

TRIPOLI
STREET

COMMUNITY CENTER

NOW

MORE THAN EVER

Help us raise \$170,000
by March 2026



The Tripoli Street Community Center is a non-sectarian, community connection project operated by Cityview Church. In addition to being a space for neighborhood parties, organizing meetings, and the Church's weekly worship service, **the Community Center is currently home to organizations addressing homelessness and sex trafficking, perinatal health inequity, recovery, and food insecurity.**

Cityview Church owns the building and has recently separated from the Evangelical Covenant Church (ECC) denomination because of the congregation's commitment to LGBTQ+ inclusion and affirmation. This departure from the ECC requires the Church to raise funds to secure this space for current and future community needs.

We are launching the *Now More Than Ever* campaign so that we can ensure that this facility remains an open and inclusive resource for our community for years to come.



The **Tripoli Street Community Center Community Center** was born in 2020 during the COVID-19 pandemic, when restrictions on communal gathering forced Cityview Church to end a long-running, weekly community dinner serving those who were either without food or who were food insecure. Even though there were no formal gatherings in the meeting space operated by the congregation during the Pandemic, **the space remained an active conduit for neighbors to collaborate around community needs.** When local, senior high-rise residents reported a need for toilet paper, paper towels, and cleaning supplies, neighbors and non-profits contributed the requested items, while others donned masks to fill bags and deliver supplies to over 200 local seniors.

This moment was the spark that ignited the Community Center idea. It became clear to Cityview Church leadership that their building at 816 Tripoli Street wasn't solely a space for church-related activities.

The space belonged to the community. Not long after the collection and delivery of essentials for seniors during the Pandemic, the Community Center, in collaboration with 412 Food Justice, became a distribution site for those in need of food.

**"This place is more than
just a building ... it's also a
community hub becoming
a gravitational force
within the neighborhood."**

— a neighborhood volunteer

*Now, six years later, the
Tripoli Street Community Center
remains committed to being an
integral part of the network of
Northside neighbors responding
to community needs.*

Join our movement for love and inclusion! [Make your tax-deductible donation here!](#)

Questions? Contact John Bolanos or Pastor Leeann Younger at Cityviewpgh@gmail.com with NOW in the subject line.



WHAT DO WE DO?

We are a community resource center:

We collaborate with local nonprofits, recovery groups, and neighbors with creative ideas to identify and respond to neighborhood needs. Our approach is organic and dependent on the alchemy between the expressed needs of our neighbors and those with the skill and wisdom to craft a response. Currently, our facility hosts:



Weekly Food Distribution
anchored by 412 Food Rescue
and the Northside Food
Pantry Advisors.



Ìyá Pittsburgh, a midwifery
team working to close the
perinatal health equity gap
for queer and BIPOC people.



Alcoholics Anonymous and
Narcotics Anonymous, local,
independent recovery groups



**National Union of the
Homeless**, a local manifestation
of the national organization.



Living in Liberty, a faith-based,
women's drop-in center

While the Cityview Church congregation owns and operates the Center, it is worth noting that **less than 20% of Community Center hours are focused solely on religious activity.**

**It's hard to feed
a family of five
with healthy food.
Thanks for your
no judgment and
this thing you do
for the community."**

— a food distribution participant

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We are also a "third place" — a blank canvas for community creativity

We serve a different purpose than local coffee shop, restaurants, and club spaces. Community groups, families, and other organizations find our meeting rooms useful for children's parties, funeral repasts, neighborhood organizing, book groups, and even theater practice. Our Allegheny County-approved kitchen and our audiovisual system provide the necessary tools for creative gatherings to thrive.

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Why Now?

We need to secure this space.

Because of the congregation's commitment to LGBTQ+ inclusion and affirmation, the church has recently separated from its nonaffirming denomination, the Evangelical Covenant Church (ECC). The ECC holds the building mortgage and to keep this community resource open to ALL, we are launching the **Now More Than Ever Campaign**.

"Anyone is welcome here and met with dignity when they arrive. At a time when the social safety net of our society is being shredded and division sown between us, there is no better time to invest in radical community building."

— a neighborhood volunteer

We are building community resilience for the future.

We take seriously the epidemic of loneliness and the resulting social instability endemic to American culture right now. Our response is to maximize opportunities for folks from all walks of life to connect in mutual care. Additionally, we are committed to responding to the socioeconomic instability of the current economy and the impact of such instability on the most vulnerable among us. Our partners, through the use of our facility, create a network of support and prevention. **People who can't afford to pay for the services of a support network still need one.** This is the passion that drives us forward. We are committed to increasing our capacity to engage and empower our vulnerable neighbors through organizational partnerships and community building opportunities.

OUR NEED

Through our Now More Than Ever campaign, we are raising \$170,000 to:

1

Retire our current mortgage, securing our space and increasing our ability to direct all of our fiscal resources towards serving our neighbors and partners.

2

Replace our aging HVAC systems to ensure that we remain ready to respond to the neighborhood's warming and cooling needs during extreme weather situations.

3

Transform our outdoor space into a vibrant gathering area to enhance events, workshops, and neighbor-led gatherings.

Successfully meeting our goal means more than just upgrades—it means a stronger, more resilient community for generations to come.

There's no better place to invest in community power than right here.

There's no better time than right now.

Will you help us?

Please consider investing in our work to build a Community Center that can sustain even the most vulnerable among us during what will likely be rough days ahead.



Campaign Ambassadors who will tell their friends about our work and why it's worthy of support.



Volunteers to support our upcoming Spring fundraiser.

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