



Presley L. Gillespie is the inaugural president of Neighborhood Allies, a community development intermediary that supports the people, organizations and partnerships committed to creating and maintaining thriving neighborhoods in Pittsburgh, PA. He is responsible for working collaboratively with the Board of Directors, the community, key funders and staff to launch this new entity, and has ultimate responsibility for the overall management of the organization including, but not limited to operations, fundraising, financial management, hiring and personnel management, board and external relations, vendor management, grant making/strategic investments and evaluation/outcomes/quality assurance.

Mr. Gillespie is a nationally recognized leader in the field of community and economic development and was most recently the founding executive director of the Youngstown Neighborhood Development Corporation (YNDC), the first

city-wide community development corporation in Youngstown, OH. Presley came to the non-profit sector after a successful 18 year banking career, primarily focused on community development lending and community revitalization. Previously, he served as Vice President for KeyBank where he was responsible for identifying, structuring and closing community development/commercial real estate loans that ultimately led to the creation of affordable housing, economic development and job creation.

While in Youngstown, he led YNDC for five years, from a start-up organization with a budget of \$200,000 to a large, dynamic entity with a \$3.1 million budget. Under Mr. Gillespie's direction, YNDC's accomplishments included:

- Leading one of the most comprehensive and successful neighborhood stabilization efforts in Youngstown's history.
- Developing the two-acre YNDC Neighborhood Revitalization Campus, including Iron Roots Urban Farm, HMHP Foundation Demonstration Kitchen, and Community Training Workshop.
- Launching a first of its kind Community Loan Fund, a first mortgage product for low-to-moderate income home buyers.

His prior banking experience includes, Vice President, Middle Market Commercial Banking for a \$15 billion dollar banking institution, where he managed a \$50 million dollar commercial lending portfolio. Prior to that assignment, he was Vice President, Community Development Manager for a \$2 billion dollar banking institution, where he managed the community development banking division. In that role, he led the corporation's business development efforts related to affordable housing, commercial real estate in urban markets, and community investments. Presley has structured more than \$60 million dollars in community development lending, including real estate developers, non-profit corporations, and corporate banking clients.

Presley has served on numerous boards locally and nationally, including the Board of Directors of The Center for Community Progress and the Western Pennsylvania Regional Data Center Advisory Board. In 2017 Presley received an Honorary Doctorate of Human Letters from Youngstown State University, and in 2015, he was selected by Mayor William Peduto as a Daniel Rose Fellow with the Rose Center for Public Leadership, a fellowship established to encourage and support excellence in land use decision making by local governments.

Presley holds a B.A. in organizational communication and management from Youngstown State University. He resided for 18 years in Youngstown, Ohio with his wife Nora and their two children and relocated to Pittsburgh in 2014.