

2019 Annual Report Community Participation Program

1. NEIGHBORHOOD ORGANIZATION

Cedar Riverside Community Council

2. ORGANIZATIONAL INFORMATION

Neighborhood Organization Contact: Bosteya Jama/Dave Alderson

Organization Address: 420 15th Ave S

Organization Address 2: Minneapolis, MN

Organization ZIP: 55454

Organization Email Address: dave@cedarriversidenrp.org

Organization Phone Number: 612-338-5223

3. Organization Website and Social Media

Website: crccouncil.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

Date

04/01/2020

2019 Community Participation Program Annual Report

Additional Organization Information

NOTE: The information in this section will be aggregated by the NCR staff for the annual [NEIGHBORHOOD PROGRAMS REPORT](#) and not be published as part of each neighborhood's Annual Report.

Indicate the **POSITION TITLE** and **AVERAGE HOURS PER WEEK** of each **PAID EMPLOYEE OR CONTRACT STAFF** (excluding professional services such as accounting, legal, etc.)

	5. POSITION TITLE	6. AVE. HRS./WK.
Position #1	Co-Executive Director	37.5
Position #2	Co-Executive Director	30
Position #3		
Position #4		
Position #5		

7. IF NEEDED, PROVIDE ADDITIONAL INFO HERE:

Note if any positions are seasonal, temporary, etc.

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Stakeholder Involvement – Basic Outreach and Engagement

WHICH OF THE FOLLOWING OUTREACH ACTIVITIES DID YOUR ORGANIZATION USE IN 2019?

8. **MEETINGS** (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

9. **DOOR-TO-DOOR** (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

10. Approximately **HOW MANY HOUSEHOLDS DID YOU REACH** through door-knocking in 2019?

3000

Please provide a whole number only

11. **Flyering** - Dropping literature at doors (Check all that apply)

- 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

12. Approximately **HOW MANY HOUSEHOLDS DID YOU REACH** through flyering in 2019?

3000

Please provide a whole number only

13. **EVENTS** (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.)

14. **COMMUNICATION** (Fill in all that apply)

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

Number of subscribers to
your email list

Number of followers on
Facebook and Twitter Combined

OTHER (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):

We relaunched and began upgrading our website.

15. Please provide an **ESTIMATE OF THE VOLUNTEER HOURS PROVIDED** to your organization in 2019.

Please provide a whole number only

16. **HOW DID YOUR ORGANIZATION REACH OUT TO UNDER-REPRESENTED GROUPS IN YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD?** (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):

17. 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 REACH RESIDENTS** and others?

We've been very active encouraging participation in our work by local residents, especially mothers and young people. By attending numerous meetings throughout the neighborhood, we have strengthened our existing ties and built new relationships with other nonprofits, local businesses, and other stakeholders. We've worked very closely with Pillsbury United Communities on a variety of important issues, including substance abuse among young people, census education, expanding youth programming, and raising awareness of a controversial city development proposal known as Lot A.

2019 Community Participation Program Annual Report 2019 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?

18. MAJOR HIGHLIGHT #1

The first major challenge our neighborhood was facing was the lack of a functional neighborhood organization to administer the CPP and NRP programs in Cedar Riverside. Everyone in the community was impacted as there was no formal entity to speak up for people whose interests Many people in our neighborhood, especially our lower income residents and struggling small businesses serving the East African community, were impacted because they could not access city resources that flow through CPP and NRP programs.

In early 2019, Cedar Riverside NRP reorganized itself to be a more robust and independent neighborhood organization with a new board of directors and an updated set of community priorities. A primary feature of the reorganization was the joining of the CPP and NRP programs in one neighborhood organization for the West Bank. Between 2008 and 2018, those programs had been administered by separate nonprofits.

Our reorganization was driven by the passion, energy, and commitment of a local business woman, Fartune Del, and several Somali mothers, including current Co-Executive Director, Bosteya Jama, who have established an emerging nonprofit known as Somali Mothers of Minnesota. The Somali Mothers and CRCC have worked closely in partnership to move both organizations forward as we build capacity and programs to benefit our neighborhood. This reboot culminated at year's end when the board voted to change the name of the organization to Cedar Riverside Community Council (CRCC) to reflect this new direction.

19. MAJOR HIGHLIGHT #2

Another major challenge facing our neighborhood has been the opioid and substance abuse crisis among youth and young adults. Over a period of several months last spring, summer, and fall, dozens of young people from our Somali and East African community overdosed, or were victims of violence, and many lost their lives.

Tragic side effects of abuse and addiction include drug dealing, auto and property theft, and sex trafficking. Everyone in the community, residents, businesses, and visitors, has been affected in some way.

One early response was that the Somali Mothers conducted nightly safety walks seven days a week, from spring through fall. Their reassuring, consistent presence provided a trustworthy source of support and information for the young people and others they encountered each night. During their walks, the Mothers connected with several hundred young people.

CRCC and the Somali Mothers each applied for and were awarded grant funding from the Minneapolis Health Department's Blueprint Approved Institute, a "youth violence prevention" program. We branded our joint efforts as "encouraging positive outcomes" for young people and pursued a number of strategies that addressed the substance abuse and opioid addiction crisis in Cedar Riverside:

- Conducted community forums that informed young people, parents, and other community members of the dangers of the crisis and how to recognize addictive behavior among their peers and children;
- Focused on reducing the stigma of substance abuse and addiction by discussing them at forums as mental health issues, health problems like any other that can be successfully treated with medicine and behavior therapies;
- Made video recordings of our forums that went viral on YouTube and reached more than 100,00 people world wide;
- Raised awareness of the urgency of the opioid epidemic on the West Bank at community meetings, with elected officials, community partners;
- Helped initiate and support a network for cooperative action among healthcare providers, nonprofit organizations, government agencies and other community partners to share stories of their efforts and information on resources available to address the opioid crisis;
- Successfully lobbied government officials for dozens of Narcan kits to support emergency treatment in our neighborhood, including at Brian Coyle Center.

Results have so far been encouraging. We've seen solid gains in community awareness around this issue. And in spite of a recent tragic overdose death, we've seen a downward trend in overdoses and deaths the past several months. The results prompt us to consider how to continue similar efforts in the present and near future in support of our young people.

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20. Please send us a copy of your **OVERALL ORGANIZATIONAL BUDGET** for your current fiscal year (including City and other restricted or non-restricted funds) to ncr@minneapolismn.gov with the Subject Line: *2019 CPP Annual Report Budget*.

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21. Please Send your **CURRENT BOARD LIST with NAMES and CONTACT INFORMATION** (Name, Street Address, Email, Phone) to ncr@minneapolismn.gov with the Subject Line: *2019 CPP Annual Report Board List*. (This information will not be made public by NCR or shared with others - it is for internal use only.)

22. We'd love to share your highlights with others.
If possible, send digital photos, videos, illustrations to ncr@minneapolismn.gov with the Subject Line: *2019 CPP Annual Report Images*. If you have a large digital file, please make arrangements to mail or deliver a copy directly to your NCR Neighborhood Specialist.

THANK YOU!