



COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION PROGRAM
Harrison Neighborhood Association (HNA) Application
20th of April, 2011

CONTACT INFORMATION:

Organization Name:	Harrison Neighborhood Association (HNA)
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Website url:	http://www.hnampls.org/
Organization email:	info@hnampls.org
Federal EIN:	41-1490425
Board Contact:	Name: Babette J Kamba [REDACTED]
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FUNDING ACTIVITIES.

1. After this first funding year, neighborhood organizations will submit proposals for three years of funding from the Community Participation Program. How will your organization engage residents and other stakeholders in 2011 to develop your three-year proposal?

The Harrison Neighborhood Association is a small but powerful geographically based organization located in North Minneapolis representing a constituency which is 50% African-American, just over 10% Southeast Asian (primarily Hmong and Lao), about 28% white, 8% and growing Latino population and a small Somali population. The median income for a family is a little over \$21,000. It has always been a priority to effectively engage and represent the diverse residents of the Harrison neighborhood.

The approaches to engage residents and stakeholders will be varied in order to get broad representation. HNA will use survey and focus groups, we will work with our community partners and we will share and solicit input at our annual meetings.

Our ability to reach out to residents is apparent in the level of involvement at gatherings. The evidence of community support for HNA is seen at our Annual Meetings in May which regularly have over 140 in attendance. The vast majority are people of color with close to half of the attendees being immigrants/refugees. There are always a large number of renters at the meeting.

Once we have gathered information into a draft, it will be shared broadly and feedback will be sought from our community in the fall.

2. What regular outreach and engagement activities will your organization carry out in 2011?

Harrison is involved in many outreach activities that foster engagement. Some of these events include the “Get Down” which is a music festival in the Southern part of the neighborhood, National Night Out which happens throughout the neighborhood, and the Redeemer Block Party which is attended by 400 people which happens in the center of the neighborhood. Other events are our Annual Meeting which is well attended, Lao New Year (April), the Bike Fest (May 26th), and several other yet unplanned events (responding to community interest).

3. How will your organization reach out to under-represented groups in your community? Who are these groups?

HNA uses a wide variety of methods in order to reach our residents and other stakeholders. Some of our techniques include: 1:1 meetings, outreach with partners, gatherings, opportunities for involvement, listening session and social events like a BBQ. Some of the partners we work with are: Lao Assistance Center of Minnesota, Southeast Asian Community Council, Redeemer Center for Life, and Harrison Park. We also work with area businesses, churches and other neighborhoods to ensure our residents and stakeholders are represented. An important tool we use is translation services, as we are a community which has many residents who speak a language other than English in their homes.

Our efforts have shown to be effective in getting involvement from under-represented groups involved (Hmong, Lao, Renters, African American, Somali). We are conscious of a small, but growing Latino group in our neighborhood and are working to reach out to them.

4. What planning activities would your organization like to carry out in 2011? (This could include strategic planning, land use planning, NRP planning, etc).

In 2011 HNA's Housing Committee will be doing an analysis of the housing situation within Harrison Neighborhood. This analysis will then be used to shape future housing strategies, partnerships and fundraising. It will also inform any changes to our existing NRP housing programs.

5. How does your organization provide information to the community? How do you gather information from the community?

HNA uses as many modes of communication as possible to ensure broad reach to our community: HNA website, newsletters, email blasts, social media/Facebook, door to door flyers, mailings, action alerts, community events, neighborhood organizations, word of mouth, gatherings, 1:1s, events, direct involvement by community members, participation on committees, and surveys. These methods cover electronic, written and verbal, in appropriate languages (English, Spanish, Hmong, and Lao etc.) with groups and individuals. We also use networks that other organizations have in place. For example, Lao Assistance will notify their database contacts in Harrison Neighborhood.

Information gathering is relative to the project or the issue. Input is gathered by direct involvement of residents, focus groups, 1:1 and other various sized meeting formats.

6. What festivals and events will your organization host or support in 2011?

The HNA Annual Meeting is a fun, well attended event, we also support the "Get Down" which is a music festival in the Southern part of the neighborhood, National Night Out which happens throughout the neighborhood, and the Redeemer Block Party which is attended by 400 people which happens in the center of the neighborhood, Lao New Year (April), the Bike Fest (May 26th2011), and several other yet unplanned events (responding to community need/interest).

7. What else would you like the Neighborhood and Community Engagement Commission know about your organization?

The Harrison community unanimously approved the following vision:

We are creating a prosperous and peaceful community that equitably benefits all of Harrison neighborhood's diverse racial, cultural, and economic groups.

We will combat racism and other forms of oppression by establishing an environment of stewardship where all individuals can participate through shared power and mutual accountability.

The Harrison Neighborhood Association is engaged in several initiatives to fulfill the above vision. One way is working with the People's Institute for Survival and Beyond on an

Undoing Racism process that has involved over 140 resident leaders in some form of formal training (this training has been repeated in 2010-2011). HNA also has partnerships with ; Lao Assistance Center of Minnesota (LACM), Southeast Asian Community Council (SEACC), North Way Community Trust (NWCT), Employment Action Center (EAC) and Redeemer Center for Life (RCL). HNA and the Employment Action Center has been partnering for over 15 years (providing summer jobs for youth every summer). HNA has also been partnering with Redeemer Center for Life for about 10 years. This partnership has been around development projects, event planning, leadership development, youth programming, and advocacy on behalf of the neighborhood.

8. Besides funding, what are some other ways that the NCR and NCEC can help your neighborhood organization?

Community members have been working for over 15 years to create a redevelopment in Bassett Creek Valley consistent with Transit Oriented Development (TOD) that would generate needed jobs, housing, community supporting businesses, community connections and needed tax revenue for local government. As a result, Harrison residents have been strong and vocal supporters of the Kenilworth alignment. They see the Southwest Light Rail Line as a means to reduce racial and economic inequities by connecting Northsiders to regional job centers and encourage redevelopment in Bassett Creek Valley to address the history of discriminatory planning that has left North Minneapolis isolated and marginalized.

The Bassett Creek Valley Planning process has enjoyed a high level of community engagement. Over 650 people provided input into the BCV Master Plan that was approved in 2007. The community identified priorities were living wage jobs, diverse and affordable housing options, and that the redevelopment of publicly-owned lands must promote the revitalization of the entire area. Unfortunately, this input and work approved by the community and City Council has not been adequately reflected in the station area planning process for the Van White Station Stop. The original drawings showed very little of the envisioned development for Linden Yard West and open-air rail storage for Linden Yards East. Improvements have been made in the renderings since September 2010, but community is only being provided scenarios with commuter rail storage. This is concerning because there has been no formal decisions committing Linden Yards East for a rail-layover facility, nor have the needed feasibility studies been completed to make that decision.

The fair and just redevelopment of Bassett Creek Valley will not only benefit the Harrison neighborhood, North Minneapolis and the City of Minneapolis. It will benefit Hennepin County by expanding the tax base, locating upwards of 6,000 jobs, and create close to 900 units of housing. The success of Bassett Creek Valley is a regional equity issue.

However, this opportunity is at risk. The input and voice of low-income people and people of color are being marginalized and ignored in the process. The NCR and NCEC must take a strong stance with the other city departments to ensure an equitable outcome.

Forecasted BUDGET

Staff Expenses	30,000.00
Employee Benefits	7,500.00
Professional Services	3,000.00
Occupancy	850.00
Communications/Outreach	900.00
Supplies and Materials	1,000.00
Festivals and events	1,000.00
Food and refreshments	250.00
Development/Training	1,500.00
Fundraising	1,263.58
Translation Services	1,000.00
TOTAL:	48,263.58

Notes:

- Staff expenses should include payroll, FICA, and withholding, or staff contractors.
- Employee benefits should include any health insurance, retirement, or other benefits.
- Professional services should include the cost of temporary contractors, bookkeepers, accountants, etc.
- Occupancy should reflect costs related to rent, utilities, phone, websites and email expenses, and other similar expenses.
- Communications/Outreach should include costs of publications, printing, postage, delivery, flyers, etc.
- Supplies and materials should include office supplies as well as expenses for supplies related to ongoing programs such as block patrols, etc.
- Festivals and events can include any costs related to community events and festivals.
- Food and refreshments can include the cost of any food or refreshments related to your organization's community engagement efforts (may not exceed 5% of your organization's CPP allocation).
- Development expenses could include costs related to training, education, recognition, or orientation for board, staff and volunteers.
- Fundraising could include any costs related to fundraising for your organization (hiring of consultants, costs of materials, postage, events, etc).