

# The Buhl Foundation



Annual Report by the President  
July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021



HENRY BUHL, JR.  
1848-1927



By his will Henry Buhl Jr. created The Buhl Foundation  
and dedicated it to “charitable, educational,  
and public uses and purposes,” as a memorial  
to his beloved wife, Louise C. Buhl.

Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

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## **From the Desk of the President**

### **July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2021**

A time of upheaval in our world has left us forever changed. A global pandemic has taken millions of lives and has fundamentally altered the way we live. Our Country has suffered through tragedies that have reminded us that racism is a national epidemic. These unprecedented challenges have revealed the hardships of food insecurity, a digital divide, health disparities, substandard housing and un- or under employment. Despite the painful reality, we have all found great hope and inspiration in the power of the human spirit, as we have all experienced unconditional acts of kindness and love - bearing witness to millions of Americans mobilized in support of one another.

We at the Buhl Foundation have been humbled and inspired by the unwavering human spirit. Hope is a great gift that enables us all to respond and adapt to new realities and to the unknown. After years of planning and building trust in the Northside, we have built a community that is dedicated to strengthening a social fabric that will improve the quality of life for all residents. In the wake of the pandemic and epidemic, this community did not delay or hesitate, but rather quickly pivoted to the needs of their neighbors to ensure that people are safe and have access to the basic needs that will enable the endurance of this crisis. It harkens to the hope of our founder, Henry Buhl, Jr, when he created the Foundation to be “responsive to the needs of our times.”

Buhl has sought to meet our partners by also adapting and responding to the challenges of the pandemic and of the systemic racism that we must all work to overcome. While the heart of our work has always focused on pursuing equity, access and inclusion, we continue to challenge our own assumptions. We have worked internally to strengthen policies and practices that advance diversity, equity and inclusion at all levels. We have adjusted our grantmaking to create additional opportunities and experiences that further serve marginalized populations.

When we reimaged the Foundation, launching the One Northside movement, we shifted to an embedded philanthropy model, building deep and meaningful relationships with residents and allowing that insight to shape our grantmaking. We walk beside our neighbors, we work together as peers, and we are staying until we collectively achieve our agreed upon goals.

This is not the time for the faint of heart; it is the time for bravery and innovation. The Board and Staff of the Buhl Foundation are grateful to engage with humility and compassion as we all continue to move forward. While we cannot predict what will be, we know that unity creates strength, and that we are united with our community and committed to forging ahead for the betterment of all.

In service,

Diana A. Bucco

President

## **MISSION**

It is the mission of the Buhl Foundation *to create community legacies by leveraging its resources to encourage people and organizations to dream, to innovate and to take action.*

## **VISION**

It was Mr. Buhl's desire that the Foundation be especially concerned with the "well-being of the citizens of the City of Pittsburgh, and the County of Allegheny." He gave the Board the freedom to distribute the Foundation resources in a way that was "responsive to the needs of the time" with particular focus on the community of Pittsburgh, creating the first multipurpose foundation in the city. These values remain constant in our vision for the Foundation.

### ***Leverage***

We invest our human capital and financial resources with innovative methods and in strategic places.

### ***Catalyze***

We embrace Henry Buhl, Jr.'s entrepreneurial mindset to develop transformational ideas and enact positive change.

### ***Connect***

We are an effective convener of people and organizations, connecting ideas, opportunities and resources to inspire our community.

## **GUIDING PRINCIPLES**

The Buhl Foundation's current aspirations are integrated into our long-standing mission, making it relevant to contemporary times.

### ***Dream***

- Because today's dreams become the realities of tomorrow, Mr. Buhl hoped the Foundation would be curious, accessible, unencumbered in vision and purpose, and structurally capable of adaptability and usefulness. We welcome discussion of wide ranging ideas and opportunities to make a difference.
- To advance its mission, the Foundation must do more than simply make grants. Acknowledging the finiteness of our resources, we seek to be informed by the community in order to best leverage our efforts and to be an active participant in finding solutions. We appreciate the need to give of our time and energy to help make dreams happen.

### *Innovate*

- With a history of funding creative endeavors for over 90 years, the Foundation recognizes that any success is dependent on the vision and dedication of the many organizations that it is privileged to assist.
- The Foundation has been fortunate that great ideas and the leaders to implement them have emerged. We seek to partner with such leaders to stimulate and strengthen our community's ability to survive, adapt and thrive in a fast changing world. Our resources are focused on inventive and entrepreneurial solutions to expand tomorrow's possibilities.

### *Act*

- The Foundation is often the first funder of a new idea, willing to venture when the possible benefits outweigh the attendant risks. We look for opportunities where a small amount of money wisely invested can lead to strategic action and improvements.
- In carrying out its mission the Foundation tries to find the balance between visibility and self-effacement; leadership and enablement.

## **APPROPRIATIONS**

**July 1, 2020 - June 30, 2021**

### **BUHL FOUNDATION GRANTS**

It is the mission of the Buhl Foundation *to create community legacies by leveraging its resources to encourage people and organizations to dream, to innovate and to take action.*

**Carnegie Science Center - \$1,000,000**

To support important upgrades to the historic Buhl Planetarium, ensuring adventurous and exciting engagement with the Planetarium for years to come.

**Auberle - \$180,000**

To support the continued operation and refinement of the One Northside Employment Institute.

**Project Destiny - \$135,000**

To support the continued refinement of Thrive18, and to begin the new Hello Baby pilot program.

**United Way of Southwestern Pennsylvania - \$103,000**

To support the continued implementation of the One Northside Youth eXcel (ONYX) initiative.

**Fineview Citizens Council - \$100,000**

To support the initial implementation of Fineview & Perry Hilltop Citizens' Councils' 5-year affordable housing plan.

**New Sun Rising - \$100,000**

To support the continuation of the popular One Northside Mini-Grant Program through 2020.

**The Pittsburgh Foundation - \$100,000**

To support The Pittsburgh Foundation's Emergency Action Fund developed in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

**Foundation of HOPE - \$85,000**

To support their Northside-based Diversion Program, as well as a COVID-19 related effort to assist Northsiders recently released from jail in successfully reintegrating, finding gainful employment, and safe housing.

**Allegheny Conference on Community Development - \$77,500**

To support the "Creating a Next Generation Economy for All" campaign of the Allegheny Conference.

**Project Destiny - \$76,000**

To support a Thrive18 Community Coordinator position in Northview Heights.

**Riverlife - \$75,000**

To support Riverlife's recent executive search and implementation of a new vision plan.

**Riverside Center for Innovation - \$75,000**

To support the continued operation of CoLab18, a state-of-the-art digital learning and community problem-solving center, created in collaboration with One Northside.

**YMCA of Greater Pittsburgh - \$75,000**

To support on-going efforts towards research and preservation of the Allegheny YMCA single resident occupancy rooms and COVID-19 related support for general operating losses.

**Rising Tide Partners - \$55,000**

To support Rising Tide Partners efforts to implement the ambitious One Northside housing goals in collaboration with the Fineview & Perry Hilltop Citizens' Councils.

**A+ Schools - \$50,000**

To support the continued development of a comprehensive redesign of Perry High School that engages key community stakeholders in its creation.

**Trying Together - \$50,000**

To support the One Northside Early Childhood Action Team work towards training and raising the standard of care for childcare providers on the Northside.

**Urban League of Pittsburgh - \$50,000**

To continue support of the Urban League's Black Male Leadership Development Institute (BMLDI) as it seeks to develop young African American leaders in Western PA.

**Neighborhood Allies - \$45,000**

To support a Northside-focus of the "Beyond the Laptops" initiative in response to COVID-19.

**412 Food Rescue - \$42,000**

To support innovative food distribution programs for youth, including Northsiders, during the on-going COVID-19 pandemic.

**North Side Partnership Project - \$35,000**

To support North Side Partnership Project's effort to retire mortgage and loan debt, in a joint effort with Dollar Bank, the POISE Foundation, and the Urban Redevelopment Authority.

**Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Pittsburgh - \$30,000**

To support a pilot of the "First Available Appointment" initiative for low-income residents with dental emergencies, such as pain or abscess.

**Goodwill of Southwestern Pennsylvania - \$30,000**

To support COVID-19 Emergency Funding for Northside Common Ministries.

**Neighborworks Western Pennsylvania - \$30,000**

To support Northside residents in growing the skills and knowledge necessary to make sound financial decisions, build personal wealth, and pursue homeownership.

**POISE Foundation - \$30,000**

To support The Advanced Leadership Initiative to dramatically improve the regional presence of African Americans in corporate and nonprofit leadership roles.

**New Sun Rising - \$28,100**

To support a mediation process between Light of Life Mission & community members.

**Amachi Pittsburgh - \$25,000**

To support the continued efforts to empower children and families with a challenge grant to increase individual and corporate donations.

**Infinite Lifestyle Solutions - \$25,000**

To support the “Saving Our Sons and Daughters Restorative Practice” program in Pittsburgh Morrow School.

**Manchester Citizens Corporation - \$25,000**

To engage the residents of Allegheny Dwellings in a productive fitness program and mentoring based activities designed to enhance community relations.

**Manchester Citizens Corporation - \$25,000**

To support direct outreach to individual households and education sessions to create awareness of real estate market changes and tools to avoid displacement.

**Never Fear Being Different - \$25,000**

To support the expansion of the successful VlogU into a full-scale Youth Creative Agency.

**Northside Leadership Conference - \$25,000**

To support the connection and enhancement of Riverview Park to the surrounding neighborhoods of the Northside.

**Pittsburgh Community Reinvestment Group - \$25,000**

To support PCRG’s AmeriCorpsVISTA program for the 2019-20 year, including its important impact on the community-based organization in Pittsburgh’s Northside.

**Pittsburgh Parks Conservancy - \$25,000**

To support the activation of Allegheny Commons Park through public programming aimed at diverse Northside populations.

**Pittsburgh Project - \$25,000**

To support organizational restructuring and general operating needs brought on by the COVID-19 crisis.



**The National Aviary - \$25,000**

To support second-grade students on the Northside with educational programs grounded in the Aviary to increase formal and informal learning opportunities.

**Tree Pittsburgh - \$25,000**

To support all fifth-grade students in Northside schools to connect with their public parks.

**Women and Girls Foundation - \$25,000**

To support the Femisphere initiative aimed at decreasing poverty rates and increasing economic security of single mothers living and working in the Pittsburgh region.

**North Side Christian Health Center - \$20,000**

To support their “QUIET Care Campaign” in Northview Heights to formalize social distancing guidelines, distribute personal protective equipment, and facilitate COVID-19 self-testing.

**United Methodist Church Union - \$20,000**

To support the 2020 Summer Meals Network and Northview Arts programs for underserved youth in the Northview Heights section of the Northside.

**Urban Impact Foundation - \$20,000**

To design an Urban Impact Attendance Missionary model based on Pittsburgh Schiller’s Attendance Program.

**YouthPlaces - \$20,000**

To support the improved and increasingly successful operations for YouthPlaces sites at Northview Heights and the Central Northside.

**Center for Victims - \$18,850**

To support training that raise awareness of trauma and its impacts within all Northside schools.

**Grantmakers of Western Pennsylvania - \$15,000**

To support local efforts to ensure an accurate, equitable United States Census data collection process in 2020.

**Light of Life Ministries - \$15,000**

To support Light of Life’s COVID-19 emergency response in the Northside via their Street Outreach Team efforts.

**The Forbes Funds - \$15,000**

To support the 2019 Greater Pittsburgh Nonprofit Partnership (GPNP) Summit.

**Pittsburgh Cultural Trust - \$12,500**

To support festival activities undertaken by the Cultural Trust to make Pittsburgh a more vibrant and family-friendly community.

**A+ Schools - \$10,000**

To support staff and student identified projects within Perry High School with the goal of improving morale and engagement.

**Islamic Center of Pittsburgh - \$7,500**

To support the Islamic Center of Pittsburgh and a large coalition of partners in distributing food and sanitation supplies to the Northview Heights refugee community.

**Duquesne University, School of Nursing - \$5,000**

To support the 2019 McGinley-Rice Symposium: The Face of the Person Who is Homeless.

**Grantmakers of Western Pennsylvania - \$5,000**

To support Remake Learning Days 2020 in offering Northside students and their families to innovative education experiences in their own communities.

**Pittsburgh Project - \$5,000**

To support the Pittsburgh Project's Servant Leader Celebration.

**Vibrant Pittsburgh - \$5,000**

To support the 2019 Vibrant Pittsburgh Regional Economic Inclusion Summit.

**Northside Partnership Project - \$4,500**

To support the purchase of freezers for a PCSI-supported food pantry serving Northside residents.

**HENRY C. FRICK EDUCATIONAL FUND**

Henry C. Frick established the fund in 1909 for the support of "sound education and useful training...in connection with the public schools and for the improvement of work done therein." It includes the Frick Teachers Alumnae Fund, which seeks to improve the teaching profession as well as the effectiveness of teachers. Today, the Frick Fund continues to provide funding for programs serving public schools from kindergarten to high school, especially with regard to schools serving disadvantaged and at-risk populations in Southwestern Pennsylvania.

**Society for Contemporary Craft - \$10,000**

To support efforts to offer valuable professional development opportunities to teachers, focusing on the art form of American contemporary craft, over two years.

**CUMULATIVE SUMMARY OF APPROPRIATIONS**

**Ninety-two Year Period  
to June 30, 2021**

**APPROPRIATIONS FROM 1927 TO JUNE 30, 2020**

**\$131,489,218**

## Appropriations from July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021

### Buhl Fund

Carnegie Science Center	\$1,000,000
Auberle	\$180,000
Project Destiny	\$135,000
United Way of Southwestern Pennsylvania	\$103,000
Fineview Citizens Council	\$100,000
New Sun Rising	\$100,000
The Pittsburgh Foundation	\$100,000
Foundation of HOPE	\$85,000
Allegheny Conference on Community Development	\$77,500
Project Destiny	\$76,000
Riverlife	\$75,000
Riverside Center for Innovation	\$75,000
YMCA of Greater Pittsburgh	\$75,000
Rising Tide Partners	\$55,000
A+ Schools	\$50,000
Trying Together	\$50,000
Urban League of Pittsburgh	\$50,000
Neighborhood Allies	\$45,000
412 Food Rescue	\$42,000
North Side Partnership Project	\$35,000
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Goodwill of Southwestern Pennsylvania	\$30,000
Neighborworks Western Pennsylvania	\$30,000
POISE Foundation	\$30,000
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Never Fear Being Different	\$25,000
Northside Leadership Conference	\$25,000
Pittsburgh Community Reinvestment Group	\$25,000

Pittsburgh Parks Conservancy	\$25,000
Pittsburgh Project	\$25,000
The National Aviary	\$25,000
Tree Pittsburgh	\$25,000
Women and Girls Foundation	\$25,000
North Side Christian Health Center	\$20,000
United Methodist Church Union	\$20,000
Urban Impact Foundation	\$20,000
YouthPlaces	\$20,000
Center for Victims	\$18,850
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Light of Life Ministries	\$15,000
The Forbes Funds	\$15,000
Pittsburgh Cultural Trust	\$12,500
A+ Schools	\$10,000
Islamic Center of Pittsburgh	\$7,500
Duquesne University, School of Nursing	\$5,000
Grantmakers of Western Pennsylvania	\$5,000
Pittsburgh Project	\$5,000
Vibrant Pittsburgh	\$5,000
Northside Partnership Project	\$4,500
<b>Total Buhl Fund Appropriations</b>	<b>\$3,154,950</b>

**Henry C. Frick Educational Fund**

Society for Contemporary Craft	\$10,000
<b>Total Frick Appropriations</b>	<b>\$10,000</b>

<b>TOTAL FROM JULY 1, 2020 TO JUNE 30, 2021</b>	<b>\$3,164,950</b>
<b>Cancellations/Refunds on Unrequired Commitment Balances</b>	<b>(22,500)</b>
<b><u>TOTAL APPROPRIATIONS OVER THE NINETY-TWO YEAR PERIOD</u></b>	<b>\$134,631,668</b>

## AREAS OF GIVING

Henry Buhl, Jr. built his fortune in the retail industry and created the Buhl Foundation, the first multi-purpose foundation in Pittsburgh, as a memorial to his beloved wife, Louise C. Buhl. Mr. Buhl directed the Foundation to be especially concerned with the “well-being of the citizens of the City of Pittsburgh, and the County of Allegheny.” Remembering that Henry Buhl, Jr. lived and worked on the Northside of Pittsburgh, and knowing his love for Pittsburgh and its people, the Buhl Foundation has historically focused on four major areas: Education, Youth Development, Human Services, and Economic and Community Development. Although the Foundation has embarked on a place-based strategy on the Northside of Pittsburgh, it continues to find historic grantees focused on these priority areas and Buhl continues to look for opportunities to maintain this regional presence.

More recently, the Board of the Buhl Foundation has committed to a place-based strategy on Pittsburgh’s Northside where the majority of funding will be directed for at least the next decade. One Northside is a resident driven initiative that catalyzes and supports long-term sustainable change for Pittsburgh’s eighteen Northside neighborhoods that some 40,000 residents call home. Begun in 2014, One Northside is a long-term commitment to invest in the lives and futures of Northside residents and with particular emphasis on resourcing community members, young and old, to lead from within. In this strategy, Buhl is dedicated to working with and for the Northside community to improve upon and build the structure needed to connect residents and businesses to the resources that will create a thriving community. Working with thousands of Northside residents and community members, the One Northside strategy is grounded in five key pillars: Education, Employment, Place, Health and Safety. Learn more about this undertaking by visiting [www.onenorthsidepgh.org](http://www.onenorthsidepgh.org)

### **Henry C. Frick Educational Fund**

Grants are made from the Frick Fund with special concern for strengthening K-12 public school education. A sub fund of the Frick Fund, the Frick Teacher Alumnae Fund, supports efforts to improve the teaching profession and the effectiveness of teachers. These focus areas align well with the educational interests of the Buhl Foundation. Grant procedures for the Frick Fund are the same as the Buhl Foundation.

### **William and Elizabeth Rodger McCreery Memorial Fund**

Grants are made from the McCreery Fund to nonprofits that focus on furthering musical education and music awareness for young people in the Pittsburgh region. Application procedures for the McCreery Fund are the same as the Buhl Foundation.

## **GRANT PROCEDURES**

The Buhl Foundation has transitioned to a digital grantmaking process with the launch of new online grants software in 2019 and a new website in 2020. Interested applicants can review the steps of the application process, confirm eligibility, complete Letters of Inquiry (LOI), and submit proposals online. Interested organizations have the ability to first review Buhl grant priority areas followed by eligibility requirement. Prospective grantees may create an account and compose a LOI online. Staff meet regularly to review submissions, and will reach out to organizations informally to discuss when additional information is required. Applicants receive a formal declination or invitation into the full grant application process within six to twelve weeks of the submission.

Buhl staff meet with potential applicants to discuss feasibility and work with prospective grantees to develop a proposal that has the potential for community impact that is consistent with giving priorities. Expression of interest in a proposal, or work with an applicant to assure best possible presentation is not a guarantee of forthcoming grant approval. If a proposal is invited, staff will work with the applicant to establish a specific timeframe for submission of the proposal and consideration by the Board.

The Buhl Foundation Board of Directors convenes five to six times a year to act on grant proposals. Once approved by the Board, the grantee and Buhl staff agree upon a schedule for grant payments. A final report on program achievements, including accounting for dollars spent, is required at the conclusion of the program, and, in some cases, grantees are asked to provide quarterly or interim reports for data collection and communications purposes.

The Buhl Foundation Board of Directors are presented with all LOIs and grant proposals.

## PROPOSAL GUIDELINES

An electronic grant proposal submission must include all of the following:

- Organization Information:
  - Mission of the Organization
  - History of the Organization
  - History of Buhl Funding
  
- Project Information:
  - Purpose of Grant
  - Neighborhood/Geographic Area
  - Alignment to Buhl Strategic Priorities
  - Project Outcomes
  - Project Start / End Date
  
- Financial Information:
  - Amount of Grant Request
  - Total Project Budget
  - Annual Operating Budget
  - Most Recent Financial Audit
  
- Leadership/Board of Directors
  
- IRS Determination Letter

Applicants may access The Buhl Foundation's online grants portal to create an account here: [Logon Page - Grant Lifecycle Manager \(grantinterface.com\)](http://grantinterface.com)