

BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT

TCN is Your Community Development Collaborative

Over the last thirteen years, TCN has played an important primary or supporting role in helping neighborhoods get better, influencing positive community change and strengthening community organizations. The organization identifies and leads partnerships that address various community needs. A 501(c)(3) non-profit organization that was created to support and revitalize the community, TCN forms and sustains partnerships and collaborations that meet local needs such as workforce development, education, youth empowerment and other social programs. The organization takes a comprehensive approach that factors in community needs and existing programs/services. Additionally, the organization provides various no-cost services for nonprofit and not-for-profit organizations that strengthen each and allow them to focus on serving the community through training, fund development support, nonprofit community advocacy and networking.

Founded in 2006, TCN has come to occupy an intermediary position between community partners with a stake in the shape and pace of revitalization and providers of money, expertise, and political clout. This powerful position between neighborhood, business and government allows TCN to effectively represent the needs of the community. The organization provides a voice for community organizations; heard in the marketplace and halls of government, to act on behalf of public agencies and private philanthropy, but with community support. Much of TCN's work is aimed at encouraging commitment to and support of positive influences on our community. Coalition building, partnership formation, other activities to engage communities help make TCN projects successful and spur public and private activities favorable to the improvement the Greater Pottstown community.

"As a startup nonprofit program, Pottstown Works has benefited tremendously from the resources and leadership offered by TriCounty Community Network. Their programs offer learning to nonprofits, but even more important is the role of leadership in bringing nonprofits together in community collaboration. TCN provides a support system that other organizations can rely on; they are a valuable asset, creating an environment that works together for the benefit of the community."

— Nancy March, Pottstown Works

Why TCN?

TCN provides programmatic and engagement strategies, both necessary to successful community revitalization. Programmatic strategies consist of collaborations efforts to impact workforce and living wage employment in our community, youth engagement, health and wellness and other community improvement activities. Engagement strategies consist of efforts to encourage citizens to participate in programs and projects that further community development purposes. Community capacity-building involves the strengthening of

community organizations that in turn help organize participation by individuals. TCN invests directly in building the leadership and staff skills of other community-based organizations or create opportunities for other community-based organizations to participate in community change efforts.

"A 'By working behind the scenes, TCN has built capacity within our organization that we would never have been able to accomplish on our own.'" — Ken Hamilton, Green Allies/Althouse Arboretum

Impacting Business in Greater Pottstown

- TCN connects business, government and nonprofit organizations to actively support strategies that lead to concrete improvements in the community.
- TCN serves as a trusted advisor for businesses and organizations looking to improve their community involvement.
- TCN can connect your employees to community volunteer opportunities.
- TCN can help further your philanthropic efforts through its signature initiative, the Amazing Raise. Our corporate toolkit provides direction for supporting the local nonprofit community through the Amazing Raise.

You May Have Heard...

The Amazing Raise! The Amazing Raise is one of TCN's signature initiatives. It was started in 2017 to assist local nonprofits with funding and to raise the profile of philanthropy in our community. To date, the Amazing Raise has lifted our community by raising over \$500K for local nonprofit organizations. The Amazing Raise is a giving campaign that focuses on nonprofit organizations in our local community. Not only does it provide a platform for these organizations to raise funds, but also gives the participants the opportunity to talk to the community about their efforts. The Amazing Raise is different from other fundraising campaigns because every dollar raised stays local. Nonprofit participants have access to additional funds distributed proportionately among them. This means the organization not only raises funds, but also earns additional funds that are provided from a distribution pool raised by TCN. The Amazing Raise is a great way for organizations to grow their funding and for the community to participate in local philanthropy.

"Since joining the C2 program under TCN's leadership, my organization has increased our collaboration with other regional organizations resulting in better programming."

TCN's Amazing Raise has completely revamped and re-focused our fundraising efforts. It enabled us to create a more effective and successful outreach to individual donors - with "amazing" results!" — Ken Hamilton, Executive Director, Green Allies/Althouse Arboretum

TCN THE COMMUNITY NETWORK

TCN unites and leads nonprofit organizations, government and businesses, to jointly address the needs and challenges of Greater Pottstown. We serve and strengthen these individual partners to create a stronger, more vibrant community.

WHAT WE DO

Community Development Collaborative

TCN leads initiatives and partnerships that address community needs.

Community Camp

C2 provides a FREE summer camp experience for Middle School students in the Pottstown School District. For six weeks, campers access programming from the Pottstown YMCA, Greater Pottstown Tennis and Learning, Mosaic Community Gardens, Althouse Arboretum/Green Allies, ArtFusion 19464, Triskeles, North End Swim Club, YWCA TriCounty Area and a host of other offsite excursions designed to provide opportunities not readily available to these children. The

Pottstown Works Together

- Develops a holistic system that removes barriers to employment and leads to sustained, living-wage jobs &
- Provides a model that moves vulnerable populations to self-sufficiency through sustained employment.

Community Issues We've Impacted!!!

Youth Engagement
Community Needs Assessment
Workforce Development
Housing and Homelessness
Domestic Abuse
Elder Care
Environmental Sustainability
Health and Wellness
Human Services and Safety Net

No Cost Nonprofit Services:

- Monthly networking and professional development meetings
- Customized training opportunities
- Oversight of community committees addressing: youth, elder care, community partners against abuse and domestic violence
- Fund development for nonprofit (501c3) organizations through Amazing Raise
- Fiscal sponsorship of Not-for-Profit and emerging community organizations
- Fiscal sponsorship and backbone support for collaborative projects and initiatives
- Key informant and community information gathering
- Community fundraising and philanthropy:

AMAZING RAISE

Number of large community Projects Initiated and Supported by TCN:

25

BACKBONE ORGANIZATIONS LIKE TCN SHAPE THE WORK OF COLLECTIVE IMPACT. TCN IS AN OBJECTIVE, HONEST BROKER OF THE COMMON GOOD.

Number of Local Nonprofit Organizations We've Supported Through FREE Training:

105

For more info please contact info@tcnetwork.org or call 610.850.0181.

WWW.TCNETWORK.ORG