



*Sarah Heinz House 1915*

## The Sarah Heinz House

The Sarah Heinz House and The Heinz Endowments have long shared a commitment to families, youth and community in the Pittsburgh region. Established in 1901 by Howard Heinz, the son of H. J. and Sarah Sloan Young Heinz, the Sarah Heinz House began as Covode House, a boy's club in Pittsburgh's North Side community. Serving neighborhoods populated primarily by immigrant families, the organization expanded to include girls in 1903, making it one of the first clubs in the nation to include both genders.

When it outgrew its initial space and moved into a new building in 1914 on the same site where it stands today, Howard renamed the organization in honor of his beloved mother. With programming that emphasized social skills, physical fitness and exploration of the great outdoors, the Sarah Heinz House grew to include Heinz House Camp, a 115-acre summer camp established in 1921 in Elwood City, PA. The camp provided urban youth with memorable camping experiences amidst the beauty and wonder of nature.

The Sarah Heinz House began to garner recognition beyond southwest Pennsylvania in the 1930s, becoming a charter member of the national Boys and Girls Clubs of America. The coming decades further established the organization as a respected community pillar as it expanded beyond the city's North Side neighborhoods to serve youth across the region. 2007 brought a 75,000 square foot expansion, including a pool, gym, dance studio and other fitness and well-being amenities.

Recent years have brought more history-making markers in the Sarah Heinz House's impact on the Pittsburgh region. In 2023 their programming expanded to include opportunities for all ages, including adults 60-plus. The following year, Sarah Heinz House joined the Allegheny County Department of Human Services Agency on Aging as the newest member of the network in over three decades.



*Sarah Heinz House program youth and counselors 2024*

[Learn more about the Sarah Heinz House](#)

The Heinz Endowments is honored to have been a long-time supporter of The Sarah Heinz House, first through early support by the Howard Heinz Endowment and the Vera Heinz Endowment, which joined to form The Heinz Endowments in 2007, and through our present-day funding to sustain and expand programs that empower youth, families, and community members through education, arts, life skills and holistic support.

“The Sarah Heinz House and The Heinz Endowments share a deep history of caring for all who live in our region’s neighborhoods and in ensuring our youth and adults alike have the tools, knowledge and community they need to thrive,” said Endowments President Chris DeCardy. “Our values at the Endowments’ are to be growth-oriented, accountable and team-focused while striving for excellence and embracing big ideas. The Sarah Heinz House shares those values, and we are honored to be a partner in their historic work as it moves forward through their second century of service.”