

Dear Human Rights supporter,

We write to you as fellow residents of Pittsburgh, which became the fifth Human Rights City in the United States in April 2011. In doing so, we have joined dozens of other Human Rights Cities around the world.

The Human Rights City Alliance formed in late 2013 to bring activists and groups from around our city together to help advance the goal of dignity and justice for all residents. We've had a successful year building support for this work, and for Human Rights Day 2014, we helped support more than twenty actions over the first part of December, which we called "[Human Rights Days of Action](#)." Our Human Rights Day [press conference and rally reinforced calls for racial and economic justice](#). In addition, we got Pittsburgh's City Council to pass a Will of Council recognizing October 12th as [Indigenous Peoples Day](#). This is an important step towards truth and reconciliation that is an essential foundation of a Human Rights City.

We hope you will join us in building upon this work to make Pittsburgh a model Human Rights City where the rights and dignity of everyone are honored and respected. The Human Rights City Alliance is not another organization dividing our energies, it seeks to support and reinforce the good work groups like yours are doing. You know best about the work you do. Yet, we believe that if we all continually remind residents and public officials that ***we are a human rights city***, we help advance everyone's work for social justice. We hope you'll help share this message with those you work with and search for ways to incorporate your work within the human rights city framework. We are eager to help in any ways we can.

Below are some ideas of how you can easily share the message of Pittsburgh's Human Rights City initiative with those you work with. We invite you do what you can, and we're also happy to have a volunteer talk with you about ways we can work together.

- [Join the Human Rights City Alliance email list](#) to get updates and learn about events.
- Invite your group members to envision what changes are needed to help us realize the vision of a Human Rights City—ask them to complete the phrase, "Because we're a Human Rights City ..."
- Contact us at pghrights@riseup.org to schedule a meeting to discuss how your group can connect with this work.
- Use your group's newsletter or bulletins to help members learn about human rights as a framework for advancing positive social change.
- Create a link on your group's website to the Pittsburgh Human Rights City Alliance site (www.pghrights.org).
- Search our site for educational and outreach materials, including a version of the [Universal Declaration of Human Rights](#) which includes Pittsburgh's Human Rights City Proclamation.
- Participate in area human rights activities (see www.pghrights.org for event updates).
- Review the [Human Rights City Action Plan](#) and see whether and how the work your group is doing is reflected there.
- Encourage your members to join a Human Rights City Alliance task force (see www.pghrights.org)

Please tell us what you will do to help share this message. Send details to us at pghrights@riseup.net. Also, are there others you know who should see this message? Please send us any names/contacts of groups you think we should contact.

Our work is more powerful if we can come together. The Human Rights City Alliance aims to help us find ways to help realize a city where there is dignity and justice for all of us.