Community-based Practitioner Exchange

Increasingly, a major theme of PICCED's work has been to deepen the understanding of both the philosophical and technical aspects of community-based planning as it is practiced around the globe.

A number of practitioners from other countries currently participate in PICCED's education and training programs, and a growing number are requesting admission to its Internship and graduate planning programs. PICCED has been invited to visit a number of countries in order to share program ideas and community development strategies in developing regions abroad.

PICCED is committed to expanding this international collaboration in the belief that exchanging and testing the replicability of project models, learning from what others are doing and appreciating the varying dynamics of local development enriches community development everywhere. These kinds of exchanges encourage practitioners to overcome local constraints and challenge them to discover opportunities for change previously unrecognized within their own communities.
"The Pratt Center provided St. Nicks with its initial start up 'capital' back in 1975. This took the form of training, advice, credibility; wisdom and all important access to a seven machine. Since that time, they've backed up St. Nicks every step of the way with hands-on technical assistance. For any neighborhood group, the Pratt Center represents skills and talents which can fuel ideas and commitments to achieve lasting community change."

PICCID's program director Brian Sullivan with Louise Marino and Lucy O'Keefe, who live in Jennings Hall, a senior citizen's residence in Williamsburg.

**Representative Clients and Sources of Support**

**Representative Clients, Past and Present**

ACCESS DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION, SOUTH BROOKLYN
ADAP-H-BUILDING, LOWER EAST SIDE
ASIAN AMERICANS FOR EQUALITY, LOWER EAST SIDE
BANANA BULLEY COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION, SOUTH BROOKLYN
RIVERBANK FREE LIVING, LOWER EAST SIDE
BEDFORD STUYVESANT RESTORATION CORPORATION, BROOKLYN
BROOKLYN MUSEUM
BROOKLYN NEIGHBORHOOD INVESTMENT ASSOCIATION, PROSPECT heights
CATHOLIC CHARITIES, SIBUS OF BROOKLYN
CENTRAL BROOKLYN COORDINATING COUNCIL, CENTRAL BROOKLYN EMERGENCY CARE SERVICES
COMMUNITY SERVICE SOCIETY
COOPER SQUARE COMMITTEE, LOWER EAST SIDE
CREATE, INC., HARLEM
EAST FORNIE STREET REVITALIZATION AND DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION, BROOKLYN
EAST NEW YORK URBAN YOUTH CORPS, INC.
ELIZABETH STREET, EAST HARLEM
ERAGHIS NEIGHBORHOOD CORPORATION, BROOKLYN
FAIR RICEROUT REVITALIZATION CORPORATION, QUEENS
FIFTH AVENUE COMMITTEE, BROOKLYN
FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF CROWN HEIGHTS, BROOKLYN
FRIENDS OF ABBEY BOWERS CENTERS OF ESTATE ISLAND
FRIENDS OF THE BROOKLYN NAACP, BROOKLYN
G pointers CANAL DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION, BROOKLYN
HARVEY URBAN DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION
HEALP AIDS FORUM LOCAL INITIATIVES SUPPORT CORPORATION
LONGFORD HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION, SOUTH BROOKLYN
LOWER EAST SIDE SERVICE CENTER
MAGNOLIA TREE EARTH CENTER OF BEDFORD-STUYVESANT, BROOKLYN
Mental Health Law Project
MO-BROOKLYN COMMUNITY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION
MUTUAL HOUSING ASSOCIATION OF NEW YORK, BROOKLYN
NATIONAL LOW INCOME HOUSING INFORMATION SERVICE
NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL ON THE ENVIRONMENT
NOHO/PSR CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER, EAST HARLEM
NYCHA DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION, BROOKLYN PASADENA AND EDUCATIONAL SERVICES, BROOKLYN
PEOPLE'S MURAL HOUSING ASSOCIATION OF THE LOWER EAST SIDE
PS 231 PARISH ASSOCIATION, THE BRONX
PUBLI-ST AMENDS, LOWER EAST SIDE
PUTNAM DAY CARE CENTER, BROOKLYN
SHAWNEE, INC., UPPER WEST SIDE
ST. GEORGE CIVIC ASSOCIATION, SIBUS ISLAND
ST. NICHOLAS NEIGHBORHOOD REVITALIZATION CORPORATION, BROOKLYN
STREETSIDE EAST NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL, UPPER WEST SIDE
TALLER BORICA, INC., EAST HARLEM
UNIFIED TRUST ASSOCIATION MUTUAL HOUSING ASSOCIATION, UPPER WEST SIDE
URBAN STRATEGIES, INC., BROOKLYN
VONDERHURST DAY CARE CENTER, LONG ISLAND
WOMEN'S HISTORY CENTER, QUEENS

**Sources of Support**

**Foundations**

ALIMAIN FOUNDATION
VINCENT ASTOR FOUNDATION
FORD FOUNDATION
FUND FOR THE CITY OF NEW YORK
LEFSETZ FOUNDATION
CHARLES STEWART MOTT FOUNDATION
NEW YORK COMMUNITY TRUST
NEW YORK FOUNDATION
JAMES C. PINKY FOUNDATION
CHARLES H. JAYSON FOUNDATION
ROCKELELLE BROTHERS FOUNDATION
SCHNIEBER FOUNDATION
TAYLOR FOUNDATION
BAIR BROTHERS FOUNDATION

**Corporations**

BANKERS TRUST COMPANY
BATTERY PARK CITY AUTHORITY
CHASE MANHATTAN BANK
CHASEMAN BANK
CITIZEN, INC.
J. S. SCHERER BANK & TRUST CO.
MANUFACTURERS' HANDY TRUST
MORGAN GUARANTY TRUST
PHILIP MORRIS COMPANIES

**Agency Contracts**

BROOKLYN BOROUGH PRESIDENT'S OFFICE
MANHATTAN BOROUGH PRESIDENT'S OFFICE
NEW YORK CITY DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING PRESERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT
NEW YORK STATE COUNCIL ON THE ARTS
NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES
NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND COMMUNITY REN
NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN RIGHTS
NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT
VARIOUS COMMUNITY BOARDS THROUGHOUT NEW YORK CITY

**Affiliations**

LOCAL
ASSOCIATION FOR COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT
ASSOCIATION FOR NEIGHBORHOODSHOUSING DEVELOPMENT, INC.
ASSOCIATION OF COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS FOR REFORM NOW INC.
BROOKLYN IN TOUCH
BROOKLYN LEGAL SERVICES CORPORATION
BROOKLYN MEDICALI WORKERS UNION
CENTRAL BROOKLYN COORDINATING COUNCIL
COALITION FOR THE HOMELESS
COMMUNITY SERVICE SOCIETY
CONSUMER FEDERATION FOUNDATION
HOUSING JUSTICE CAMPAIGN
HOUSING NEW YORK

**National**

AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF CERTIFIED PLANNERS
AMERICAN PLANNING ASSOCIATION
ARCHITECTS/PLANNERS/DESIGNERS FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY
ASSOCIATION FOR COMMUNITY DESIGN CENTER FOR COMMUNITY CHANGE
COMMUNITY RESOURCE EXCHANGE
DEVELOPMENT LEADERSHIP NETWORK
DEVELOPMENT TRAINING INSTITUTE
NATIONAL COMMITTEE FOR RESPONSIVE PHILANTHROPY
NATIONAL CONGRESS FOR COMMUNITY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
NATIONAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND LAW CENTER
NATIONAL HOUSING INSTITUTE
NATIONAL LOW INCOME HOUSING COALITION
NATIONAL NEIGHBORHOOD COALITION
NATIONAL TRAINING AND INFORMATION CENTER
NATIONAL URBAN LEAGUE
CHILDREN'S SERVICES ACTION NETWORK

**International**

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF URBAN PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF URBAN PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT
RURAL ADVICE CENTER, SOUTH AFRICA
THE URBAN ASSOCIATION

**Foundations**

ALIMAIN FOUNDATION
VINCENT ASTOR FOUNDATION
FORD FOUNDATION
FUND FOR THE CITY OF NEW YORK
LEFSETZ FOUNDATION
CHARLES STEWART MOTT FOUNDATION
NEW YORK COMMUNITY TRUST
NEW YORK FOUNDATION
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TAYLOR FOUNDATION
BAIR BROTHERS FOUNDATION
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True community development is not simply the process of rebuilding the physical infrastructure of our neighborhoods. It is, fundamentally, about social and economic justice; and it builds, not upon bricks and mortar, but upon the vision, energy and aspirations of people who live and work in these neighborhoods. This commitment and vision is often overshadowed by the litany of problems that have become symptomatic of urban poverty. The urge to attack these symptoms diverts us, as a society, from investing the necessary public and private resources in the human foundation upon which genuine and lasting social, economic and physical revitalization must be based.

The mission of the Pratt Center is to use the professional skills of architects and planners to work for social and economic justice by providing low- and moderate-income communities with the tools and resources needed to meet the challenges they face in planning and implementing their future.”
...reconstruction and development of area's physical, social, and economic infrastructure. The development of reinvestment and the development of new infrastructure is not only important for economic development but also for the development of new institutions. The development of new institutions is necessary for the development of new infrastructure. The development of new infrastructure is necessary for the development of new institutions. The development of new institutions is necessary for the development of new infrastructure...
PICCED is the oldest university-based advocacy planning organization in the United States. Founded in 1963 with a grant from the Rockefeller Brothers Fund, PICCED’s original goal was to create a partnership between Pratt’s planning department and local organizations struggling to address issues of urban deterioration and poverty.

One of PICCED’s first major projects was to help the Central Brooklyn Coordinating Council evaluate the impact of a proposed urban renewal plan on their neighborhood. The planning model which grew out of that endeavor integrated housing, economic and social planning considerations. This collaborative effort attracted the attention of Senator Robert F. Kennedy and led to the establishment of one of the first Ford Foundation funded community development corporations in the country — the Bedford Stuyvesant Restoration Corporation. With this early experience, PICCED’s role as an advocate for community empowerment was established, and the demand for PICCED’s program services expanded rapidly.

In 1965, under a federal Higher Education Act grant, PICCED launched a participant education program to assist and train local residents in the process of community development. This was followed by a series of leadership training courses and PICCED’s sponsorship of the Central Brooklyn Neighborhood College. Administered by community residents, this “University of the Street” program was targeted primarily to African-Americans and Latinos who had either dropped out of high school or lacked access to higher education.

A separate division of PICCED, now the Pratt Planning and Architectural Collaborative, was formed in 1975 to provide direct architectural services to neighborhood-based housing groups who were taking on an increasing number of projects in communities where quality professional assistance was either unavailable or too costly.

In 1984, with the cooperation of the Development Training Institute, PICCED established the Pratt Community Economic Development Internship, a program designed to build the capacity of community-based organizations to carry out housing and community economic development projects.

Over the years PICCED’s policy analysis and advocacy initiatives have earned it a national reputation, particularly on issues of community planning, land use, inclusionary zoning, community economic development and affordable housing.
PICCED is staffed by some twenty professional planners, architects, project managers and community development specialists. The director has been with PICCED since its founding in 1963 and most of the senior staff have been on board from ten to twenty years. Their work is supported by an administrative staff of five and a dozen or more students who are employed each year.

PICCED's commitment to nurturing "home-grown" talent is one of its most valuable assets and greatly enhances its service delivery capabilities. In addition to planning and design experience, PICCED staff bring to their neighborhood clients broad expertise in organizational development, participatory planning, real estate financing, affordable and special needs housing, commercial and industrial development and public policy analysis.

As an independent department within Pratt Institute, PICCED works closely with the Institute's School of Architecture and Graduate Center for Planning and the Environment to design and implement education and training programs that are responsive to the needs of emerging community development practitioners. PICCED also acts as a bridge linking the faculty and resources of the Institute with individual neighborhood groups and other organizations seeking to advance the community development process.
PICCED carries out its mission through three interrelated program areas:

EDUCATION AND TRAINING

Education and training focuses on building the capacity and leadership skills of community development practitioners, planning students and residents of low- and moderate-income communities. These programs are designed to expand opportunities for people to pursue careers in community development.

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

Technical assistance is aimed at enabling organizations throughout New York City and the tri-state region to advance social, economic and physical development programs and projects by building on the assets and institutional strengths of local communities.

POLICY ANALYSIS AND ADVOCACY

Policy analysis and advocacy extends PICCED's community-based experience into the public policy arena. This work acts to inform the national debate on issues affecting low- and moderate-income and special needs populations and assists local communities to advocate on their own behalf.
PICCED offers education and training programs for people of diverse backgrounds and widely varying formal academic preparation. Individuals design courses of study to meet their specific project needs or long-term career objectives in a program that combines fundamental planning and development theory with practical, hands-on experience.

Introductory workshops on community economic development are offered for national organizations, community organizers, and neighborhood residents. PICCED also periodically conducts special seminars which address specific policy issues that impact the quality of life in urban areas.

PICCED offers the Pratt Community Economic Development Internship, a one-year certificate program that enables the staff of community-based nonprofits and related public agencies to apply the skills acquired in workshop sessions to actual housing and economic development projects or programs that they are currently planning or implementing for their organizations.

With the assistance of Pratt's Graduate Center for Planning and the Environment, PICCED offers a range of graduate degree opportunities. Centered on a Core Program in City and Regional Planning are special concentrations in Community Economic Development, Environmental Planning and Management Systems and a Combined Program in Architecture and Planning.

PICCED also offers organizational development programs for nonprofit entities engaged in community revitalization. Principle areas of training include strategic planning, staff capacity building, and leadership and board development.
PICCED provides technical assistance to community-based nonprofits to build and sustain the economic, social and physical infrastructure of their communities.

PICCED's community planning services enable localities to integrate social and human infrastructure issues — access to social services, health care, education, employment, training, recreational amenities and day care — into all of their programs and development activities.

PICCED's capacity to develop innovative program models has had a substantial impact in the New York region, where it has helped dozens of local groups to initiate community-based housing programs such as linked-development, cross-subsidy and a range of tenant-controlled and owner-occupied housing innovations.

Project-specific services are carried out by the Pratt Planning and Architectural Collaborative (PPAC), a related but independent entity. PPAC helps local sponsors to undertake neighborhood surveys and needs assessments, identify sites and shepherd projects through the complex development process. Architectural assistance includes schematic design, the development of construction documents and construction phase monitoring. PPAC is often called upon to provide "up-front" services, and thus becomes the catalyst for packaging the public and private resources necessary for getting projects off the ground.

PPAC creates prototype programs and architectural plans to meet the physical and human service requirements of special needs populations such as the chronically mentally ill and homeless persons with AIDS.
Rooted in on-the-ground project experience, PICCED's policy analysis and advocacy serves both to support and extend the impact of tried and tested community development methods. A leading objective of PICCED's work in this area is to bring the issue of persistent poverty back into the domestic policy debate.

PICCED believes that the challenges faced by low- and moderate-income neighborhoods cannot be substantially addressed unless they become part of a national strategy. Therefore PICCED works to strengthen the capacity of local communities to advocate for policies that will empower them to effectively participate in the community development process.

Through targeted policy initiatives, PICCED has been instrumental in fostering plans for the disposition of city-owned property, inclusionary zoning standards, linked luxury and low-income development compacts, the replication of the mutual housing association model and a New York State Housing Trust Fund. These initiatives have resulted in the generation of over $300 million in new housing funding for New York City and have helped to stimulate similar efforts across the country.

PICCED sponsors conferences and seminars in an effort to generate a national and international dialogue among community development practitioners. It is an information clearinghouse for groups concerned with housing and community economic development issues.

In all of these policy endeavors PICCED seeks to broaden public awareness, to encourage comprehensive and integrative planning and, fundamentally, to strengthen the role of community-based nonprofits as key players in the community development process.