Community Meeting:
Centre Heldman Plaza Grocery Store Development
1850 Centre Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15219
HOW WE GOT HERE

- History
- How We Got Here
- The Future
A void has been occupying this space for years. Our community is now able to develop this empty space through a project that brings together communities and organizations. With the help this project that unites organizations and communities, we can develop this vacant space.
OUR COMMUNITY CO-OP OWNERSHIP

Hill District Food Access Working Group
Our cooperative model includes a shared investment with neighboring Hill District businesses and community organizations including but not limited to Ujamaa Collective, the Hill District Consensus Group, the Black Urban Gardeners of Pittsburgh, the Hill CDC, the Hill District Federal Credit Union, and more.

The purpose of our partnership is to provide Hill District residents with shared ownership of this for-profit space and empower them to decide how dollars spend in their community as opposed to having non-resident investors make the decision.
OUR VISION

Hill District ACE Hardware

Little Haiti Specialty Market

Home & Garden (hosted by BUGS)
The EAT Initiative has been involved in the Hill District since the launch in 2015 by providing food resources, cooking demonstrations, and educating young people, working parents and senior citizens about healthy food choices.

In the Hill District, there is no local grocery store or hardware store available to residents who live in the area. The closest grocery store and the hardware store are outside of the neighborhood limits across highways and bridges, making it inaccessible to those without transportation. ACE Hardware works closely with grocery stores and has five retail locations in the greater Pittsburgh area.
**Why the Hill District?**

**Our Why**

Our studies support our claim that the fresh produce market is a basic human right and our data statistics, and claims from the residents themselves, point to the need for heightened access to produce and food items to stimulate our local economy and empower Hill District residents.

The Hill District has experienced an intentional lack of resources. There has been systematic discrimination that has taken place for decades now and being a current resident in the Hill, we understand the impact of this type of investment. Fresh food and produce is a basic human right, and with our neighboring areas having reliable access and proximity, there is no reason why the Hill District should be struggling in its current state.

This is a catalytic project that focuses on unifying Hill District-bred organizations that have been doing this work for decades. This is the opportunity for our neighborhood to come together and create more jobs and inspire other neighborhoods in our situation to take power back from businessmen and other non-Black entrepreneurs who do not have our best interests in mind.
OUR OFFERINGS
OUR COMMUNITY
OUR COMMITMENT

SPECIALTY GROCERY STORE GOODS
HARDWARE SUPPLIES
HOME & GARDEN
BUSINESS SUPPLIES
Hey, hey, hey! It’s Fat Albert! Now I’m gonna sing a song for you, and this is gonna show you a thing or two. You’ll have some fun with me and the gang, learning from each other. Na na na gonna have a good time! Na na na gonna have a good time! Hey, hey, hey! This is Bill Cosby coming out with music and fun and if you’re not careful.
OUR APPROACH

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

We will provide workforce development resources partnered with Energy Innovation Center to recruit, identify, and hire Hill District residents primarily and secondarily to stimulate our hyper-local economy.

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

We will offer DIY classes (via ACE Hardware) to engage Hill District homeowners, Community giveaways and cooking demonstrations/tutorials.

We will leverage local makers/maker spaces to encourage entrepreneurs to sell their products in our spaces.

DIY CLASSES & MAKER SPACES

COMMUNITY INVESTMENT

We have ongoing partnerships with local independent grocery stores that will result in community benefits such as community empowerment events, business development classes, financial management courses and resources, and gardening and home improvement resources that are curated specifically for the Hill District.

COMMUNITY INVESTMENT

We plan to open a hardware store and specialty community-led co-op in the Historic Hill District's specialty market, the area's only hardware store. Hill District's Hardware will serve as an economic engine that spurs job growth by assisting in the creation of 500 plus jobs with an emphasis on workforce development and the sustainment of small business vendors. Moreover, we plan to attract services through corporate philanthropy to assist new entrepreneurs.

ACE HARDWARE
ABOUT US

A TEAM DEDICATED TO A COLLECTIVE COMMUNITY VISION

Claudy Pierre  
Co-Founder  
Pierre Development  
The EAT Initiative  
Eminent Hospitality

Samuel Pierre  
Co-Founder  
Pierre Development  
The Haitian American Caucus

Andrea Robinson  
Project Manager  
President of ARCLS Consulting

Naomi Ritter  
Founder and CEO  
The Finesse Institute

Adero Harrison  
Executive Assistant  
Pierre Development

Lakeisha Byrd  
Founder + Architectural Designer  
Communion

Tom Hardy  
CEO  
Palo Alto Neighborhood Allies
THANK YOU