

Freedom Dreaming: Black communal and familial education processes in Pittsburgh's Hill District

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Motivation

Families and communities support their children's learning in a variety of ways.

But...

Research and practice tell us that schools exclude and devalue the engagement of racially, ethnically, and linguistically minoritized families and communities

Project Description

We will conduct semi-structured, in-depth interviews with:

- Black caregivers who have been engaged in educational activism and reimagining educational experiences for their children and the children in their community; and
- Community activists and community leaders associated in particular with organizations Hill District Education Council (HDEC), the Center that CARES, A+ Schools, and the Pittsburgh Public Schools Equity Advisory Panel.

Context

Pittsburgh is a critically important place to understand the educational project of Black families and communities.



Collaborative research and practice project focused on the pedagogy, educational expectations, hopes and dream, and advocacy of Black families and communities in supporting Black youth.



Project Deliverables

We plan to share the work and findings in ways that will contribute back to the project of educating Black children, through collaborative sharing potentially including:

- curricula for schools or for educator preparation
- advocacy briefs and presentations to the community, and
- contribution to "communiversity" courses.

This project will support the development of structures for continued and growing work across the Center for Urban Education, Center on Race and Social Problems, the Hill District Community Engagement Center.

Potential Impact

- Systematically further connections between CUE, CRSP, Hill CEC
- Develop and sustain mentorship models at Pitt
- Share community-focused resources to support the education of Black youth

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