

Organization Name: Urban Pathways K-5 College Charter School

Organization Address: 925 Penn Ave.; Pittsburgh, PA 15222-3713

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Project Title: Opening a New Elementary Charter School in Pittsburgh

Project Description: In August 2011, Urban Pathways K-5 College Charter School opened its doors to a first class of 160 students in Grades K-3. Parents were desperate for a better option for their young children. They lobbied for the establishment of a K-5 school because of Urban Pathways' existing reputation for high-quality middle and high school education and positive outcomes. Grade 4 will be added in 2012-13 and Grade 5 in 2013-14 for a total of 240 students. 98% of our students are African-American and 80% qualify for free-and-reduced lunch. The school's mission is to help every child find a pathway to a successful adult life. The vision is that every student who enters the school also graduates. Every graduate will receive post-secondary acceptances and financial aid. This is the first expansion school built by the leaders of the nationally recognized Urban Pathways 6-12 Charter School.

Meeting the Purpose of the CSP as stated in Notice Inviting Applications for New Awards:

This project directly meets each of the purposes of the CSP. We expand the number of high quality charter schools available to American students by adapting a nationally recognized charter model to the K-5 grades. Financial assistance from CSP will directly support initial implementation costs of the new K-5 charter school, including informing the community, acquiring equipment, supplies, and curriculum materials, and other initial operational costs. As a data-driven institution, we continually assess the effects of our charter school on students, academic achievement, staff, and parents and adjust our program accordingly.