

## **Community Participation Program 2014 Annual Report**

Neighborhood Organization: Phillips West Neighborhood Organization

Contact person: Crystal Windschitl, Executive Director

Date of Board Approval:

### **1. Stakeholder Involvement**

Reviewing your CPP activities in 2014, Please provide information about:

- What outreach and engagement activities did you carry out in 2014?

We hosted monthly Community Meetings & Board Meetings. We also hosted 5 large Annual Events including: Spring & Fall Clean Sweeps, Senior Pride Day, National Night Out, Winter Social. PWNO staff also participated in the Community Leaders Roundtable, 35W Access Project Planning Committee, LSS Safety Committee & Coordinating Council.

- How did you reach out to and involve under-represented communities in 2014?

The Phillips West Neighborhood Organization constantly strives to reach under-represented groups including under-represented Ethnic Groups that also include immigrants and refugees mostly of East African & Hispanic Descent, and under-represented Senior Citizens (Phillips West has a high proportion of Seniors because of the 3 Ebenezer high rise buildings located within the neighborhood). We do most of our outreach through translated English, Somali, and Spanish flyers. We partner with Minneapolis Mad Dads to host an Annual Event called Senior Safety Pride Day where we celebrate our seniors by providing free health screenings, entertainment and food. We also serve as fiscal agent for the Midtown Safety Center; they also focus on providing services to under-represented groups. The Midtown Safety Center has "Domestic Abuse Advocates" that provide Somali, Spanish and English advocates that are available for consultations, filing police reports, assistance with orders for protection, safety planning and access to Community Resources.

- Did you find any strategies to be particularly successful? Why?

Yes Community Events always help us meet new neighbors who become active in regular activities.

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Our continued fiscal management of the Midtown Safety Center has been a huge resource for low income under-represented residents of our neighborhood that might not otherwise seek police assistance due to transportation issues of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Precinct being so far away.

- What did not work so well? Why?

We continue to struggle with consistent engagement with new immigrants who do not speak English especially Muslim women who are not willing to engage due to religious restrictions.

- How many people did you reach through direct contact (door knocking, meetings, one-on-ones, etc.)?

Estimated Direct Contact would be 1,000

- How many individuals volunteered in organization activities?

Estimated Volunteers total 800 between Spring & Fall Clean Sweeps alone, 40 volunteers at Winter Social, 7 Unpaid Board Member Volunteers, 200 NNO Volunteers.

- How many individuals participated in your organization's activities?

5,000+

- How many people receive your print publications?

1,000+ via postal mailing and Alley Newspaper

- How many people receive your electronic communications?

800+ via e-list, website, fb

**2. 2014 Highlights**

Please describe one or two major highlights, and if possible, please include digital photos or illustrations:

- What was the issue or opportunity the neighborhood was facing?

Stable Housing, Crime between Chicago & 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue from Franklin to 22<sup>nd</sup>

- Who was impacted?

All Stakeholders

- What steps did you take to address the issue or opportunity?

We worked with the 3<sup>rd</sup> Precinct Inspector & Crime Prevention Specialists to get the high crime areas set as Targeted Enforcement areas. We provide 3 ongoing Housing Programs to help stabilize Housing.

- What was the outcome?

Crime around the Franklin & Chicago areas has drastically been cut now we are struggling with the crime moving to Popeye's and the area around Chicago & Lake we have been working with the Police and Licensing on this issue. Our 3 Housing Programs have been very successful we actually re-contracted them into 1 last summer and have still been waiting for Joe Horan to complete his end of the paperwork it's been 8 months now.

### 3. *2014 Accomplishments*

Please provide information about your other accomplishments in 2014:

- What were your organization's major accomplishments?

The continued fundraising and operation of the Midtown Safety Center, 5 successful Annual Events. Phillips West also brands our neighborhood we currently have and maintain street signs that say "Welcome to Phillips West" we have a neighborhood logo and marketing campaign to help residents be able to identify their unique neighborhood, we host a variety of Phillips West events for the entire neighborhood to establish a sense of ownership and build Community. We build the bridge between the diverse communities within our neighborhood by translating publications, planning events to represent the diverse cultures in our neighborhood and welcoming everyone to participate. We work with almost all organizations within our neighborhood our "Community Partners" are very diverse and include; MPRB Board, ANW Hospital, Children's Hospital, National Theatre for Children, LSS CFCL, Messiah, Open Door, New Hope Baptist, Wells Fargo Bank, Wells Fargo Home Mortgage, American Swedish Institute, Project for Pride in Living, Common Bond, Southside Health, African American Aids Task Force, City Council, Lake Street Council, Xcel Energy, Centerpoint Energy, PICA Headstart, MN Adult & Teen Challenge, Park Avenue Center, McDonalds, Kaleidoscope Kids, Waite House, Cristo Rey, Augsburg Fairview, Urban Ventures, Mad Dads, Ebenezer, Mpls. Public Housing Authority, PEI, Midtown Global Market, Plasma Center, Southside Health, Black Nurses Association of MN, Our Savior's, Hennepin County, Minneapolis Police, Midtown Safety Center, African Development Center, etc. There are many more we all work together on events, developments, construction projects, energy projects, charities, outreach, and any issues that affect the neighborhood as they arise. Without our Community Partners we as an organization would not be successful because we use the resources our partners offer to better the lives of our residents.

- How were individuals in your community directly impacted by your work?

Individuals were exposed to resources we help bridge the gap between need and resource by providing neighborhood residents with resources they need to improve their quality of life.

**4. Housing**

What percentage of time did your organization spend on housing-related activities?

Phillips West currently provides three different “Housing Programs” available through NRP Phase I and Phase II dollars. The programs include a Phase I Deferred Loan Program- 0% fixed rate financing, \$5,000 maximum loan with no income limits. Eligible improvements include exterior & interior energy related improvements, major mechanical upgrades and code violations corrections. We also offer a grant program with our Phase II dollars with the same stipulations but borrowers have to make 80% AMI or less and cannot qualify for any other PWNO housing programs. We offer a Phase II Revolving Loan Program at a 2% fixed interest rate, \$25,000 maximum loan, no income limit, eligible improvements include windows, doors, furnaces, A/C (note this is the only housing program that allows A/C replacement or installation), water heaters, boilers, painting, carpet, flooring. PWNO staff spends about ½ staff time on housing related issues.

**5. Financial Reports**

Please provide an income and expense report for your organization for the year. (Please include all funding sources). 2014 Financial Reports Attached.

**In addition to your annual report, please take time to describe your interactions with City departments and other jurisdictions.**

1. ***Impact***

What interactions with City departments occupied a major part of your time? What worked well? What could be improved?

We have a good relationship with our NCR Specialist Carrie Day Aspinwall and Bob Cooper from CPED.

On a scale of 1 to 5, with 1 being poor and 5 being excellent, how would you rate your overall experience with your interactions with the City? 5

2. ***City Communications – effectiveness***

Is the information that you receive from the City understandable and useful?

Yes

On a scale of 1 to 5, with 1 being poor and 5 being excellent, how would you rate overall communications from the City? 5

3. ***City Communications – timeliness***

Do you receive adequate notice of City activities in your neighborhood? If not, did your organization inform somebody at the City of this? Did the City respond in a positive manner? Please explain.

Yes

On a scale of 1 to 5, with 1 being poor and 5 being excellent, how would you rate the timeliness of communications from the City? 5

4. ***City Departments***

How can City departments improve the way in which they function in your neighborhood?

I would like a stronger relationship with Public Works.

5. ***City Assistance***

How can the Neighborhood and Community Relations Department improve the assistance it provides to your organization as a community participation group?

Continue the way we are.

On a scale of 1 to 5, with 1 being poor and 5 being excellent, how would you rate the assistance provided to your neighborhood by NCR? 5

6. ***Other comments?*** No