DATA DRIVEN ORGANIZING: PARTNERSHIPS FOR COMMUNITY CHANGE IN THE HOMEWOOD CHILDREN’S VILLAGE

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The Village

- Adapting the Harlem Children’s Zone model
- HCZ pillars-Community building, Evidence based programs, Scale, Evaluation
- Property issues are a key aspect of Homewood’s challenges
Project Cycle

1000 Conversations
- Residents express concern about vacant houses

Data Gathering
- OBB and Pitt partner with PNCIS to gather housing related data

Contact engaged residents
- Equip residents with data and a manageable plan

Form Action Plan
- Identify worst homes in neighborhood and policy mechanism to address them

Celebrate!
Research Background

- Interested in how neighborhood conditions affect children and families
  - Housing quality
  - Neighborhood infrastructure
  - Vacant and abandoned properties and lots
  - Gigapan

- Data Driven Organizing: Conducting research with a direct goal of disseminating the results in a way that promotes community action and creates a road map for measurable neighborhood change.
PNCIS Partnership in HCV Neighborhood Assessment

- Research Review & Design
- Data Integration
- Data Visualization: MAPS!
- Training
- Policy Action
Data Driven Organizing

- Homewood’s Dirty Thirty:
  - Used joint database to identify worst properties in the neighborhood
  - Mobilized residents to call the 311 Response Line and advocate for boarding up the properties
  - 23 of 30 properties (77%) were boarded up, torn down, or otherwise improved within about a month
Before
After
Tax Exemption Initiative

- PNCIS analyzed property and tax records and identified potential homeowners in the neighborhood
  - Flagged owners who are not taking advantage of Act 50 Homestead exemption
- Provided this list to Operation Better Block, Inc.
- Piloting outreach project by knocking on doors and visiting senior centers
Impact

- Bringing resources back to the neighborhood to help children and families
- Improving quality of built and physical environment
- Making the neighborhood a safer place for children
Questions?