The 2021 Secretary’s Award for Public-Philanthropic Partnerships

Buhl Foundation

Northview Heights Community Safety Partnership

Pittsburgh, PA

Challenge

To improve public safety in the Northview Heights housing community.

Innovation

Convening local stakeholders, Buhl established the Northview Heights Community Safety Partnership with the goal of “transitioning from ‘re-active policing’ to ‘pro-active public safety’” through sustained dialogue and collaborative effort.

Overview

As part of its place-based strategy called One Northside (ONS), the Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania-based Buhl Foundation conducted a “Community Census” of the 18 neighborhoods covered by ONS. The results of that survey led to the creation of the Northview Heights Community Safety Partnership, “a multi-sector collaborative to solve safety and quality-of-life concerns.” Comprising the Housing Authority of the City of Pittsburgh, the Pittsburgh Bureau of Police, and residents, the partnership resulted in a community policing strategy that includes increased cooperation between Northview Heights residents and staff, Pittsburgh police, and the Calvin M. Hall Public Safety Center—“a police substation and a community hub.”

Partners

Housing Authority of the City of Pittsburgh, and Pittsburgh Bureau of Police.