Advancing Community Engagement (ACE)  
A Pitt Seed project

Goal: Grow the community engagement ecosystem

Method: Offer training and funding that supports efforts to collaborate with community partners to initiate a student-led initiative with mutual benefits

Thanks to the Pitt Seed Program for supporting this project!

Future Studio/Homewood Curatorial Project
Create opportunities for local artists to present their work at the Homewood CEC

Program Goals
• Connect with local artists and curators, supporting their practices.
• Develop and implement a plan for the presentation of artists work at the Homewood CEC. These exhibits may consist of a single individual’s body of work, a group show or gathered by theme or topic and build upon previous efforts (image below).
• Organize receptions/events celebrating these artists
• Create websites/databases to share and store information gathered throughout this project so that this project may be replicated and built upon

Program Evaluation
• Attendees at screening events
• Number of cuffs provided
• Number of participants that engage in follow-up with students
• Number of participants that are linked to a healthcare resource / referrals made

Sustainability Plan
• Design Curricular - Build School Wide (SHRS), Organization - Explore and Maintain Community Collaborations

Acknowledgements
• Julia Spears, Brooks Spencer, and the Pitt Seed team
• Partners in the Office for Engagement and Community Affairs and the Community Engagement Centers, including Keith Caldwell, Kirk Holbrook, Michelle Stewart, and Carrie Finkelstein.
• Department of Mathematics
• School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences and the SHRS Wellness Pavilion
• School of Pharmacy and MedWELL
• Department of Studio Arts

Blood Pressure Screening & Home Monitoring

Program Goals:
1) increase access to blood pressure screening events in underserved neighborhoods; 2) increase availability of home blood pressure monitoring devices

Use of Funds
• Blood Pressure Cuffs
• Nutrition Demos
• Educational Materials

Use of Funds

Program Goals and Evaluation
• Develop an interdisciplinary team of faculty and students in SHRS with the expertise to design/develop a health and wellness centered program
• Develop a 10-week curriculum for program that focuses on the dimensions of health and wellness and is tailored to the community
• Pilot the program in a 4-week design by May 2023
• Track the number of participants who sign up for the program and attendance and engagement using the Pittsburgh Rehabilitation Participation Scale
• Receive data on participants confidence and satisfaction at the end of the program

Use of Funds

Magical Math

Program Goals:
1) increase access to blood pressure screening events in underserved neighborhoods; 2) increase availability of home blood pressure monitoring devices

Use of Funds

Magical Math Goals
• Fun and educational math experiences for elementary students
• Experience with elementary level education, the Hill District, and the Community Engagement Center
• Initiative to manage and execute the program

Use of Funds

Beyond the Bell

After-school health and wellness program for middle-school aged students

Use of Funds

Magical Math Goals
• Maniuplatives and games during every session
• Preparing elementary students for success in middle school algebra

Use of Funds

Pitt students expand their horizons

The goal is to combine Pitt’s work at the community engagement centers and identified needs in the Homewood Comprehensive Community Plan for quality out of school time, after-school programs for youth.

The U.S. CDC has found that OST programs can support academic achievement and reduce health disparities when implemented according to evidence-based practices.

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Magical Math

Program Evaluation
• Tutor assessments of curriculum, measuring student progress, satisfaction of parents/guardians
• Reviews and plans of Pitt students who run the program, exploring expansion into middle school age group, connecting with professional elementary educators in the Hill District

Sustainability goals
• Educational materials
• Curriculum development
• Tutor wages

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