

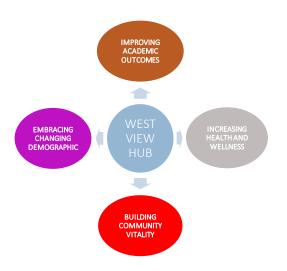
2023 was an exciting year for the West View HUB with new impactful program offerings, organizational growth, expansion of our volunteer/partner network and the opening of HUBworks, a new immersive art center for the community. The HUB is community defined and has demonstrated an ability to anticipate and meet new challenges as they emerge.



HUBworks opened its doors to the public on June 7th. Located adjacent to the HUB Pantry in what was once a gun shop, this facility is now an immersive art center providing numerous creative experiences to all members of the community.

HUBworks was created via a strong network of partners and dedicated volunteers. Work began in March and we were open for business in June. Quite an amazing accomplishment resulting in a wonderful facility that features a large performance space, a dedicated art studio and a professional recording studio.

The HUB was started in 2019 and continues to evolve with new and meaningful offerings focused in four key areas: improving academic outcomes, building community vitality, increasing health and wellness, and adapting to the needs of an ever-changing population.



In 2023, the HUB delivered over 80 key programs in these four areas. Programs included Reading Clubs, D&D weekly game days, Health Clinics, Technology Training, Tax Preparation Assistance, Science Fair Help, Back-to-school Bingo, Boo Bingo, Christmas community events, Theater Camp, Pass the Class, Food Pantry, Counseling Services, Ukulele Lessons, Creative Writing, Illustration Class, Job Placement Assistance, Painting Classes, Yoga, Girls Who Code, STEAM classes, 4 Good Community Distributions along with several others.



Some of our key areas of focus in 2023 were familiar with continued demand, while others were new and evolving. In all cases we were very fortunate to have a wide network of partners, volunteers and contributors.



In June, in addition to opening HUBworks, the West View HUB celebrated its fourth anniversary with local media coverage, guest speakers and fun for all. Here we see folks touring the newly created Art Center.

We had a record number of children sign up, over two times the number in 2022, for programs that included Art Camps, STEAM programs, Get Curious, "Statescation," Summer Acting Camp, Illustration Class, Fencing Class, Book Clubs and more.

The HUB relies on a strong network of helpers and recognizes that none of this would be possible without the support they give. During our summer kickoff, we invite partners and volunteers to participate in this community-building event.

Brighton Music Center is a new partner for the West View HUB and was "instrumental" in helping us design the recording studio, obtain instruments and create special events.

Here we see children participating in Pittsburgh's Make Music Day which provided kids with the opportunity to explore the different sounds created by a variety of instruments. This event gave our newly installed acoustic panels a good workout.





"Statescation" was a very popular program in 2022 and was back in 2023, providing educational opportunities that allowed children to learn about 24 states over the summer. The "West View Flyer" (airplane) was busy showing videos about each state while volunteers assisted with crafts, readings and snacks. The HUB could not survive without its wonderful volunteers (well over 75 help us throughout the year).



On this day children were learning about West Virginia and the craft included making custom walking sticks.



One of the key areas of focus for the West View HUB is providing ongoing out-of-school learning opportunities for students in grades K-12. This is accomplished via a comprehensive slate of offerings that include Pass the Class, STEAM programs, creative writing classes, book clubs, acting classes and camps, art classes and camps, music lessons, and targeted academic enrichment.



On this day students studied ornithology and learned about the variety of local species in our area. In addition to studying habitats and migration patterns, children made bird feeders designed to attract specific species.

The HUB Pantry saw significant growth in 2023 with demand increasing by over 50%. We believe this change can be attributed to heightened awareness, rising food costs and a steady influx of new, non-English speaking families into the area. We're pleased that we are able to meet this demand with key food donations from our pantry partners and various civic groups along with a strong network of dedicated volunteers.



In December, the West View HUB participated in the Community of Music: Fill the Sleigh event hosted by one of our founding partners, North Hills Cares.

The West View HUB Pantry received a van full of non-perishable goods that were provided by event attendees.

We're touched by the generosity of the community and grateful for such wonderful partners.



Many children within our communities struggle with ACEs (Adverse Childhood Experiences) which can result in lower academic performance and emotional challenges. Psychologists have found that sustained participation in the creative process can have a positive impact in mitigating these negative effects. In an effort to help address these issues, while providing new class opportunities for the overall community, HUBworks was created.

This unique facility is part of the West View HUB complex and features a large performance space, an art studio and a professional recording studio. Since opening in June, HUBworks has provided fencing classes, theater classes, music lessons, yoga, painting classes, art camps, illustration classes, theatrical performances, and movie nights.



Opening night at HUBworks gave the community the opportunity to explore our new spaces which include a large performance area, a professional recording studio and a wellequipped art room.













The North Hills String Ensemble has found a new performance venue with HUBworks. We're thankful to have them share their wonderful talent with the community.

HUBworks offered fencing classes this summer which were well attended and will be continued in 2024.





Live performances have been very popular at HUBworks. Key events include theatrical productions, music shows and open mic nights. Here we see a production of Emma delivered by HUB partner Steel City Shakespeare Center.





Summer programming is a very important part of the West View HUB year. 2023 saw the addition of many new programs that included art classes and camps along with the return of HUB favorites like Shakespeare summer camp, which had nearly 100 participants.

The new
HUBworks
facility provided
magician classes,
STEAM
programs, acting
classes, fencing,
music lessons,
yoga, and
theatrical
performances.









2023 saw the return of "West View Rocks," a very popular program where children paint rocks which are then placed throughout the community. Families are then encouraged to take walks throughout the area and record the locations where they spot the rocks. Prizes are then awarded, based on the number of rocks found, at "Back to School Bingo" which is held right before the start of the new school year. This year we had 83 children participating in painting and hunting for rocks.



West View Rocks has become a summertime tradition provided by the West View HUB. Kids paint the rocks, we hide them and families find them. The event culminates with Back to School Bingo where prizes are awarded to all West View Rock "Hunters."

This year 83 children painted West View Rocks. Each rock included a positive message as shown here in the picture. Families love this event as it gives them an opportunity to take purposeful walks with their children who are eager to locate the rocks.





The West View HUB is home to several scout troops including 2 Girl Scout troops and a recent "HUB Chartered" Boy Scout troop. The benefits of scouting, as defined by ScoutWIKI.org include:

- Increased faith, family recreation, physical health, and citizenship
- Learning key skills for survival and adaptation to new environments
- Promoting good health habits and physical development
- Building self-esteem, resilience, and character
- Encouraging intellectual development and learning about the world
- Participating in age-appropriate activities, service, crafts, field trips, and outdoor adventures

These benefits directly complement the mission of the West View HUB and we are proud to support this important community.



Boy Scout Troop 83 was established nearly 75 years ago and is one of the oldest troops in the area. This group lost its charter and was at risk of disbanding. The West View HUB is now the chartered organization for Troop 83, allowing this valuable program and tradition to continue within the community.

Two Girl Scout troops in West View call the HUB home. We are pleased to provide this service and appreciate the service they provide during special events. Here we see the Girl Scouts from Troop 16297 helping with our holiday event where families made cards and ornaments for over 125 homebound seniors.





In late September, the HUB held its first "HUBtoberfest" which was designed to create greater awareness of the West View HUB while providing interesting and unique experiences for the community. Key events included the screening of a long-lost George Romero film, "The Amusement Park," which was filmed in the 1970's at West View Park. Rights and access to the movie were generously provided by the George A. Romero Foundation and nearly 150 attendees participated in the screening.

The weekend also featured a carnival in the HUB, reminiscent of the West View Park arcade, and a Danceland Memories dance (West View Danceland was a popular venue that was lost to fire in 1973) held in the West View Banquet Hall. Over 600 people participated in HUBtoberfest!







Over 350 folks came out to dance the night away at our first Danceland Memories dance. Original Danceland DJ "Joe Hamm the Jam Man" joined "HUB Daddy" to spin the tunes and keep the crowd dancing. Special thanks to the West View Volunteer Fire Company for donating the use of the banquet hall.



HUBtoberfest was a celebration of the West View community and provided a wide variety of opportunities for folks to enjoy the HUB while learning about the many programs and services offered. Many "first-timers" came for specific events and, upon learning about all we do, have become HUB regulars.







West View is a very diverse community and the HUB strives to offer programming and activities for all. Here we see various shots of HUBtoberfest Carnival Day along with the audience getting ready for a special screening of "The Amusement Park." None of these activities would be possible without the wonderful support of our volunteers and partners.







HUB founder and Executive Director, Scott Pavlot, was honored with the 2023 Pittsburgh Circle of Courage award in August. This award was given as recognition for our work in Arts, Education and Mission.



The Mission of the West View HUB is to positively impact community life in underserved areas by focusing on improving academic outcomes, addressing food insecurity and developing community. This is accomplished via three key facilities that we've developed: a free public library, the food pantry and an immersive arts center.





Holidays are a special time in every community and the West View HUB enjoys bringing goodwill and cheer by participating in local celebrations and hosting special events. This past year key events included a Valentines party, Mother's Day Tea, HUBfest summer kickoff, Backto-School Bingo, Halloween party on parade night, Boo Bingo, HUBtoberfest, Light Up Night, Community Holiday Party and "Noon" Year's Eve event for children. Our attendance grows every year as more families learn about the HUB and become involved.





Holiday events present a great opportunity for building community and making new friends. In the pictures above we have Back to School Bingo, where every child receives their school supplies for the upcoming school year, our first Mother's Day Tea and "Noon" Year's Eve, a new event aimed at helping younger children ring in the new year.





In 2023 the West View HUB established a robotics team with the help of The Brobdingnagian Tritocephalic BrainSTEM Robotics Team which conducted seminars and then donated the resources needed to create a new team "The HUBworks Wizards." The Wizards met regularly to create robots and program them for competition. In December the HUBworks Wizards had their first regional meet and came in at number 22 out of 60 teams, a very impressive showing for a new team. This program incorporates many key learning skills and provides an excellent out-of-school learning opportunity for students in the area.



Congratulations to the 2023 HUBWorks Wizards on their wonderful performance at the Southwest PA FLL Robotics Tournament Series and Championship. We're looking forward to the 2024 event.



The HUB relies on donations and grants for funding and we are very fortunate to have a strong base of partner organizations that continually provide support.



The creation of HUBworks involved taking an old storefront and converting it into a beautiful immersive art center. We were able to accomplish this with the help of many local charities and community members. We began work in early March and were open for business in early June.

An amazing accomplishment thanks to the help and generosity of many amazing people.

In 2023, nearly 100 volunteers shared their time and talent helping with various programs and services. The HUB would not exist without this ongoing support and commitment.

The West View HUB Pantry volunteers enjoying a bowl of soup before opening the doors on the day before Thanksgiving. In the background you can see bags on the counter. We provided over 100 families with Thanksgiving bags that included a gift card for a turkey along with traditional items for the holiday meal. Our pantry now has over 800 patrons and this number continues to grow every week.





The HUB enjoys the benefit of a strong cohort of partners that include the North Hills School District, West View Borough, North Hills Cares, Steel City Shakespeare Center, North Hills Community Outreach, Senator Lindsey Williams, Representative Emily Kinkead, BSA, local businesses, local churches and others. These relationships help us anticipate changing needs within the community and help us develop new, community defined, offerings.





























District Rep Emily Kinkead





2023 saw continued transition for the HUB on several fronts including financial, leadership and vision.

With the expiration of the HUB's founding grant from the Ethel Verney Foundation, the HUB moved towards self-sufficiency by establishing relationships with several new foundations while continuing to develop the support we've been receiving from valued partners and past funders in the Pittsburgh area. The HUB also participated in Give Big Pittsburgh and raised nearly \$20,000 which included a matching grant from Community Life Enrichment Foundation. We also have many individual donors that continue to make a difference every day.

From a leadership perspective, the HUB continues to evolve with several new committees formed in 2023. These include an executive team, programming, finance and communications. These changes have resulted in streamlined operating procedures and the creation and delivery of over 80 programs in 2023. From a communications perspective we are getting our message out more effectively as evidenced by increasing participation and event attendance. These changes make it possible to bring critical elements into focus while ensuring that the programs and services we deliver are meaningful and impactful.

In 2023 we also added new staff including an Assistant Director and Pantry Coordinator. Both bring fresh perspectives along with the talent and dedication that will allow the HUB to continue to evolve.



West View HUB is fortunate and blessed to have an enthusiastic and dedicated staff that oversees every aspect of the HUB, Pantry and HUBworks.

Pictured left to right. Jeffrey Chips: Program Coordinator, Debi Ryder: Assistant Director, Anna Woomer: Pantry Coordinator, Sandy Roberts: Volunteer Coordinator, Scott Pavlot: Executive Director.



Future Direction

2024 promises to be an exciting year for the West View HUB. As we prepare to celebrate our fifth-year anniversary in June, we continue to evolve at a rapid rate. In 2023 the University of Pittsburgh Johnson Institute conducted a study on behalf of the West View HUB. Findings identified nearly 700 students that have attended HUB programs with parents/caregivers indicating that 97% saw academic and emotional improvement. We are pleased with this result and are looking to build upon this success.

Last year we created and opened HUBworks with the help of our founding partner Community Life Enrichment Center. With the addition of this new facility, we are now in the position to provide a full spectrum of out-of-school learning opportunities that include academic, artistic, and physical activities.

Our primary objective for 2024 is to establish an academic center of excellence that will serve all students from K-12. Outside learning has been identified by the National Department of Education as a necessary and primary part of positive outcomes for students. The COVID pandemic, combined with the ever-increasing number of home school students, has made outside learning a priority. We have a strong track record of providing numerous learning opportunities. We are now seeking funding that will enable us to formalize and deliver our offerings in a consistent ongoing manner. This evolution will involve hiring additional staff and instructors.

West View has also seen a tremendous influx of non-English speaking families and the HUB is delivering value via the food pantry and English learning classes for adults by working with Literacy Pittsburgh. We see an opportunity to help the children of these adults as they must attend a school outside of the community where they receive 45 minutes a day of language instruction and attend classes. Teachers report that this process is challenging as they have to engage students that struggle to understand English along with those who do. In addition, these students are in a school that is outside of the community where they live with limited opportunity to engage with local peers. We are working with partners to further define the challenges these children face and to create programs that can foster community integration.

2024 will be an exciting year for the HUB. As we round the corner on five years, we recognize how fortunate we are to have such a wonderful team of partners, volunteers and patrons. We will continue to expand existing programming for all members of the community while implementing new initiatives designed to meet current and emerging challenges. We invite you to visit our website, www.westviewhub.org, to learn more about our activities and to explore ways in which you can get involved.

Respectfully Submitted.

Scott Pavlot Executive Director West View HUB