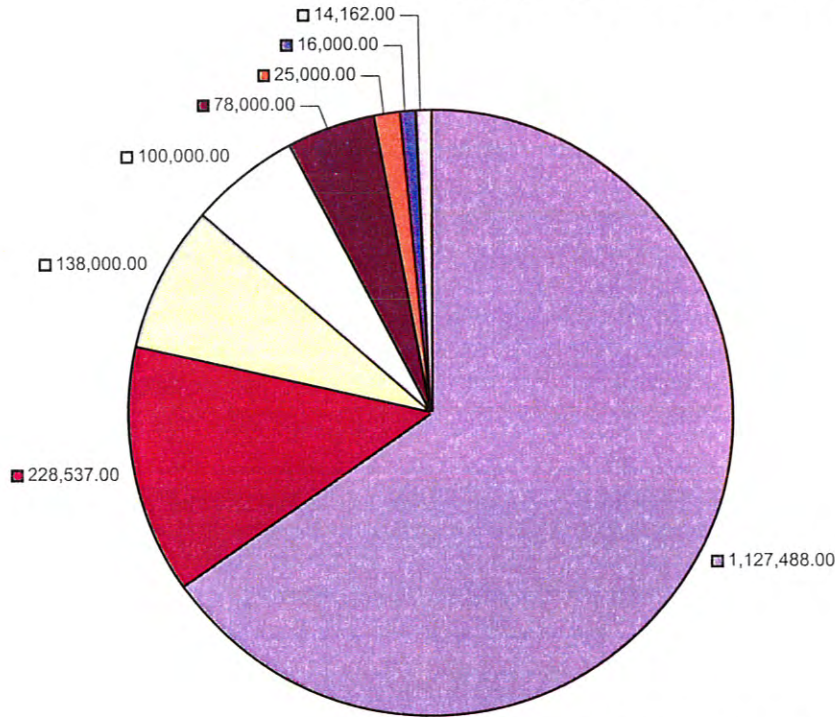
PITTSBURGH COMMUNITY EMPLOYMENT PARTNERSHIP

PCEP is a collaboration between Pittsburgh Community Services, Inc. and the Hill House Association. It is a valuable service that helps clients find gainful employment. The client is assisted in internet job search through the Pennsylvania State Career Link website. Clients are aided in resume development and proper interview techniques.



FINANCIAL

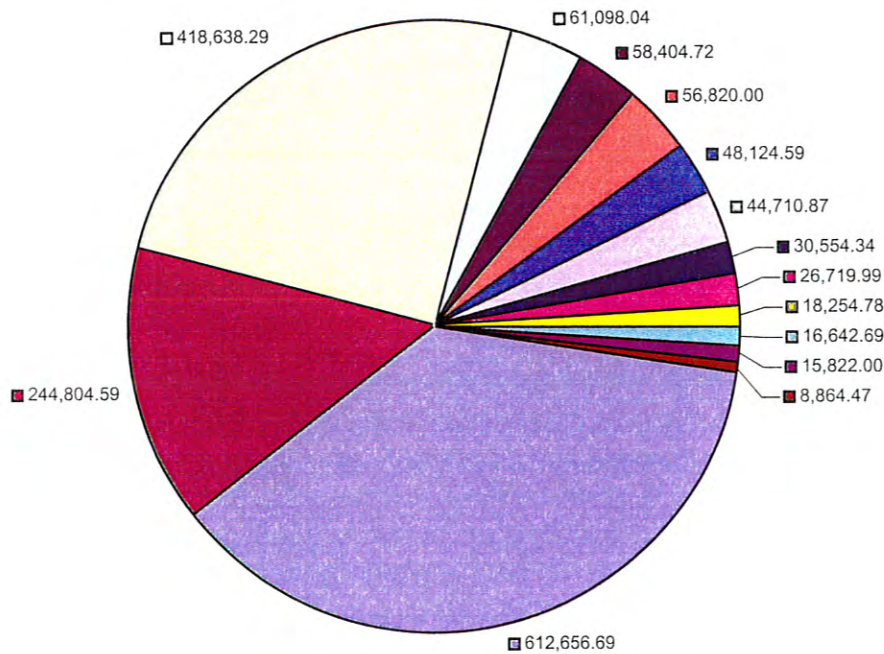
2006/2007 GRANT AWARDS



- DCED/COMMUNITY SERVICE BLOCK GRANT 2006/2007
- DCED/SUPPORTED ENGAGEMENT/WORK PROGRAM 2006/2007
- CITY OF PGH/CDBG/HUNGER TRUST FUND 2006
- STATE/NEW GENERATION OF POVERTY INITIATIVES 2006/2008
- CITY OF PGH/CDBG/NEIGHBORHOOD SAFETY PROGRAM 2006
- STATE/YOUTH EMPLOYMENT SERVICES 2006/2008
- ALLEGHENY COUNTY/CSBG/SAFETY PROGRAM 2006/2007
- CONTRIBUTIONS/INTEREST/MISC. FUNDRAISERS

Total Awards: \$1,727,187

AUDITED EXPENSES FOR 2006



- WAGES/SALARIES
- FRINGE BENEFITS
- SUBS/PARTNERS
- PROF. SERVICES
- OFFICE SPACE
- AUDIT
- SUPPLIES
- OTHER
- PRINTING/PUB
- TRAVEL
- CLIENT SERVICES
- TELEPHONE/INTERNET
- DUES/REGISTRATIONS
- INSURANCES

Total Expenses: \$1,662,116

A TRIBUTE TO GWENDOLYN J. ELLIOTT



Example of a Servant's Heart

Pioneer. Community Leader. Motivator. Educator. Mother. Friend. All of these words accurately describe the life and legacy of Commander Gwendolyn "Gwen" J. Elliott. In every role in which she has served, Commander Elliott gave of herself, touching the lives of many individuals throughout Pittsburgh's communities.

Commander Elliott's life tells the story of a woman committed to servanthood. She began her career in the early 70's working in the mental health field in Homestead, Pennsylvania, and Holyoke, Massachusetts. She later joined the Air Force and served as a staff sergeant. She became one of the first 11 female graduates of the police academy, and in 1984 she became the first female officer to become a sergeant. Her career in the police force culminated with her becoming Pittsburgh's first African-American female police commander in 1986. In this position, she was responsible for overseeing police operations in Zone 3. Commander Elliott gave a total of 26 years of service to the police force.

When Commander Elliott retired from the police force in 2002, her passion for service did not end there. She had always been actively involved in addressing issues related to women, family and children. After her retirement, she continued to address those needs. With a special place in her heart for young people, and a desire to meet the needs of at-risk teens, she founded Gwen's Girls – an organization offering prevention, family reunification and residential services to teen girls. Gwen's Girls has become her lasting legacy.

Gwen Elliott gave of herself to her community. She served in various capacities; including Board Chairperson of Pittsburgh Community Services, Inc., Founder of the Women Police of Western Pennsylvania, Advisory Board Member of the National Center for Women & Policing (NCWP), President of the Pittsburgh Chapter of Business and Professional Women, and as an adjunct professor in Point Park College's Criminal Justice Program.

While Commander Gwen Elliott is no longer with us in body, her passion for justice, her compassion for those in need, and her servant's heart lives on, inspiring the many individuals she has touched to continue her legacy.

DEPARTMENT OF COUNSELING & EDUCATION

The Department of Counseling & Education provides case management services to low-income individuals and families in the categories of: Employment, Education, Income Management, Housing, Legal Referrals, Emergency Services, Nutrition, Linkages, Self-sufficiency Training, and Health/Wellness Referrals.

NEIGHBORHOOD SAFETY PROGRAM

The Neighborhood Safety Program is committed to the safety of individuals and safety in the home. Greater safety is achieved through the installation of locks, smoke detectors, life-lites and other home security devices. The Neighborhood Safety Program also instructs residents about the proper and effective use of these devices to prevent fire-related deaths and injuries. This provides a deterrent to burglaries and better assures quick responses in times of emergency. The service areas include the City of Pittsburgh and Allegheny County.

SUPPORTED WORK/SUPPORTED ENGAGEMENT

The Supported Work/Supported Engagement Program serves Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) and Food Stamp clients referred to PCSI from the Department of Welfare. Clients are provided with orientations, classroom style workshops, counseling, supportive services, job development assistance and job placement in full-time or part-time positions at minimum wage or greater. As interim steps toward unsubsidized job placement, PCSI arranges paid work experience and subsidized employment when possible. Extended support includes ongoing coaching and support services to help clients maintain employment and move to self-sufficiency.

Cover Photo: Tonika Lincoln is the Self-Sufficiency Award recipient and serves as the accounting clerk for PCSI.

MISSION STATEMENT

"The mission of Pittsburgh Community Services, Inc. is to address the causes of poverty and to diminish its effects through the development, implementation, sponsorship and support of programs and activities designed to enable and empower low-income residents of the City of Pittsburgh to make measurable progress on the continuum from impoverishment to self-sufficiency."

Community Service Block Grant

Partners

Brashear Association
Community Human Services Corp.
Hill House Association
YMCA of Greater Pittsburgh

Hunger Trust Fund Agencies

BTC Center, Inc.
Brashear Association
St. Clair Citizens' Council
East End Cooperative Ministries
Esplen Senior Citizens' Association, Inc.
FamilyLinks (Downtown Outreach Center & Shelter)
Freedom Unlimited
Hunger Services (Urban League of Greater Pgh.)
Jewish Family & Children Services
Just Harvest
Metropolitan YMCA, Centre Avenue Branch, and the Hazelwood Branch
Monumental Missions Ministries, Inc.
Pittsburgh Community Service, Inc. Hunger Relief
Washington Heights Ecumenical Food Bank

Pittsburgh Community Services, Inc.

1835 Centre Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15219
412-392-4430
www.pghcsi.org

Funded by the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development (Community Services Block Grant and Economic and Community Conservation funds); the City of Pittsburgh (Community Development Block Grant Programs), Luke Ravenstahl, Mayor; Allegheny County Department of Human Services/Office of Community Services; and other foundation/donation/grant supporters.

CREDITS

Annual Report: Mary Ann Howard, Coordinator
Concept & Design: Bynums Marketing & Communications, Inc.
Photography: Armand Wright

Board Officers

James R. Cimino, Jr. - President
Scott Hudson - Vice President
Dr. Karl Lewis - Treasurer
Davie S. Huddleston - Assistant Treasurer
Arnette F. McCoy - Secretary

Board Members

Mayor Luke Ravenstahl
M. Gayle Moss - Appointee
Jim Ferlo
Lloyd Wright - Appointee
Jake Wheatley, Jr.
Saeed Hudson - Appointee
Michael Doyle
Jason Tigano - Appointee
James E. Brown
Lisa Christian
Carolyn E. Hill
Leslie Lewis
Councilwoman Tonya Payne
Samuel Podolsky
William Simmons, Esquire
Michael Wagner
Gwendolyn J. Elliott - Board President Emeritus

Staff

Cecelia A. Jenkins - Executive Director
John M. Dolansky - Finance Director
Mary Ann Howard - Deputy Director
Dr. Ruth Parson - Director of Counseling and Education
Barbara Douglass - Associate Director of Education/Special Projects
Leeretta Payne - Associate Director of Technology/Operations
Pamela J. Wilbon - Associate Director of Programs/Operations
Donald J. McEachern - Coordinator/NSP Program
Marcus Burkley - Intake Specialist
Tonika Lincoln - Accounting Clerk
Settimio M. Perrelli - Case Manager
R. Dianne Thomas - Case Manager Aide
Gregory Tot - Installer/Youth Care Specialist
Ethel M. Wall - Installer
Viola Baker - Office Assistant
Elizabeth Gilbert - Clerical Assistant
Mary L. Sirmons - Receptionist

Subcontractors

Womenspace East
West Pittsburgh Partnership For
Regional Development
Eastside Neighborhood Employment Center