



Resident Leaders for Equity

Neighbors:

We invite you and other residents across the NPU-V neighborhoods (Adair Park, Capitol Gateway, Mechanicsville, Peoplestown, Pittsburgh and Summerhill) to join **Resident Leaders for Equity**. This nine-month leadership development program, led by the Partnership for Southern Equity (PSE) and the Annie E. Casey Foundation's Atlanta Civic Site, was created to strengthen community knowledge of racial-equity skills and strategies and create positive neighborhood change.

As highlighted in the *Changing the Odds* report, Atlanta has deep and enduring racial disparities that make it one of the most difficult places in the nation for children of color from low-income families to succeed. As the city's economy and demographics continue to shift, neighborhoods in NPU-V are increasingly being impacted. To navigate these changes and ensure that all residents and their families have a chance to succeed, extensive leadership is needed at the community level. This program will support the growth of a diverse group of neighborhood leaders who will advocate for and help manage these processes and, in particular, the racial impacts of gentrification.

We hope all NPU-V residents — whether you are young or elderly, new to the area or a long-time resident, a renter or a homeowner, a parent or non-parent — will consider applying, as diversity is critical to sustaining an inclusive community. Selected residents must commit to approximately nine sessions (over a nine-month period), to learn about racial equity, NPU-V history, displacement and community-driven policies. There will also be other optional sessions to support understanding and application of these concepts.

Program Specifics:

- Participants: 10-15 NPU-V residents will be selected
- Time Commitment: Nine months
 - One meeting per month (seven 3-hour sessions and two six-hour sessions)
- Core Content: racial equity principles, community engagement strategies and leadership development

Resident Leaders for Equity will:

- Understand racial equity and know how to effectively communicate about it with different audiences.
- Practice communication tools for influencing community stakeholders and other authority figures.
- Strengthen their ability to collaborate with new partners to address community issues, particularly issues related to racial equity and gentrification.
- Develop a strong understanding about the effects of racism on Atlanta’s neighborhoods.
- Increase their knowledge of the political landscape and the ways it impacts their neighborhoods.
- Become equipped to take on greater leadership roles.
- Enhance community organization and mobilization skills.
- Build trusted peer-to-peer relationships with a group of local community leaders and advocates.
- Explore practices for managing neighborhood change, including examples from Atlanta and other locations.
- Work on projects within the broader community.

Upon completion of the program, leaders will be prepared to have effective conversations about race, analyze policies that impact their communities (specifically gentrification, neighborhood change and displacement) and facilitate and mediate difficult and complex conversations with their neighbors. Additionally, the Resident Leaders for Equity will have developed a group identity and support structure as they go forth to address critical community issues.

Application schedule:

Date	Action Item
By 5:00 p.m on Wednesday, Jan. 31	Application deadline (see submission instructions below)
Thursday, Feb. 1 – Friday, Feb. 9	Application review by Casey Foundation and PSE staff (Note: All applicants will not be interviewed, but staff reserve the right to interview or send questions to applicants and their references to clarify information or to narrow the pool of applicants — especially in situations where there is overrepresentation from certain groups.)
Monday, Feb. 12 – Friday, Feb. 16	Candidate interviews
Monday, Feb. 19	All applicants (including those who haven’t been selected) are notified
Saturday, March 3	Program start date

Application (may be handwritten clearly or typed):

Title:	Full name:
Cell Phone:	Email:
Address:	
City	Zip Code:
Neighborhood of residence:	

The following information will help ensure that the Resident Leaders for Equity cohort adequately reflects the diversity of the NPU-V communities. You are not required to answer, but your response will help us ensure an inclusive group.

Gender: <input type="checkbox"/> Female <input type="checkbox"/> Male	Age: <input type="checkbox"/> 16–18 <input type="checkbox"/> 19–24 <input type="checkbox"/> 25–34 <input type="checkbox"/> 35–54 <input type="checkbox"/> 55+
Length of residence in NPU-V:	
Race/ethnicity:	
Do you have school-aged children? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
If yes, do your children attend school in NPU-V? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
If yes, are you involved in any parent groups? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
If yes, please name the group(s): _____	

1. Describe your current understanding of neighborhood change in the NPU-V communities, including impacts on housing, and how you think residents might help to address these issues.

2. How important is a discussion about race in Atlanta to you, and why?

3. Please discuss your ability to commit to Resident Leaders for Equity and what might hinder you from attending the sessions.

4. When did you become engaged in your community? How have you been engaged?

-OR-

If you have not formally engaged in your community, how would you like to engage? What has prevented your engagement in the past, and how can this program support your interests?

5. Describe the special skills and talents that you intend to contribute to the program.

Provide contact information for two references that could speak to your neighborhood leadership potential (references can be personal or professional):

Reference Name	Phone	Email Address	Relationship

You may also submit a résumé or additional information that you feel is important to note when considering your application. Please limit your attachments to no more than three pages.

Acknowledgment

Resident Leaders for Equity is a volunteer leadership development opportunity provided by the Annie E. Casey Foundation’s Atlanta Civic Site and the Partnership for Southern Equity. It is also a competitive program. This means that if you are accepted, it is expected that you will fully commit to taking advantage of the opportunity that has been entrusted to you and that you will be accountable for your participation. You will be expected to attend all required training sessions and activities, with only two excused absences allowed. The group will discuss any obstacles that individuals may have to participation, such as child care or transportation, and consider whether it is possible to address them. You will be provided with leadership-development training, networking opportunities and strategies to positively impact your community.

Submission instructions:

Applications can be received in one of the following ways: 1) in person; 2) by mail; or 3) electronically by email (see below). Applications and all corresponding attachments must be received by 5 p.m. on January 31, 2018. Late applications will not be accepted.

In person or U.S. mail:

**The Annie E. Casey Foundation
Attn: Resident Leaders for Equity
477 Windsor St., SW, Suite 304
Atlanta, GA 30312**

Electronic submittal: Application packets must be emailed to Natania Carter at ncarter@aecf.org with the subject line of Resident Leaders for Equity.

Questions? Please contact Natania Carter at ncarter@aecf.org or 678.686.0156.

Special Thanks:

This program was designed based on recommendations from a diverse team of NPU-V residents who are committed to and passionate about this community — *Sebastian Aki, T.K. Diallo, Rick*

Laopus, Adrian Neely, Jason Rhodes, Annette Samuels and Tacita Williams — and we thank them for their input.