

### **Neighborhood Organization Information**

#### 1. NEIGHBORHOOD ORGANIZATION

## **Seward Neighborhood Group**

### 2. ORGANIZATIONAL INFORMATION

Neighborhood Organization Contact: Kerry Cashman

Organization Address: 2323 East Franklin Ave

Organization ZIP: 55406

Organization Email Address: admin@sng.org
Organization Phone Number: 612-338-6205

#### 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.

## 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		

7. Door-Knocking/Fiyering				
		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?				
9. EVENTS (please check all that apply)				
	<b>√</b>	Staffed a booth or table at neighborhood event or other community event that included sign-up sheets, surveys or information about your organization.		
	<b>V</b>	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).		
	<b>V</b>	Conducted another form of survey (e.g., intercept survey).		
	<b>V</b>	Developed partnerships with cultural, religious, professional or business associations to expand outreach into under-represented populations.		
	<b>V</b>	Distributed a quarterly or semi-annual newsletter to all households.		
		Other activities (please describe here):		

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

# 12. How did your organization reach out to under-represented groups in your neighborhood? (Please check all that apply)

1	Worked on an issue of particular interest to an under-represented group within the neighborhood.
<b>V</b>	Provided notices of annual and special meetings in multiple languages.
	Provided newsletter articles or web pages in multiple languages.
1	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.
1	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
1	Other activities (please describe here):

We have an organizer in the Seward Towers who works closely with our East African community, giving them personal invitations to meetings and events. We held a clean-up at Franklin Housing Co-op, working with the Tenant Group there. The Housing Co-op is both low income and includes many of our East African neighbors. We participated in Open Streets and provided Henna which was a draw for our East African neighbors. This gave us the opportunity to talk about some of our neighborhood activities. We also co-sponsored an Iftar, breaking the fast with many of our neighborhood muslims during Ramadan.

# 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?

Our Community Development Committee consistently brings in a mixed group of residents from the neighborhood. In 2016 over 150 different individuals attended a CDC meeting. We also conduct open board meetings, Environment Committee meetings, Crime and Safety meetings and an annual meeting all are advertised and open to the community.

We staffed the Southside Housing Forum, Open Streets, Environmental Clean ups in the neighborhood, and worked with the school, the business association SCCA, various business and arts groups to organize the Seward Winter Frolic. We organized Climate Change Resiliency Dialogues with Transitions Longfellow, Longfellow Community Council and the Minneapolis Health Department. We organized the Seward Garden Tour and hosted Energy Workshops with the Center for Energy and Environment and the Lake Street Challenge.

This year we worked with Hennepin County and Prospect Park Neighborhood Association to promote the Grand Opening event at the Franklin Bridge. This was a great cross neighborhood event.

We are very excited about our new campaign called #WeAreSeward. This is a primarily online campaign which will focus on interviews with Seward residents. We plan to highlight the diversity that is Seward's strength. We will also be creating lawnsigns and posters to go in businesses with the new logo and #WeAreSeward Everyone Welcome Here We will be using this campaign as a community builder.

Our board meetings are always open to the public. We promote them on Facebook, Twitter, our online newsletter, an online calendar and e-democracy.

For our Community Development Committee meetings we have started to list each topic separately on e-democracy to make sure the entire community knows about all the issues that will be discussed. We have always listed the entire agenda but we decided that we might draw in new people if they saw the topics highlighted individually. We send meeting agendas to our online list as well as to e-democracy

All meetings are listed on an online accessible calendar and are listed in our online newsletter.

We have been working with many sectors of the neighborhood. For example we worked with Cycles for Change, Safe Routes to School and Seward Montessori school to put pressure on the Department of Public Works to keep the crossing of the Midtown Greenway closed to Automobile traffic at 29th Ave.

We have already hosted CAIR-Council on American/Islamic Relations in one of the Seward Towers. The ED talked about the recent travel ban and about people's legal rights. We plan to host another session when the ED is available. There is tons of fear surrounding this issue.

## **Neighborhood Priorities**

PLEASE DESCRIBE ANY NEW PRIORITIES YOU HAVE APPROVED.

## 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

Last year we co-sponsored an Iftar at Bethany Lutheran Church. We had over a hundred attendees, many of whom had never been in a Christian Church before this event. Our local police served the food. This was an incredible event bringing together many aspects of the neighborhood. Not only did the Iftar education neighbors about Ramadan, connect people of different faiths and cultures it also helped make a positive connection with our local police force.

Issue: Connecting the disparate cultures of the neighborhood.

Impacted: Everyone who attended plus many talked about it afterward.

Worked with Bethany Lutheran Church, Council on American Islamic Affairs (CAIR), Augsburg Church and the Police Department.

It has increased comfort with different faiths and traditions.

#### 16. MAJOR HIGHLIGHT #2

For years Seward has had a group that walked in the evenings for safety. This was a small group and was dwindling in size. Last year we added a history component to the walks. Each Wednesday night from July – August we have a different focus. Many are history but we have broadened these talks to environment other topics of interest. We have had an incredible turnout for these walk/talks. The average week had 40+ participants with our peak walk having over 60 participants. Our neighbors love the get-togethers and find them a great way to meet new neighbors.

It increases safety in the neighborhood

And it provides weekly community building