Community Relations Committee: Meeting Minutes: October 15, 2013

12:00-2:00pm  
Cathedral of Learning, Room 156—the Croghan/Schenley Room

Attendees: Kim Barlow, University Times; Denise Chisholm, Occupational Therapy; Laurie Cohen, CRC-C0-Chair, UIS; Megan Fabbri, OPDC; Lovie J. Foster; Co-Chair, CRC, Social Work; Patrick Loughlin, BioEngineering; Penny Morel, Immunology; Tricia Nowalk, Family Medicine; Kunn Sahni, Community Relations; Trevor Smith, CHS; Pam Toto, Occupational Therapy; John Wilds, Community Relations; Mary Davidson Williams, OBID; Thea Young; Family Medicine

- Co-Chairs Laurie & Lovie welcomed guests and members

- Affordable Care Act (ACA)—Pitt/UPMC Roll-out to Oakland uninsured
  - Presenter: Tricia Nowalk, PhD, Associate Professor Department of Family Medicine, Project Director, Matilda Theiss Health Center
  - Pitt Dept. of Family Medicine and the Matilda Theiss Health Center applied for and received a grant to hire and train an outreach team to enroll uninsured patients/clients in a healthcare plan
  - ~20 hours of online ACA training with special emphasis on privacy and security
  - 5 people trained, 3 working—need to hire 2 additional people
  - Outreach team has a schedule of its enrollment outreach dates and locations (handed out at meeting; more handouts of the schedule are available)
  - Some key points:
    - A person must apply in order to determine their eligibility
    - There are penalties if not enrolled
    - Pitt/UPMC team’s goal is to enroll 200 uninsured clients
    - There are/were glitches with the ACA enrollment website
    - Takes about an hour to enroll

- OBID update on the Anchor District Forum and Startup Oakland Kickoff
  - Presenter: Mary Davidson Williams, Marketing & Communications Coordinator, Oakland Business Improvement District
  - Anchor District Forum
    - Thursday, October 24th, 2-5:30pm
    - Topic: A conversation with Anchor Institution and Community Service Corporation Leaders
    - University of Pittsburgh Campus-Alumni Hall/Connolly Ballroom
    - For more info or to RSVP (not mandatory): 412-683-6243, x.19, or mary@oaklandbid.org
Technology Startup Campaign: http://onlyinoakland.org/startup/overview/

**Oakland Planning and Development Corporation**
- Presenter: Megan Fabbri
  - Town hall meeting October 17, 2013
  - Home Buying Workshop October 21, 2013

**Oakland Forever 2014**
- Presenter: Trevor Smith
  - 2nd annual Oakland Forever event will be held in September 2014, 175th anniversary of Oakland
  - Exciting opportunity to get involved: Recruiting now for volunteers for the Oakland Forever 2014 Planning Committee

**Community Relations**
- Presenters: Kannu Sahni and John Wilds, Phd
  - Many successful events supported the department and university's goals to build relationships and strengthen communication between local residents, students, and faculty
      - ~50% of N. Oakland Block Party attendees were Point Park students
    - Day of Caring (9/24/13)
      - 24 project sites and 44 projects in Oakland, Homestead, and East End
      - ~400 participants (students, faculty, staff, community, alumni)
    - Student Guide
      - Tremendous success!
      - May become standardized part of Pitt system for orienting students to campus living
      - Lots of great publicity nationally—will likely be a model for other universities
  - November/Upcoming
    - Food drives for people and pets/pet shelters
      - Kick-off 10/31/13...runs through November with the finale 12/1/13 at the Pitt Women's Basketball game
      - November 8-22, CBS radio will be talking about human and pet hunger
    - Winter apparel drive—seeking socks and other items
    - Christmas Day at Pitt—seeking toys and other items
  - Chancellor Search
    - Have received input on desired characteristics from students, faculty, and alumni
  - Construction
    - Installing environmentally-friendly boiler behind Trees Hall
      - Related, reconstructing stairs to the Petersen Events Center
      - Will be complete by the end of the year
- 5th Avenue
  - Nordenberg Hall
    - Will soon house PNC Bank
  - PNC building will become Starbuck’s
  - New railing and wider sidewalks have been put in
- Engineering building construction is underway
- Graduate School of Public Health building is nearly complete
  - Partnering with CHS to do a “Renter’s Rights” student workshop
    - Will educate students about their rights as a tenant
    - Will educate students about landlord rights
    - Legal advice
    - Dates are tentative—possibly the 1st and 2nd weeks of November
- Bates Street
  - Western PA Conservancy has eliminated many of the foreign/invasive plant species and treated the area
  - Next step is to plant trees
- Plant to Plate and Oakland Food Pantry
  - Great successes taking place in feeding local residents
  - CHS staff/CRC member Trevor Smith is instrumental in these efforts
    (Fabulous work Trevor!)
  - [http://www.pitt.edu/~sorc/plant2plate/](http://www.pitt.edu/~sorc/plant2plate/)
  - [http://www.chscorp.org/foodpantry](http://www.chscorp.org/foodpantry)
- School of Social Work Civic Engagement Community
  - Needs Halloween candy for goody bags for local youth
  - Please take candy to 2217 Cathedral of Learning by 4pm 10/24…final day to be “sweet”
  - November 1, 2013

Hope to see you all Tuesday, November 19, 2013
Tentative meeting place: CHS in Oakland…don’t miss video viewing

RSVP by Monday, October 28th to Lovie Jackson Foster: [ljj10@pitt.edu](mailto:ljj10@pitt.edu)