

Center of Life-Green Building Alliance Collaborative

Providing a gateway to sustainability, clean energy jobs, and environmental justice through the arts

- ▶ Our team has a longstanding partnership that has resulted in projects that leverage COL's strong community ties and GBA's expertise, resulting in programs that inform residents and local businesses on issues related to combatting environmental stressors and improving regional resiliency.
- ▶ COL, a Black-led anchor organization with deep roots in Hazelwood, a historically underserved neighborhood of Pittsburgh, provides families and youth with the life skills, education, training and resources necessary to be strong, make their communities strong, and forge bright futures.
- ▶ GBA, Greater Pittsburgh's founding authority on sustainable design, helps to develop the market for high-performance buildings and communities, and assists manufacturers, designers, builders, developers, community leaders and policymakers in a collective effort to champion clean energy, advance sustainable practices, and realize systemic change.
- ▶ Through this project, COL and GBA will collaborate to grow understanding of how energy and environmental justice issues impact the health and daily lives of those living in the Greater Pittsburgh region; facilitate understanding of clean energy concepts and how youth and adults can advocate for adoption in their homes and neighborhoods; and inspire awareness and interest in the paths of economic opportunity that are possible through clean energy jobs and job training. The project will unfold via three strategies:
 - 1) Youth Engagement to advance peer understanding and inspire youth to pursue a just, clean energy future for themselves, their families, and their neighborhoods via COL's KRUNK ("Kreating" Realistic Universal New-school Knowledge) program.
 - 2) Experiential learning opportunities that offer youth and adults opportunities to encounter sustainable practices in action and participate in neighborhood-based environmental projects.
 - 3) Workforce development events that will connect community youth/adults to projects, companies, and education and career opportunities in the clean energy and sustainability sector, broadening understanding and interest in clean energy jobs.