

# SisTers PGH

## PRESS KIT



### who we are

SisTers PGH is a Black and Trans-led nonprofit organization which serves Trans and nonbinary Black, Indigenous, (and) People of Color within Southwestern PA.

SisTers PGH provides opportunities for our Trans communities of Pittsburgh/Allegheny County to thrive through our affirming programming that includes transitional housing and other initiatives that are created by Trans people for Trans people.

### our mission

SisTers PGH is led by Founder/Director Ciora Thomas and directed by a leadership team of black, brown, Transgender, and nonbinary people geared to servicing and centering our Queer and Trans BIPOC.

### our vision

The SisTers PGH Community Center was created to aid and rehabilitate transgender POC and impoverished individuals, as well as those that have been victimized by a restrictive and oppressive society that continues to marginalize them.



[www.sisterspgh.org](http://www.sisterspgh.org)



[info@sisterspgh.org](mailto:info@sisterspgh.org)



SISTERSPGH



SISTERSPGH



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# founder & executive director CIORA THOMAS

SisTers PGH Founder and Director Ciora Thomas is a Pittsburgh native who developed the organization in 2015 because of her own struggles living in a system that thrives off of youth homelessness, drug addiction, and youth sex trafficking.

Ciora went on to lead SisTers PGH into opening Pittsburgh's only Trans-owned and operated community center.

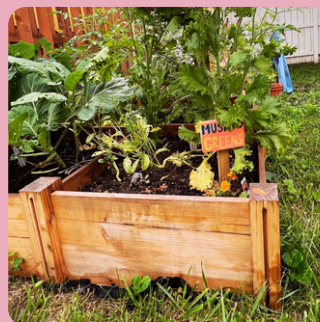
Ciora sits in several seats locally and statewide, becoming the first Black Trans woman to become Chair of the LGBTQIA Advisory Council of Pittsburgh and a Commissioner of the Commission of LGBT Affairs out of former Pennsylvania Governor Tom Wolf's office.



## project T

**Project T** is Pittsburgh's Trans-led transitional housing program, a project of SisTers PGH for BIPOC who also identify as Trans, non-binary, and other gender-nonconforming individuals (TGNC), who are among the most likely to experience housing insecurity because of discrimination, housing affordability, transphobia, and the barriers of access disparity.

Project T helps TGNC people transition from unstable environments and unsupportive communities to finding avenues to support and take care of themselves while connecting with the Trans community via SisTers PGH and its programming.



## other services & programs

- Case Management
- Self-Sufficiency (food, toiletries, etc.)
- Emergency Relocation: Assistance + Temporary Housing
- Rental Assistance
- Employment + Education
- The T (TRANSportation Services)
- Cooking Lessons

And so much more!

## funders & grants

- Women & Girls Foundation
- Groundswell Fund
- Borealis Philanthropy: Funds For Trans Generations
- Pittsburgh Foundation
- Heinz Endowments
- The Rockefeller Foundation
- Target
- Black Movement Fund
- PCCD: Stop Violence Against Women from the Department of Justice
- POISE Foundation & YWCA

And many more!



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## awards & honors

- Pittsburgh's NEXT: Housing
- First Swissvale Pride Recognition from Swissvale Borough
- Housing Alliance of PA: Frontline Award
- Vision Towards Peace: Forerunner Award
- LGBT Center FAB: Movement Leadership Award
- GLITS: Black Trans Leadership Award
- Pennsylvania Youth Congress: Generations Award
- PGH City Paper: Best Nonprofit

And more to come!



# SisTers in the Media



**THE**  
**DAILY**  
**SHOW**  
**WITH TREVOR NOAH**

House Beautiful

