

1. NEIGHBORHOOD ORGANIZATION

Cedar-Isles-Dean Neighborhood Organization

2. ORGANIZATIONAL INFORMATION

Neighborhood Organization Contact: [Monica Smith](#)

Organization Address: [PO Box 16270](#)

Organization Address 2:

Organization ZIP: [55416](#)

Organization Email Address: info@cidna.org

Organization Phone Number: [612-821-0131](tel:612-821-0131)

3. ORGANIZATION WEBSITE AND SOCIAL MEDIA

Website: cidna.org

Facebook:

Twitter:

Other:

4. 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.

03/14/2018

Community Participation Program

WHICH OF THE FOLLOWING OUTREACH ACTIVITIES DID YOUR ORGANIZATION USE IN 2017?

5. **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

6. **DOOR-TO-DOOR** (please check all that apply)

Door-Knocking (with goal of face-to-face engagement)

- At least once reaching a portion of neighborhood
- At least once reaching most or all of the neighborhood
- For more than one issue/outreach effort
- On a routine basis
- Conducted primarily by staff members
- Conducted primarily by volunteers
- Carried out primarily to increase membership and participation
- Carried out primarily to gather input or inform on a specific city or neighborhood issue

7. **Approximately how many households did you reach through DOOR-KNOCKING in 2017?**

0

8. **FLYERING** (please check all that apply)

Distributing flyers (dropping literature at doors)

- At least once reaching a portion of neighborhood
- At least once reaching most or all of the neighborhood
- Carried out primarily to inform and increase membership and participation
- Carried out primarily to gather input or inform on a specific city or neighborhood issue

9. **Approximately how many households did your organization reach through FLYERING in 2017?**

0

10. **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.)

11. **COMMUNICATION** (please fill in all that apply)

Print a paper newsletter
(If so, at what frequency?)

Number of subscribers to your email list 506

Number of followers on Facebook and Twitter Combined

12. **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

Other activities (please describe here):

CIDNA did not do any door knocking in 2017.

In lieu of flyering, CIDNA sent two postcards via US Mail to every address in the neighborhood in 2017. The postcard mailings ensure that each household in the neighborhood hears from CIDNA at

least twice per year regarding events and opportunities to engage in civic activities. The number of households on our mailing list is 2,075.

The monthly neighborhood newspaper, Hill & Lake Press, is delivered to homes in the neighborhood. The paper includes articles about CIDNA news, events and our monthly board meeting minutes.

CIDNA sends a monthly e-newsletter as well as e-blasts for specific issues and events. In 2017, there were 506 subscribers to our email list, which is a 6% increase in subscribers over 2016.

In addition to the postcard mailings, neighborhood newspaper, and e-newsletter, CIDNA also placed flyers on community bulletin boards and in Little Free Library. Lawn signs and banners were placed in high-traffic areas to promote neighborhood events. CIDNA established a relationship with the management of a new apartment building in the neighborhood.

13. Please provide an estimate of VOLUNTEER HOURS provided to your organization in 2017

2950

14. 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):

15. 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?

Proposals by developers for new high-density apartment buildings more often than not cause significant neighborhood concern. The Cedar-Isles-Dean neighborhood faced just such a situation when a major high-rise was proposed in 2016 for 3100 West Lake, where a three-story office building has stood since the mid-1950s. The CIDNA board for many years has had a well-functioning, ably-led Land Use & Development Committee, which met numerous times over the span of 14 months with the developers and architects. The 3100 West Lake site is surrounded on three sides by residential buildings, and CIDNA encouraged each building's board to appoint two representatives to the committee. The committee also held two heavily attended neighborhood meetings where residents provided input directly to the developers and architects. The process culminated in Fall 2017 with a design for a 200-unit building, which, while not supported by 100% of Cedar-Isles-Dean residents, represented reasonable, respectful compromise.

Community Participation Program

PLEASE DESCRIBE ONE OR TWO MAJOR HIGHLIGHTS

Consider the following when describing each highlight:

- 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?

17. MAJOR HIGHLIGHT #1

Support for Affordable Housing CIDNA was one of seven neighborhood organizations that contributed a total of \$108,000 of NRP funds to the Bridge for Youth for Rita's House.

Grants from the neighborhood associations helped fund the renovation of a vacant property owned by The Bridge in the East Isles neighborhood. The City of Minneapolis approved the use of property as an Intentional Community to provide a transitional home for up to thirteen youth ages 18 to 21 who are homeless or at high risk of homelessness. Rita's House is named for The Bridge's founder, Sister Rita Steinhagen, who spent decades supporting homeless youth.

Residents will pay low rents, stay in single bedrooms and share kitchen, bathroom and living spaces and will have access to a case manager and job placement services.

Youth living in the home will work together to support one another, develop shared goals and rules for their community and have the opportunity to build the skills necessary to live independently.

A portion of the rent will be reserved so the youth will have some money saved toward a new apartment when they are ready to move on. Residents are expected to stay at Rita's House for one or two years.

Beginning in 2011, CIDNA has provided loans to support affordable housing in Minneapolis. The grant to Rita's House continues CIDNA's commitment to working toward solutions to help the city's most vulnerable residents have access to affordable housing.

18. MAJOR HIGHLIGHT #2

On April 19, 2017, the Minneapolis Park & Recreation Board awarded the 2016 Volunteer of the Year Award (group category) to the CIDNA Park Siding Park Gardeners. The members of the group have been working as Garden Stewards of Park Siding Park for 20 years.

In the early days, the group filled the garden with purchases from what their neighborhood budget allowed and with divisions from their home gardens. In 2013, necessary sewer maintenance work unearthed an opportunity: the chance to redesign the garden and install a new

irrigation system. The garden redesign included the addition of earth-friendly, drought-tolerant native species with the purpose to attract pollinating insects, bees and butterflies, and provide wildlife habitat. The drip irrigation system was purchased by the neighborhood association. The system has allowed the group to focus less on watering, thereby saving a precious natural resource. With this change, the gardeners are able to concentrate more on planting, weeding, deadheading, sharing the communal gardening experience and building community.

For six months a year, a core group of volunteers meet monthly to maintain the six large garden beds at Park Siding. In addition, the group waters newly planted park trees, picks up trash, rakes, sweeps, and helps keep the park looking beautiful for all park users. The Park Board uses the garden as a site for corporate team building experiences and stewards-in-training deadheading sessions. Notices invite interested individuals to join the gardening group. The park is located near a number of apartment buildings and offers gardening opportunities for apartment-dwellers. The gardening days function as community-building events. Gardeners meet neighbors and informally share information about CIDNA and neighborhood issues.

The CIDNA Park Siding Park Gardeners have proven their long-term commitment to maintaining the gardens in the park for all to enjoy.