

Greater Hill District Development Growth Fund

History

In December 2006, a historic moment occurred when the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board awarded the first stand-alone gaming establishment in the City of Pittsburgh. That license went to Don Barden and his company PITG Gaming. As part of his application and because of the work of Hill District stakeholders, Mr. Barden committed to a financial partnership with the Hill District Community to further our development goals above the Civic Arena site. As you know, that commitment has now transferred to the Rivers Casino and their ownership group who has established a fund within the POISE Foundation for the sole purpose of fulfilling its commitment to the Greater Hill District.

On April 18th, 2011, the Greater Hill District Development Growth Fund was established by way of a \$1million contribution by the Holdings Acquisition Co. L.P. dba Rivers Casino. An annual contribution of \$1million over three years is expected. The Funder has charged the use and disbursement of funds to the "Advisory Committee" with the responsibility of recommending charitable organizations or projects to receive grants from the Fund representing the interests of Hill District citizens and the development of said neighborhood.

In accordance with the original "Donor advised distribution fund instrument of gift" agreement, The Hill District Community Development Corporation received an initial \$200,000 grant from the Fund upon establishment of the Fund. Any future or further grants to the CDC will be based on its ability to achieve its strategic goals and objectives as outlined in the Hill Community Development Corporation's December 2010 strategic plan and only upon recommendation of the Advisory Committee. The performance period against organizational benchmarks shall start immediately upon receipt of funding. Funding may be re-granted annually by the calendar year following review and recommendations by the Advisory Committee which shall take place in December of the prior year.

Member Organizations

City of Pittsburgh – Councilman Robert Daniel Lavelle

Allegheny County Executive Office – Austin Davis

Pennsylvania State House of Representatives – Representative Jake Wheatley, Jr.

Urban Innovation21 – James Myers

Hill District Federal Credit Union – Richard Witherspoon

Hill House Association/Hill House Economic Development Corporation – Jeffery Anderson

Hill Community Development Corporation – Marimba Milliones

Wesley Center AME Zion Church – Rev. Glenn G. Grayson

Schenley Heights Community Development Program, Inc. – Rev. Dr. Johnnie Monroe

Historic Hill Institute – Dr. Kimberly Ellis

Hill District Consensus Group – Karen Eady-Lockett