Learn and Do More

Thank you for tuning in with us to hear Pitt Chancellor Emeritus Mark A. Nordenberg and Jen Giovannitti discuss the divide between rural and urban America. The following document provides resources mentioned during the interview and suggested action items.

Video References

- Read Brookings’ article *The ‘rural-urban divide’ furthers myths about race and poverty—concealing effective policy solutions.*
- Use the Center on Rural Innovation’s *interactive map* to learn more about the definitions of rural.
- See *Excerpts from the Fifth Codicil to the Last Will and Testament of Michael L. Benedum*.
- Many notable people come from West Virginia, including author and Nobel Prize winner Pearl S. Buck, test pilot Chuck Yager, former executive chairman and CEO of Cisco Systems John Chambers, Intuit Executive Chairman of the Board Brad Smith, and civil rights and political leader Booker T. Washington.
- Pittsburg’s professional services have benefited from the “talent and the drive” of two west Virginians, Peter Kalis at K&L Gates and Gregory Jordan at Reed Smith.
- Look into the innovation coming from West Virginia, including Green Bank Observatory and their radio telescopes.
- Read the New York Time’s article *West Virginia Has Everyone’s Attention. What Does It Really Need?*
- Reference The National Committee for Responsible Philanthropy looks at per capita philanthropic dollars in its report *as the south grows on fertile soil.*
- Understand Biden’s *The American Jobs Plan.*
- Read more of Pitt Johnstown President, Jem Spectar’s op-ed, *Want to close America’s rural-urban divide? Digital infrastructure is the key.*

Take Action

- Donate to rural community clinics and national organizations that support rural America.
- Lead with an open mind and educate yourself on the needs, complexities, and realities of individuals living in rural communities. As a starting point, check out *Rural Community Assistance Partnership.*
- Contact your federal, state, and local elected officials about broadband access, rural workforce development, and other issues for rural America using this *online directory.*
- Check out *75 Things White People Can Do* and learn how to be a racial justice ally with this *guide.*

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