

Richard  
King  
Mellon  
Foundation



# 2020 Annual Report

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Cover Photo: The Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank, a Richard King Mellon Foundation grantee, distributed 46.3 million meals in the first year of the COVID-19 pandemic.

# Richard King Mellon

1899–1970

**RICHARD KING MELLON** was born in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, on June 19, 1899, the son of Richard Beatty Mellon and Jennie King Mellon. Mr. Mellon served his country in both World Wars and in peacetime, attaining the rank of Lieutenant General, United States Army Reserve, and receiving the Distinguished Service Medal.

Mr. Mellon was the dominant figure in the financial, industrial, and civic life of his community for many years. He was president of Mellon National Bank and, for 20 years, chairman of the board of Mellon National Bank and Trust Company; as a director, he aided the growth of many of the nation's leading enterprises, particularly Gulf Oil Corporation and Aluminum Company of America. Mr. Mellon, president and governor of T. Mellon and Sons, inspired and led the rebirth of a great American city. His creative energies forged the Pittsburgh Renaissance, a nationally recognized architectural, civic, social, and educational venture.

In 1936, Mr. Mellon married the former Constance Mary Prosser, who served as chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Richard King Mellon Foundation from its inception in 1947 until her death in 1980. A renowned sportsman, Mr. Mellon generously endeavored to preserve the quality of the natural environment and to protect its wildlife. Mr. Mellon died on June 3, 1970.



Serving his country during World War II, Richard K. Mellon received the Distinguished Service Medal. He eventually attained the rank of Lieutenant General, United States Army Reserve.



LETTER FROM

# THE CHAIR







## IT WAS APRIL 13, 2020. THE FORECAST IN SOUTHWESTERN PENNSYLVANIA CALLED FOR SEVERE WINDS—BUT MORE THAN THE WEATHER WAS OMINOUS.

**THE IMPACTS OF COVID-19** were unmistakable. Businesses were closing. Food bank lines were lengthening. Intensive care units were overflowing. And people were dying.

The Richard King Mellon Foundation Board of Trustees convened electronically that day for an urgent meeting. The Foundation, then in its 73rd year, had seen moments of crisis before. We didn't need to wait for further evidence. We knew this was a moment when philanthropy can make a meaningful difference. Decisive action was necessary. And decisive action we took.

The Trustees that day approved \$15 million in emergency funding. To help mitigate the pain and suffering. To jump-start solutions. And to sow the seeds of economic recovery. The people of Southwestern Pennsylvania have made so much progress together; the Foundation was not going to sit idle and allow the pandemic to undo the progress the region had made.



Immediately after the meeting, I shared this public statement on our actions that day, on behalf of my fellow Trustees:

“Our medical research grants will support essential health innovations, including the intensive efforts of Pittsburgh’s renowned researchers to once again find the world a cure, as they have so notably done before. Our emergency grants will help our local nonprofit partners to continue their essential work at this most difficult hour. And our funding of smart economic development strategies will bring immediate relief to the people of Southwestern Pennsylvania—and position us to be poised to surge again, when the economy starts anew.”

And that’s exactly what happened.

Before year’s end, the Foundation would approve another \$19.5 million in the effort to overcome COVID, for a total investment of nearly \$34.5 million. We diverted 31 percent of our total 2020 grantmaking to COVID-related endeavors. And we awarded more grants than ever before—332, nearly twice our historic norm. The staff of the Foundation did extraordinary work in outreach and administration of that remarkable volume of grants. On behalf of my fellow Trustees, I thank them for their efforts.

It was not how we intended to work in 2020. But it was exactly the right work to do.

Such a different year requires a different approach to our Annual Report. And so we have revamped this year’s report. To tell the story of our pandemic pivot. And to shine a brighter light on the remarkable humanity of the people and groups we funded. Because, as we look back, it is clear that 2020 is not the story of a virus. It is the story of the people it impacted.

While COVID was the extraordinary focus of 2020, it was by no means our only focus. 2020 was the final year of our Strategic Plan, a plan that established four primary program areas for the Foundation: Conservation, Economic Development, Education and Human Services. We continued executing against that plan in 2020, disbursing \$130 million in grants and program-related investments.

## It was not how we intended to work in 2020. But it was exactly the right work to do.

Economic Development was the single largest program area, with more than \$41.5 million in grants and program-related investments, with nearly one-third of that amount diverted to COVID.

As might be expected in a pandemic, Human Services was the second largest program area last year, with nearly \$33 million in grants and program-related investments, with 40 percent of that total diverted to COVID initiatives.

Conservation—the one Foundation program area that operates nationally—continued to be a priority, even amid the pandemic. We awarded more than \$22 million in conservation grants and program-related investments in 2020, conserving another 96,118 acres of environmentally sensitive land, including major conservation initiatives in Maine and Minnesota. Over our history, the Foundation now has preserved more than 4.5 million acres of precious land—an area larger than the state of Connecticut.

And our Education program area was another important tool in our strategy. We awarded \$13.3 million in education grants, with nearly half that total—48 percent—redirected to COVID initiatives, including \$2.95 million in grants to 15 area colleges and universities to help them reopen in the fall.

Amid all those labors, we also last year completed our new 10-year Strategic Plan. It was work that began in 2019. My colleague Trustees and I participated in extensive due

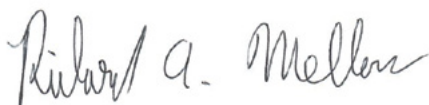
diligence that culminated in December 2020 with its unanimous adoption. Our new Strategic Plan is a thoughtful roadmap for the next decade of transformational philanthropy. That plan, and the process that produced it, is a story in its own right, and so I asked our director and fellow Trustee, Sam Reiman, who so ably led the Strategic Planning effort, to give you that report separately, which you can find on page 60.

The Foundation welcomed new staff in 2020, adding Gabriella Gonzalez as a new Program Officer, and Tim Reeves as the Foundation's first Communications Officer. Gaby and Tim will enable us to fulfill our mission even more robustly.

And, finally, as we welcomed new teammates, we said goodbye in 2020 to a beloved leader: My father, Richard P. Mellon, who passed away July 27 at the age of 81. He was the eldest son of our founder, and was chair of this Foundation's Board for more than a quarter century. I hope you will read the tribute story in his honor on the following page. On behalf of all the Trustees, and particularly with my brother Armour, we remember him in this report, with respect, admiration, gratitude and love.

In closing, I want to thank all of the Trustees for their extraordinary work in 2020, and for their confidence and support of me as their Chair. I want to thank our fellow Trustee and Director, Sam Reiman, for his leadership of the Foundation staff. And the entire Foundation team, for their dedication to our mission even as the pandemic impacted their own lives.

It is a privilege to do work that helps so many people. You will read some of their stories in this report.



**Richard A. Mellon**  
CHAIRMAN AND CEO



# Richard P. Mellon

1939–2020



Richard P. Mellon served on the Richard King Mellon Foundation's Board of Trustees for 45 years, including 28 years as Chairman.

**RICHARD P. MELLON**, who passed away July 27, 2020 at age 81, served nearly half a century on the board of the Richard King Mellon Foundation and more than a quarter-century as its Chairman before his retirement in 2010.

Richard P. Mellon was many things to the younger Mellon family members who serve today as Foundation Trustees and Trustee Emeriti. Two knew him as their father; one as his older brother; and, five as their uncle.

But all the Foundation's Trustees remembered Richard P. Mellon, the eldest son of the eponymous Foundation's founder, as a role model—a modest leader whose example continues to shape their work today, particularly through his passionate commitment to land conservation; his strategic focus on scientific and medical research as a means to catapult growth in Southwestern Pennsylvania; and the ready eagerness with which he pursued the important work of giving money away.

“His kindness and generosity were the hallmarks of his leadership at the Richard King Mellon Foundation,” the family said in his obituary. “He was a true gentleman with a great sense of humor.”

“My brother was a very good delegator, but with keen oversight,” said Seward Prosser Mellon. “He let people do their jobs.”

At the time of Richard P. Mellon’s retirement, the Board passed a resolution crediting him with guiding the Foundation to its national leadership in U.S. land conservation—an achievement that is largely unknown, reflective of Richard P. Mellon’s modesty.

“He really cared about conservation before it became a popular cause,” said Prosser Mellon. “He just loved the outdoors!”

“Any objective study of U.S. land conservation would rank Richard P. Mellon as one of the great conservationists in U.S. history,” said Foundation Director and Trustee Sam Reiman. “The Foundation, under the leadership of Richard P. Mellon and his brother Seward Prosser Mellon, and continuing now under the current Board, has conserved 4.5 million acres of land in all 50 states. These are some of the most environmentally precious lands in our nation. But one would be unlikely to hear those simple facts from Richard P. Mellon. His goals were grand but he pursued them with quiet modesty, rigor, and kindness.”

Richard P. Mellon served on the Foundation board for 45 years, from 1963 to 2009, including as Board Chair from 1981 to 2009. He then continued to serve until his death as an active Emeritus Trustee. Richard P. Mellon and his brother,

Seward Prosser Mellon, who succeeded Richard P. Mellon as Foundation chair, rank as the longest-serving trustees in the Foundation’s 73-year history.

In his work leading the Foundation, Richard P. Mellon’s commitment to conservation was outpaced only by his passion for Southwestern Pennsylvania, where the Foundation’s charitable giving is concentrated. In an obituary, *Pittsburgh Quarterly* called him “the quiet giant of Pittsburgh philanthropy.” Upon Richard P. Mellon’s retirement, his fellow trustees said Richard P. Mellon was “instrumental in the Foundation’s support and promotion of medical, scientific and technology research that has formed the basis for the renaissance of the Southwestern Pennsylvania region.”

Richard P. Mellon also was dedicated to the separate R.K. Mellon Family Foundation, to support his beloved Ligonier and other important causes. He gave generously to the Valley School of Ligonier, and led the purchase of the famous saddle pistols that George Washington carried during the American Revolution. The pistols are now on permanent display at the Fort Ligonier Museum.

Said Director and Trustee Reiman: “Richard P. Mellon was steadfast in stewarding his father’s perpetual philanthropic mission for the Richard King Mellon Foundation, and as a result, that noble mission has remained unchanged for 73 years. Yet Richard P. Mellon also should be remembered as an innovator who pursued new and creative ways to achieve that unchanged mission. Southwestern Pennsylvania and the nation have benefitted greatly from his ability to do both.”

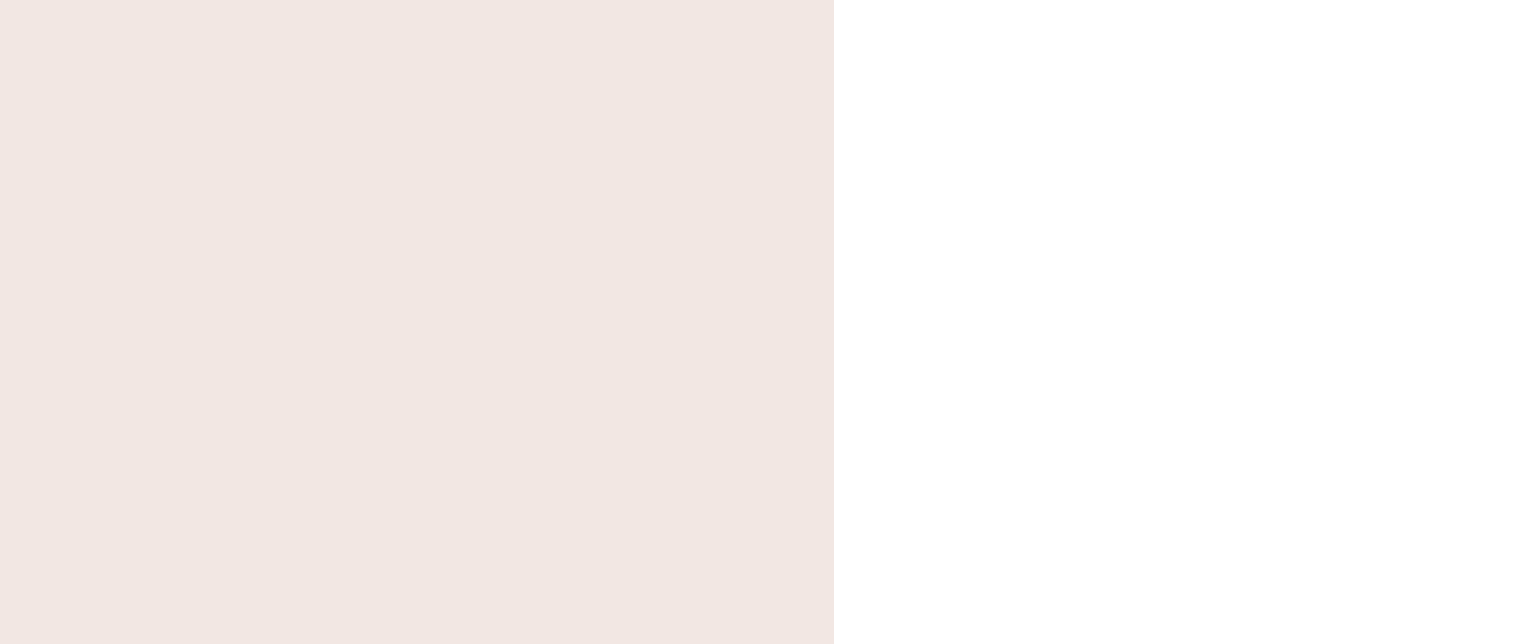
“He was a true gentleman  
with a great sense of humor.”

COVID-19

# Pivoting to the Pandemic

The Foundation in 2020 awarded 176 grants to help meet the tremendous needs caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, from testing and vaccine research to emergency support and economic recovery. COVID grants totaled \$34,467,700, representing 31 percent of the Foundation's total 2020 giving, and were distributed across all four Foundation program areas.





DAY OWL

# FROM BACKPACKS TO FACE SHIELDS



“Doing good,  
you sleep better.”

CALEB MAIRSON

## Day Owl Shifts to Personal Protective Equipment

**FOR THREE AND A HALF WEEKS** last spring, Caleb Mairson worked eight hours a day in a Homewood warehouse, cutting bits of elastic and assembling pieces of plastic. Putting together face shields for hospital workers wasn't the job he envisioned when he graduated from The Culinary Institute of America and then moved to Pittsburgh at the end of 2019.

But a few months into a dream job cooking at Dinette, he was laid off because of the pandemic. He applied for a job at Day Owl, a sustainable backpack company that pivoted to making personal protective equipment. Instead of chopping carrots and mincing garlic, Mairson, 22, a Wilksburg resident, began assembling medical-grade face shields for \$15 an hour.

The Pittsburgh company first launched its line of backpacks, made from recycled plastic bottles, in January of 2020, a few months before offices and schools shut down. "The pandemic knocked everything on its head," said Ian Rosenberger, CEO of the company. "When you are wearing sweatpants all day at home, you really don't need a backpack, the pickup truck of your daily life." The state shut down nonessential businesses, and Day Owl laid off three workers.

What revved the company back to life was a \$130,000 grant the Richard King Mellon Foundation gave to Global Links, a Pittsburgh-based humanitarian medical aid organization, to purchase Day Owl face shields. Day Owl also received a Foundation-funded \$104,000 forgivable loan from Bridgeway Capital, enabling Day Owl to purchase materials and equipment and hire employees.

The Foundation had provided startup funding to Day Owl in 2018. When the pandemic hit, Rosenberger was in regular contact with Sam Reiman, director of the

Richard King Mellon Foundation, about using its large warehouse space to make personal protective equipment for front-line workers. Reiman introduced Rosenberger to Allegheny Health Network as its first PPE customer. "Honestly, that saved the company," Rosenberger said. "I don't know what we would have done."

Using his industry contacts, Rosenberger looked for reams of plastic, which were in short supply because of the sudden demand. After a few weeks, he finally found some from a company that manufactured plastic cones for dogs to wear after surgery. "I think they were the last rolls of plastic in the United States," Rosenberger said. "We got a football field's worth of plastic" and had it dyed-cut at Hampton Mechanical in the North Hills.

As it converted its workspace, Day Owl hired back the three employees that had been laid off as well as 17 additional assemblers. In two months, the crew made more than 200,000 face shields and face masks for Allegheny Health Network and other hospitals. They kept prices low for hospitals, making only a modest profit.

With his culinary training, Mairson was a standout on the assembly line, setting up systems and moving quickly. On his best days, he and a co-worker put together 1,200 shields. "I am not going to lie—it was very tedious. We would spend four hours just snipping hundreds and hundreds and hundreds of pieces of elastic. But it was something to do. Especially in the first few months of the pandemic, it was a blessing. And doing something good, you sleep better."

Even after they stopped making face shields in the summer, the company kept Mairson and promoted him to fulfillment manager. He tracks backpack orders and repairs going in and out. The company's backpack business rebounded, posting its best month to date in March 2021.

Though he misses cooking and wants to return to his profession one day, Mairson enjoys his co-workers and working for a company devoted to sustainability, paying workers in the poorest parts of Haiti, Honduras and Taiwan to collect the bottles used to make the backpacks. "Even if there wasn't a pandemic, this would be a great place to work."

Day Owl fulfillment manager Caleb Mairson holds one of the 200,000 face shields that he helped build in spring 2020 for health care workers at the Allegheny Health Network and other hospitals.





“It was crazy. We had 600 to 700 tests in three hours.”

MARCUS GRIFFEY

ALLEGHENY COUNTY

# FREE COVID-19 TESTING SITES

## Expanding Access for People with Low Incomes

**ERROL TEMPLE FELT FEVERISH.** His mind raced to an unsettling place. He had just learned that the mother of his teenage son had tested positive for COVID-19, and Temple had been around her before she found out.

So he walked from his home to the North Side Christian Health Center and waited for a few minutes outside a blue trailer in the parking lot. The staff soon handed him an oral COVID-19 test in a small plastic bag. He took out the swab, and put it in his mouth, as instructed.

“Roll it around, like a lollipop,” Marcus Griffey, one of the health associates, said through the trailer window. Within a few minutes, Temple, 59, had completed the free test and deposited it in a drop box for analysis. Now the only thing to do was wait two to five days for the results from Curative, the California-based test maker. “After this, we will see the next move,” Temple said.

The Richard King Mellon Foundation awarded \$350,000 to the Allegheny County Department of Health to provide 1,750 COVID tests to the county’s 20 Federally Qualified Health Centers, which serve people with low incomes throughout the county.

The grant helped testing reach a greater portion of the population. At the beginning of the pandemic, people in more affluent zip codes could access testing more easily than people in low-income neighborhoods. Foundation officials introduced the county to Curative, a startup that developed a rapid saliva test.

Argo AI, the Pittsburgh-based autonomous vehicle startup, delivered the tests from the summer until the end of 2020, free of charge. An operator in the autonomous cars picked up the test samples at the centers and delivered them to a plane so that Curative could read and distribute the results quickly. “We have a lot of experience in route planning,” said Bryan Salesky, CEO of Argo AI. “We know how to get things from A to B quickly. We scrambled and got our team

together to plan out where all the health centers were and to get those samples as quickly as possible on the plane.”

On the morning Temple arrived in April of 2021, there was a steady trickle of customers—about 30 each hour. The testing had slowed down from the frantic pace in November and December of 2020, when lines snaked all the way around the block.

“It was crazy,” Griffey said. “We had 600 to 700 tests in three hours. We did 10 people at a time.”

Dr. Jessica Price, medical director of North Side Christian Health Center, said the influx of COVID-19 testing kits was a relief after the early days of the pandemic, when the clinic could hardly get any. “Everyone knew COVID was here, but it was so hard to get a test. At one point in March, we were so excited because we had five tests. But we had to prioritize those. It was really a hopeless feeling then.”

There was also confusion on whether tests were reliable and concerns about the safety of the staff administering tests with limited personal protective equipment, Dr. Price said. “The Curative tests provided an easy answer to so many of those initial worries—a reliable test that is safe for our staff to administer” with quick and reliable results, she said.

The free Curative tests provided a vital service to people who sometimes fall through the cracks in the health care system. “We serve vulnerable, high-risk people without insurance,” Dr. Price said. “There are always extra challenges to get those services and that access for basic health services such as COVID tests. It was a huge relief to be able to have access to these free tests.”

Diamond Davis uses a Curative Oral Swab Test to screen herself for COVID-19 at the North Side Christian Health Center.

UPMC CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL

# REGION RALLIES FOR VACCINE TRIAL



“Blink—we had 2,000 names. Blink again—we had 4,000,”

DR. TERENCE DERMODY



## Volunteers Sign Up for Moderna, Pfizer Studies

Dr. Terence Dermody (left) and Kira A. Griswold, (right) a graduate student in Microbiology and Immunology at the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine, examine cells infected with reovirus at the Rangos Research Center at UPMC Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh. This allows them to count infectious viral particles.

**WHEN CLINICAL RESEARCHERS** at the University of Pittsburgh posted a call for volunteers for the Pittsburgh COVID-19 vaccine trials, word seemed to spread as quickly as the virus itself. The researchers did not have any details at the time, including which vaccines would be tested, but it didn't matter. People rushed online to add their names to the vaccine registry. "Blink—we had 2,000 names. Blink again—we had 4,000 names, then 8,000," said Dr. Terence Dermody, physician-in-chief and scientific director at UPMC Children's Hospital. "It was remarkable."

To ensure a diverse group of volunteers, Fr. Paul Abernathy and Dr. Jamil Bey, coleaders of the Pittsburgh Community Vaccine Collaborative, did outreach in communities of color in Pittsburgh about vaccines and vaccine research. "These efforts led to one of the highest rates nationally of minority enrollment in COVID-19 vaccine trials," Dr. Dermody said.

During the trials of the Moderna vaccine held in the fall of 2020, half of the 250 adult volunteers chosen received the vaccine, while others had a placebo injected into their arms. Some people experienced fever and chills for a day or two after the second dose, while others reported no side effects.

Regardless of their experience during the trials, volunteers celebrated when Moderna released the news that it was 94.1 percent effective in preventing COVID-19, exceeding Dermody's wildest expectations.

"It was like an Old Testament, parting-of-the-waters kind of miracle," Dr. Dermody said. "People who received the vaccine cried. People who received the placebo cried." Those who initially received the placebo received the real vaccine soon after.

The Moderna trial moved so quickly thanks in part to a \$250,000 award from the Richard King Mellon Foundation to UPMC Children's Hospital and the University of Pittsburgh. The funds allowed the researchers to conduct the Pittsburgh COVID-19 vaccine trials in Oakland and install software to track volunteers. "We've got a 70-year history of vaccine development and testing in Pittsburgh, beginning of course with Jonas Salk and the polio vaccine," Dermody said.

Once the FDA approved the vaccines, Dermody received an email from Sam Reiman, director of the Richard King Mellon Foundation in late December. "Is there anything we can do to help you with vaccine distribution?"

Dr. Dermody reached out to his colleagues who were distributing the vaccines and learned that they would need ultra-cold freezers to store the Pfizer and Moderna vaccines at minus 80° Celsius. So the Foundation awarded a second \$250,000 grant, and the hospital secured six freezers as well as a refrigerated truck that allows the health system to deliver vaccines throughout Western Pennsylvania.

Dermody is thrilled that Pittsburgh could contribute to the trials. "Our volunteers were exceedingly grateful to be involved in this study. We've lost one of the most important attributes of our humanity in this pandemic, which is to be able to hold people, visit folks, shake their hands, laugh with them, and share a meal. And this vaccine gives us hope."



## CONSERVATION

# Preserving Land, Water, Animals and Economies

In 2020, the Foundation awarded 37 conservation grants and investments totaling \$22,172,000. More than \$14 million went to land acquisition across the nation, and more than \$1 million to protect the 11 landscapes of Western Pennsylvania. More than \$2.5 million went to wildlife and habitat conservation, and \$598,000 went to watershed protection.









“That’s 15 bags  
of trash that  
doesn’t end up  
in the river.”

ROSIE WISE

FRIENDS OF THE RIVERFRONT

# MORE TRAIL USERS, MORE TRASH



## Riverfront Nonprofit Cleans Up Well-Worn Trails

**IN THE SOUTH SIDE**, Rosie Wise stood ankle-deep in the Monongahela River, scooping up plastic bottles and handing them off to a group of children waiting on the banks. The kids plunked the trash into big white buckets, the latest debris found along the Three Rivers Heritage Trail.

Even though the estimated number of visitors using the trail has about doubled during the pandemic, group volunteer pick-up events were canceled in 2020. With safety protocols in place, Friends of the Riverfront wanted to welcome small groups of volunteers in spring 2021 to tackle the build-up of trash.

A \$125,000 grant from the Richard King Mellon Foundation in 2020 enabled Friends of the Riverfront, in conjunction with Allegheny CleanWays, to do more trail maintenance. Friends of the Riverfront hired six part-time staff members to maintain the trails, to do some of the pickup themselves and to lead small groups of volunteers. The nonprofit also began distributing free litter kits with maps so people can go on their own to “litter hotspots” and clean up trash.

Kelsey Ripper, executive director of Friends of the Riverfront, said the pandemic has been both a blessing and burden on the trail, which offers bikers and hikers spectacular cityscape views along its 33 miles of paths. “It’s a great opportunity for people to rediscover and discover the trails. The challenge, of course, is that we are seeing an increase in litter. And the wear and tear is higher because the usage has gone up.”

On a sunny spring day, Friends of the Riverfront held a cleanup event in conjunction with Allegheny CleanWays. The volunteers, both children and parents, came from the Czech and Slovak School of Pittsburgh, a weekend program that concentrates on preserving language and customs. Alice Zdrale, of Penn Township, picked up trash with her two sons, Kristijan, 5 and Adrian, 4. “We are teaching the kids to volunteer. And it’s just nice to be outside,” she said.

Wearing a T-shirt that said, “Get Dirty with Friends of the Riverfront,” Wise distributed buckets and grabbers to the volunteers. She also instructed them to wear gloves and not touch anything sharp or dead animals.

It was the first time in a year Wise had done a cleanup event with school-aged kids. She stopped to watch the kids running in the sunshine and skipping rocks in the river, living in the moment. “They are very inspiring,” she said. “We are doing this for them. They are the future stewards of the trail.”

Wading into the river, she fished out a car tire and dragged it to the side of the trail for later pickup. By the end of the three-hour cleanup, the group had amassed 15 giant bags of trash. “That’s 15 bags of trash that doesn’t end up in the river,” she said.

Kristijan Zdrale, age 5, (left) of Penn Township (left) and his brother Adrian Zdrale, age 4, scour the banks of the Monongahela River for litter on the South Side during a cleanup organized by Friends of the Riverfront in partnership with Allegheny Cleanways.

POWDERMILL AVIAN RESEARCH CENTER

# TRACKING THE PATTERNS OF BIRDS



“Birds are flying pieces of art.”

JOHN WENZEL

## Powdermill Avian Research Center to Expand

**INSIDE** the Powdermill Avian Research Center, Annie Lindsay cradled a Tufted Titmouse in her hand and smiled down at the small grey bird with the white belly. “I know this bird,” she said. To make sure it was in fact the same titmouse she’d seen before, she checked the number on the tiny metal ring on its foot. “Apparently he loves me too,” she quipped.

The “chill” little bird, as she called it, held still as she measured its wing span, subcutaneous fat, and age—a tricky feat with birds since they grow to adult size so quickly. Lindsay has a trained eye, but in this case she also had computer records showing the bird was hatched in 2019, back when it had juvenile feathers. It only took a few minutes to record the data before she released it.

Lindsay is the bird banding program manager at Powdermill. The avian research center turns 60 this year, making it the longest running year-round banding station in the nation. Banding and tracking birds helps scientists determine population sizes, migration timing, breeding seasons and other patterns that may be related to climate change.

Even though the center is internationally renowned for avian research, it’s run out of a small, cramped white building with few amenities and little space for staff, let alone visitors who come by appointment.

But a new laboratory is on the horizon because of a \$1,000,000 grant from Richard King Mellon Foundation to the Carnegie Institute, which runs the Carnegie Museums of Pittsburgh and the Powdermill Nature Reserve in Rector, Westmoreland County. The new building will include additional office space, showers for the staff to clean up after long days in the field, and a room with stadium seating for visitors.

“Birds are so charismatic,” Lindsay said. “People get to see them up close here. They really grow a passion for conservation. It’s important outreach.”

John Wenzel, director of Powdermill, said, “Birds are flying pieces of art, but they also have a critical role in our ecosystem. They’re important in controlling insects, dispersing seeds of plants. When you see a decline in birds, it’s often telling you that the ecosystem is not doing well.”

Lindsay has been working at the banding station since she was a teenage volunteer, and after earning a master’s in natural resources at Ohio State University, she returned to Powdermill in 2019. Her mentor was Robert Leberman, a legendary avian researcher who developed many of the banding techniques used today and who died last year.

On a recent early morning, her staff scooped about a dozen birds from long, thin nets set on the ground. There was the usual crew—Ruby Crowned Kinglet, a Blue Jay, a Yellow-rumped Warbler—and then a surprise, a Grasshopper Sparrow. Lindsay’s eyes sparkled. “It’s a great bird but hard to see. It sounds like a grasshopper.”

Even more unusual was the Brewer’s Sparrow that had flown into the nets on September 4, 2020, the first record of the species in Pennsylvania. The staff posted a photo of the bird, which rarely flies east of Colorado, on its Facebook page, and birders flocked to Powdermill to catch a glimpse.

A few weeks later, they banded a bird that caught attention across the nation—a Rose-breasted Grosbeak with a condition known as bilateral gynandromorphism. The bird’s right side was red and genetically male, while the left side was yellow and genetically female. Lindsay was interviewed by National Geographic, CNN and Forbes, but the star of the show was the rare bird.

Bird Banding Program Manager Annie Lindsay admires a Ruby-Crowned Kinglet at the Powdermill Avian Research Center in Rector, Westmoreland County.



THE CONSERVATION FUND

# CONSERVING PINE FOREST IN MAINE



“People here  
are pumped.”

GABE PERKINS



## Ski Town Revitalized with Year-Round Trails

**GABE PERKINS GREW UP** in the tiny town of Bethel, Maine, skiing, hiking and otherwise using any excuse to be outside. He lived on a farm on the edge of the woods, and the forest was his playground.

The son of a saw mill worker, Perkins watched the local paper mill industry shrink, resulting in the loss of hundreds of industrial jobs. Sandwiched between two ski resorts, the town attracted winter sport enthusiasts, but the spikes in tourism only came around when there was snow on the ground.

For years, people talked about creating a trail system that would connect the two main ski resorts and open the area to year-round tourism by way of cycling, hiking and other recreational activities.

Thanks to a \$5 million program-related investment from the Richard King Mellon Foundation to The Conservation Fund, that plan is being realized. The Conservation Fund, one of the country's top-ranked environmental nonprofits, used the loan to help buy the pine forest between Sunday River Ski Resort and Mount Abram from the Chadbourne Tree Farms, LLC.

As the executive director of Inland Woods + Trails, Perkins will develop the area for year-round community recreation. The Conservation Fund licensed out about 10,000 acres to Inland Woods + Trails, which will develop and maintain the trails. Locals and tourists will be able to explore the woods via the trails, which range from steep mountain biking paths to flat stretches adapted for wheelchairs and strollers. "We know that recreation is the present and future here," Perkins said.

"It's visionary, what they are doing," said Tom Duffus, vice president and northeast representative of The Conservation Fund. "They have gone through this extensive grass-roots plan for trails as the next generation of economic sustainability for the area."

Perkins said the trail system will bring in tourists beyond ski season. "Our little town of 2,500 balloons to 10,000 people every week-end. But they all leave in April. We have about 25 restaurants, and we want to make sure what we are doing enhances their business."

He said it will be open to hunters in November. "There's this misconception about conservation that the land gets purchased by a nonprofit that closes it off to traditional uses. But my take is that the land should reflect the community. In the community here, recreation takes a lot of forms, including hunting and snowmobiling. So let's figure out how to do it all."

He said the project may never have come to fruition without help from the Foundation to buy such a big tract of land. "It's a tremendous windfall and an opportunity to shape the community for the next generation and conserve the land."

The day the sale was announced, he was walking in town and an older man rolled down his car window, and screamed, "'Way to go, Gabe.' People here are pumped."

Sally Manikin, Vermont and New Hampshire Representative for The Conservation Fund, on the Chadbourne Tree Farm in Western Maine.

## Grant and Program-Related Investment Summary

**\$22,172,000**

GRANTS & PRIs APPROVED

**37**

TOTAL GRANTS & PRIs

**20%**

of Total Grants & PRIs

### **Allegheny Land Trust**

**SEWICKLEY, PA**  
\$235,000 to protect Allegheny County greenspace and for long-term stewardship efforts

### **American Chestnut Foundation**

**ASHEVILLE, NC**  
\$100,000 to provide over 6,000 advanced hybrid chestnut seedlings within the Foundation's priority landscapes, including the Flight 93 National Memorial and locales around Penn State, Raystown Lake, as well as other locations

### **Audubon Society of Western Pennsylvania, Inc.\***

**PITTSBURGH, PA**  
\$75,000 toward support of operations due to the COVID-19 pandemic

### **Backcountry Hunters & Anglers**

**MISSOULA, MT**  
\$50,000 to increase hunting and fishing participation in Pennsylvania and educate a broad audience on the need for robust conservation efforts by outdoor-oriented people

### **Carnegie Institute**

**PITTSBURGH, PA**  
\$1,000,000 to build a new Avian Research facility to house an enhanced research program and expand public programming

### **The ClearWater Conservancy of Central Pennsylvania, Inc.**

**STATE COLLEGE, PA**  
\$600,000 toward acquisition of property in Centre and Huntingdon counties

### **The Conservation Fund**

**ARLINGTON, VA**  
\$5,000,000 as a program-related investment toward purchase of property in the vicinity of the White Mountain National Forest, located in Oxford, Androscoggin, and Cumberland counties, Maine

### **The Conservation Fund**

**ARLINGTON, VA**  
\$7,000,000 as a program-related investment to conserve property known as Minnesota's Heritage Forest

### **The Conservation Fund**

**ARLINGTON, VA**  
\$1,700,000 as a program-related investment to purchase property in the Osceola National Forest

### **Forest Society of Maine**

**BANGOR, ME**  
\$250,000 to expand stewardship capacity

### **Foundation for California University of Pennsylvania**

**CALIFORNIA, PA**  
\$400,000 to improve Pennsylvania's farmland wildlife habitat and water quality by restoring, enhancing, and conserving forest and agricultural lands in the Richard King Mellon Foundation focal geographies

### **Foundation for Pennsylvania Watersheds**

**ALEXANDRIA, PA**  
\$450,000 to improve water quality and the environment while creating economic opportunities and community vitality within priority watersheds

### **French Creek Valley Conservancy**

**MEADVILLE, PA**  
\$82,000 to support five collaborative organizations conducting land protection, stewardship, education, and outreach in the French Creek watershed

### **Friends of the Pittsburgh Urban Forest\***

**PITTSBURGH, PA**  
\$50,000 toward support of increased operations due to the COVID-19 pandemic

**Keystone Elk Country Alliance****BENEZETTE, PA**

\$75,000 to support a director of development position in order to create additional sustainable income sources

**Loyalhanna Watershed Association, Inc.****LIGONIER, PA**

\$55,000 toward support of operations

**Mount Washington Community Development Corporation****PITTSBURGH, PA**

\$25,000 to restore native habitat and the viewshed in Grandview Park

**Pennsylvania Environmental Council, Inc.****PITTSBURGH, PA**

\$365,000 toward support of general operations in western Pennsylvania

**Pennsylvania Environmental Council, Inc.****PITTSBURGH, PA**

\$50,000 to undertake review of recreation-based strategies used for economic activation of rural areas with, primarily, cycling-based infrastructure investments, including consideration of PA Wilds and Laurel Highlands

**Pennsylvania Parks and Forests Foundation****CAMP HILL, PA**

\$162,000 to support the PA Outdoor Corps program while building a culture of conservation through a park and forest workforce development program

**The Pennsylvania Recreation and Park Society****STATE COLLEGE, PA**

\$50,000 to build the capacity of park owners and stewards to maintain parks and their facilities

**Pennsylvania Resources Council, Inc.****PITTSBURGH, PA**

\$25,000 to assist in the search and hiring of the next organizational leader

**Pennsylvania Wilds Center for Entrepreneurship, Inc.****RUSSELL, PA**

\$91,000 to advance a critical entrepreneurial ecosystem in the working forest landscape of the Pennsylvania Wilds

**Pittsburgh Community Broadcasting Corporation****PITTSBURGH, PA**

\$65,000 toward Allegheny Front's production of a radio series covering issues regarding native species, habitat, restoration, and conservation in western Pennsylvania

**Pittsburgh Conservation Corps****PITTSBURGH, PA**

\$50,000 toward workforce readiness and environmental stewardship programs

**Rivers of Steel Heritage Corporation\*****HOMESTEAD, PA**

\$50,000 toward support of increased operations due to the COVID-19 pandemic

**Streets Run Watershed Association****PITTSBURGH, PA**

\$50,000 to develop a watershed master plan for Saw Mill Run and nearby watersheds

**Tall Timbers Research, Inc.****TALLAHASSEE, FL**

\$1,000,000 to fund the Albany Quail Project Director position

**Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership, Inc.****WASHINGTON, DC**

\$75,000 to strengthen policies and funding to curb the spread of Chronic Wasting Disease in Pennsylvania and improve hunter education of the threat posed to the outdoor economy

**Trout Unlimited****ARLINGTON, VA**

\$300,000 to improve and increase coldwater habitat for eastern brook trout in focal geographies and the Kettle Creek watershed

**Trust for Public Land****SAN FRANCISCO, CA**

\$121,000 toward two-year support to manage, update, and host the Western Pennsylvania Business Plan website and project decision support tool, and integrate the Chesapeake Commons grantee outcomes dashboard

**United States Endowment for Forestry and Communities****GREENVILLE, SC**

\$125,000 toward Phase 3 of the Foundation's activation program to structure new finance mechanisms to promote reforestation of abandoned mine lands

**Western Pennsylvania Conservancy****PITTSBURGH, PA**

\$411,000 toward land and watershed conservation programs

**Western Pennsylvania Conservancy****PITTSBURGH, PA**

\$275,000 toward the Treevitalize program in Pittsburgh and Allegheny County

**Western Pennsylvania Conservancy\*****PITTSBURGH, PA**

\$1,600,000 to rehire furloughed employees and fund projects set aside due to the COVID-19 pandemic and its financial impacts

**Western Pennsylvania Conservancy\*****PITTSBURGH, PA**

\$100,000 toward support of increased operations due to the COVID-19 pandemic

**Wildlife Leadership Academy****LOCK HAVEN, PA**

\$60,000 toward support of operations

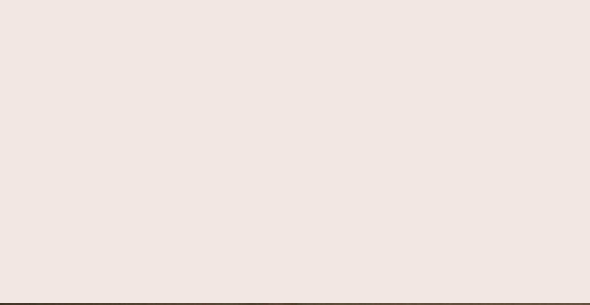
## ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

# Pursuing Prosperity Amid the Pandemic

The Foundation in 2020 awarded 112 economic-development grants and program-related investments in Southwestern Pennsylvania, totaling \$41,555,925, including \$13,618,000 toward arts and culture, and \$3,678,000 for rural projects. Thirty two percent of the Foundation's 2020 economic-development grants were COVID-related.







THE ADVANCED LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE (TALI)

# BREAKING DOWN THE BARRIERS

“Any time you are  
the only, it can be  
challenging.”

MICHAEL THOMAS





## TALI Helps Black Executives into C-Suite Pipeline

Portrait of Michael Thomas, Executive Vice President and co-head of Real Estate for PNC, on the Smithfield Street Bridge in Pittsburgh.

**WHEN MICHAEL THOMAS** attends a meeting with other corporate or real estate executives in Pittsburgh, he'll do a quick scan of faces—only to find himself in a familiar position. He's often the only person of color in the room. "Any time you are the only, it can be challenging," he said.

Thomas, executive vice president and co-head of PNC Real Estate, broke through some of the barriers facing Black professionals with help from an eight-month program of The Advanced Leadership Institute (TALI). One full Friday and Saturday a month, he underwent leadership training, received mentoring and coaching, and networked with other Black professionals.

The nonprofit brings more talented Black professionals into the C-suite pipeline, thereby boosting the dismally low numbers. In 2018, Black professionals held 0.1 percent of executive positions at the top 25 publicly traded Pittsburgh companies. "We have a long way to go," said Evan S. Frazier, president and CEO of The Advanced Leadership Institute.

The Richard King Mellon Foundation awarded \$1 million to the institute to expand the reach of its Executive Leadership Academy to early and mid-career professionals and provide ongoing support for graduates. Amid a national reckoning after the murder of George Floyd, the Foundation's staff reached out to more than 50 Black leaders and organizations, to ask what else the Foundation could do to help overcome race-based inequalities. The additional \$1 million for TALI was one of the results. The Foundation helped to launch TALI back in 2018.

Getting Black professionals into the C-suite and other high-level executive positions is the key to reducing inequality at all levels. "C-suite representation is where the corporate culture is formulated," Frazier said. "You help shape the culture and you have influence over employment. If you don't have

a seat at the table, it's hard to have systematic change as it relates to diversity and inclusion."

Thomas, 50, knows the feeling of "otherness," having grown up in the mostly white suburb of Bellevue. "I was often the only Black in my class." He received a bachelor's in economics at Yale University before working as an associate at Merrill Lynch in New York City. He then moved back to Pittsburgh, advancing in the real estate division at PNC.

After rising to a management role where he oversaw 20 employees, his boss encouraged him to apply to the Executive Leadership Academy held in partnership with Carnegie Mellon University's Tepper School of Business. Thomas joined the inaugural class of 2019. Taking time off from his fast-paced day job gave him both the confidence and breathing room to think big about his career goals.

He talked to his mentor and other program participants about double standards for people of color. "As a 6-foot-3, 280-pound Black man, I don't have the luxury to raise my voice. I have colleagues who can get angry. For them, it's just a moment in time. But for me, it can be viewed as threatening." He remembers a time when a client started screaming, and he answered by raising his voice, though not yelling. He received various emails asking him why he had gotten so angry.

After completing the program, Thomas received a big promotion. He manages 1,100 employees and oversees a business exceeding \$60 billion in loan commitments to commercial real estate firms. He's also a mentor for new Executive Leadership Academy participants, passing on his wisdom about ways to achieve success—and not just the traditional advice that minorities must work twice as hard for half the reward. "It can convince us that the most important thing is work to the exclusion of all other things, but you have to build relationships, too."

ONEVALLEY

# INNOVATION HUB IN HAZELWOOD



“It can be really lonely  
being a founder.”

VANESSA TORRE



## Online Platform Offers Guidance to Startups

**WHEN THE** LTV Hazelwood Coke Works closed in 1998, the Pittsburgh neighborhood lost its main employer, its industrial identity, and much of its population. Now a new high-tech innovation center could spark in Hazelwood and other neighborhoods the entrepreneurial spirit flourishing in other parts of the city.

OneValley, a Silicon Valley-based entrepreneurial giant, is opening an innovation center in the 133-year-old locomotive Roundhouse at Hazelwood Green. The building that once serviced trains will now serve as a hub for creative ideas, entrepreneurship, and collaboration through mentorship. The Richard King Mellon Foundation contributed \$10 million, along with \$2.5 million from The Heinz Endowments, to renovate the Roundhouse. OneValley signing on as a tenant was key to the project. And now, OneValley will be a locomotive of a different sort for local entrepreneurs.

In the world of startups, it's daunting to go it alone. About 90 percent of startups nationwide fail within 10 years. An aspiring entrepreneur who has a great idea for a company might be unsure how to move forward.

Even before the innovation center opens in 2021, entrepreneurs will be able to tap into mentorship and advice through an online platform called the Pittsburgh Entrepreneurship Platform (PEP), which is powered by OneValley's global innovation platform Passport. OneValley teamed up with Ascender, a co-working space in East Liberty, to launch the initiative to bring a surge of post-pandemic innovation to Pittsburgh.

Thanks to a \$500,000 grant from the Richard King Mellon Foundation, the cost of a premium membership, usually \$600, will be discounted to \$100 to \$150. Passport members will receive discounted rates on vital tools and technologies like Amazon Web Services, Zoom, Stripe, Freshworks, etc., as well as access to mentors, investors, customers, and other resources.

Bobby Zappala, cofounder and board chair of Ascender, said the online platform will concentrate on offering high-quality services and responding to the changing needs of the community. "We didn't just throw 10,000 mentors on this site to say, 'Look at how

many mentors we have.' Instead, it focuses on who is experienced in a way that is helpful. So it's a functionally valuable community, not one that just looks good in terms of vanity metrics."

OneValley's Innovation Hub at the Roundhouse is committed to supporting the community of Hazelwood through programming for local startups, including venture capital office hours, CEO roundtables, founder chats and pitch challenges. Alec Wright, chief innovation officer at OneValley, said the hub offers "the versatility of holding outdoor gatherings, smaller indoor meetings, and larger community events and programs. This flexibility is critical to supporting the Hazelwood community, where individuals, businesses and organizations can all leverage the space in an optimal manner. OneValley recognizes that inclusion and diversity cannot be afterthoughts of a successful entrepreneurial community but must be central to any programming delivered to truly impact the entire region."

OneValley also anticipates overlap between the physical space of the innovation center and the online platform. Entrepreneurs who are ready to rent space at the innovation center automatically receive PEP membership.

The online community counters the isolation of entrepreneurship. "It can be really lonely being a founder," said Vanessa Torre, head of marketing for OneValley. "You feel like you have the weight of the world on your shoulders, and no one really understands what you're going through. We offer a way to find the right mentor [who] may be at the same stage, same industry or can provide invaluable advice and experience. The platform provides a virtual bridge so that location is no longer a barrier."

A laborer adjusts his safety line while hammering shingles onto the roof of the future home of OneValley at the Hazelwood Green Round House.

PITTSBURGH DOWNTOWN PARTNERSHIP

# KEEPING RESTAURANTS OPEN



“The idea is to give them a hot restaurant-quality meal.”

CHEF JASON SMITH

## Chefs Make Meals for People in Need

**JASON SMITH BECAME** another unemployed chef in Pittsburgh when the once-bustling Downtown streets turned desolate. He was laid off from his job at Union Standard restaurant in March of 2020, and his 70-hour-a-week schedule ground to a halt. Some of his chef friends left the restaurant business because of pandemic-induced devastation, but Smith, who took a part-time job sanitizing a grocery store, wanted to return to the kitchen.

In June, the 29-year-old landed a job as a chef at *tākō*, an Asian-Mexican fusion restaurant on Sixth Street. Even with less foot traffic and darkened theaters throughout the Cultural District, the restaurant has been able to keep Smith and others fully employed because of the support from the Pittsburgh Downtown Partnership.

The Richard King Mellon Foundation gave \$1.5 million to the Pittsburgh Downtown Partnership to solve two problems at the same time: Keep struggling restaurants afloat while feeding people worried about their next meal. The solution was to pay 24 locally-owned restaurants to cook meals and have them delivered to people in need.

Once a week, Smith and his sous chefs prepare 200 boxes of saffron rice, grilled vegetables, corn, and meat, packing them assembly-line style. The meal boxes are picked up by 412 Food Rescue, another Foundation grantee that has delivered 78,000 meals from all the restaurants to individual homes, nonprofits, and a homeless shelter by the end of March of 2021.

“The idea is to give them a hot restaurant-quality meal,” Smith said. “It feels good to make food for the elderly and families in need.” He doesn’t make octopus tacos or other dishes on *tākō*’s menu, but the meals still have some of the restaurant’s trademark flair—a splash of lime, a sprinkling of Cotija cheese.

A year into the pandemic, 31 Downtown restaurants have closed for good, and many others have seen sales drop drastically. “The Downtown restaurants have been devastated,” said Jeremy Waldrup, president and CEO of Pittsburgh Downtown Partnership. “The restaurant scene is made vibrant by conventions, theaters, hotels, shops and all those things have been significantly challenged as a result of the pandemic. The restaurant industry has played such a significant part of the city’s identity.”

For *tākō*, the guaranteed meals are one certainty in an uncertain time. “We don’t have to worry about sales at least one day a week. It gives us a little breathing room to make payroll,” said Casey Henderlong, director of events and public relations at the Richard DeShantz Restaurant Group. The group’s more upscale eateries such as Meat & Potatoes and Fish nor Fowl have been temporarily closed.

*tākō* benefits from another program in the grant—a customer voucher for 25% on Tuesdays and Wednesdays, designed to lure people from their neighborhoods back Downtown. The partnership also worked with city engineers to close one lane of traffic on three streets so restaurants could expand outdoor dining.

On the street in front of *tākō*, each party of diners huddles inside one of seven plastic igloos, cozy with chairs and sofas and decorations. “People like that they are dining with their trusted pod and not strangers,” Henderlong said.

Smith enjoys making the meals for nonprofits and then prepping for the dinner crowd. He’s grateful the Pittsburgh Downtown Partnership is helping him ride out the hard times. “Sooner or later, bad things will come to an end.”

Chef Jason Smith pauses while cooking vegetables and saffron rice at *tākō* in Downtown Pittsburgh. The meals will be distributed by 412 Food Rescue to the elderly and families in need.

## Grant and Program-Related Investment Summary

**\$41,555,925**

GRANTS & PRIs APPROVED

**112**

TOTAL GRANTS & PRIs

**38%**

of Total Grants & PRIs

**African American Cultural Center**

PITTSBURGH, PA  
\$350,000 to develop a residency program, provide capacity support to local art organizations, and develop a national collaborative of organizations presenting Black artists

**African American Cultural Center**

PITTSBURGH, PA  
\$1,350,000 toward support of operations and programming for 2020

**Allegheny Cemetery Historical Association\***

PITTSBURGH, PA  
\$25,000 toward support of increased operations due to the COVID-19 pandemic

**Allegheny College**

MEADVILLE, PA  
\$56,000 to research and develop recommendations for economic revitalization measures to benefit college communities in western Pennsylvania

**Allegheny Conference on Community Development**

PITTSBURGH, PA  
\$506,000 toward support of operations to enhance the economic vitality of the Pittsburgh region

**Allegheny County Airport Authority**

PITTSBURGH, PA  
\$1,000,000 to launch an economic development initiative focusing on advanced and additive manufacturing

**ALMONO, LP**

PITTSBURGH, PA  
\$1,352,506 as a program-related investment toward support of capital projects

**ALMONO, LP**

PITTSBURGH, PA  
\$2,161,419 as a program-related investment toward support of operations

**Arctaris Opportunity Zone Fund Management LLC**

CHESTNUT HILL, MA  
\$4,000,000 as a program-related investment to launch an Opportunity Zone investment program focused on job creation, community revitalization, and other catalytic programs in Allegheny and Westmoreland counties

**Association of Science-Technology Centers**

WASHINGTON, DC  
\$250,000 toward support of the New Frontiers in Science, Technology, Learning, and Engagement convening to be held in Pittsburgh in October 2020

**Astrobotic Foundation**

PITTSBURGH, PA  
\$500,000 to support the creation of the Moonshot Museum

**Bible Center Church, Inc.**

PITTSBURGH, PA  
\$600,000 toward support of operations and programs for the Oasis Project

**Bloomfield Development Corporation\***

PITTSBURGH, PA  
\$150,000 toward support of a multi-neighborhood effort to support small businesses and maintain vibrant commercial districts in Pittsburgh's East End

**Bridgeway Capital\***

PITTSBURGH, PA  
\$500,000 to deploy loans to 40 small businesses impacted by COVID-19



**Bridgeway Capital\***

PITTSBURGH, PA  
\$250,000 to support small businesses in hiring employees to assist in the manufacturing of personal protective equipment for COVID-19

**Carnegie Institute\***

PITTSBURGH, PA  
\$200,000 to develop a digital platform for the Warhol Museum and explore collaboration through the Carnegie Institute and regional museum ecosystem

**Carnegie Institute\***

PITTSBURGH, PA  
\$100,000 toward support of increased operations due to the COVID-19 pandemic

**Carnegie Institute\***

PITTSBURGH, PA  
\$250,000 toward support of operations for the Warhol Museum

**Carnegie Institute\***

PITTSBURGH, PA  
\$250,000 toward support of operations

**Carnegie Mellon University**

PITTSBURGH, PA  
\$50,000 to support phase two of Metro21's examination of transportation solutions for greater connectivity between Hazelwood and Oakland

**Carnegie Mellon University**

PITTSBURGH, PA  
\$2,500,000 to fit out Mill 19 research facilities to support industrial and government collaborations in advanced metals manufacturing research

**Catalyst Connection\***

PITTSBURGH, PA  
\$150,000 to support business continuity planning for small-and medium-sized manufacturers and provide internships for regional graduate students

**Children's Museum of Pittsburgh\***

PITTSBURGH, PA  
\$125,000 to facilitate capacity-building programming tailored to the needs of small arts organizations during the COVID-19 pandemic

**City Theatre Company, Inc.\***

PITTSBURGH, PA  
\$50,000 toward support of increased operations due to the COVID-19 pandemic

**City Theatre Company, Inc.\***

PITTSBURGH, PA  
\$50,000 to develop a drive-in live theater venue at Hazelwood Green

**City Theatre Company, Inc.**

PITTSBURGH, PA  
\$200,000 toward support of operations

**Civic Light Opera Association**

PITTSBURGH, PA  
\$200,000 toward support of the SPARK Festival established to create new musicals for small theaters

**The Clemente Collection at Engine House 25**

PITTSBURGH, PA  
\$200,000 toward support of operations

**Community Foundation of Greater Johnstown**

PITTSBURGH, PA  
\$450,000 toward a joint grant-making program to support organizations within Richard King Mellon Foundation's fields of interest in the Johnstown area and surrounding counties

**Community Foundation of Greater Johnstown**

PITTSBURGH, PA  
\$112,000 to develop a grant-making strategy to connect higher education institutions to downtown revitalization in selected western Pennsylvania communities

**Community Theater Project Corporation\***

PITTSBURGH, PA  
\$50,000 to create a promotional partnership leveraging audiences as patrons of hospitality businesses, catering to nightlife clientele in East End neighborhoods

**Daisy Wilson Artist Community, Inc.**

BETHEL PARK, PA  
\$350,000 to close the gap between the total capital project cost and funds available, allowing construction to commence on the August Wilson House

**East Liberty Development Incorporated\***

PITTSBURGH, PA  
\$75,000 toward support of increased operations due to the COVID-19 pandemic

**Economic Growth Connection of Westmoreland\***

GREENSBURG, PA  
\$250,000 to fund disaster loans for small businesses in Greensburg, Latrobe, and Ligonier

**Economic Growth Connection of Westmoreland**

GREENSBURG, PA  
\$450,000 to support the completion of the Digital Foundry in partnership with Penn State New Kensington

**Fort Ligonier Association**

LIGONIER, PA  
\$300,000 toward support of operations

**Forward Cities, Inc.**

DURHAM, NC  
\$90,000 toward support of the Pittsburgh Community Entrepreneurship Accelerator

**Frick Art & Historical Center, Inc.\***

PITTSBURGH, PA  
\$500,000 to produce five exhibitions in 2021 to assist in recovery efforts from COVID-19 while furthering strategic goals to serve new and diverse audiences

**Frick Art & Historical Center, Inc.\***

PITTSBURGH, PA  
\$200,000 to develop livestream personalized museum tour technology through a partnership with Carnegie Mellon University

**Friends of the Riverfront\***

ETNA, PA  
\$125,000 toward a joint program to employ displaced workers to train and lead a legion of volunteers in clean-up and restoration efforts

**Friends of the Riverfront**

ETNA, PA  
\$80,000 toward stewardship and trail development programs

**Gettysburg Foundation\***

GETTYSBURG, PA  
\$100,000 to provide Title-1, K-12 students with organized educational field trips to Gettysburg National Military Park

**Greater Pittsburgh Arts Council\***

PITTSBURGH, PA  
\$150,000 toward support of a joint communications and marketing campaign to be used by arts organizations during reopening post-COVID-19

**Green Building Alliance**

PITTSBURGH, PA  
\$350,000 toward support of operations and the Pittsburgh Green Story

**Handmade Arcade\***

PITTSBURGH, PA  
\$110,000 to launch a virtual marketplace and e-commerce curriculum to train creative entrepreneurs

**Hazelwood Initiative, Inc.\***

PITTSBURGH, PA  
\$125,000 to address an increase in unemployment and market challenges in Hazelwood for small businesses due to the COVID-19 pandemic

**Historical Society of Western Pennsylvania**

PITTSBURGH, PA  
\$500,000 toward support of operations

**The Homewood Cemetery Historical Fund\***

PITTSBURGH, PA  
\$25,000 toward support of increased operations due to the COVID-19 pandemic

**Innovation Works, Inc.\***

PITTSBURGH, PA  
\$150,000 toward support of increased operations due to the COVID-19 pandemic

**Jewish Federation of Greater Pittsburgh\***

PITTSBURGH, PA  
\$25,000 toward support of operations for The Holocaust Center of Pittsburgh due to the COVID-19 pandemic

**Ligonier Valley Historical Society**

LAUGHLINTOWN, PA  
\$82,000 to purchase the historically significant property adjacent to Ligonier Valley Historical Society and demolish the existing structures

**Local Government Academy\***

PITTSBURGH, PA  
\$50,000 in light of the fiscal impacts of COVID 19, to work with municipalities in southwestern Pennsylvania to evaluate fiscal conditions and examine ways to cut costs through shared services, mergers, and other approaches

**Locally Grown\***

**WILKINSBURG, PA**  
\$175,000 to develop a COVID-19 responsive business support program to stabilize small businesses and catalyze pivot strategies

**The Mattress Factory, Ltd.**

**PITTSBURGH, PA**  
\$100,000 toward support of operations

**National Aviary Pittsburgh, Inc.\***

**PITTSBURGH, PA**  
\$100,000 toward support of increased operations due to the COVID-19 pandemic

**The National Road Heritage Corridor\***

**UNIONTOWN, PA**  
\$50,000 to implement COVID-19 best practices, and provide engaging cultural experiences for visitors

**New Hazlett Center for the Performing Arts**

**PITTSBURGH, PA**  
\$200,000 toward support of operations

**New Sun Rising\***

**PITTSBURGH, PA**  
\$250,000 to pilot innovative and sustainable practices for arts groups in response to the COVID-19 crisis

**Northside Industrial Development Company\***

**PITTSBURGH, PA**  
\$25,000 toward support of increased operations due to the COVID-19 pandemic

**Northside Industrial Development Company\***

**PITTSBURGH, PA**  
\$175,000 to assist minority- and women-owned businesses as they adapt and pivot in response to the pandemic

**Oakland Business Improvement District\***

**PITTSBURGH, PA**  
\$75,000 toward a gift card incentive program and Shop Safe Business Recovery program for businesses in Oakland

**Omicelco Cares, Inc.\***

**PITTSBURGH, PA**  
\$175,000 to address the economic impacts of COVID-19 on Black and minority workers and business owners

**Operation Better Block, Inc.**

**PITTSBURGH, PA**  
\$300,000 toward support of operations

**PA Cleanways of Allegheny County, Inc.\***

**PITTSBURGH, PA**  
\$25,000 toward support of increased operations due to the COVID-19 pandemic

**Partnership to Advance Responsible Technology**

**PITTSBURGH, PA**  
\$150,000 to conduct an in-depth AI ecosystem audit for Pittsburgh and a feasibility study of the "AI Triangle" partnership between Pittsburgh, Boston, and Montreal

**Pennsylvania Association for Sustainable Agriculture\***

**MILLHEIM, PA**  
\$175,000 to implement an online marketplace connecting farmers, customers, retailers, aggregators, and food-insecure residents along the farm-to-plate continuum

**The Pennsylvania State University - New Kensington**

**NEW KENSINGTON, PA**  
\$1,000,000 to support operations of the Digital Foundry in partnership with the Economic Growth Connection of Westmoreland

**Pittsburgh Ballet Theatre, Inc.\***

**PITTSBURGH, PA**  
\$250,000 toward purchase of a mobile performing arts unit to be shared by the seven Cultural District performing arts organizations

**Pittsburgh Ballet Theatre, Inc.\***

**PITTSBURGH, PA**  
\$500,000 toward support of operations (\$350,000) and COVID-related expenses (\$150,000)

**Pittsburgh Downtown Partnership\***

**PITTSBURGH, PA**  
\$250,000 to support planning and implementation of infrastructure improvements to ensure downtown Pittsburgh and Oakland can reopen safely

**Pittsburgh Downtown Partnership\***

**PITTSBURGH, PA**  
\$1,500,000 to support downtown Pittsburgh restaurants during the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, establish a Restaurant Innovation and Attraction Fund, and assist individuals experiencing food insecurity

**Pittsburgh Glass Center, Inc.\***

**PITTSBURGH, PA**  
\$250,000 toward support of operations

**Pittsburgh Glass Center, Inc.\***

**PITTSBURGH, PA**  
\$150,000 toward support of operations

**Pittsburgh Opera, Inc.\***

**PITTSBURGH, PA**  
\$500,000 toward support of operations (\$300,000) and COVID-related expenses (\$200,000)

**Pittsburgh Parks Conservancy**

**PITTSBURGH, PA**  
\$200,000 to complete the Mellon Park comprehensive plan to address history, use, and ecology while achieving community priorities to activate the park

**Pittsburgh Playwrights Theatre Company**

**PITTSBURGH, PA**  
\$137,000 toward a training program to expand the skills of theater professionals, leading to better employment with a focus on the Black community

**The Pittsburgh Public Theater Corporation\***

**PITTSBURGH, PA**  
\$500,000 toward support of operations (\$300,000) and COVID-related expenses (\$200,000)

**The Pittsburgh Public Theater Corporation\***

**PITTSBURGH, PA**  
\$125,000 toward launch of digital programming designed to reach socially isolated senior audiences

**Pittsburgh Symphony, Inc.\***

**PITTSBURGH, PA**  
\$100,000 to plan and implement a marketing strategy focused on disseminating public health safety measures at Heinz Hall

**Pittsburgh Symphony, Inc.\***

**PITTSBURGH, PA**  
\$500,000 toward support of operations (\$350,000) and COVID-related expenses (\$150,000)

**Pittsburgh Trust for Cultural Resources\***

**PITTSBURGH, PA**  
\$14,000 to develop a series of articles about arts and culture in the region

**Pittsburgh Trust for Cultural Resources**

**PITTSBURGH, PA**  
\$1,550,000 toward purchase of property and support of operations

**Pittsburgh Trust for Cultural Resources\***

**PITTSBURGH, PA**  
\$1,000,000 toward support of operations

**The Poise Foundation**

**PITTSBURGH, PA**  
\$400,000 toward support of the Community Wealth Impact Notes program to help community residents in changing neighborhoods, and others, grow income, increase investment acumen, and directly benefit from increases in property value

**Program to Aid Citizen Enterprise**

**PITTSBURGH, PA**  
\$150,000 toward collaborative efforts with The Bayer Center to increase understanding and skill of participating organizations interested in a variety of organizational partnering opportunities

**The Progress Fund**

**GREENSBURG, PA**  
\$1,000,000 toward construction and opening of the New Hazelwood Brewery Redevelopment Project

**The Progress Fund\***

**GREENSBURG, PA**  
\$500,000 toward emergency support for small businesses located in mostly rural communities

**The Progress Fund\***

**GREENSBURG, PA**  
\$200,000 to support small businesses in southwestern Pennsylvania's tourism and hospitality industries that have been impacted by COVID-19

**Quantum Theatre\***

**PITTSBURGH, PA**  
\$100,000 to partner with small businesses in two neighborhoods connected to Quantum's 30th anniversary season, guaranteeing financial support from patrons

**Redevelopment Authority of the City of Connellsville**

**CONNELLSVILLE, PA**  
\$250,000 to develop a community initiative around property acquisition, stabilization, or demolition, and operating support

**RIDC Southwestern Pennsylvania Growth Fund**

**PITTSBURGH, PA**  
\$300,000 to conduct an economic analysis of the growing autonomous vehicle sector in southwestern Pennsylvania to understand its current and potential future contributions to the region

**Riverlife\***

**PITTSBURGH, PA**  
\$200,000 to establish Pittsburgh Creative Corps, a mobilization of creative workers commissioned to fabricate public art and create civic engagement programs throughout Pittsburgh and river-adjacent spaces

**Sustainable Pittsburgh\***

**PITTSBURGH, PA**  
\$250,000 to stabilize and catalyze the recovery of the regional food system

**Thread International PBC, Inc.**

**HOMEWOOD, PA**  
\$500,000 as a program-related investment to support hiring and training employees from low-income communities to develop and manufacture new products, and expand corporate partnerships

**Thrill Mill, Inc.**

**PITTSBURGH, PA**  
\$500,000 toward one-year support of operations

**Thrill Mill, Inc.**

**PITTSBURGH, PA**  
\$500,000 to partner with OneValley to offer its Passport program to entrepreneurs in the region

**Touchstone Center for Crafts**

**FARMINGTON, PA**  
\$175,000 toward support of operations

**University of Pittsburgh**

**PITTSBURGH, PA**  
\$175,000 to support an initiative to develop a media production program and career pathways for the entertainment industry

**University of Pittsburgh**

**PITTSBURGH, PA**  
\$1,500,000 to support the LifeX platform for life science commercialization

**University of Pittsburgh, Center for Social & Urban Research**

**PITTSBURGH, PA**  
\$185,000 toward support of PittsburghTODAY, also known as the Pittsburgh Regional Indicators project

**Urban Redevelopment Authority of Pittsburgh\***

**PITTSBURGH, PA**  
\$100,000 to support a commercial rent relief program for businesses impacted by COVID-19

**Venture Outdoors\***

**PITTSBURGH, PA**  
\$75,000 toward support of increased operations due to the COVID-19 pandemic

**Venture Outdoors**

**PITTSBURGH, PA**  
\$250,000 toward support of operations and Youth & Family, College/Young Adult, and Outdoor Inclusion Coalition programming

**Washington and Jefferson College**

**WASHINGTON, PA**  
\$160,000 to support the Shale Gas Knowledge Hub, an initiative of the Center for Energy Policy and Management

**Westmoreland Cultural Trust\***

**GREENSBURG, PA**  
\$200,000 to implement a marketing/communications plan in response to the ongoing COVID-19 crisis to keep the community engaged and help jump-start the economy

**Westmoreland Human Opportunities, Inc.**

**GREENSBURG, PA**  
\$75,000 toward support of Welcome Everyone Westmoreland

**Westmoreland Museum of Art**

**GREENSBURG, PA**  
\$500,000 toward support of operations

**Westmoreland Museum of Art\***

**GREENSBURG, PA**  
\$100,000 to develop a virtual fieldtrip program serving K-12 students and teachers

**Westmoreland Museum of Art\***

**GREENSBURG, PA**  
\$100,000 toward support of increased operations due to the COVID-19 pandemic

**Westmoreland Symphony Orchestra**

**GREENSBURG, PA**  
\$35,000 to develop increased capacity through accessible and engaging popular programming while exploring non-traditional models of implementation and programming/operations

**WQED Multimedia**

**PITTSBURGH, PA**  
\$150,000 to advance cultural equity through innovative strategies focused on culturally specific art and education that informs, inspires, and impacts community awareness and societal change

**Zoological Society of Pittsburgh\***

**PITTSBURGH, PA**  
\$350,000 toward support of increased operations due to the COVID-19 pandemic

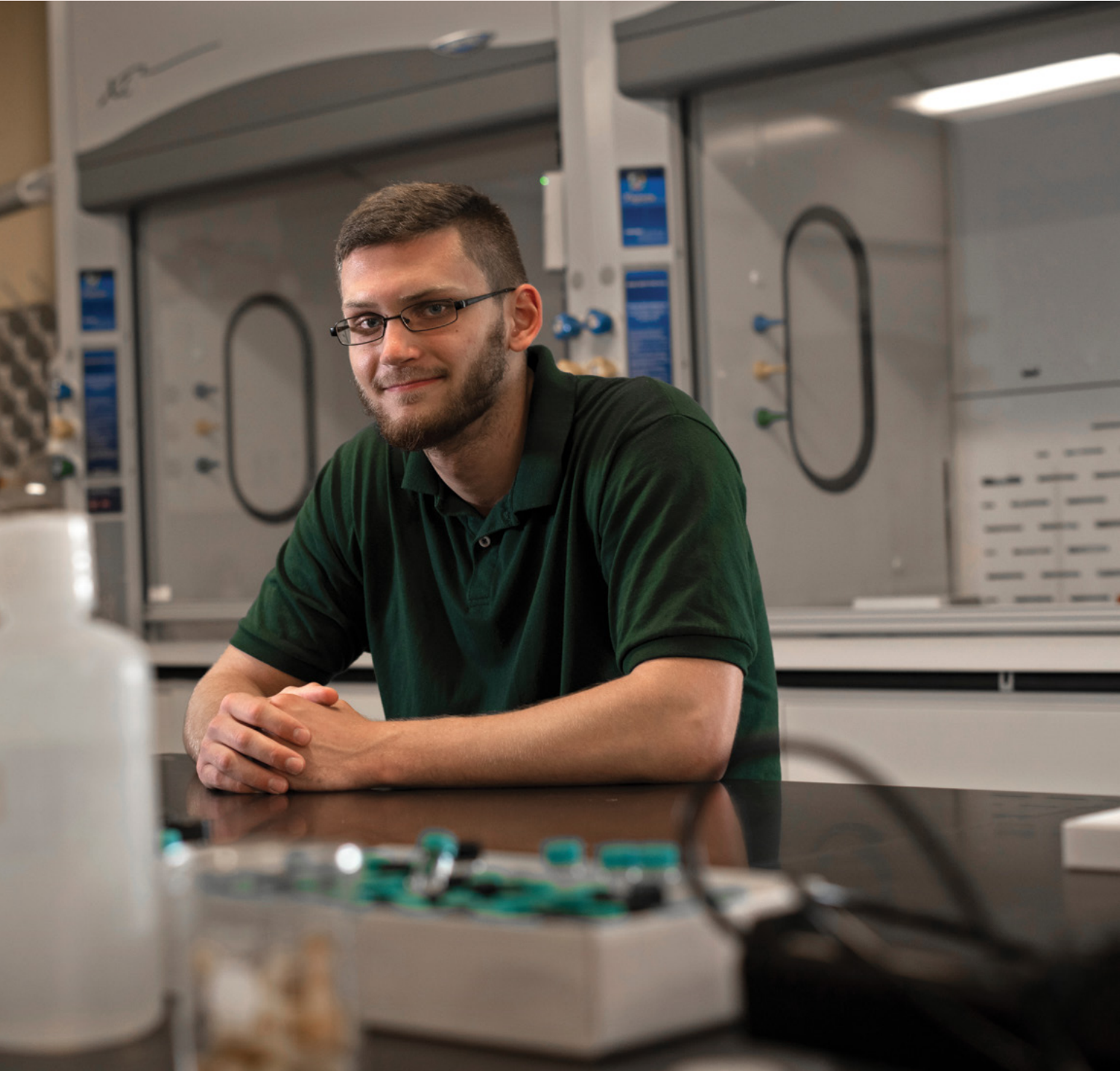
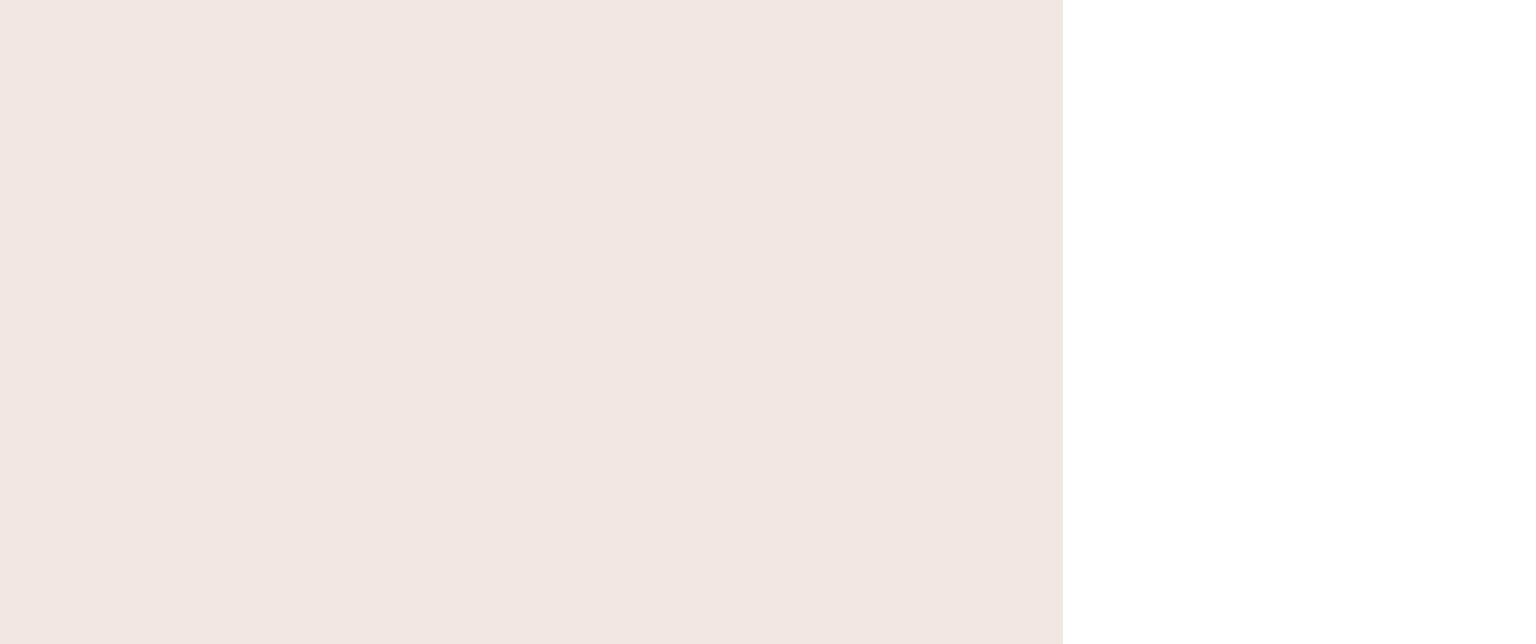


## EDUCATION

# Assuring Ongoing Learning Amid the Pandemic

The Foundation in 2020 awarded 51 education grants and program-related investments totaling \$13,300,000, including \$4,250,000 for community-based organizations; \$3,170,000 for higher education; and \$3,030,000 for K-12 initiatives. Forty eight percent of the Foundation's education grant-making in 2020 was COVID related.







“I was always so stressed  
about paying the tuition.”

BRYCE CHISOM, RMU STUDENT

**PITTSBURGH PROMISE**

# **BUILDING ON A PITTSBURGH PROMISE**



## Scholars with Tuition Shortfall Receive Aid

**BRYCE CHISOM** just couldn't make the math work. Even with financial aid and scholarships, the 20-year-old nursing student at Robert Morris University was \$1,700 short for the summer 2020 session. No one in her family was working during the pandemic. If she took a semester off, she would disrupt the tightly packed sequence of classes, delaying her graduation and putting herself deeper in debt. "I didn't know how I was going to get that money," she said.

Then an email landed in her inbox that changed her life. The Pittsburgh Promise, the nonprofit that had awarded her a college scholarship, informed her that it had paid off her balance. The Richard King Mellon Foundation's \$1,325,000 grant for the COVID-19 Student Relief Fund kept her college plans on track. "I don't have words to express how grateful I am," Chisom said. "It took a lot of the burden off my family."

The Pittsburgh Promise provides scholarships to Pittsburgh Public School students who maintain a certain grade point average. Executive Director Saleem Ghubril worried that the hardships of the pandemic would force some to drop out or defer their studies indefinitely, creating a cascading set of problems such as food and housing insecurity.

High school seniors, many of whom would be first-generation college students, might not get to go at all. "These scholarships provide economic mobility for lots of inner-city kids. If they are derailed, that will be a derailment for the rest of their lives."

In early April, Ghubril received a call from Sam Reiman, director of the Richard King Mellon Foundation, asking how the foundation could help scholarship recipients. By the end of the call, the idea of an emergency fund was already taking shape.

At Reiman's request, Ghubril wrote up a short grant proposal in two days. A few days after that, lightning speed in the grantmaking world, the money was approved.

To gauge the needs of students, Ghubril hired three youth outreach specialists to contact recipients. The team was prepared to meet the most urgent needs on the spot. For example, if someone was worried about food, they were emailed a gift card to either Giant Eagle, Target or Walmart within an hour. They also paid off tuition balances.

Chris Howard, president of Robert Morris University, said the university "embraced the Pittsburgh Promise from the moment it was launched, because it makes a college degree so much more affordable and accessible to students who might otherwise be left behind. We are deeply appreciative of the extra support provided to these talented students by the Richard King Mellon Foundation. It is just another example of the foundation's unshakable commitment to high-quality education throughout the region."

For Chisom, the aid has allowed her to shift her attention from money worries to concentrating on challenging courses. The ebullient student commutes one day every other week to campus from her home in the North Side to take her pharmacology course. She hopes to work in a hospital for a few years and then become a traveling nurse, gaining varied experiences.

She chose Robert Morris University because of the high number of graduates passing licensing exams. But the private school tuition requires her to patch together multiple funding sources. A graduate of Barack Obama Academy of International Studies in East Liberty, she has received \$2,500 a semester from Pittsburgh Promise.

When her family's finances were strained during the pandemic, she didn't even have to ask for more help. Pittsburgh Promise automatically paid her tuition shortfall several times. "It's been such a relief," she said. "I was always so stressed about paying the tuition."

Nursing student and Pittsburgh Promise scholarship recipient Bryce Chisom at the Edward A. Nicholson Center at Robert Morris University in Moon Township. She is a junior and is interested in travel nursing after graduation.

SETON HILL UNIVERSITY

# A PLACE TO CALL HOME



“I don’t know where I  
would have stayed...”

NATHAN STANKO, SETON HILL STUDENT

## Universities Award Emergency Aid to Students

**NATE STANKO'S** dorm room at Seton Hill University is a five-minute walk from the places on campus he feels most at home—the gym, where he lifts weights, and the chapel, where he remembers his late mother.

For Stanko, the sparsely decorated single dorm room in Farrell Hall is much more than a convenient place to go back to at the end of the day. His tuition assistance and free room and board there made it possible for him to complete his undergraduate degree in biochemistry.

The 20-year-old isn't sure he could have attended his senior year if not for the Richard King Mellon Foundation. It awarded about \$2.95 million to 15 colleges and universities to help them reopen and manage other emergency situations during the pandemic. The \$100,000 grant to Seton Hill allowed the university to help Stanko with the cost of his education and room and board expenses after the death of his mother, Laura Stanko Dominelli, an alumna who raised him as a single parent. "I don't know where I would have stayed if I didn't have a place on campus."

Seton Hill University President Mary C. Finger said the emergency grant also allowed the school to help other "economically vulnerable health sciences students, a number of whom are Pell eligible, to ensure that they are able to complete their college education and stay on track to become future healthcare providers at a most critical time."

Stanko, a 6'1" senior with broad shoulders, was under pressure that went way beyond term papers and final exams. During his sophomore year, his mother was diagnosed with leukemia. A commuter from his home in Hempfield to the bucolic Greensburg campus, he balanced calculus class and science labs with caretaking duties. The experience of caring for a loved one motivated him to pursue a career in health sciences.

When her condition deteriorated, the oncologist suggested a stem cell transplant, and Stanko, found to be a match, volunteered to be her donor. The procedure at UPMC

Shadyside Hospital gave her the strength to resume their regular walks together.

Stanko's relief was short-lived—his mother developed a complication after the transplant known as Steroid-Refractory Acute Graft-Versus-Host Disease. The oncologist's words still haunt him. "It's a very hard thing to come back from." She died in June of 2020.

He had to deal with profound grief while figuring out a way to finish school. He had considered staying at a relative's or friend's house, but the long commute would be daunting. He discussed the complex situation with his advisor, Dr. Jonathan Moerdyk, who alerted the school about his urgent need for housing.

"It's just so much more convenient to be on campus," Stanko said. "I am able to focus and be productive and go to the gym and lift weights."

Stanko likes to visit Saint James Chapel, where he feels closest to his mother. He remembers her bringing him to campus when she was a student there, and they would play hide-and-seek on the grounds. When they entered the chapel, she would tell him he had to sit still and be quiet. Some days, he sits in one of the pews on the left of the chapel and envisions his mother praying there.

Despite all the turmoil in his life, Stanko made the dean's list this fall and was accepted to Lipscomb University School of Pharmacy in Nashville, Tennessee. He plans to eventually earn both Pharm.D. and Ph.D. degrees with a goal of developing new treatments for the Graft-Versus-Host Disease that claimed his mother's life.

That next chapter might not have been possible without the support of the Richard King Mellon Foundation and Seton Hill University. "I'm tremendously grateful. I don't know if I would have been able to finish my biochem degree if I didn't have a place to stay."

Nate Stanko sits in the same pew at St. Joseph Chapel at Seton Hill University in Greensburg where he used to pray with his mother before she passed away from cancer last year. Stanko is a senior studying biochemistry.



GWEN'S GIRLS

# EMPOWERING BLACK GIRLS



“There’s no judgment....the girls are there for each other.”

JAYLA HOBDY

## Gwen's Girls Supports Physical, Mental Development

**AS SHE TURNED 15**, Jayla Hobdy was struggling with her grades, her health, and most of all, her self-esteem. The Penn Hills teenager, who had been bullied at school, was down on herself and stuck in a cycle of self-doubt.

The day after her 15th birthday, she joined Gwen's Girls, mainly for tutoring, but she found something even more important—a sense of empowerment. The nonprofit, named after the late Pittsburgh Police Commander Gwen Elliott, helps at-risk Black girls develop physically, emotionally and spiritually.

For Hobdy, the group was the support she needed to move forward and believe in herself. “There’s no judgment. Everybody’s kind of dealing with the same things. A lot of the girls are there for each other.”

The Richard King Mellon Foundation gave \$250,000 to Gwen's Girls for overall support of the program that offers health and wellness workshops, life skills, mentoring, job readiness programs, mental health and other services. The grant also supports staff recruitment, training and retention, strengthening the team-focused approach. In light of the murder of George Floyd, the Foundation supported programs to address the issue of race-based disparities.

For Black girls in Pittsburgh, the disparities can have devastating consequences. Black girls are more likely than their White counterparts to experience dating violence and rape. They also are more likely to have their lives impacted by the school-to-prison pipeline. Of the juvenile justice referrals in Allegheny County in 2018, 60 percent were for Black girls, compared to 38 percent for White girls. While Black and White girls use drugs and alcohol at equal rates, Black girls are three times more likely to be referred to the juvenile justice system on drug charges.

Throughout the pandemic, members of the Black Girls Advocacy and Leadership Alliance (BGALA) high school program have met once a week on Zoom. They also met once a week in person at the North Side office, coming from all parts of the Pittsburgh area. “Each girl is looked at individually through a therapeutic lens,” said Brittany Brown, youth coordinator and supervisor for the BGALA team. “It may be support for them and their family, it may be one-on-one mentoring.”

They also take turns giving presentations on what they learn whether in a speech or podcast. “It was amazing to work with them and see how they evolved from being quiet and whispering to being able to do a presentation,” Brown said.

In Hobdy's case, they tutored her in her least favorite subject, algebra, helping to boost her grades, and provided her with nutritional education. Shacoya Bates, an intern with the clinical team, took Hobdy food shopping to help her make nutritional changes. The staff at Gwen's Girls gave Hobdy, an aspiring cosmetologist, mannequin heads and flat irons to practice her skills and connected her to a salon for an internship.

Most of all, they infused her with a sense of confidence and happiness that her mother, Ebony Hobdy, is thrilled to see. “Jayla really didn't have much self-esteem before,” Ebony Hobdy said. “They helped her transform herself to what she is now. It was the wind beneath her wings.”

(left to right)  
Grandmother Norma Allen, Jayla Hobdy, and mother Ebony Hobdy in Penn Hills.

## Grant and Program-Related Investment Summary

**\$13,300,000**

GRANTS & PRIs APPROVED

**51**

TOTAL GRANTS & PRIs

**12%**

of Total Grants & PRIs

### **Allegheny College\***

MEADVILLE, PA  
\$210,000 to provide antigen testing for students as a baseline for screening and diagnosis of COVID-19

### **Allegheny Intermediate Unit\***

HOMESTEAD, PA  
\$200,000 toward professional development opportunities for educators in order to provide high-quality instruction in virtual and brick and mortar environments

### **Allegheny Intermediate Unit**

HOMESTEAD, PA  
\$250,000 to explore and test new, bold, and innovative solutions to the region's education challenges through the Moonshot RFP program

### **Businesses United in Investing, Lending and Development**

REDWOOD CITY, CA  
\$50,000 to conduct a high-level needs assessment and robust outreach for potential partners to implement a Satellite Partnership program in southwestern Pennsylvania that teaches entrepreneurship, financial literacy, and 21st-century skills to students in under-resourced communities

### **Carlow University\***

PITTSBURGH, PA  
\$210,000 to assist students experiencing financial challenges due to the COVID-19 pandemic, and to provide PPE and technology associated with remote or virtual learning

### **Carnegie Mellon University\***

PITTSBURGH, PA  
\$50,000 to collect a novel dataset to anticipate changes in consumer behavior during and following a pandemic

### **Carnegie Mellon University\***

PITTSBURGH, PA  
\$210,000 as a challenge grant to match contributions from alumni, parents, faculty, and staff for campus COVID-19 relief efforts for students

### **Carnegie Mellon University**

PITTSBURGH, PA  
\$150,000 to implement the Reinforcing High School Mathematics with Robotics project and increase high school students' readiness for STEM careers

### **Chatham University\***

PITTSBURGH, PA  
\$210,000 toward costs associated with implementing required health and safety protocols to resume on-campus instruction, as a result of COVID-19

### **Citizen Science Lab\***

PITTSBURGH, PA  
\$125,000 to adapt in-person programming to a cyber learning environment

### **Citizen Science Lab**

PITTSBURGH, PA  
\$50,000 toward support of the Citizen Science Lab 5 Year Anniversary Celebration and Fundraiser

### **Community College of Allegheny County Education Foundation\***

PITTSBURGH, PA  
\$150,000 to provide laptops and connectivity means to students as they endeavor to continue remote education in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic

### **Duquesne University of the Holy Spirit\***

PITTSBURGH, PA  
\$210,000 to provide financial assistance to students facing financial challenges due to the COVID-19 pandemic

### **Flint RiverQuarium, Inc.\***

ALBANY, GA  
\$100,000 to enhance and expand existing virtual educational programming that addresses shortfalls in available K-12 learning resources as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic



**Fund for Advancement of Minorities Through Education**

**PITTSBURGH, PA**  
\$300,000 toward support of operations

**Grantmakers of Western Pennsylvania\***

**PITTSBURGH, PA**  
\$150,000 to bolster and sustain three task groups within the Pittsburgh Learning Collaborative: Out-of-School Time, At-Home Learning Environments and Communications, and Tech/Wifi Access

**Grove City College\***

**GROVE CITY, PA**  
\$210,000 to put protocols in place to protect the health and safety of students, employees, and the larger community in response to the continuing COVID-19 pandemic

**Gwen's Girls**

**PITTSBURGH, PA**  
\$250,000 toward support of programs and operations

**Heritage Community Initiatives\***

**BRADDOCK, PA**  
\$100,000 for educational programs in response to the COVID-19 pandemic

**Holy Family Institute\***

**PITTSBURGH, PA**  
\$100,000 toward support of increased operations due to the COVID-19 pandemic

**Homewood Children's Village**

**PITTSBURGH, PA**  
\$800,000 toward support of operations and launch of a new strategic plan

**Imani Christian Academy**

**PITTSBURGH, PA**  
\$160,000 to launch and deliver the Microsoft Office Specialist Certification Program for high school juniors and seniors

**Jewish Federation of Greater Pittsburgh**

**PITTSBURGH, PA**  
\$100,000 toward costs associated with the inaugural Tree of Life Anti-Hate Conference

**Kiskiminetas Springs School\***

**SALTSBURG, PA**  
\$400,000 toward support of increased operations during the COVID-19 pandemic

**Ligonier Valley Library Association**

**LIGONIER, PA**  
\$150,000 toward support of operations and one-time expenses as the library transitions to a new director

**Manchester Youth Development Center, Inc.**

**PITTSBURGH, PA**  
\$300,000 toward support of operations, programs, and leadership transition expenses

**The Neighborhood Academy**

**PITTSBURGH, PA**  
\$300,000 to implement a strategic plan focused on financial stability, mission affirmation, student success, and professional talent

**Pittsburgh Community Broadcasting Corporation\***

**PITTSBURGH, PA**  
\$125,000 to develop journalism around an assessment of the regional economic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic and the success of recovery efforts

**Pittsburgh Community Broadcasting Corporation**

**PITTSBURGH, PA**  
\$300,000 to create greater accountabilities in government

**The Pittsburgh Promise Foundation\***

**PITTSBURGH, PA**  
\$1,325,000 toward emergency support to assist at-risk high school seniors and current college students impacted by COVID-19

**Pittsburgh Public Schools\***

**PITTSBURGH, PA**  
\$150,000 to prevent COVID-19 related learning loss by training teachers and leaders to use assessments to adjust instruction in new eLearning environments

**Point Park University\***

**PITTSBURGH, PA**  
\$210,000 toward support of a COVID-19 response

**The Poise Foundation**

**PITTSBURGH, PA**  
\$200,000 to launch an online digital content and education platform that produces daily video series, live events, and written features focusing on technology and the Black community

**The Poise Foundation\***

**PITTSBURGH, PA**  
\$200,000 toward a collaborative project to remove barriers to Black students' college access caused by the learning disruption and economic instability of COVID-19

**Propel Schools Foundation**

**PITTSBURGH, PA**  
\$200,000 to support a public/private partnership with the PA State Treasurer that will provide incentives for Allegheny County families to save for their kids' futures

**Robert Morris University\***

**MOON TOWNSHIP, PA**  
\$210,000 as a challenge grant to match contributions from alumni, parents, faculty, and staff for campus COVID-19 relief efforts for students

**Saint Vincent College\***

**LATROBE, PA**  
\$250,000 toward support of increased operations due to the COVID-19 pandemic

**Seton Hill University\***

**GREENSBURG, PA**  
\$100,000 toward support of increased operations due to the COVID-19 pandemic

**Sixup PBC, Inc.**

**SAN FRANCISCO, CA**  
\$2,000,000 as a program-related investment to provide student loans and educational support services to underserved students from southwestern Pennsylvania or students who will come to southwestern Pennsylvania to attend school

**SLB Radio Productions, Inc.**

**PITTSBURGH, PA**  
\$25,000 to collect audio stories from the region's residents that illustrate experiences with human services, health, and well-being topics

**Storehouse for Teachers\***

**PITTSBURGH, PA**  
\$50,000 to purchase learning toolkits for the most vulnerable children to mitigate the "summer slide"

**Susquehanna University\***

**SELINSGROVE, PA**  
\$210,000 toward COVID-19 response and recovery efforts that advance student learning and the health of the campus community

**United Way of Southwestern Pennsylvania**

**PITTSBURGH, PA**  
\$600,000 to provide academic and emergency basic needs support to low-income families with children ages birth to third grade in Westmoreland County

**University of Pittsburgh\***

**PITTSBURGH, PA**  
\$210,000 toward support of the Pitt Success Pell Match Program, Student Emergency Assistance Fund, and Accelerated BS Nursing Degree Scholarship

**Valley School of Ligonier**

**RECTOR, PA**  
\$20,000 to conduct a site analysis, code assessment, and concept phase plan for a new building for the Ligonier Valley Police Commission

**Valley School of Ligonier**

**RECTOR, PA**  
\$500,000 toward support of operations

**Washington and Jefferson College\***

**WASHINGTON, PA**  
\$210,000 to provide support for students impacted by the pandemic, and purchase PPE and safety supplies to minimize COVID-19 transmission

**Westminster College\***

**NEW WILMINGTON, PA**  
\$210,000 to support online/hybrid instruction and increased health and safety resources for Westminster's campus across the 2020-2021 academic year

**Westmoreland County Community College Educational Foundation, Inc.\***

**YOUNGWOOD, PA**  
\$100,000 to assist workers dislocated by COVID-19 with attaining regionally in-demand career skills and an opportunity to earn an industry-recognized credential

**Westmoreland Intermediate Unit 7\***

**GREENSBURG, PA**  
\$200,000 to expand opportunities for virtual learning at home for young children

**YouthPlaces**

**PITTSBURGH, PA**  
\$200,000 to support students' virtual learning success by providing technology access and digital skill development

\*COVID-19 grant

## HUMAN SERVICES

# Meeting Human Needs Amid the Pandemic

The Foundation in 2020 awarded 132 human-services grants and investments totaling \$32,975,700, including nearly \$9.5 million toward health care; \$4.7 million toward housing needs; more than \$2.8 million for workforce development; and nearly \$2.5 million for food needs. Forty percent of the Foundation's 2020 human-services funding was COVID related.









STEEL SMILING

# MENTAL HEALTH ADVOCACY



“I don’t have a magic wand to fix all these problems.”

RICK BIGELOW

## Supporting Mental Health in Black Communities

**RICK BIGELOW** walks through the heart of Mount Oliver, past boarded-up storefronts and a barbershop and other stores temporarily closed during the pandemic. He stops on a crumbling sidewalk to high-five and banter with two men he's known since childhood.

A driver beeps the horn and calls out the window as he passes by. "Hey, Biggs."

"Hey, hey, hey, bro," Bigelow yells back jubilantly. "How are you, sir?"

A few minutes later, a woman stops him on the street to thank him for helping the kids in the neighborhood.

The 6'6" man stands out not only for his broad smile and towering stature but also what he's wearing—the back of his T-shirt reads "Black Therapists Matter." It's one of the many strengths-based slogans of Steel Smiling, a community-based nonprofit he works for that spreads a message about the value of mental health in the Black community.

The Richard King Mellon Foundation granted \$200,000 to Steel Smiling to expand its Beam to Bridges program. The two year-long workforce development program trains Black people in Allegheny County to be community mental health advocates who can connect friends and family members with services and support. In turn, the community advocates receive a weekly stipend, mental health training and social service support. The grant enables the nonprofit to expand the program to the Hill District, Homewood, Larimer and Wilkinsburg.

Given the turmoil following the murder of George Floyd and the disproportionate share of pandemic deaths among Black community members, the program is more important than ever. "COVID has flipped the world upside down," said Julius Boatwright, Steel Smiling's founding CEO. "Some people say, 'If it weren't for my Steel Smiling stipend, I don't know where my food would come from.'"

To help reduce the stigma surrounding mental health services, Beams to Bridges uses a peer-to-peer, person-centered approach that encourages cohort members to talk

about mental health with friends, relatives and neighbors.

Bigelow exemplifies the pound-the-pavement philosophy. Having gone through the program himself, he now supervises 22 other community mental health advocates in Beltzhoover, Bon Air, Arlington, Mount Oliver, Allentown, Knoxville and lower Mt. Washington. "What better way to help us through our trauma than those who are living with us?" he said.

Bigelow grew up in Beltzhoover, living amidst the tensions between city neighborhoods. As a community mental health advocate, he has been able to forge bonds across the usual boundaries, thanks to the friends he made through high school sports and later as a youth football coach for the South Side Bears.

On a recent day, Bigelow was reaching out to neighbors who had been traumatized after someone vandalized the South Side Bears equipment building with racist graffiti. "I call it domestic terrorism," said Bigelow, who helped paint over the slurs.

His cell phone rings day and night with people asking for his help. Sometimes he makes a referral to a social service agency. Other times he jumps on an emergency. When a Beams to Bridges Program Cohort Member called to tell him he couldn't get to work because his car tires were damaged from nails, Bigelow got authorization from Steel Smiling to provide immediate emergency funding, making sure the cohort member didn't lose a day's wages.

At the same time, he is careful not to be too intrusive and risk pushing people away from the support they need.

Even under a mask and bucket hat, Bigelow exudes pure sunniness. Yet sometimes the collective grief of the community weighs on him. Boatwright makes sure Bigelow takes time off for his own mental health needs. "I am not Superman," Bigelow said. "I don't have a magic wand to fix all these problems."

Community mental health worker Rick Bigelow raises his fist to greet a friend who beeped at him as he walks along Brownsville Road in Mount Oliver.



GREATER PITTSBURGH COMMUNITY FOOD BANK

# FOOD BANK RISES TO THE CHALLENGE



“One day it was, ‘Oh no, we have no milk in the refrigerator.’”

AUDREY VERNER



## Cars Line up During the Pandemic for Food Boxes

Curtis Verner receives a kiss from his wife Audrey Verner at their home in McKees Rocks. The Verners received food from Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank and a local pantry when Curtis lost his job as chef and Audrey was on disability following surgery.

**AUDREY AND CURTIS VERNER** never thought they would be waiting in a food bank line. But there they were, their car lined up among rows upon rows of other vehicles in a parking lot at the Pittsburgh International Airport. Audrey's eyes burned with tears as she waited for someone from the Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank to put a full box in the trunk. What if the workers were condescending? What if they asked her why she was driving a 2015 Chevy Trax SUV and still asking for a handout? She was on disability, and Curtis Verner had lost two chef jobs. Still, as they waited, she felt a knot in her stomach.

But instead of being shamed, she was treated with compassion during the drive-up distribution in April of 2020. Lisa Scales, president and CEO of the food bank, reassured her they were there to help. "They never made us feel worthless," Audrey Verner said.

As COVID-19 upended people's lives and caused rising food insecurity, the Richard King Mellon Foundation gave \$1,200,000 to the Pittsburgh Community Food Bank and \$500,000 to the Westmoreland County Food Bank. The Foundation also donated \$200,000 to 412 Food Rescue, a nonprofit that transports food contributions to people in need.

During the first year of the pandemic, the Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank distributed food for 46.3 million meals, about a 20 percent increase from the previous year. They also found a new way to feed more people, going from a walk-up model to drive-through distributions where they loaded pre-packed boxes of food into each car. They supplied food to pantries and nonprofits in 11 Southwestern Pennsylvania counties and incorporated more fresh produce.

Scales saw many people like the Verners who never imagined themselves worrying about their next meal. "Never in a million

years did they think they would be in need of food assistance," she said. "We saw a mix of fear, desperation and relief on people's faces and heard it in their voices."

She, her staff and the many volunteers thanked people for coming and encouraged them to come back. "It takes courage to ask for help."

Even before the pandemic, the Verners had strained to pay their bills after Audrey lost her job at a bank in 2018 and went on disability after several surgeries. The couple depended on Curtis Verner working about 60 hours a week at his two jobs at the Pittsburgh Airport Marriott and Eat'n Park. "It was a heck of a shock going from working that much to not working at all," he said.

Curtis Verner, 54, applied for unemployment, but there was a delay in processing the claim. With rent due on their cozy two-bedroom townhouse in McKees Rocks and other bills piling up, they borrowed from relatives and friends.

Audrey Verner, 59, has worked since she was 15. "We never lived a high life. I was always taught to live within my means, but what do you do when your means are taken away? At the beginning of the pandemic, we didn't know left from right or up from down. Then one day, it was, 'Oh no, we have no milk in the refrigerator.'"

The Food Bank staff also referred them to a food pantry near their house and helped them apply for SNAP benefits. Curtis Verner was called back to his jobs in the spring of 2021.

Audrey Verner's fond memory of that drive-up distribution experience has made her vow to volunteer with the Food Bank when her health improves. "I was in awe of all those people who volunteered their time and lifted all those boxes into people's cars."



“I am your physical, mental  
and constant support.”

SUSAN PETNUCH

UPMC MAGEE-WOMENS HOSPITAL

# ONE-ON-ONE SUPPORT IN LABOR

## Doulas at Magee Womens Help High-Risk Mothers

**ASIA CAMP** was 37 weeks pregnant with her third child and heading into a checkup at UPMC Magee-Womens Hospital when her water broke in the parking lot. She hurried inside the hospital for the appointment and promptly went into labor.

The 28-year-old from Mount Oliver thought she would have to deliver without a friend or relative by her side, the same lonely experience she had with the birth of her second child. But this time, she received constant emotional and physical support from Susan Petnuch, a 60-year-old doula.

Camp grimaced as she experienced a wave of contractions. Petnuch, a mother of nine, locked eyes and directed her through breathing exercises. Like a conductor, the doula made sweeping motions from Camp's forehead downward. "See your baby come down," she said in a soothing voice. When those contractions stopped, Petnuch told her, "You are doing such a good job. It's a lot. It's like a marathon."

The Richard King Mellon Foundation awarded \$480,000 to Magee-Womens Research Institute & Foundation to provide doula care for women who are at risk of adverse pregnancy outcomes. Doulas are labor support professionals who give guidance and moral support to women before, during and after labor.

With the national infant mortality rate for Black women two to three times that of non-Hispanic white women, doulas may be one way to narrow the gap, said Dr. Hyagriv Simhan, executive vice chair of obstetrical services at UPMC. Doulas also serve as advocates and liaisons for groups who do not trust or feel comfortable within the healthcare system.

Doctors refer patients for the optional service. "We see a lot of patients with limited English, a high volume of Black women and teenagers with no identified support person. But we also have couples who just want

extra support," said Beth Quinn, director of women's health operations at UPMC Magee-Womens Hospital. Doulas connect women to prenatal care services, discuss their birth plans and help them with postpartum depression and breastfeeding concerns.

During labor and delivery, they stay at the bedside, even if that means pulling an all-nighter. "I am your physical, mental and constant support," Petnuch told Camp.

Though the two women had never met before, they quickly bonded over Camp's plan for a natural birth. Petnuch gently rubbed her shoulders, massaged her back with a tennis ball, and put a peanut ball between her legs to keep her hips and pelvis open. More than anything, Camp said, "It just feels better to have someone here and have that emotional support."

Petnuch arrived at 6 p.m. and was still there when Camp gave birth at 12:07 p.m. to a 4-pound, 13-ounce baby boy, and stayed more than two hours after. She watched the mother bond with her new baby for the first hour of his life with a method called "skin to skin," the baby laying directly on the mother's chest. Petnuch had mentioned the idea to Camp, who loved the experience.

In the next few days, the doula and the new mother texted back and forth and talked on the phone. Breastfeeding was going well, Camp told her. Petnuch gave her a few references for social services and told her about the Pittsburgh Black Breastfeeding Circle in case she needed more support. Camp thanked her for being there for her.

The next day, Camp sent her a video of the baby. "It was just beautiful," Petnuch said. "Asia is in my heart now."

Doula Susan Petnuch squeezes Asia Camp's hips to ease the pain of a contraction as Camp gets closer to delivering her third child at UPMC Magee Women's Hospital in Oakland.



## Grant and Program-Related Investment Summary

**\$32,975,700**

GRANTS & PRIs APPROVED

**132**

TOTAL GRANTS & PRIs

**30%**

of Total Grants & PRIs

**412 Food Rescue, Inc.\***

PITTSBURGH, PA  
\$200,000 to expand food recovery and distribution efforts during COVID-19

**Aaron Donald  
99 Solutions Foundation**

PITTSBURGH, PA  
\$50,000 to develop an interactive coaching development program for youth football coaches working in urban areas

**ACH Clear Pathways**

PITTSBURGH, PA  
\$200,000 toward support of programs and operations

**Action For Animals, Inc.\***

LATROBE, PA  
\$100,000 toward support of increased operations due to the COVID-19 pandemic

**Adagio Health, Inc.\***

PITTSBURGH, PA  
\$50,000 toward support of increased operations due to the COVID-19 pandemic

**Adelphoi Foundation**

LATROBE, PA  
\$420,000 to improve the placement of youth in the child welfare and juvenile justice systems, and to implement a scheduling software system for direct care programs

**Albert Schweitzer Fellowship - Pittsburgh**

PITTSBURGH, PA  
\$75,000 toward support of operations

**Allegheny Conference on Community Development\***

PITTSBURGH, PA  
\$50,000 toward support of increased operations due to the COVID-19 pandemic

**Allegheny Council to Improve Our Neighborhoods-Housing, Inc.\***

PITTSBURGH, PA  
\$100,000 to build a resilient safety net for vulnerable tenants

**Allegheny Council to Improve Our Neighborhoods-Housing, Inc.**

PITTSBURGH, PA  
\$1,500,000 to develop an accessible shelter downtown including housing, a clinic, and wrap-around services for those experiencing homelessness

**Allegheny County Court of Common Pleas Family Division Juvenile Section**

PITTSBURGH, PA  
\$100,000 to redesign the Family Law Center to mitigate court users' trauma

**Allegheny Health Network\***

PITTSBURGH, PA  
\$150,000 to support the manufacturing and distribution of a new type of protective enclosure box to reduce exposure to COVID-19

**Allegheny Health Network\***

PITTSBURGH, PA  
\$250,000 toward support of increased operations due to the COVID-19 pandemic

**AMD3 Foundation\***

PITTSBURGH, PA  
\$700 toward six-month support to build 40 to 100 Personal Negative Pressure Chambers

**Auberle\***

MCKEESPORT, PA  
\$50,000 toward support of increased operations due to the COVID-19 pandemic

**Bethlen Home of the Hungarian Reformed Federation of America**

LIGONIER, PA  
\$2,684,000 to execute an immediate financial and operational turnaround to stabilize operations, followed by a focus on long-term improvements and revenue capture opportunities to ensure sustainability

**Bethlen Home of the Hungarian Reformed Federation of America\***

LIGONIER, PA  
\$515,000 to support a pilot program with DawnLight aimed at providing more proactive care to seniors during COVID-19 and beyond

**Beverly's Birthdays**

NORTH HUNTINGDON, PA  
\$25,000 toward support of operations

**Bible Center Church, Inc.\***

PITTSBURGH, PA  
\$50,000 to decrease children's food insecurity, increase access to food, and support families' in Homewood and surrounding communities

**Bidwell Cultural and Training Center, Inc.\***

PITTSBURGH, PA  
\$100,000 to develop and implement an alternative content delivery model that supplements on-site instruction with remote learning

**Blood Science Foundation\***

PITTSBURGH, PA  
\$150,000 to improve negative impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on the local blood supply while supporting convalescent plasma treatment

**Carnegie Mellon University\***

PITTSBURGH, PA  
\$150,000 to combine GPS data with records maintained by Allegheny County Department of Human Services to guide service providers' response to the COVID-19 crisis

**Carnegie Mellon University\***

PITTSBURGH, PA  
\$125,000 to provide K-12 students in Homewood and New Kensington with access to free wireless mesh networks in order to participate in online learning

**Carnegie Mellon University\***

PITTSBURGH, PA  
\$250,000 to scale the manufacturing of hybrid microneedle arrays for use in administering COVID-19 and other vaccines

**Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Pittsburgh, Inc.\***

PITTSBURGH, PA  
\$125,000 to provide direct needs assistance to individuals and families

**Center of Life\***

PITTSBURGH, PA  
\$50,000 toward support of increased operations due to the COVID-19 pandemic

**The Center That C.A.R.E.S.\***

PITTSBURGH, PA  
\$150,000 to empower families in the Hill District by building multi-generational digital literacy

**The Children's Home of Pittsburgh\***

PITTSBURGH, PA  
\$25,000 toward support of increased operations due to the COVID-19 pandemic

**Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh Foundation\***

PITTSBURGH, PA  
\$250,000 to deliver and administer COVID-19 vaccines in southwestern Pennsylvania

**Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh Foundation**

PITTSBURGH, PA  
\$1,500,000 to develop a candidate vaccine and/or therapeutic against acute flaccid myelitis

**Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh Foundation\***

PITTSBURGH, PA  
\$250,000 to enroll volunteers for Phase 3 human clinical trials of COVID-19 vaccine candidates

**City of Pittsburgh, Housing Authority**

PITTSBURGH, PA  
\$150,000 to launch an expansive, COVID-safe mobile lab program to provide onsite internet access services to low-income residents

**Community Foundation of Greater Johnstown\***

PITTSBURGH, PA  
\$250,000 to provide comprehensive support to regional farmers markets—growers and shoppers—ensuring that markets operate safely, support regional businesses, and supply fresh, affordable food

**Community Human Services Corporation\***

PITTSBURGH, PA  
\$50,000 toward support of increased operations due to the COVID-19 pandemic

**Community Human Services Corporation\***

PITTSBURGH, PA  
\$175,000 to expand behavioral health services for vulnerable individuals

**Community Kitchen Pittsburgh\***

PITTSBURGH, PA  
\$75,000 for a mobile delivery summer food program for kids

**Community Kitchen Pittsburgh\***

PITTSBURGH, PA  
\$50,000 toward support of increased operations due to the COVID-19 pandemic

**Connecting Champions**

PITTSBURGH, PA  
\$125,000 toward support of operations

**County of Allegheny, Department of Health\***

PITTSBURGH, PA  
\$350,000 toward COVID-19 testing for the most vulnerable populations, including testing at local Federally Qualified Health Centers

**Cradle Society**

EVANSTON, IL  
\$50,000 to support adoption-related programs and services for birth parents, newborns, adoptive families, and adopted persons in Illinois and nationally

**Crossroads Foundation**

PITTSBURGH, PA  
\$250,000 toward support of operations and programs providing professional skills and networks, as well as college and career access for students facing socioeconomic barriers to success

**CytoAgents, Inc.\***

PITTSBURGH, PA  
\$250,000 as a program-related investment toward Phase 1 human clinical trials of a drug designed to reduce the severity of the human immune system response to COVID-19 infection

**Delmont Borough\***

DELMONT, PA  
\$10,000 to purchase charcoal filters for Westmoreland County firefighter face masks

**East End Cooperative Ministry**

PITTSBURGH, PA  
\$400,000 toward support of operations

**East Liberty Family Health Care Center, Inc.\***

PITTSBURGH, PA  
\$250,000 to renovate the Lincoln Lemington Nursing Home, including updates to architectural and mechanical/electrical systems

**Eastern Area Adult Services, Inc.\***

TURTLE CREEK, PA  
\$150,000 to provide for COVID-19-related needs of the Meals on Wheels collaborative network

**Excela Health\***

GREENSBURG, PA  
\$250,000 toward support of increased operations due to the COVID-19 pandemic

**Fab Foundation\***

BOSTON, MA  
\$200,000 to manufacture and distribute personal protective equipment for low-resource healthcare providers and emergency first responders in Allegheny and Westmoreland counties

**Family Mediation Council of Western Pennsylvania\***

PITTSBURGH, PA  
\$100,000 to promote housing stability through the use of mediation to address the existing eviction problem in the region, exacerbated by the pandemic

**FamilyLinks, Inc.\***

PITTSBURGH, PA  
\$50,000 toward support of increased operations due to the COVID-19 pandemic

**FOR Sto-Rox Neighborhood Corporation\***

MCKEES ROCKS, PA  
\$50,000 toward support of increased operations due to the COVID-19 pandemic

**Foundation for Christian Counseling\***

GREENSBURG, PA  
\$50,000 to subsidize individual mental health counseling and fund free online group counseling for people in crisis seeking help

**Gateway Rehabilitation Center\***

MOON TWP., PA  
\$50,000 toward support of increased operations due to the COVID-19 pandemic

**GID BIO, Inc.\***

LOUISVILLE, CO  
\$250,000 as a program-related investment to support the testing of a regenerative medicine therapeutic to reduce inflammation of the lungs in COVID-19 patients

**Global Links\***

PITTSBURGH, PA  
\$130,000 toward support of increased operations due to the COVID-19 pandemic

\*COVID-19 grant

**Goodwill of Southwestern Pennsylvania\***  
PITTSBURGH, PA  
\$100,000 toward support of increased operations due to the COVID-19 pandemic

**Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank\***  
DUQUESNE, PA  
\$1,000,000 toward support of operations

**Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank\***  
DUQUESNE, PA  
\$200,000 toward support of increased operations due to the COVID-19 pandemic

**Greensburg Community Development Corporation\***  
GREENSBURG, PA  
\$150,000 to support the Jump Start Main Street program

**Grow Pittsburgh\***  
PITTSBURGH, PA  
\$100,000 toward support of operations, including expanded work in Homewood and increased capacity to grow and distribute fresh food during the COVID-19 crisis

**Healthcare Council of Western Pennsylvania\***  
WARRENDALE, PA  
\$250,000 to provide resources in three specific areas to front-line healthcare workers of ten faith-based, long-term care organizations impacted by COVID-19

**Homeless Children's Education Fund**  
PITTSBURGH, PA  
\$75,000 toward support of operations

**Homewood Children's Village**  
PITTSBURGH, PA  
\$50,000 to hire consultants to create a brand strategy to aid in long-term fundraising and development

**Hosanna House, Inc.**  
WILKINSBURG, PA  
\$250,000 to provide high-quality, innovative learning opportunities and family-focused supportive services to children and adults experiencing poverty

**Hosanna Industries, Inc.**  
GIBSONIA, PA  
\$100,000 to provide home repairs for low-income households in southwestern Pennsylvania

**Human Services Center Corporation**  
TURTLE CREEK, PA  
\$200,000 toward support of operations

**Jeremiah's Place - Pittsburgh Relief Nursery**  
PITTSBURGH, PA  
\$150,000 toward support of operations

**Jewish Association on Aging\***  
PITTSBURGH, PA  
\$500,000 to support a pilot program with DawnLight aimed at providing more proactive care to seniors during COVID-19 and beyond

**Jewish Family & Children's Service of Pittsburgh\***  
PITTSBURGH, PA  
\$200,000 toward a collaboration with Literacy Pittsburgh and Partner4Work to increase disadvantaged job seekers' ability to gain education and skills to successfully reenter the workforce

**Jewish Healthcare Foundation of Pittsburgh**  
PITTSBURGH, PA  
\$50,000 toward costs associated with Liftoff PGH 2020, a healthcare innovation conference

**Light of Life Rescue Mission, Inc.\***  
PITTSBURGH, PA  
\$50,000 toward support of increased operations due to the COVID-19 pandemic

**Ligonier Township Volunteer Fire Department #1**  
LIGONIER, PA  
\$10,000 toward support of operations

**Ligonier Valley Learning Center, Inc.\***  
LIGONIER, PA  
\$25,000 toward support of increased operations due to the COVID-19 pandemic

**Ligonier Valley Young Men's Christian Association of Pennsylvania\***  
LIGONIER, PA  
\$25,000 as a challenge grant to assist with operations and provide vital services, offsetting drastically reduced revenues due to the COVID-19 pandemic

**Macedonia Family and Community Enrichment Center, Inc.\***  
PITTSBURGH, PA  
\$25,000 toward support of increased operations due to the COVID-19 pandemic

**Magee-Womens Research Institute and Foundation\***  
PITTSBURGH, PA  
\$250,000 to support the development of a nasally administered antiviral drug aimed at preventing COVID-19

**Magee-Womens Research Institute and Foundation**  
PITTSBURGH, PA  
\$200,000 to support efforts to implement and assess new fundraising campaigns

**Magee-Womens Research Institute and Foundation**  
PITTSBURGH, PA  
\$300,000 toward Phase II of PretermConnect, part of the Infant Mortality Project

**Magee-Womens Research Institute and Foundation**  
PITTSBURGH, PA  
\$480,000 to provide doula care for at-risk women, part of Phase II of the Infant Mortality Project

**Midwife Center For Birth and Women's Health**  
PITTSBURGH, PA  
\$165,000 toward support of the Midwife Fellowship and mentoring programs

**Momentum Advisory Collective**  
DALLAS, TX  
\$50,000 to determine whether Pittsburgh is a viable market to support a Café Momentum model that will provide employment and wraparound services to justice-involved youth

**Neighborhood Allies, Inc.**  
PITTSBURGH, PA  
\$200,000 toward support of Steel Smiling's programs and operations to provide community-based mental health programs

**Neighborhood Allies, Inc.\***  
PITTSBURGH, PA  
\$50,000 toward support of increased operations due to the COVID-19 pandemic

**Neighborhood Allies, Inc.\***  
PITTSBURGH, PA  
\$125,000 toward support of the COVID-19 Accelerated Relief Effort Package program

**Neighborhood Allies, Inc.**  
PITTSBURGH, PA  
\$40,000 to partner with Qualitas of Life Foundation to bring a financial workshop series to the Latin immigrant community

**New Sun Rising\***  
PITTSBURGH, PA  
\$100,000 toward programs and services aimed at decreasing the socioeconomic and mental health consequences of COVID-19 on African-American men

**New Sun Rising**  
PITTSBURGH, PA  
\$300,000 to increase access for underrepresented groups of people to employment in the technology sector

**North Hills Community Outreach, Inc.\***  
ALLISON PARK, PA  
\$50,000 toward support of increased operations due to the COVID-19 pandemic

**Omicelo LLC**  
PITTSBURGH, PA  
\$2,500,000 as a program-related investment to provide affordable and workforce housing and social support to low- to moderate-income families

**Pathways of Southwestern Pennsylvania, Inc.\***  
WASHINGTON, PA  
\$50,000 toward support of increased operations due to the COVID-19 pandemic

**Pennsylvania Coalition Against Domestic Violence**  
HARRISBURG, PA  
\$250,000 to support rapid rehousing and related supports for survivors of domestic violence in southwestern Pennsylvania

**Pennsylvania Organization for Women in Early Recovery**  
PITTSBURGH, PA  
\$200,000 toward support of operations

**Phoebe Foundation Inc.\***  
ALBANY, GA  
\$250,000 toward support of increased operations due to the COVID-19 pandemic

**Pittsburgh Chapter of the German American Chamber of Commerce NY Foundation**  
PITTSBURGH, PA  
\$50,000 to develop a strategic plan for manufacturing pre-apprenticeship and apprenticeship programs

**The Pittsburgh Foundation\***  
PITTSBURGH, PA  
\$1,000,000 toward support of the COVID-19 Emergency Action Fund



**Pittsburgh Hispanic Development Corporation\***

PITTSBURGH, PA  
\$100,000 toward support of the Latino Emergency Stimulus and Financial Education program

**Pittsburgh Mercy Health System\***

PITTSBURGH, PA  
\$250,000 to prevent the spread of COVID-19 in vulnerable populations in the Pittsburgh region and provide critical services

**Pittsburgh Three Rivers Marathon, Inc.**

PITTSBURGH, PA  
\$28,000 to increase interest in physical activity and healthy eating for children in low-income communities

**The Poise Foundation**

PITTSBURGH, PA  
\$50,000 toward support of operations and start-up funding for Forge Global

**The Poise Foundation**

PITTSBURGH, PA  
\$161,000 to implement a pilot leveraging existing partnerships addressing service delivery gaps for low-income/minority populations with barriers to employment

**The Poise Foundation\***

PITTSBURGH, PA  
\$100,000 toward support of increased operations due to the COVID-19 pandemic

**The Poise Foundation**

PITTSBURGH, PA  
\$1,000,000 to expand The Advanced Leadership Institute that supports leadership development of African Americans in Pittsburgh and nationwide

**Presbyterian SeniorCare\***

OAKMONT, PA  
\$500,000 to support a pilot program with DawnLight aimed at providing more proactive care to seniors during COVID-19 and beyond

**Rebuilding Together Pittsburgh\***

PITTSBURGH, PA  
\$25,000 toward support of increased operations due to the COVID-19 pandemic

**Sage's Army, Inc.**

WESTMORELAND CITY, PA  
\$45,000 to support the development of a three-year strategic plan

**The Salvation Army\***

CARNEGIE, PA  
\$50,000 toward emergency mass feeding efforts including take-out meals and grocery food pantry distribution for food-insecure children, seniors, individuals, and families

**Second Harvest**

PITTSBURGH, PA  
\$200,000 to renovate a thrift store and community space in Sharpsburg

**Sojourner House**

PITTSBURGH, PA  
\$100,000 toward support of operations

**South Hills Interfaith Ministries**

BETHEL PARK, PA  
\$500,000 toward support of the Do More Good campaign

**Street Medicine Institute**

INGOMAR, PA  
\$50,000 toward support of the annual symposium to be held virtually

**Three Rivers Workforce Investment Board, Inc.\***

PITTSBURGH, PA  
\$150,000 to align public and private resources to create and evaluate an enhanced workforce development infrastructure in response to unprecedented unemployment in southwestern Pennsylvania

**Travelers Aid Society of Pittsburgh\***

PITTSBURGH, PA  
\$200,000 to remove transportation barriers for participants involved in work-related activities, targeting those displaced due to COVID-19

**Trustees of Boston University\***

BOSTON, MA  
\$30,000 to test the safety and efficacy of a novel synthetic biology COVID-19 vaccine candidate

**Trying Together**

PITTSBURGH, PA  
\$300,000 toward childcare professional development in Homewood

**University of Pittsburgh**

PITTSBURGH, PA  
\$1,085,000 toward two-year support to refine and implement risk prediction models to prevent opioid overdoses and other opioid-related adverse events in Allegheny County

**University of Pittsburgh\***

PITTSBURGH, PA  
\$196,000 to develop a COVID-19 vaccine

**University of Pittsburgh**

PITTSBURGH, PA  
\$750,000 toward two-year support of research to address the societal impact of age-related cognitive decline

**University of Pittsburgh**

PITTSBURGH, PA  
\$444,000 to perform an evaluation of former contact sport participants at risk for Chronic Traumatic Encephalopathy

**University of Pittsburgh\***

PITTSBURGH, PA  
\$117,000 to research and reduce the role of social media in COVID-19 vaccine hesitancy

**University of Pittsburgh\***

PITTSBURGH, PA  
\$100,000 to identify middle-skill medical workforce demands among employers, develop taxonomies to measure skill transferability, and partner with workforce development organizations to support the employment of middle-skill medical workforce

**University of Pittsburgh, Graduate School of Public Health**

PITTSBURGH, PA  
\$290,000 toward support of the Violence Prevention Initiative

**Urban League of Greater Pittsburgh**

PITTSBURGH, PA  
\$400,000 toward support of One Pittsburgh 2020, a blueprint for making southwestern Pennsylvania a "most livable" community for African Americans

**Urban Redevelopment Authority of Pittsburgh\***

PITTSBURGH, PA  
\$75,000 toward support of the COVID-19 Housing Stabilization Program

**Veterans Leadership Program of Western Pennsylvania, Inc.\***

PITTSBURGH, PA  
\$50,000 toward support of increased operations due to the COVID-19 pandemic

**Washington Area Humane Society\***

EIGHTY FOUR, PA  
\$50,000 toward support of increased operations due to the COVID-19 pandemic

**Washington City Mission\***

WASHINGTON, PA  
\$100,000 toward support of increased operations due to the COVID-19 pandemic

**Wesley Family Services\***

PITTSBURGH, PA  
\$50,000 toward support of increased operations due to the COVID-19 pandemic

**Westmoreland County Food Bank, Inc.\***

DELMONT, PA  
\$500,000 toward support of operations

**Westmoreland Human Opportunities, Inc.\***

GREENSBURG, PA  
\$50,000 to provide emergency support to those within Westmoreland County who have been affected by COVID-19, as well as provide personal protective equipment and workforce development assistance

**Women's Center and Shelter of Greater Pittsburgh\***

PITTSBURGH, PA  
\$50,000 toward support of increased operations due to the COVID-19 pandemic

**YMCA of Greater Pittsburgh**

PITTSBURGH, PA  
\$1,000,000 toward renovation of the Centre Avenue YMCA (\$300,000) and support of operations (\$700,000)

**Young Men & Women's Hebrew Association & Irene Kaufmann Centers**

PITTSBURGH, PA  
\$300,000 to accelerate security enhancements to the Jewish Community Center of Greater Pittsburgh

# STRATEGIC PLAN

*By Sam Reiman,  
Director and Trustee, Richard King Mellon Foundation*

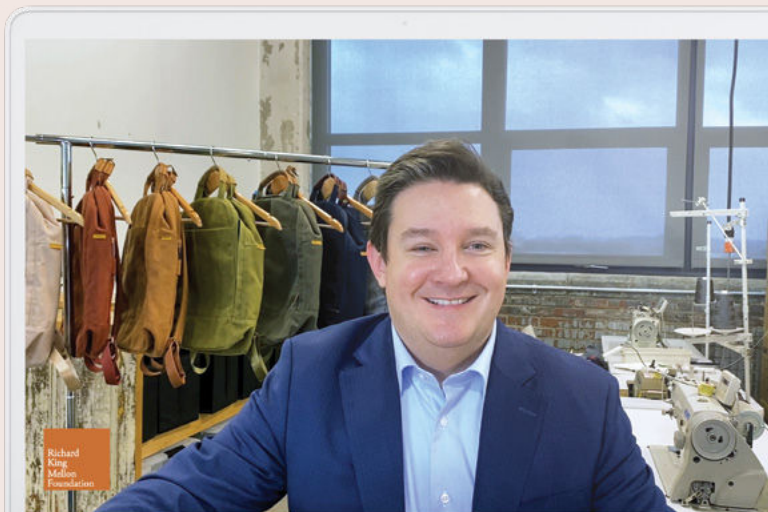
## RICHARD KING MELLON'S FATHER, R.B. MELLON, FAMOUSLY ADMONISHED THOSE AROUND HIM TO FOREGO SMALL PLANS.

**WE EMBRACED HIS ADVICE** in building the Foundation's new Strategic Plan.

We took the time to do it right. It was two years in the making. We took stock of our learnings from previous strategic plans. We tapped experts from across the nation, including RAND, Mathematica, Global Impact Advisors, Deloitte and HR&A Advisors. And we used the remarkable events of 2020 to further inform our efforts. Because if 2020 taught us anything, it's that the best-made plans often need to change. We learned from our grantees about what will be necessary to surge out of the pandemic in the years ahead. And we learned even more when we talked anew with Black leaders last summer, about the pervasive roadblocks that too many of our Black neighbors still face.

Those efforts led to 185 pages of Strategic Plan briefing materials for our Board. And 18 Board presentations over the summer and fall of 2020, with 75 guest experts, local and national, over five full-day sessions.

Foundation Director Sam Reiman presents the new Strategic Plan from Day Owl, a Foundation-supported backpack business in Homewood.



The result was our new Strategic Plan: a roadmap to award and invest more than \$1.2 billion over the next 10 years. It is a plan to focus the Foundation's money on the most powerful pathways to greater opportunity and prosperity for the people of Southwestern Pennsylvania. And to do even more to protect, steward and activate environmentally sensitive land, in Southwestern Pennsylvania and across the United States.

This plan was approved by our Board of Trustees in December 2020. It focuses on four primary program areas. We chose four because we know focused philanthropy is the only way to make a real difference. There are so many worthwhile needs in the world. All of them arguably deserve funding. If we try to help each of them a little—we will accomplish little. But if we make hard choices. If we concentrate our resources. And focus on the outcomes most necessary to achieve our goals—we can have great impact.

Two of those focus areas are continuations of historic priorities: Economic Development and Conservation.

The other two focus areas are new: Economic Mobility for Children and Youth. And Health and Well Being. We have done important work in these areas already, as we moved toward this new plan. But we will do so now with a new focus and greater impact.

We also will fund two additional initiatives in our plan—initiatives that cut across all four program areas. The first is Social Impact Investing. Social Impact Investing is investing in for-profit companies that want to make a positive difference for others, but need capital to do it. In philanthropy, providing

that capital is called a program-related investment, or PRI. We already are the local leader in PRIs, and the results have been strong. So now, under the new Strategic Plan, it is a permanent program.

The second is a new initiative called Organizational Effectiveness. At the Foundation, we have deep respect and admiration for our nonprofit partners. Their work is difficult and critically important. Yet many nonprofits never have resources to focus on themselves. Organizational Effectiveness is about helping select nonprofit partners to create the organizational strength and agility they need to pursue big ideas and take risks.

Finally, we embraced a new tool in our new plan: Communication. For more than 70 years, we have let our work speak for itself. There is honor in that humility. But through our strategic planning process, we reached the conclusion that, if we communicate—if we tell the community what we are doing and why—we can rally more people to those causes. We can generate a richer pipeline of ideas for funding. And we can help our grantees to advance their missions. This Annual Report, which features so many wonderful stories of our grantees' work, is an early example of this new focus.

And so that is our Strategic Plan. We can't wait until next year's Annual Report, when we can tell you about the important work we were able to accomplish.

If we concentrate our resources.  
And focus on the outcomes most  
necessary to achieve our goals—  
we can have great impact.

## Programs

### CONSERVATION



### ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT



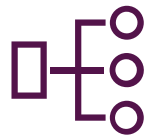
### ECONOMIC MOBILITY



### HEALTH AND WELL-BEING



### ORGANIZATIONAL EFFECTIVENESS

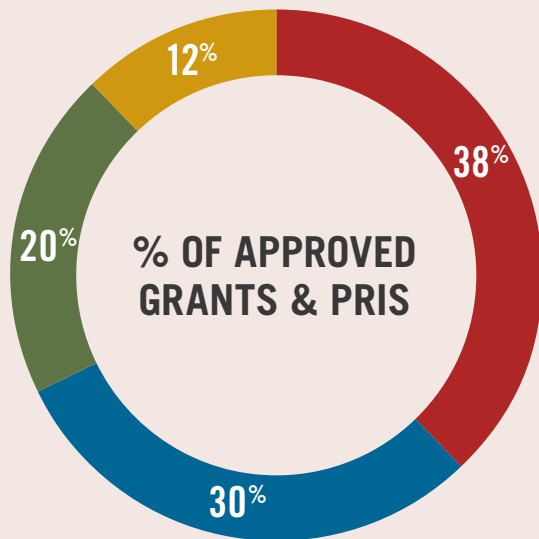


### SOCIAL IMPACT INVESTMENTS



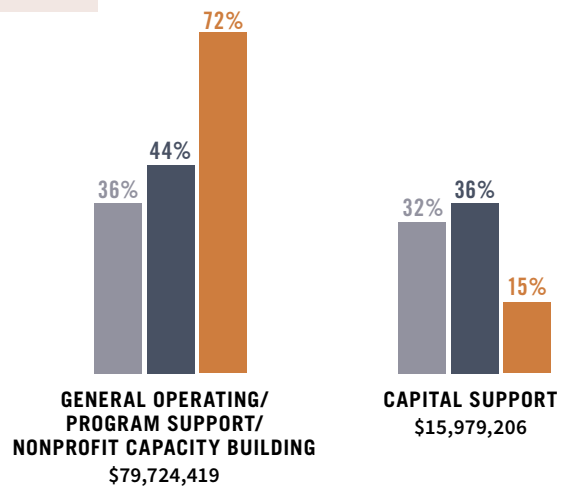


# APPROPRIATIONS 2020



BY PROGRAM PRIORITY	NUMBER OF GRANTS & PRIS	APPROVED GRANTS & PRIS
Economic Development	112	\$ 41,555,925
Education	51	13,300,000
Human Services	132	32,975,700
Conservation	37	22,172,000
<b>Totals</b>	<b>332</b>	<b>\$110,003,625</b>

**BY SUPPORT TYPE**  
2018 2019 2020



## BY GEOGRAPHIC AREA

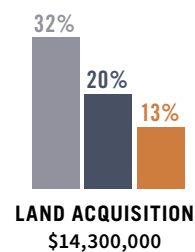
Pittsburgh + Southwestern PA	\$ 94,098,625
Other	15,905,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 110,003,625</b>

## NET INVESTMENT INCOME

1947 through 2019	\$ 1,745,303,402
2020	21,301,529
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 1,766,604,931</b>

## GRANTS PAID + PROGRAM-RELATED INVESTMENTS

1947 through 2019	\$ 2,794,977,587
2020	129,985,333
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$2,924,962,920</b>



**LAND ACQUISITION**  
\$14,300,000

## STATEMENTS OF FINANCIAL POSITION

December 31,	2020	2019
<b>ASSETS</b>		
Cash	\$ 8,480	\$ 2,013
Other current assets	3,361,336	5,548,302
Investments:		
Equities	1,480,173,324	1,426,191,644
Fixed income	588,097,911	577,134,719
Temporary investments	177,196,605	84,151,103
Alternative investments	855,660,544	631,160,350
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>3,101,128,384</b>	<b>2,718,637,816</b>
Payable from unsettled securities purchases, net	(4,278,905)	(2,253,850)
<b>Total investments</b>	<b>3,096,849,479</b>	<b>2,716,383,966</b>
Program-related assets	151,499,888	138,665,740
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>\$3,251,719,183</b>	<b>\$2,860,600,021</b>
<b>LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS</b>		
Liabilities:		
Grants payable	\$ 7,300,311	\$ 27,782,019
Deferred federal excise taxes	11,723,376	7,808,026
Appropriations for program-related assets	151,499,888	138,665,740
<b>Total liabilities</b>	<b>170,523,575</b>	<b>174,255,785</b>
Net assets without restrictions	3,081,195,608	2,686,344,236
<b>Total liabilities and net assets</b>	<b>\$3,251,719,183</b>	<b>\$2,860,600,021</b>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

## STATEMENTS OF ACTIVITIES AND CHANGES IN NET ASSETS

For the year ended December 31,	2020	2019
<b>INCOME</b>		
Investment income	\$ 45,910,021	\$ 75,224,520
Realized gains on investments	187,457,666	150,181,319
Unrealized gains on investments	281,679,903	285,379,529
<b>Total income</b>	<b>515,047,590</b>	<b>510,785,368</b>
Less: Investment management expenses	(9,242,040)	(8,683,470)
<b>Net investment return</b>	<b>505,805,550</b>	<b>502,101,898</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>		
Grants approved, net of rescissions	95,587,726	116,426,100
Administrative and program	8,522,061	7,025,875
Provision for taxes	2,929,040	3,679,506
Provision for deferred taxes	3,915,351	5,044,537
<b>Total expenses</b>	<b>110,954,178</b>	<b>132,176,018</b>
<b>Change in net assets without restrictions</b>	<b>394,851,372</b>	<b>369,925,880</b>
<b>NET ASSETS WITHOUT RESTRICTIONS</b>		
Beginning of period	2,686,344,236	2,316,418,356
End of period	\$3,081,195,608	\$2,686,344,236

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

## STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS

For the year ended December 31,	2020	2019
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES</b>		
Change in net assets without restrictions	\$394,851,372	\$369,925,880
Adjustments to reconcile change in net assets without restrictions to net cash used by operating activities:		
Accretion	(495,419)	(664,352)
Deferred federal excise taxes	3,915,351	5,044,537
Realized gains on investments	(187,457,666)	(150,181,319)
Unrealized gains on investments	(281,679,903)	(285,379,529)
Increase (decrease) in cash from changes in:		
Other current assets	2,186,966	198,698
Program-related assets	(12,834,148)	(33,969,575)
Grants payable	(20,481,708)	(3,416,852)
Appropriations for program-related assets	12,834,148	33,969,575
<b>Net cash used by operating activities</b>	<b>(89,161,007)</b>	<b>(64,472,937)</b>
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES</b>		
Purchases of investments	(1,706,040,956)	(1,052,235,006)
Proceeds from sales of investments	1,795,208,430	1,116,703,508
<b>Net cash provided by investing activities</b>	<b>89,167,474</b>	<b>64,468,502</b>
Net change in cash	6,467	(4,435)
<b>CASH</b>		
<b>Beginning of year</b>	<b>2,013</b>	<b>6,448</b>
<b>End of year</b>	<b>\$ 8,480</b>	<b>\$ 2,013</b>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

## 2020 SUMMARY OF INVESTMENTS

	December 31, 2020	
	Book Value	Fair Value
Equities	\$ 1,036,789,254	\$ 1,480,123,122
Fixed income	568,975,944	585,361,515
Temporary investments	177,188,938	177,196,605
Alternative investments	470,486,982	854,168,237
<b>Total investments</b>	<b>\$2,253,441,118</b>	<b>\$3,096,849,479</b>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

## 2019 SUMMARY OF INVESTMENTS

	December 31, 2019	
	Book Value	Fair Value
Equities	\$ 1,066,232,834	\$ 1,426,279,723
Fixed income	590,360,151	577,134,719
Temporary investments	84,139,896	84,151,103
Alternative investments	413,922,627	628,818,421
<b>Total investments</b>	<b>\$2,154,655,508</b>	<b>\$2,716,383,966</b>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.



# NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

## NOTE 1: SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

### Basis of Accounting

The accompanying financial statements of the Richard King Mellon Foundation (Foundation) are prepared on the accrual basis of accounting.

### Nature of Operations

The purpose of the Foundation is to provide grants to organizations in Pittsburgh and Southwestern Pennsylvania, primarily in the areas of Regional Economic Development, Education, and Human Services and NonProfit Capacity Building. Its interest in the area of Conservation is national.

### Cash

Cash includes operating accounts plus domestic income cash held in bank custody accounts.

### Investments

In accordance with the authoritative guidance on fair value measurements and disclosures under Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP), the Foundation discloses the fair value of its investments in a hierarchy that prioritizes the inputs to valuation techniques used to measure the fair value. Fair value is defined as the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date. The hierarchy gives the highest priority to unadjusted quoted prices in active markets for identical assets (Level 1 measurements) and the lowest priority to unobservable inputs (Level 3 measurements). The three levels of the fair value hierarchy under GAAP are as follows:

**LEVEL 1:** Inputs that reflect unadjusted quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities that the Foundation has the ability to access at the measurement date.

**LEVEL 2:** Inputs other than quoted prices that are observable for the asset or liability either directly or indirectly, including inputs in markets that are not considered to be active.

**LEVEL 3:** Inputs that are unobservable.

Inputs are used in applying the various valuation techniques and refer to the assumptions that market participants use to make valuation decisions. Inputs may include price information, credit data, liquidity statistics, interest rates, yield

curves, volatilities, prepayment speeds, default rates, and other factors. A financial instrument's level, within the fair value hierarchy, is based on the lowest level of any input that is significant to the fair value measurement. The Foundation considers observable data to be that market data which is readily available and reliable and provided by independent sources. The categorization of a financial instrument within the hierarchy is therefore based upon the pricing transparency of the instrument and does not necessarily correspond to the Foundation's perceived risk of that instrument.

Investments whose values are based on quoted market prices in active markets are classified as Level 1 and include active listed equities and certain short-term fixed income investments. The Foundation does not adjust the quoted price for such instruments, even in situations where the Foundation holds a large position and a sale of all its holdings could reasonably impact the quoted price.

Investments that trade in markets that are not considered to be active, but are valued based on quoted market prices, dealer quotations, or alternative pricing sources, are classified as Level 2. These include certain U.S. government and sovereign obligations, government agency obligations, investment grade corporate bonds and less liquid equity securities.

Investments classified as Level 3 have significant unobservable inputs, as they trade infrequently or not at all. The inputs into the determination of fair value are based upon the best information in the circumstance and may require significant management judgment. Certain of the Foundation's investments in stocks, equity positions in private companies, and long-term debt instruments are classified as Level 3 because they do not have an active market.

The fair value of the Foundation's alternative investments are measured using the net asset value (NAV) per share, or its equivalent, as a practical expedient. The practical expedient is an acceptable method under GAAP to determine the fair value of certain NAV investments that (a) do not have a readily determinable fair value predicated upon a public market and (b) either have the attributes of an investment company or prepare their financial statements consistent with the measurement principles of an investment company under GAAP. These investments are primarily made under agreements to participate in limited partnerships and are generally subject to certain withdrawal restrictions. Values for these partnerships,

which may include investments in both nonmarketable and market-traded securities, are provided by the general partner and may be based on recent transactions, cash flow forecasts, appraisals and other factors. Market values may be discounted for concentration of ownership. Because of the inherent uncertainty of valuing the investments in such partnerships and certain of the underlying investments held by the partnerships, the Foundation's estimate of fair value may differ significantly from the values that would have been used had a ready market for the investments existed. The financial statements of the limited partnerships are audited annually by independent auditing firms. Investments in these partnerships may be illiquid, and thus there can be no assurance that the Foundation will be able to realize the value of such investments in a timely manner. The Foundation believes that the use of the practical expedient for its alternative investments is a reasonable estimate of fair value as of December 31, 2020 and 2019.

The Foundation's investments are exposed to various risks, such as interest rate, market and credit. Due to the level of risk associated with investments and the level of uncertainty related to changes in the value of investments, it is at least reasonably possible that significant changes in risks in the near term may materially affect the amounts reported in the financial statements.

Realized gain (loss) from dispositions of investments is determined by specific cost identification. Unrealized gain (loss) of investments represents the change in the difference between fair value quotations and the total book value of investments held at the beginning and end of the year.

#### Use of Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and the disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements. Estimates also affect the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

#### Grants

Grants approved, net of rescissions are recognized at the time of approval provided the grant is not subject to significant future conditions.

#### Program-Related Assets

The Foundation makes investments which advance its charitable mission and qualify as charitable distributions by the Internal Revenue Service. Such investments, which include loans made to various organizations and equity investments in limited partnerships, earn below risk-adjusted market rates of return. Management has reviewed the program-related assets and believes no allowance is necessary as of December 31, 2020 and 2019.

## NOTE 2: TAXES

The Foundation is exempt from federal income taxes under Section 501(c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code. Prior to 2020, the Foundation was subject to a federal excise tax equal to 2% of net investment income, which consists of interest and dividend income, realized gains on sales of investments less realized losses to the extent that they can be offset against realized gains, less related investment expenses. The Foundation met certain distribution requirements defined in Section 4940 of the Internal Revenue Code, resulting in a reduced tax of 1% of net investment income for the year ended December 31, 2019.

Legislation was passed in 2019 that simplifies the private foundation excise tax on investment income by replacing the two-tier system (1% and 2%) with a flat rate of 1.39%, effective January 1, 2020.

At December 31, 2020 and 2019, deferred federal excise taxes are provided at 1.39% which is the rate expected to be paid on unrealized gains on investments.

The Foundation is subject to the authoritative guidance on accounting for uncertainty in income taxes issued under Generally Accepted Accounting Principles. This guidance establishes a minimum threshold for financial statement recognition of the benefit of positions taken in filing tax returns (including whether an entity is taxable in a particular jurisdiction) and requires certain expanded tax disclosures. The Foundation has recorded no uncertain tax liabilities pursuant to this guidance. The Foundation continually reviews its tax positions and such conclusions under the guidance based on factors including, but not limited to, ongoing analyses of tax laws and regulations.

## NOTE 3: COMMITMENTS

The Foundation is a Limited Partner in limited partnerships for investment purposes. At December 31, 2020 and 2019, the Foundation had contractually committed to additional investments of \$405.6 million and \$399.9 million, respectively.

At December 31, 2020, the Foundation had outstanding trades to purchase and sell investments with a settlement date in 2021 of \$12.8 million and \$8.5 million for a net payable of \$4.3 million. At December 31, 2019, the Foundation had outstanding trades to purchase and sell investments with a settlement date in 2020 of \$2.9 million and \$0.6 million for a net payable of \$2.3 million. These transactions are reflected within the financial statements on a net basis.

The Foundation seeks to maintain enough liquidity to meet the cash needs for the following year's general expenditures. At December 31, 2020 and 2019, the Foundation had \$2,248.8 million and 2,093.0 million in financial assets available for use within one year to meet its cash needs, which included cash, other current assets, equities, fixed income and temporary investments.

## NOTE 4: FAIR VALUE MEASUREMENTS

The following table presents the investments carried on the Statements of Financial Position by level within the valuation hierarchy as of December 31, 2020 and 2019:

### Investments at Fair Value as of December 31, 2020

Investments	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	NAV	Total
Equities	\$ 992,846,777	\$ 734,390	\$15,764,481	\$ 470,827,676	<b>\$1,480,173,324</b>
Fixed income	168,535,990	155,584,757	0	263,977,164	<b>588,097,911</b>
Temporary investments	177,196,605	0	0	0	<b>177,196,605</b>
Alternative investments	0	0	0	855,660,544	<b>855,660,544</b>
Total investments	\$1,338,579,372	\$156,319,147	\$15,764,481	\$1,590,465,384	<b>\$3,101,128,384</b>

### Payables from unsettled securities purchases, net at Fair Value as of December 31, 2020

Payables, net	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	NAV	Total
Equities	(\$50,202)	\$0	\$0	\$0	<b>(\$50,202)</b>
Fixed income	0	(2,736,396)	0	0	<b>(2,736,396)</b>
Alternative investments	0	0	0	(1,492,307)	<b>(1,492,307)</b>
Total payables, net	(\$50,202)	(\$2,736,396)	\$0	(\$1,492,307)	<b>(\$4,278,905)</b>

### Investments at Fair Value as of December 31, 2019

Investments	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	NAV	Total
Equities	\$ 985,534,636	\$ 118,818	\$11,047,812	\$ 429,490,378	<b>\$1,426,191,644</b>
Fixed income	232,704,148	146,642,928	0	197,787,643	<b>577,134,719</b>
Temporary investments	84,151,103	0	0	0	<b>84,151,103</b>
Alternative investments	0	0	0	631,160,350	<b>631,160,350</b>
Total investments	\$1,302,389,887	\$146,761,746	\$11,047,812	\$1,258,438,371	<b>\$2,718,637,816</b>

### Payables from unsettled securities purchases, net at Fair Value as of December 31, 2019

Payables, net	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	NAV	Total
Equities	\$88,079	\$0	\$0	\$0	<b>\$88,079</b>
Fixed income	0	0	0	0	-
Alternative investments	0	0	0	(2,341,929)	<b>(2,341,929)</b>
Total payables, net	\$88,079	\$0	\$0	(\$2,341,929)	<b>(\$2,253,850)</b>

There were no significant transfers between Levels 1, 2, and 3 during the years ended December 31, 2020 and 2019.



The following tables present a roll-forward of the amounts for the years ended December 31, 2020 and 2019 for investments classified within Level 3:

**Fair Value Measurements using Level 3 Inputs for the year ended December 31, 2020**

Investments	Balance at December 31, 2019	Net Investment Income	Realized Gain/(Loss)	Change in Unrealized Gain/(Loss)	(Sales)	Purchases	Balance at December 31, 2020
Equities	\$11,047,812	\$0	\$0	\$80,782	(\$1,111,528)	\$5,747,415	\$15,764,481
Total investments	\$11,047,812	\$0	\$0	\$80,782	(\$1,111,528)	\$5,747,415	\$15,764,481

**Fair Value Measurements using Level 3 Inputs for the year ended December 31, 2019**

Investments	Balance at December 31, 2018	Net Investment Income	Realized Gain/(Loss)	Change in Unrealized Gain/(Loss)	(Sales)	Purchases	Balance at December 31, 2019
Equities	\$18,115,261	\$0	(\$3,231,281)	(\$3,572,827)	(\$2,878,964)	\$2,615,623	\$11,047,812
Total investments	\$18,115,261	\$0	(\$3,231,281)	(\$3,572,827)	(\$2,878,964)	\$2,615,623	\$11,047,812

The Foundation has certain investments that do not have readily determinable fair values but permit direct redemption or distributions at times specified under the governing documents. As a practical expedient, the Foundation relies on the net asset value (NAV) of these investments as their fair value. The net asset values that have been provided by the investees have been derived from the fair values of the underlying investments as of the reporting date. The following table summarizes the nature of these investments and any related liquidation restrictions or other factors which may impact the ultimate value realized.

Category of Investment	Investment Strategy	Number of Funds	Fair Value Determined Using NAV	Unfunded Commitments (\$ millions)	Redemption Terms	Remaining Life
Equities	Domestic, international & emerging markets	5	\$ 470,827,676	\$ 0	(1)	n/a
Fixed income	Long-term debt, global & high yield	9	263,977,164	0	(2)	82% n/a, 14% 5 years, 4% 8 years
Alternative investments	Buyouts, distressed debt, energy, real estate & venture capital	228	855,660,544	405.6	(3)	(4)
<b>Totals</b>		<b>242</b>	<b>\$1,590,465,384</b>	<b>\$405.6</b>		

All percentages below based on percent of total fair value of investments determined using NAV:

(1) All funds subject to 0-30 days prior notice, 62% subject to daily redemptions, 31% subject to monthly redemptions, 7% subject to quarterly redemptions. (2) 60% subject to monthly redemption with 3-30 days prior notice, 36% subject to quarterly redemptions & 4% not subject to redemption. (3) All redemptions, sales, or transfers subject to approval of general partner. (4) 7% 1 year, 43% 2-5 years, 44% 6-10 years, 6% 11-15 years; all funds subject to extensions between 0-3 years.

There are no current plans to sell any of these investments.

**NOTE 5: PROGRAM-RELATED ASSETS**

The program-related assets are comprised of loan and equity assets. The scheduled loan repayment and equity recovery time frame are listed below:

<b>December 31, 2020</b>	<b>Loan Program-Related Assets</b>	<b>Equity Program-Related Assets</b>	<b>Total</b>
Due within 1 year	\$ 6,728,571	\$ -	\$ 6,728,571
Due after 1 year through 5 years	46,743,011	-	46,743,011
Due after 5 years through 10 years	53,010,143	5,797,000	58,807,143
Due after 10 years	27,713,579	11,507,584	39,221,163
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$134,195,304</b>	<b>\$17,304,584</b>	<b>\$151,499,888</b>

**NOTE 6: SUBSEQUENT EVENTS**

The Foundation evaluated all activity through May 27, 2021, the date the financial statements were available to be issued, and concluded that no subsequent events have occurred that would require recognition in the financial statements or disclosure in the Notes to Financial Statements.

# REPORT OF INDEPENDENT AUDITORS

## TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE RICHARD KING MELLON FOUNDATION:

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the Richard King Mellon Foundation (the "Foundation"), which comprise the statements of financial position as of December 31, 2020 and 2019, and the related statements of activities and changes in net assets and of cash flows for the years then ended.

### Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America; this includes the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

### Auditors' Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial statements based on our audits. We conducted our audits in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on our judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, we consider internal control relevant to the Foundation's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Foundation's internal control. Accordingly, we express no such opinion. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation

of the financial statements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

### Opinion

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Richard King Mellon Foundation as of December 31, 2020 and 2019, and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the years then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

### Other Matter

Our audits were conducted for the purpose of forming an opinion on the financial statements taken as a whole. The supplementary summary of investments is presented for purposes of additional analysis and is not a required part of the financial statements. The information is the responsibility of management and was derived from and relates directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements. The information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audits of the financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements or to the financial statements themselves and other additional procedures, in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. In our opinion, the information is fairly stated, in all material respects, in relation to the financial statements taken as a whole.

*PricewaterhouseCoopers* LLP

Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania  
May 27, 2021



# POLICY AND GRANT GUIDELINES

The following grantmaking objectives and grant program priorities were approved by the Trustees in April 2016 for the five-year period ending December 31, 2020.

## MISSION

The Foundation seeks to improve the competitive position of the region; strengthen the vitality of Southwestern Pennsylvania, particularly the City of Pittsburgh and its neighborhoods; and protect precious green and natural infrastructure, particularly in Western Pennsylvania.

## PROGRAM PRIORITIES

### Southwestern Pennsylvania

#### Regional Economic Development

- Strengthen the capacity of arts organizations to attract visitors to the region and improve quality of life
- Improve housing, crime and safety, and economic opportunities in distressed communities
- Support development and improvement of regional infrastructure
- Cultivate and support the link between innovation and manufacturing
- Increase economic opportunities in rural communities
- Enhance Pittsburgh's national reputation as a destination city for creating, attracting, and retaining start-up companies and entrepreneurial talent

#### Education

- Improve capacity of educational and workforce programs via community-based organizations
- Improve infrastructure of higher education institutions and educational and workforce programs
- Improve institutional infrastructure and educational outcomes for children in the lowest-performing public schools

#### Human Services

- Invest in programs designed to achieve holistic and broadscale outcomes
- Capitalize on innovations by the Department of Human Services and others to serve at-risk children and foster youth, and improve early childcare quality
- Support efforts by hospitals, health centers, and public agencies to develop innovative means to reduce chronic diseases and obesity; explore interventions for community-wide epidemics; and support the community's efforts to reduce the growing violence problems
- Encourage and improve alignment of workforce training programs with market demand

### Western Pennsylvania

#### Conservation

- Protect critical forested ecosystems and provide sustainable economic development for communities
- Leverage partnerships and data to conduct habitat restoration in 11 key Western Pennsylvania landscapes
- Protect regional natural assets such as rivers, trails, and parks

The Foundation gives priority to projects and programs that have clearly defined output, outcomes and an evaluation component, and has a preference for partnering with donors on initiatives. The Foundation accepts applications throughout the year.

Please visit the Foundation's website at [www.rkmf.org](http://www.rkmf.org) for information on how to apply. For questions, please contact the Foundation's office at:

#### INFORMATION AND GRANTS MANAGER

Richard King Mellon Foundation  
BNY Mellon Center  
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(deceased July 27, 2020)

**SEWARD PROSSER MELLON**



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