

MY CITY, MY NEWS



City of
Philadelphia

One Philly, A Connected City.

December 15, 2025



Thank you for giving gratephilly!

City of Philadelphia

October 20 - December 12, 2025

2025 Combined Campaign Hits Highest Fundraising Total Since 2020

By the **Office of Human Resources**

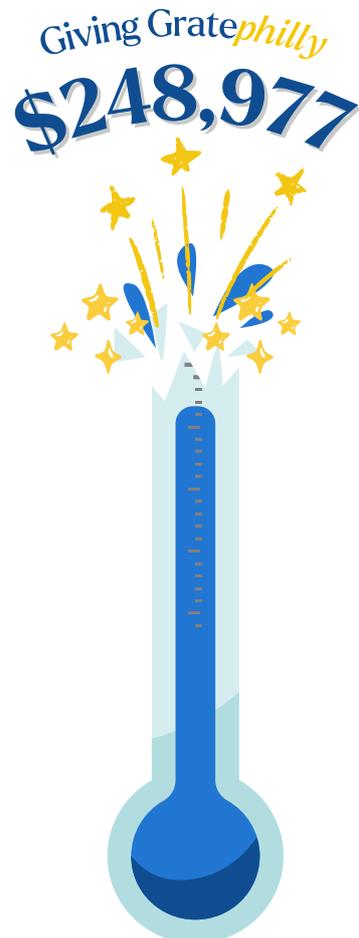
The 2025 Combined Campaign came to a close on December 12, 2025, and we are excited to announce that City employees donated **\$248,977** (so far) to our participating charities—our highest total since 2020!

While we do not have the official results and tallies in from America's Charities yet, we will make sure to announce the winning departments soon. We saw a number of increases to participation rate, new departments participating, as well as increases in overall department fundraising per capita as well.

As we celebrate this remarkable achievement, we also reflect on the profound impact that collective generosity can have on our community. Your contributions will support a wide range of programs, from local food banks and shelters to educational initiatives and health services, making a tangible difference in the lives of many.

Thank you to every employee who took part—whether you donated, set up a payroll deduction, or helped spread the word. We are so grateful to our Combined Campaign Captains and volunteers who kept the Campaign energized from start to finish. We couldn't have reached this milestone without you, and we look forward to building on this momentum in the years ahead!

As we move into the new year, let's continue to foster a culture of compassion and connection within our city. Your dedication and generosity have set a powerful example, and we look forward to continuing this journey together, supporting our neighbors and strengthening our community. Here's to more milestones and shared successes in the future. Thank you for your support and giving gratephilly this year!



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hrhelpdesk@phila.gov or 215-686-0880

Calling All City Employees!

Apply to Host a Summer 2026 MIP Intern!

The Mayor's Internship Program (MIP) is seeking passionate and committed City of Philadelphia professionals and departments to serve as mentors and host sites for the next class of talented college students in **summer 2026**.

As a mentor, you will:

- Provide meaningful projects and hands-on professional experiences.
- Share your expertise and inspire the next generation of public servants.
- Support the City's mission by investing in workforce development.
- Gain fresh perspectives and innovative ideas from emerging talent.



Together, let's shape the future of public service and build the next generation of City leaders! Application deadline is **January 9, 2026**.

➔ **If you're interested in hosting an intern, please complete the interest form** or email mip@phila.gov for more information.

Intern Commitment: 10 weeks, full-time (37.5 hours per week)
Program Dates: June 8 – August 14, 2026

Click the logo to view the MIP 2026 flyer for departments!



Submit a Recipe for the City of Philadelphia Workforce Cookbook!



The Office of the Chief Administrative Officer is collecting recipes for the City of Philadelphia Workforce Cookbook! Led by the Employee Engagement, Infrastructure & Operations (EEIO) unit, this citywide project celebrates the heart, culture, and creativity of our workforce.

We're inviting employees from every department to share a favorite recipe that reflects who you are, your heritage, or simply something you love to make. From treasured family dishes to quick weekday favorites, every submission helps tell the story of our diverse and vibrant City workforce.

Together, these recipes will form a one-of-a-kind collection that connects us across departments and celebrates the people who make Philadelphia work. The digital cookbook will be available to all City employees in February 2026. The deadline to submit a recipe is **December 31, 2025**. ➔ **Submit your recipe online!**

Project Warmth: A CAO Initiative

The Office of the Chief Administrative Officer is collecting new, warm socks, hats, gloves, and hand warmers to support unhoused individuals across Philadelphia. Donations will be accepted **November 3, 2025 to January 2, 2026** and can be delivered to Suite 630 in the Municipal Services Building.

Departments are invited to host collection bins in their offices to make it easier for staff to participate. Every item donated helps bring warmth, comfort, and care to those who need it most.

Sign up to host a collection bin in your department using this form!

View the Project Warmth flyer!

Who is working successphilly?

*Celebrating the **Philadelphia Fire Department***

The Philadelphia Fire Department recently honored its Firefighter & EMS Providers of the Year for their exceptional skills and courage under pressure.

Firefighter Matthew McCrory was recognized for rescuing two unconscious people from separate house fires in West Philly. Paramedic Zachary Weinstein and Firefighter/EMT Mitchell Valentin were recognized for rescuing a shooting victim during ongoing gunfire. Their bravery allowed them to provide skilled care while transporting the patient to the hospital.

Also, take a moment to read about Dispatcher of the Year Matthew Schoeniger!



*Celebrating the **Mayor's Office of Policy Planning and Delivery***

The Mayor's Office of Policy Planning and Delivery (OPPD) completed the What Works Cities certification assessment in 2025. This certification helps the City measure its progress using data and evidence for decision-making. It also provides City workers with access to educational resources and a community of peer cities.



[Learn more about the Mayor's Office of Policy Planning and Delivery!](#)

As with much of OPPD's work, the assessment could only have been completed with the support of multiple departments. The scores of projects included in the assessment were directly informed by the work that City staff lead for Philadelphians every day.

OPPD is looking forward to sharing certification results in early 2026!

Who is working successphilly?

Celebrating the **Department of Streets** and the **Office of Transportation and Infrastructure Systems**

The Department of Streets and the Office of Transportation and Infrastructure Systems (OTIS) were recently honored at the WTS Philadelphia Awards Ceremony for their dedication to forward-thinking, innovative design, public education, and more!



OTIS received the Innovative Transportation Solution Award for the Broad, Germantown, and Erie project. Congratulations to Waffiyah Murray, who was also recognized with the Rosa Parks Diversity Leadership Award for her outstanding leadership. The Department of Streets was honored with the Philadelphia Award for the transformational Christian to Crescent Cable-Stayed Bridge Project.

Congratulations to all the dedicated staff and partners whose hard work and collaboration made this possible!



VOLUNTEER FOR THE 2026 POINT-IN-TIME COUNT

The Office of Homeless Services, in partnership with the Philadelphia Continuum of Care (CoC), seeks volunteer counters for the 2026 Point-In-Time Count (PIT Count). PIT Count is an annual survey of all people living unsheltered on a single night in January, and is scheduled to begin at 10 p.m. on Wednesday, January 28, 2026.

The survey helps us understand the scope of homelessness in Philadelphia. Register to volunteer by **Wednesday, December 31**. If you have any questions, email PhillyPIT@phila.gov!

[**Register to be a PIT Count Volunteer**](#)



CITY FUNDING SUPPORTS LOCAL VENDORS AT CHRISTMAS VILLAGE

In its sixth-year grant cycle, the Department of Commerce, in partnership with Philadelphia Parks & Recreation, provides funding for select nonprofit organizations to help low-to-moderate-income and emerging Philadelphia-based vendors participate in Christmas Village, many for the first time.

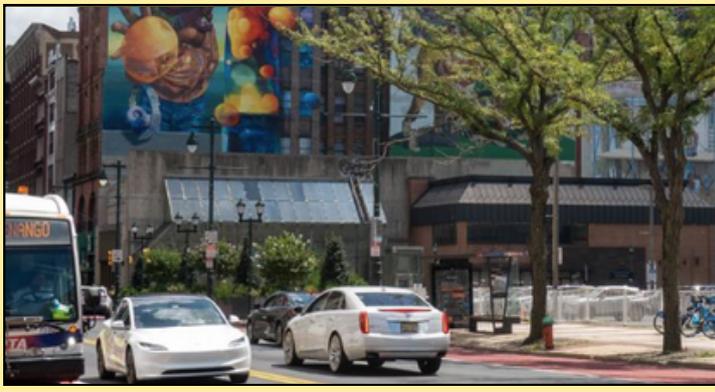
Learn more about the Christmas Village Market grant program and this year's selected vendors.

[**Read about City funding local vendors**](#)

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HAVE IDEAS FOR MARKET EAST? TAKE THE SURVEY AND SHARE

The Market East corridor—from City Hall to the Delaware River—has a long history, and its future is a priority for the City. As part of the Market East Revival, Mayor Cherelle L. Parker and the Department of Planning and Development are partnering with community and business leaders to develop a shared vision for the corridor.

Public input is critical. If you have ideas about what Market East should become, please take the survey and share your perspective. City employees are also encouraged to share the survey with their networks so we can hear from as many residents, commuters, workers, business owners, and visitors as possible. Your voice will help shape Market East's next chapter!

[Market East Idea Survey](#)



HIGHLIGHTS FROM PHILADELPHIA'S 2025 WELCOMING AWARDS

The Office of Immigrant Affairs hosted the 2025 Welcoming Awards Ceremony on November 13, celebrating the the vital contributions of Philadelphia's immigrant communities and the individuals and organizations whose work helps immigrants, refugees, and asylum seekers thrive in Philadelphia. The event highlighted the cultural richness and strong partnerships that make Philadelphia a place of true belonging.

Learn more about this year's Welcoming Awards Honorees.

[2025 Welcoming Awards Honorees](#)



VOLUNTEER AS A PHILLY READING COACH

Love working with kids? Love books? Philly Reading Coaches needs YOU! Volunteer just one hour a week after school hours to spark a lifelong love of reading in K-3 students.

Fill out our intake form to learn more!

[Complete the Volunteer Form](#)



TUESDAY NIGHTS LIVE AT PARTICIPATING HOTELS IN PHILADELPHIA

Join us for Tuesday Nights Live every Tuesday night from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. starting September 30, 2025 until January 20, 2026.

Tuesday Nights Live activates participating hotels by offering Philadelphians and visitors alike with a welcoming space to enjoy live performances, build meaningful connections, and experience the vibrancy of our city's nightlife.

Performances and activations take place in the lobby of participating hotels. Check the weekly schedule on each hotel's event webpage for weekly performance updates or cancellations. View the list of participating hotels.

[Learn more about Tuesday Nights Live](#)

Making It Happen: Upcoming Events!

Tuesday Night Yoga

Free Library of Philadelphia
December 16, 2025 | 6 p.m.
Whitman Library, 200 Snyder Ave

Join us for a free weekly yoga class taught by Anne-Marie Mulgrew. All levels welcome! Bring your own mat or use one of ours. Cleaning wipes for mats are also available. No need to register, just show up! [View Tuesday Night Yoga](#) on the Free Library calendar!

Mindful Meditation - Practice Session

Free Library of Philadelphia
December 17, 2025 | 4 p.m.
Parkway Central Library, 1901 Vine St
Rm 406

Join instructor Maceo Hood in a beginner friendly meditation class. In this one-hour course, we will practice and discuss the benefits of mindful meditation. At least thirty minutes will be devoted to a guided meditation. Maceo received his certification from the Institute for Organizational Science and Meditation. No registration is required! However, if this is your first time, we recommend arriving fifteen minutes early (at 3:45). We will give you an introduction and some handouts. [View Mindfulness Meditation](#) on the Free Library calendar.

Civic Engagement Academy Learning Series - Asset Mapping

Office of Community Empowerment and Opportunity
December 17, 2025 | 6 p.m.
Virtual - Zoom

The Civic Engagement Academy (CEA) Learning Series provides community members with the tools to create lasting positive change. The trainings encourage local problem-solving and prepare residents to become community leaders, organizers, and activists. In this training, you will learn how to identify the right people and resources for your work. [Register for CEA Learning Series - Asset Mapping](#), and [view the CEA Learning Series - Asset Mapping flyer!](#)

Kwanzaa at the Free Library

Free Library of Philadelphia
December 26 & 27, 2025
Parkway Central Library, 1901 Vine St

Celebrate Kwanzaa at the Free Library! Enjoy special events throughout the season, including the two-day Kwanzaa Celebration for all ages at Parkway Central Library on December 26 and 27. Join us in and honor community, culture, and the Nguzo Saba (Seven Principles). [Read more about Kwanzaa at the Free Library.](#)

Coffee & Conversations: An Open Mic Spoken Word Night

Free Library of Philadelphia
December 30, 2025 | 4:30 p.m.
Walnut Street West Library, 201 S 40th St

Join us for Coffee & Conversations, a monthly open mic and spoken word gathering where poetry, storytelling, and community come together. Each month we explore a new theme, inviting you to listen, reflect, and share words that inspire connection and creativity. The evening features dynamic performances from talented poets, followed by an open mic where community voices shine. Whether you're a seasoned performer or stepping to the mic for the first time, this is a welcoming space to celebrate the power of words. Free coffee and refreshments provided. To [register for Coffee & Conversations](#), click **Check Availability**, and choose the date you would like to attend. [View Coffee & Conversations](#) on the Free Library Calendar

Deaf & Hard of Hearing Community Gathering

Free Library of Philadelphia
January 3, 2026 | 10:30 a.m.
Joseph E. Coleman Northwest Regional
Library, 68 W Chelton Ave

Join us on the first Saturday of every month from 10:30 a.m. to 12 p.m. for a gathering for deaf and hard-of-hearing communities. This is a welcoming space for deaf, hard-of-hearing, CODA, SODA, and hearing allies to connect, and for community members to share resources and support each other. These family-friendly gatherings are focused on ASL and Deaf culture with activities such as signed stories and ASL rhymes for children and are open to anyone interested. ASL Interpreter will be present. For more information, email phillydeafhhfam@gmail.com. [View Deaf & Hard of Hearing Community Gathering](#) on the Free Library calendar.

Get Trained on Philadelphia's Changing Drug Supply

Office of Homeless Services
January 14, 2026 | 10 a.m.
801 Market St, 7th Floor Large Conference
Room

Philadelphia's changing drug supply is reshaping the City's response to overdoses. The [Office of Homeless Services](#) has partnered with the Department of Public Health to offer a free in-person training that covers overdose responses to the City's evolving drug supply. Join OHS and PDPH at 10 a.m. on Wednesday, January 14. This training is free but requires registration. [Reserve your spot today!](#)

Working Parents & Caregivers CRG Meeting: City Childcare Resources

Working Parents & Caregivers CRG
January 14, 2026 | 2 p.m.
Municipal Services Building,
Innovation Lab (fl 16)

Join other parents and caregivers in person to hear information on City-led childcare programs and services including FreePhillyPreK and Extended Day Extended Year (EDEY) from City colleagues at the Office of Children and Families and the Mayor's Office of Education. The meeting will be held at **2 p.m.** on **Wednesday, January 14, 2026** in the Innovation Lab at MSB. To sign up, email Brenna.Schmidt@phila.gov.

Virtual Silver New Year Party

The Silver Collaborative
January 15, 2026 | 12 p.m.
Virtual

On January 15, 2026, bring your own lunch (BYOL), your family pictures, favorite recipes, meals, and funny stories to our **Virtual** Silver New Year Party! Prepare for an hour (12 - 1 p.m.) of fun, games, and community! Hope to see you there! If you are interested in attending this event, email Tracy.Jones@phila.gov for the meeting link.

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Work ResourcePhilly

YOUR CITY. YOUR MISSION. YOUR FUTURE.

STAY CONNECTED. STAY INFORMED.

Whether you're in the office or out in the field, the City of Philadelphia Employee Website is your one-stop destination for the latest news, tools, and updates that matter to YOU including:

- ✔ Benefits & Open Enrollment Info
- ✔ Training Opportunities
- ✔ Resources to Help You Thrive
- ✔ Payroll Access
- ✔ Employee News
- ✔ Share Your Story

GET TO KNOW YOUR FELLOW CITY EMPLOYEES.

From Water to Parks & Rec, from Licenses & Inspections to Health – we're all on the same team. The Employee Website helps build a stronger, more connected City workforce by sharing stories, spotlighting departments, and celebrating our collective impact.



 City of Philadelphia | *One Philly, for all.*

Visit [EMPLOYEE.PHILA.GOV](https://employee.phila.gov)
Anytime. Anywhere. On any device.

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Submit something to the newsletter
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Contact us with HR questions
hrhelpdesk@phila.gov or 215-686-0880

[Employee.phila.gov](https://employee.phila.gov)

Employee.phila.gov is a new online resource designed to support City employees. This hub brings together essential information in one easy-to-access location! Need details on benefits, workplace policies, or well-being programs? The hub site has you covered with clear, up-to-date information. The site also provides tools to help you share career opportunities with friends, family, and community members who may be interested in joining the City workforce. [Explore the page!](#)

CITY RESOURCE GROUP MEETINGS

City Resource Groups (CRGs) create employee-led spaces to support diverse communities and allies, helping make the City a more inclusive workplace. CRGs offer networking, leadership opportunities, and skill-building through professional development. Members also collaborate with the Office of DEI to support departmental diversity goals. [Learn more about CRGs](#) or email Brenna.Schmidt@phila.gov to join or get involved.

CITYWIDE IT TRAINING

The Office of Innovation & Technology contracts with several vendors to provide information technology training. This is available on site, hands-on, and interactively to all City Departments. The Order Form and the Course Catalog are posted on the Office of Innovation and Technology Intranet, see Forms and Document Page. Please note that all training requires the approval of both the department's authorized personnel and fiscal agent. [VIEW AVAILABLE COURSES](#)

LEARNING MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

NEW self-care and mental health resources for employees coping with the impact of COVID-19 are now available on the LMS, in addition to a variety of training and career development resources. Simply visit the Knowledge Base on the LMS for more information on COVID-19 Employee Self-Care. [ACCESS THE LMS](#)

LANGUAGE ACCESS PHILLY

All City departments must have a Language Access Plan (LAP) to ensure residents with non-English language preference (NELP) can access services for free.

Language Access Philly connects departments with interpretation and translation services to support multilingual communities. Need help? Contact your Language Access Coordinator or [visit the Language Access Philly resource page](#).

DISABILITY ACCESS RESOURCES

The City of Philadelphia is committed to making City services accessible to all residents, including people with disabilities. Through policies, programs, and resources, the Office for People with Disabilities works to support inclusion and access. Explore accessible spaces, disability data, systems navigation videos, and key policies. Learn more on [the website](#) and contact the Office for support.

CITY INTRANET

Receive updates and access City resources like central duplication, an updated org chart, and updates on employee benefits and programs! All announcements listed here are also posted to the City's Intranet. Please note, you must be connected to either City Wi-Fi, LAN, or through approved VPN to access. [CHECK IT OUT](#)

SEPTA KEY ADVANTAGE

There's still time to get on board with **SEPTA Key Advantage**. Whether you're already enrolled or thinking about signing up, keep riding with ease. Log in to app.jawntpass.com to register your KeyCard today.

RESIDENT ENGAGEMENT FUND

Resident Engagement Fund: City departments seeking funding to pay residents during community engagement activities can apply through the Resident Engagement Fund, administered by the Office of the Chief Administrative Officer. [LINK HERE](#) or email ResidentComp@phila.gov

READYPHILADELPHIA

Stay connected to the weather forecast and important information from the City, directly to your phone! The city's emergency notification system is now available in 11 languages including American Sign Language. Text READYPHILA to 888777 to receive alerts to your device or sign up with your preferred language by visiting our ReadyPhiladelphia [webpage](#) for phone and text alerts. [SIGN UP FOR ALERTS](#)

CITY COLLEGE FOR MUNICIPAL EMPLOYMENT

Have you seen the new homepage for the City College for Municipal Employment? [Check it out on phila.gov](#) and explore some of the options and details!

DISCLAIMER

This is a citywide newsletter, distributed to all employees with a phila.gov email address. Attendance at events during work hours must be approved by your supervisor. Occasionally, some information you receive may be applicable only to a certain group of employees, like exempts. We will clearly label such information, but if you have questions, please contact your HR administrator. Any special citywide discounts have been approved in advance by the Chief Integrity Officer and are available to all City employees who are interested.

Reference in this newsletter to any specific commercial product, process, or service, or the use of any trade, firm or corporation name is for the information and convenience of City employees, and does not constitute endorsement, recommendation, or favoring by the City of Philadelphia.