

1. NEIGHBORHOOD ORGANIZATION

East Harriet Farmstead Neighborhood Association

2. ORGANIZATIONAL INFORMATION

Neighborhood Organization Contact: [Deb Schirber](#)

Organization Address: [4101 Harriet Ave S](#)

Organization Address 2:

Organization ZIP: [55409](#)

Organization Email Address: info@eastharriet.org

Organization Phone Number: [612-824-9350](#)

3. ORGANIZATION WEBSITE AND SOCIAL MEDIA

Website: www.eastharriet.org

Facebook: [East Harriet Farmstead Neighborhood Association \(EHFNA\)](#)
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/7091579820/>

Twitter:

Other: [Next Door](#)

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.

03/07/2018

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?**

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?**

1927

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 590

Number of followers on Facebook and Twitter Combined 328 facebook; 1230 on Next Door

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):

EHFNA promotes and supports the business community in our neighborhood and surrounding area of southwest Minneapolis. Local businesses benefit by receiving Minneapolis Great Streets Business Façade Improvement Grants from both EHFNA and Southwest Business Association. 100% of time to contact businesses, follow-up and paper work is done by a neighborhood

volunteer. All residents including those under represented benefit from having easy access to a thriving business community.

Bethlehem Lutheran Church collaborates with East Harriet by blocking a Saturday in September (no weddings!) for our neighborhood annual meeting and fall festival block party, offering us use of both of their parking lots, indoor bathrooms, garbage and recycling bins; promoting the event in their communication; and participating in the event planning and on the day of the event.

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

644

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):

Coordinated with SW Senior Center, exercise instructor and Lyndale Farmstead Park to move senior exercise classes to the park building after the announcement that the VOA SW Senior Center was closing, leaving local seniors without a center for activities, programs and social gatherings.

Worked with MPRB Assistant Superintendent of Planning to get approval to use NRP funds to improve our neighborhood park building for all East Harriet residents including seniors, renters and youth.

Partner with Walker Methodist to include their residents by promoting their programs and including them in our events like Fall Fest, PorchFest and Sale-O-Rama. Our monthly board and committee meetings are held in their building.

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?

The annual Neighborhood Block Party is one way we reach out to the under engaged residents. City Department and nonprofit groups that are of interest to the neighborhood are invited to participate at the event and answer questions. Groups include EHFNA, City of Mpls Recycling, Zoning, Permits and 311, Fire and Police Departments, Lyndale Community School, Our Streets Mpls, Park Naturalist, Master Gardeners and Fair Vote. Candidates running for City offices were also on hand to talk to residents. The venue is walkable to the entire neighborhood and provides activities, food, beverages and music of interest to singles, families, kids and seniors.

Our annual participation in Open Streets on Lyndale Ave allows volunteers including board members the opportunity to meet and interact with many residents at this high visibility event. Volunteers can answer questions about the neighborhood organization and sign up residents interested in receiving our eNews and for volunteering while attendees decorate their bikes. Neighborhood business, Farmstead Bike Shop is also on hand to provide bike tune-ups.

New this year, East Harriet collaborated with The Warming House, an intimate live music venue located in the neighborhood to bring PorchFest to East Harriet. Thirteen East Harriet homes hosted 26 volunteer musicians over a three-hour period while residents walked the neighborhood greeting familiar friends and connecting with new neighbors. A food truck was parked at The Warming House providing food throughout the event. The Warming House hosted a party for the East Harriet volunteers and musicians at the end of the evening.

KiteFest in its 16th year is a growing popular free event for both neighborhood and area residents drawing thousands of attendees. The event is a successful collaboration between Minneapolis Park & Recreation Board (MPRB), East Harriet, Linden Hills, MN Kite Society, Tips Outdoors, and local business sponsorships.

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**

In response to priorities formed from focus groups held in 2016, EHFNA Board members allotted proposed amounts of funds to priority NRP strategies to fulfill NRP contracted and expended fund requirements. The board assigned a significant amount of NRP funds to improve the Lyndale Farmstead Park building with the idea of combining with MPR's capital fund improvements planned in 2017. EHFNA Board president, vice president and coordinator met with MPRB Assistant Superintendent of Planning to confirm a partnership of funds was possible. This was followed-up by meetings with the MPRB project manager and architects to discuss ideas. The proposed strategies and ideas were presented to residents at the 2017 Annual Meeting for discussion and questions. A vote was unanimously approved by those in attendance. A group of volunteers with knowledge of the project will plan meetings in 2018 with the project manager to finalize the details and oversee East Harriet's interest in the park building ensuring our park and park building remain a vital part of our neighborhood.

18. **MAJOR HIGHLIGHT #2**

The VOA Southwest Senior Center announced in May that it would be closing June 30 due to a lack of funds. Some programs were moved to other VOA senior locations. However, social activities and exercise programs would no longer have a home. East Harriet, the Senior Center Director, Lyndale Farmstead Park Director and the exercise instructor met to discuss the idea of moving the classes to the Park building. Lyndale Farmstead Park had the space to host the classes and was also just 3 blocks north of the senior center allowing several of the seniors to continue using the bus for transportation. The only hurdle was finding time for two back to back classes during normal park hours. East Harriet proposed opening the building earlier and covering the cost of the park staff extra hours. This arrangement also allowed seniors social time between and after classes. The Park director added a monthly senior luncheon to the schedule providing another opportunity for seniors to gather and socialize.