

Neighborhood Organization Information

1. NEIGHBORHOOD ORGANIZATION

East Calhoun Community Organization (ECCO)

2. ORGANIZATIONAL INFORMATION

Neighborhood Organization Contact: Monica Smith

Organization Address: 2751 Hennepin Ave S, #13

Organization ZIP: 55408

Organization Email Address: nrp@eastcalhoun.org

Organization Phone Number: 612-821-0131

3. 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.

3/28/2017

Stakeholder Involvement - Basic Outreach & Engagement

WHICH OF THE FOLLOWING OUTREACH ACTIVITIES DID YOUR ORGANIZATION USE IN 2016?

| 4. 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. | | | | |
| 5. 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. | | | | |
| 6. Door-Knocking/Flyering | | | | |
| Was carried out primarily by staff | | | | |
| Was carried out primarily by volunteers | | | | |

| | | <i>5. 7 S</i> | | |
|---|-----------|---|--|--|
| | V | Was carried out primarily to increase membership and participation | | |
| | | Was carried out primarily to get input on specific city or neighborhood issue | | |
| | | Was carried out primarily to inform stakeholders of a city or neighborhood issue | | |
| 8. Approximately how many households did your organization reach through door-knocking in 2016? | | | | |
| | 0 | | | |
| 9. EVENTS (please check all that apply) | | | | |
| | $\sqrt{}$ | Staffed a booth or table at neighborhood event or other community event that included sign-up sheets, surveys or information about your organization. | | |
| | $\sqrt{}$ | 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.) | | |
| 10. 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): | | |

7. Door-Knocking/Flyering

- Sent three mailings to every residence in East Calhoun to promote our organization and to invite involvement.
- Distributed flyers within the neighborhood to promote two events.
- Hung flyers on community bulletin boards.
- Used chalkboard lawn signs placed at various locations in the neighborhood to promote events.
- Sent monthly e-newsletter to distribution list.
- Promoted events via Facebook, NextDoor and our website.

11. Please provide an estimate of volunteer hours provided to your organization in 2016

1,300

| 12. 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. | |
| $\sqrt{}$ | 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. | |
| $\sqrt{}$ | Included an Americans with Disabilities Act statement on meeting and event notices. | |
| $\sqrt{}$ | 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):

ECCO hosts a monthly happy hour at a neighborhood bar as a tool to reach out to the younger renters in the neighborhood.

13. What more would you like to tell NCR or the community about your Stakeholder Involvement? What are you doing that is new or particularly successful to involve residents and others?

ECCO reaches out to under-represented groups by using postcard mailings that are sent to every household in the neighborhood. We are inviting every resident to participate in our committees, programs and activities. We are also more consistently using social media tools like Facebook and NextDoor to raise awareness of our organizations.

Neighborhood Priorities

PLEASE DESCRIBE ANY NEW PRIORITIES YOU HAVE APPROVED.

In June 2016, ECCO approved the following as a neighborhood priority: "Establish a housing matching grant or loan program to promote initiatives such as energy efficiency and environmental upgrades, exterior home improvements, and affordable housing." ECCO implemented this priority by providing a loan to Nonprofits Assistance Fund for affordable housing in Minneapolis.

2016 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?

15. MAJOR HIGHLIGHT #1

One highlight for East Calhoun in 2016 was our community building effort.

- ECCO held monthly happy hour events at a neighborhood restaurant to reach out to residents in a fun and informal way.
- The Livability Committee met 11 times in 2016. All residents were invited to the meetings to provide feedback on three new development projects in the neighborhood, outdoor seating for a new ice cream shop, and the removal of parking meters to allow for valet use for a restaurant.
- ECCO partnered with other Uptown neighborhoods and the Minneapolis Police Department (MPD) to host three crime prevention workshops. The workshops focused on personal safety and burglary prevention.
- A board member partnered with MPD to door knock on blocks that did not currently have block club leaders. Another board member door knocked new homeowners to invite them to a special happy hour for new residents.
- We hosted four annual events: neighborhood-wide garage sale in June, puppet show and street party in June, Labor Day Celebration in September, annual pizza dinner and community meeting in October, and holiday caroling in December.
- ECCO used the communications tools to promote our events and foster community (outlined above in question #10).

16. MAJOR HIGHLIGHT #2

East Calhoun has been active in environmental stewardship over the years and 2016 was no exception. Our Green Team hosted two environmental workshops:

- Growing Organic Apples in February
- Energy Reduction Workshop in March featuring information on community solar gardens, energy audits and energy saving tips.

ECCO partnered with the Minneapolis Park & Recreation Board to host a site for the Earth Day Clean Up in April. Dozens of volunteers came out to pick up trash and recycling along the shores of Lake Calhoun.

The Park Board owns the Loon Lake Trolley Path that runs parallel to East Calhoun Parkway. The area features a walking path through a wooded area with scenic views of Lake Calhoun. It is a quiet sanctuary in the neighborhood. The dirt path was in need of a fresh layer of mulch. An ECCO board member worked with the Park Board for a donation of wood chips for the trail and organized volunteers to spread the chips along a two-block length of the trail.