

# Podcasting with **Philly** **Thrive**

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## Who?

Philly Thrive is an environmental justice organization in the Grays Ferry neighborhood of south Philly. Since 2015, they have been organizing residents to hold dirty industry accountable and fight for clean air, safe and affordable housing, and inclusion in political processes affecting their community.

## What?

*Philly Thrive Live*, a podcast (mostly) by and for Thrivers and residents of Grays Ferry, in conversation about issues of justice in their community and their experiences working with Philly Thrive!

## Why?

Philly Thrive recognizes storytelling as a tool that can help people connect with one another, reflect on difficult and/or meaningful experiences, and learn to use their voice in a political context. Members wondered if a podcast might offer Thrivers a different channel through which to tell their stories and connect with new audiences.

“This is the *Philly Thrive Live* podcast, and what we do here is discuss topics on environmental justice as well as current events in our community...” - Chill Hixon, host

“Environmental justice is related to all the other justices that we as Black people get the short end of the stick on, like for instance social justice... racial justice...” - Shawmar Pitts, guest



## Process

1. Getting clear on the vision: the first stage of the process consisted of many conversations with my supervisor, various members, and potential podcast collaborators to figure out our guiding goals for the project, target audience, format, etc.
2. Convening: I worked with my supervisor to identify and connect with members who might make for good podcast hosts and guests! Since the goal was for the podcast to consist mainly of community members' voices, my main role was to provide technical and administrative support and to act as a convener for the podcast team.
3. Recording: every episode involved scheduling a time with the relevant parties, getting the recording setup ready, preparing guest-specific interview questions and going over them with our host, and finally, pressing play on the record button!
4. Editing: deciding what material was important and what could be cut fell on me as the editor, but I was informed by conversations with members about our vision and priorities, and feedback from my supervisors.
5. Publishing! New technical skills acquired.



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