
Page 2: Organization Information

Q1

Neighborhood Organization Information

Main Contact Name	Joseph Schifsky
Organization Name	Lowry Hill East Neighborhood Association
Organization Address:	2744 Lyndale Ave S
City	Minneapolis
State	MN
Organization ZIP:	55408
Organization Email Address:	intern@thewedge.org
Organization Phone Number:	612-367-6468

Q2

WEBSITE AND SOCIAL MEDIA

Website	thewedge.org
Facebook	https://www.facebook.com/TheWedgeNeighborhood/
Twitter	https://twitter.com/TheWedgeNhood
Other	https://www.instagram.com/thewedge_neighborhood/

Q3

When and where do you hold your monthly board meetings?

Third Wednesday of every month at 6:30PM at Scout Workshop on 2744 Lyndale Ave S

Q4

Date of Board approval

After your board reviews this **02/20/2024** draft annual report, please provide the approval date or the anticipated approval date if not yet approved. Meeting minutes may be requested by NCR.

Page 3: Updated Documents

Q5

Upload your Certificate of Insurance for liability insurance

USLI%20Management%20Liability%20D%26O%20Policy%202023%20(1).PDF (1.1MB)

Q6

Upload your Certificate of Insurance for Directors and Officers Insurance

USLI%20Management%20Liability%20D%26O%20Policy%202023%20(1).PDF (1.1MB)

Q7

Upload an update board list

LHENA%20Board%20List%20March%202024%20-%20Sheet1.pdf (28.8KB)

Q8

Upload your overall organizational budget

LHENA%20Budget%20Proposal%202024%20-%20Simplified%20Budget%20Proposal%202024.pdf (77.4KB)

Page 4: Staffing

Q9

Indicate the POSITION TITLE of each PAID EMPLOYEE OR CONTRACT STAFF (excluding professional services such as accounting, legal, etc.)

Position Title #1

Executive Director

Position Title #2

Neighborhood Coordinator

Q10

Please indicate below the AVERAGE HOURS PER WEEK of each paid staff (excluding separate professional services such as accounting, legal, etc.)

#1 Hours/Week **40.0**

#2 Hours/Week **13.0**

Q11

Please share the name of your accountant or bookkeeping service provider.

Dennis Fazio

Q12

IF NEEDED, PROVIDE ADDITIONAL INFO BELOW: Note if any positions are seasonal, temporary, etc.

Paul Shanafelt ended his position with LHENA as full-time executive director in February 2023. Joseph Schifsky took on a portion of his duties as a part-time contractor in March 2023.

Page 5: Stakeholder Engagement - Outreach & Engagement

Q13

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 projects

Q14

DOOR-TO-DOOR - with goal of face-to-face engagement (Check all that apply)

None of the above

Q15

Approximately HOW MANY HOUSEHOLDS DID YOU REACH through door-knocking last year?

0

Q16

FLYERING - Dropping literature at doors (Check all that apply)

At least once reaching a portion of the neighborhood,
At least once reaching most or all of the neighborhood,
Other (please specify):
mix of flyers for events and also our annual meeting and election to get more folks involved in local govt

Q17

Approximately HOW MANY HOUSEHOLDS DID YOU REACH through flyering last year?

3300

Q18

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.)

Q19

COMMUNICATION (Fill in all that apply)

Print newsletter (share frequency and distribution size)

N/A

Email newsletter (share frequency and subscriber total)

Weekly to @900 subscribers

Primary social media [facebook, twitter, or other] (share posting frequency and subscriber count)

Roughly twice a month; 1.6k followers on Facebook, 800 followers on Instagram

Q20

OTHER (Check all that apply)

Developed partnerships with cultural, religious, professional or business associations to expand outreach into under-represented populations

Q21

Please provide an ESTIMATE OF VOLUNTEER HOURS PROVIDED to your organization last year. (see Volunteer Hour Tracking Guide for suggested ways to calculate this.)

1529

Q22

HOW DID YOUR ORGANIZATION REACH OUT TO UNDERREPRESENTED GROUPS IN YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD? (Check all that apply)

Worked on an issue of particular interest to an underrepresented group within the neighborhood

,

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 one-time/pop up events in areas of the neighborhood that don't often have neighborhood meetings

,

Met with other agencies in the community that work closely with underrepresented constituencies in the neighborhood

,

Other activities (please describe here)::

Spanish language food share flyers

Q23

WHAT CITY SERVICES AND SUPPORTS DID YOUR ORGANIZATION USE? (Check all that apply)

Did your staff or board members attend any monthly Citywide Neighborhood Meetingd?

,

Did your staff or board participate in any trainings with the City of Minneapolis (board trainings, learning labs, workshops, conference)

,

Did your organization utilize the provided legal services from MissionGuardian.com?

,

Did your organization have City staff attend any of your board or community meetings to present and engage residents?

Q24

Referencing the QUANTITATIVE GOALS section of your EQUITABLE ENGAGEMENT PLAN, share your progress on the goals, sharing both success and lessons learned.

For each demographic—Renters, Seniors, BIPOC, and LEPs—we found ways to meet or exceed goals we had set. For example our food share program had 150 LEPs and 68 seniors active in the program far exceeding the 15 LEPs and 15 seniors we had planned for. Our board/committee leadership is 46% renters which is close to the 50% goal we were hoping for. And the 5 pop-up markets had 43 BIPOC vendors/artists/practitioners/ reps which is way above the 15 we had set our goal to. Additionally the Lhena Volunteer Network (LVN) is great at engaging renters with at least 28 currently renters participating in a survey in February 2024. A lesson learned is to continue supporting neighbor groups who are passionate about serving our community in an equitable manner.

On the other hand, we struggled to achieve other goals such as doing door knocking, signing renters up for organics recycling, and having LEP representation on the board. Other goals are hard to measure due to lack of data such as how many of each demographic are signed for our e-newsletter. A lesson learned is to revisit our EEF goals at board meetings with a regular cadence—perhaps every 3 months—so that we can find ways to gather that data and evaluate how we are doing against our goals.

Q25

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 fortunate to have a strong group of neighbors create the LHENA Volunteer Network known as LVN. They have organized great socials as well as volunteer opportunities which bring the community together. They are independent of the neighborhood association in many ways, but lean on us for support which we are happy to give especially with all the good they provide the community.

Q26

Share a timeline of proposed events and activities for 2024 (Format by quarter or month as you prefer. Example: "Jan-March: -Plan spring outreach event")

- Jan
- Feb - food share
- March - food share
- April - Earth day cleanup, food share
- May - food share, gardening, annual meeting and election
- June - food share
- July - clean up, food share, LynLake Street Art festival
- August - Porchfest, clean up, food share, National Night Out
- September - clean up, food share
- October - clean up, food share, Halloween in the park, neighborhood trick or treating, Open streets??
- November - clean up, volunteer appreciation event
- December

Q27

Share your 2024 Equitable Engagement Qualitative goals(Make your goals SMART: Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Relevant, and Time-Bound)

With a big year of turnover for LHENA, including the neighborhood coordinator position and president position, as well as a number of the executive team, our long-term goals are not as SMART as we'd normally like. That being said, we aim to work with the new neighborhood coordinator and the incoming board in May 2024 on a number of engagement efforts.

LHENA aims to continue engaging with all folks of the Wedge neighborhood through ongoing, weekly newsletter communications highlighting neighborhood events, activities and organizations, as well as social media promotions. Through ongoing bi-weekly Ward 10 meetings, LHENA aims to continue working with its Ward 10 neighbors on collaborative projects. Food Share will continue operating all throughout 2024, serving a wide variety of people from all backgrounds. Before the end of 2024, LHENA aims to have new systems in place to make it easier for parties to contact us with an idea for neighborhood communities, and then work with our board, as well as our access to grants and City resources, to implement them.

Page 7: Neighborhood Day 2024

Q28

On May 11, 2024, we are hosting...

**Board Elections,
Annual Meeting**

Q29

Date, time, and location of your Event(Ex. May 11 from 9am to 7pm at Community Rec Center, 1234 Broadway Ave, continuing through May 21)

TBD, but we are hoping to land on Neighborhood Day (May 11)

Q30

Webpage for your event (Board elections, annual meeting, or other event)

<https://www.thewedge.org/annual.html>

Q31

Date / Time

05/11/2024

Date of your Annual MeetingIf you aren't hosting your board elections on Neighborhood Election Day, please share the exact or approximate date of your upcoming annual meeting.

Q32

Upload an Event imageWe will use this on the citywide map of Neighborhood Day to promote your event information. (See the 2023 map example)

annual%20meeting%20banner.jpeg (73.1KB)

Page 8: Program Highlights

Q33

What category best describes the highlight you'd like to share?

Other (please specify):

food insecurity

Q34

Write 2-3 paragraphs describing a highlight from 2023 related to the topic above.

The LHENA Neighborhood Food Share program expanded significantly this past year to serve more neighbors in need. In 2023, we provided 6,300 people with more than 35,000 pounds of food. Each month we distributed food ten different times with the help of volunteers, partners, donations and grants.

We have three different ways that food is distributed. The first way is through three events that are open to the public. At these events anyone can stop by and pick up two bags of groceries. Food choices include staples and fresh fruits and vegetables. One time per month we also deliver groceries to 25 households. The second way we distribute food is to those who are homeless or struggling with housing. We support a lake street food distribution two times a month and a drop-in center once a month. Lastly, we provide weekly groceries to Peris Hill Housing which offers supportive housing for youngsters aging out of Foster Care.

We are able to provide food due to a grant from Hennepin County, donations from neighbors, rescued food from Loaves & Fishes and a generous discount from the Wedge grocery warehouse. Each month up to 40 volunteers help distribute food. Our partners Nokomis Energy and Springhouse Ministries provide their space for our three events each month. We serve a diverse population (50% are Hispanic) who mostly come from the LHENA, Whittier and South Uptown neighborhoods.

Q35

Attach a photo related to the highlight you shared in the story above.

Food%20Share%20Distribution%20May%202023%202.jpg (715.6KB)

Q36

What category best describes the second highlight you'd like to share? (Optional)

Equitable Engagement,

Other (please specify):

culture

Q37

Write 2-3 paragraphs describing a second highlight from 2023 related to the topic above. (Optional)

Despite being a neighborhood heavily populated with young renters, typical neighborhood events previously drew a similar home owning, family crowd. In 2023 we sought to engage this under-engaged young renter group through a free, lively event that promoted interactions with neighbors and walkability: Uptown Porchfest. This was primarily organized by Wedge residents Amy Goldstein and Lisa Martelly, and LHENA helped with some administrative and marketing support.

Uptown Porchfest featured a variety of bands representing a diversity of genres and backgrounds. It was supported by neighborhood volunteers (mostly from the young renter demographic) and widely attended despite high temperatures and poor air quality. Outreach for the event included typical neighborhood newsletter blurbs and flyering, but also had a strong social media component on Instagram, Facebook, and Reddit.

The event achieved its goal of bringing neighbors out to the streets together, to feel seen and represented by musicians of all types of individualities, and to create a sense of belonging within the community. Thousands of residents were mingling, meeting each other, and enjoying their neighborhood. We hope to expand upon and leverage this event in years to come (including the 2024 year which already has some applicants for porches and musicians) to bring awareness for modes of involvement/support within the neighborhood and city. But even as it stands, this event brought people together and encouraged wandering throughout the neighborhood, both of which are critical to a safe and thriving community.

Fun Instagram reel from the local folks at Call the Shots Production:

<https://www.instagram.com/p/Cw06RWaJ1py/>

Q38

Attach a photo related to the highlight you shared in the story above.

E69A1130%20(1).jpg (2.8MB)
