

1. **NEIGHBORHOOD ORGANIZATION**

Central Area Neighborhood Development Organization (CANDO)

2. **ORGANIZATIONAL INFORMATION**

Neighborhood Organization Contact: [Eduardo Cardenas](#)
Organization Address: [3715 Chicago Ave](#)
Organization Address 2:
Organization ZIP: [55407](#)
Organization Email Address: cando@thecentralneighborhood.com
Organization Phone Number: [612-824-1333](#)

3. **ORGANIZATION WEBSITE AND SOCIAL MEDIA**

Website: <https://thecentralneighborhood.com/>
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/centralmpls/>
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.

02/13/2019

Community Participation Program

WHICH OF THE FOLLOWING OUTREACH ACTIVITIES DID YOUR ORGANIZATION USE IN 2018?

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 2018?

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 2018?**

300

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?) Yes. Quarterly, moved to monthly in October via collaboration with Bryant & Lyndale neighborhoods

Number of subscribers to your email list 700

Number of followers on Facebook and Twitter Combined 1013

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

Other activities (please describe here):

Partnered with other organizations to reach new and under-represented populations. Partners included KALY Somali Radio, Agents of Change, Chicano Latino Affairs Council, Sabathani Gardeners, Out In The Backyard, Hosmer Library, Green Central Elementary, and Urban Ventures. In addition to hosting our own large neighborhood event (the Central Fair and Harvest Feast), we supported a community-driven back-to-school celebration and school supply giveaway at Phelps Park.

13. Please provide an estimate of VOLUNTEER HOURS provided to your organization in 2018

981

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):

CANDO's 2019 annual meeting was at Urban Ventures, in the NW quadrant of Central neighborhood, in the interest of shifting focus from the SE quadrant near 38th & Chicago where our events are typically held.

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?

CANDO's Plant-Grow-Share program continues to be an important means of involving under-represented residents in the neighborhood. Each summer PGS works with 20 Central residents/families, prioritizing low-income households, who together build raised garden beds; plant, tend, and harvest organic produce; host community bonfires to share meals; and give away produce through weekly Little Free Farmers Markets. By investing resources in the PGS program, CANDO fosters authentic connections with residents, including many who face barriers and disenfranchisement, and work in community to address food justice issues.

CANDO is also building awareness and involvement through cross-neighborhood collaborations, including events and outreach activities (see major highlight #1 for more detail).

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

CANDO worked in 2018 to foster cross-neighborhood collaborations, reflecting both the reality of dwindling resources and the opportunity created when Central's strengths are combined with others. We joined forces with Bryant and Lyndale neighborhoods to produce the new monthly community newspaper, Voces de South Central, replacing our previous CANDO newsletter. Beyond sharing production expenses, this joint effort allows us to collaborate on other organizing work being done by partnering neighborhood organizations. We worked with neighborhoods along 38th Street and CM Jenkins' office to host "Breaking Bread, Building Bridges," the celebration of the re-opening of the 38th Street bridge over 35W, featuring a community meal on the bridge and a facilitated conversation about the historic divide of caused by 35W through South Minneapolis. We planned a new year mixer event for the boards and staff of South Central Minneapolis neighborhood organizations, which we intend to facilitate regularly in 2019 as a means to exchange information and build coalitions.

18. MAJOR HIGHLIGHT #2

Our newly hired Community Organizer has focused on housing issues in Central, particularly those faced by the significant renter population in Central, becoming involved in policy discussions and building collaborations with other organizations working to improve conditions for renters. One specific outcome is the creation of the "Landlord Scorecard," a tool that allows renters to identify and promote local landlords who are providing commendable service to the community as well as to give residents a voice in drawing attention to landlord practices that fail to meet acceptable standards so that we may better hold those landlords accountable. CANDO also hosts a weekly drop-in housing open house, and has been doing outreach to promote Central's home improvement loan and emergency grant programs offered through CEE.