



Community Participation Program
Neighborhood Organization
2015 Annual Report

Neighborhood Organization Information - *please confirm*

NEIGHBORHOOD ORGANIZATION

East Calhoun Community Organization (ECCO)

ORGANIZATIONAL INFORMATION

Neighborhood Organization

Contact:

Monica Smith

Organization Address:

2751 Hennepin Ave S, #13

Organization Address 2:

Organization ZIP:

55408

Organization Email Address:

nrp@eastcalhoun.org

Organization Phone Number:

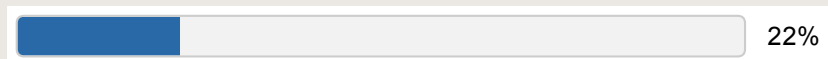
612-821-0131

DATE OF BOARD APPROVAL

Once your board has reviewed this draft annual report, please provide the date of the meeting at which the board approved submission of this report to NCR. **Note:** Meeting minutes may be requested by NCR.

Date / Time

MM	DD	YYYY
04	07	2016





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Stakeholder Involvement - *basic outreach & engagement*

WHICH OF THE FOLLOWING OUTREACH ACTIVITIES DID YOUR ORGANIZATION USE IN 2015?

MEETINGS (please check all that apply)

- Held regular committee meetings or discussion groups that are open to all stakeholders.
- Held at least one general membership or community meeting (in addition to the annual meeting) to gather input from residents and other stakeholders for a neighborhood specific initiative.
- Hosted at least one general membership or committee meeting in response to a City request for input - such as a development proposal, transit planning or public works project.
- Conducted one or more focus groups.

What more would you like to tell NCR or the community about your meetings?

What are you doing that is new or particularly successful to involve residents and others?

DOOR-TO-DOOR (please check all that apply)

Door-Knocking or Dropping Flyers Door-to-Door

- At least once with goal of reaching a portion of neighborhood.

At least once with goal of reaching most or all of neighborhood.

For more than one issue/outreach effort.

On a routine basis.

Door-Knocking/Flyering

Was carried out primarily by staff

Was carried out primarily by volunteers

Door-Knocking/Flyering

Was carried out primarily to increase membership and participation

Was carried out primarily to gather input on a specific city or neighborhood issue

Was carried out primarily to inform stakeholders of a city or neighborhood issue

Approximately how many households did your organization reach through door-knocking in 2015?

What more would you like to tell NCR or the community about your door-to-door outreach?

What are you doing that is new or particularly successful to involve residents and others?

EVENTS (please check all that apply)

Staffed a booth or table at neighborhood event or other community event that included sign-up sheets, surveys or information about your organization.

Organized one or more issue specific event (such as a safety forum, housing fair, Open Streets, Creative Citymaking, etc).

Organized smaller events for specific outreach to target audiences (e.g., sidewalk tabling to reach renters, lemonade stands, tabling at Farmer's Market, etc.)

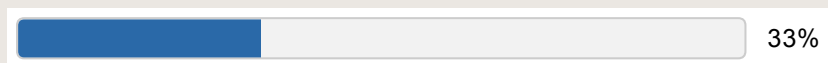
What more would you like to tell NCR or the community about your events?

What are you doing that is new or particularly successful to involve residents and others?

OTHER (please check all that apply)

- Conducted at least one community-wide survey (such as a random sample or all-household survey).
- Conducted another form of survey (e.g., intercept survey).
- Developed partnerships with cultural, religious, professional or business associations to expand outreach into under-represented populations.
- Distributed a quarterly or semi-annual newsletter to all households.
- Other activities (please describe here):

One neighborhood-wide mailing to promote ECCO, advertised in local newspaper (Uptown Neighborhood News) until it closed in June 2015 and published monthly meeting minutes in local newspaper. Hung fliers on community bulletin boards. Created chalkboard lawn signs which are place at various locations in the neighborhood to promote events. Sent monthly e-newsletter to distribution list.



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Stakeholder Involvement - *under-represented groups*

HOW DID YOUR ORGANIZATION REACH OUT TO UNDER-REPRESENTED GROUPS IN YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD? (please check all that apply)

- Worked on an issue of particular interest to an under-represented group within the neighborhood.
- Provided notices of annual and special meetings in multiple languages.
- Provided newsletter articles or web pages in multiple languages.
- Targeted outreach in apartment buildings or blocks to reach renters.
- Targeted tabling at other events or locations (such as farmers markets, cultural events, etc.).
- Held focus groups or open meeting formats for under-represented communities.
- Met with other agencies in the community that work closely with under-represented constituencies in the neighborhood.
- Included an Americans with Disabilities Act statement on meeting and event notices.
- Reviewed participation activities, and identified new leaders and volunteers for volunteer, committee and board participation.
- Held one-time/pop up events in areas of the neighborhood that don't often have neighborhood meetings
- Other activities (please describe here):

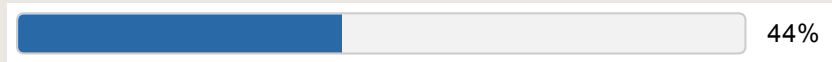
A mailing was sent to every address in the neighborhood with the goal of raising awareness about ECCO and inviting every resident to participate in the organization.

ECCO initiated a monthly happy hour at a neighborhood bar with a goal of reaching out to the younger renters in the neighborhood.

What more would you like to tell NCR or the community about your outreach to under-represented groups?

What are you doing that is new or particularly successful to involve residents and others?

Three of five new board members elected to the ECCO Board in 2015 are renters.



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Stakeholder Involvement - *information & communication*

HOW DID YOU INFORM THE COMMUNITY OF DISCUSSIONS, DECISIONS AND THE STATUS OF THE ORGANIZATION?

BOARD MEETINGS (please check all that apply)

- Board meeting minutes and financial reports and summaries are provided on the organization's website and kept current.
- Meeting agendas and minutes are easily available and posted on the organization's website before and after each meeting.
- Meeting notices and agendas are distributed to members prior to each meeting with ample notice.
- Time is allowed at board meetings for stakeholders to ask questions or raise issues.

How many new board members were elected/appointed to your board this year?

5

What more would you like to tell NCR or the community about your board meetings?

What are you doing that is new or particularly successful to involve residents and others?

Five new board members (plus two alternates) were elected in 2015.

Financial reports are not currently posted on our website but ECCO Board agenda and minutes are posted promptly.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS AND GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS (please check all that apply)

- Meeting agendas and minutes are easily available and posted on the organization's website before and after each meeting.
- Affected residents and other stakeholders are contacted prior to an issue being discussed at a committee meeting.
- Meeting notices and agendas are distributed to members prior to each meeting with ample notice.

Other (please specify)

see below

What more would you like to tell NCR or the community about your regular meetings?

What are you doing that is new or particularly successful to involve residents and others?

The notification of agenda and posting of minutes depends on the committee. Some committees do not keep formal minutes. All committees make recommendations to the ECCO Board for final action and ECCO Board meeting agendas and minutes are posted on the website. In addition, minutes were printed in the monthly neighborhood newspaper until the paper closed at which time the minutes were included as an attachment to the monthly e-newsletter.

SPECIFIC ISSUES

- Affected and interested stakeholders are notified and involved in your organization's decision-making process.

ORGANIZATIONAL INFORMATION (please check all that apply)

- An annual report is available to all residents on the organization's website.
- The organization's bylaws, grievance procedures, meeting schedules and contact information are easily available on the organization's website and through other means.

OTHER (please check all that apply)

- Our community events and meetings are regularly advertised in community newspapers.
- We use social media (such as e-democracy or Facebook) to share information.
- We share city news and information on our organization's website or through email, social media or other means.

What more would you like to tell NCR or the community about participation in your organization?

What are you doing that is new or particularly successful to involve residents and others?

ECCO asked developers on two different projects to contact nearby neighbors to invite them to a community meeting to ask questions about the proposed development. This was a way of reaching out to neighbors who may be impacted by a development but may not be involved with ECCO.

Community events and meeting were advertised in the local newspaper through June 2015. ECCO communicates with residents via a monthly e-newsletter. Direct marketing also allows us to send e-blasts on time-sensitive issues to keep our residents informed.



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2015 Highlights

PLEASE DESCRIBE ONE OR TWO MAJOR HIGHLIGHTS

- What was the issue or opportunity the neighborhood was facing?
- Who was impacted?
- What steps did you take to address the issue or opportunity?
- What was the outcome?

MAJOR HIGHLIGHT #1

Task Force and Radon Awareness Program

In late 2014, ECCO invited residents to participate in a Task Force to explore community needs which could be appropriately funded with residual funds from our NRP Phase II plan. A core group began meeting monthly to explore options for a programs and projects. After nine months of investigation, the ECCO Board approved the Task Force's recommendation for an investment in a neighborhood radon testing and mitigation program.

Radon is a colorless, odorless, radioactive gas that occurs naturally in the soil. As such, it is everywhere and can seep up through the soil into our homes and into the air we breathe. Radon is the leading cause of lung cancer for non-smokers.

ECCO partnered with the Minnesota Department of Health to raise awareness about radon. We sent a mailing announcing our radon program to all residents and rental property owners in the neighborhood.

The program kick-off was the ECCO Annual Meeting in October 2015 and included a presentation about radon from a Minnesota Department of Health employee and distribution of the free test kits to all interested individuals. A \$50,000 program was implemented which provides matching grants for radon mitigation to property owners whose homes have elevated radon levels.

The free test kits continue to be available to residents.

MAJOR HIGHLIGHT #2

Organic Cherry Tree Project

In 2014, the ECCO initiated a legacy project to promote the planting of organic cherry trees in the neighborhood.

The goals were to:

- Promote community building around local food production and environmental stewardship.
- Promote education on organic best practices friendly to pollinators, children and pets/animals.
- Promote sustainable landscaping for food and environmental protection.
- Celebrate the results of our community's efforts in an annual event like a Cherry Festival.

In spring 2015, the project was implemented with a Cherry Tree Workshop and the planting of 47 trees on residential properties in the neighborhood. Residents were asked to pledge to avoid pesticides use or any other practices that could be chemically toxic to the environment for pollinator, people, or animals.

We'd love to share your highlights with others.

If possible, send digital photos, videos, illustrations or a link to any of these to ncr@minneapolismn.gov with the Subject Line: **2015 CPP Annual Report Images**. If you have a large digital file, please make arrangements to mail or deliver a copy directly to your NCR Neighborhood Specialist.



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