
Page 2: 2020-21 Community Participation Program Annual Report Organization Information - please confirm

Q1

NEIGHBORHOOD ORGANIZATION

Stevens Square Community Organization

Q2

ORGANIZATIONAL INFORMATION

Neighborhood Organization Contact:

Malakai Greiner (until 04/05) Morgan Stemberger (after 04/05)

Organization Email Address:

**malakai@stevenssquare.org (until 04/05)
morgan@stevenssquare.org (after 04/05)**

Q3

Organization Website and Social Media

Website

<https://www.stevenssquare.org>

Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/stevenssquarecommunityorg>

Twitter

<https://www.twitter.com/stevenssquare>

Other

<https://www.instagram.com/stevenssquarecommunityorg>

Q4

Date / Time

04/04/2022

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.

Page 3: 202-21 Community Participation Program Annual Report Additional Organization Information

Q5

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	Communications & Outreach Manager
Position Title #3	Safety Coordinator
Position Title #4	Greening Coordinator
Position Title #5	Red Hot Art Coordinator

Q6

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	40.0
#3 Hours/Week	40.0
#4 Hours/Week	10.0
#5 Hours/Week	10.0

Q7

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

Greening Coordinator is a seasonal position and Red Hot Art Coordinator is a temporary position

Page 4: 2019 Community Participation Program Annual ReportStakeholder Engagement - Outreach & Engagement

Q8

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

Q9

Respondent skipped this question

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

Q10

Respondent skipped this question

Approximately HOW MANY HOUSEHOLDS DID YOU REACH through door-knocking in 2020-21?(Please provide a cumulative total for both years)

Q11

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

At least once reaching a portion of the neighborhood,
Carried out primarily to inform and increase membership and participation

Q12

Approximately HOW MANY HOUSEHOLDS DID YOU REACH through flyering in 2020-21?(Please provide a cumulative total for both years)

500

Q13

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.)

Q14

COMMUNICATION (Fill in all that apply)

Number of subscribers to your email list

797

Number of followers on your primary social media channel (facebook, twitter, or other)

Instagram - 908 / Facebook - 1,325 / Twitter - 112

Q15

OTHER (Check all that apply)

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

Q16

How did your organization adapt to issues surrounding COVID19 and civil unrest? (Check all that apply)

Staff working from home,

Online meetings/events,

Held events/meetings in person outside with social distancing

,

Held events/meetings in person inside with social distancing

,

Other activities (please describe here)::

Reduced event sizes - changed the structure of our larger festival to be smaller and more frequent pop up events.

Q17

How did you connect with your community about important information? (Check all that apply)

Phone,

Email blast,

Flyer,

Social media posts/campaigns,

Special page on website

Q18

What issues affected your community? (Check all that apply)

Community members needing PPE,

Businesses damaged/destroyed,

Food insecurity,

Housing insecurity,

Increased crime,

Other (please list)::

Lack of vaccination access

Q19

Did your organization create initiatives and projects or share information from/with other organizations that were developed in response to: (Check all that apply)

COVID-19,

Food insecurity,

Mutual aid networks,

Solidarity Gatherings

Q20

PLEASE SHARE ONE STORY ABOUT A PROJECT OR INITIATIVE YOUR ORGANIZATION CREATED OR SUPPORTED IN RESPONSE TO THE VARIOUS CRISES OF 2020-21:

In 2021, the former chairman of SSCO's Board of Directors, Mark Ware, proposed "Community Unity Day" - an event proposed out of a desire to create a dedicated public space for community healing and relationship building after a year of isolation and in the wake of the trial of Derek Chauvin. Residents gathered in Stevens Square Park, and spent some time getting to know each other while painting signs of solidarity. Residents then walked the neighborhood, expressing messages like "We care, Stevens Square" "What do we want? Community unity!" and calls for housing, racial, and economic justice. More neighbors joined during the walk - some joined in chants from windows, balconies, and rooftops, and from behind fences.

Q21

Please provide an ESTIMATE OF VOLUNTEER HOURS PROVIDED to your organization in 2020-21. (see Volunteer Hour Tracking Guide for suggested ways to calculate this. Please provide a cumulative total for both years)

5000

Q22

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
- ☐
- ☒ Targeted outreach in apartment buildings or blocks to reach renters
- ☐
- ☒ Targeted tabling at other events or locations (such as farmers markets, cultural events, etc.)
- ☐
- ☒ Included an Americans with Disabilities Act statement on meeting and event notices
- ☐
- ☒ Met with other agencies in the community that work closely with under-represented constituencies in the neighborhood

Q23

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?

Respondent skipped this question

Q24

MAJOR HIGHLIGHT

What was the issue or opportunity the neighborhood was facing?

The fatigue resulting from economic and political distress, fear for the health of our local and global communities, and our constant unheard calls for racial justice left residents of our neighborhood overwhelmed (financially, emotionally, physically, spiritually), with little to no means for collectively processing this exhaustion.

Who was impacted?

34% of SS-LH residents live under the poverty line, the vast majority are renters (most of which are rent-burdened), and there is a high concentration of homes for individuals with disabilities, people transitioning out of homelessness, and/or those in recovery from drug/alcohol addiction. The neighborhood is one of the most ethnically diverse in Minneapolis and is well known for its high LGBTQ population.

What steps did you take to address the issue or opportunity?

Our annual arts programming, Red Hot Art (RHA), was adapted to address the urgency of our community's changing needs. From 2001 to 2019, RHA was a weekend-long arts festival with artist vendors and musical performances during which thousands of people engaged with artists and participated in hands-on art events. In 2020, SSCO reinvented our arts programming to prioritize community health and safety. RHA expanded from 1 weekend into months of programming, providing space for shared healing and connection in a time of isolation and uncertainty. We saw this forced reboot as an opportunity to ensure our programs addressed racial and access-based inequities, and elevated underrepresented voices. RHA demonstrates this commitment to equity and inclusion by accepting artists at any level to our vendor fair on a 1st-come-1st-served basis; eliminating all costs for participation in RHA; adding artist stipends; providing non-English language-specific programming; ensuring there is ample opportunity to participate virtually; making sure our events are as physically accessible as possible; giving priority to BIPOC, LGBTQ+, and Disabled artists who apply to participate in events; and providing ASL interpretation at events. Our goal was to not just represent the neighborhood by its percentages, but to elevate the voices of underrepresented and marginalized populations in the way we operate and the programming we offer.

What was the outcome?

2020 was an experiment in providing safe and accessible arts programming amidst a global pandemic and local unrest. In 2021 we learned from experience and feedback, and brought back what was most successful from that experiment: the ability to appreciate and enjoy the work of local artists, to safely spend time and work collaboratively with community, to directly support and elevate the voices of underrepresented artists, and to expand programming so more participants can share stories, express joy, and build unity & solidarity with one another.

Q25

We'd love to share your highlights with others. If possible, upload a digital photo, video, or illustration with the link below, or send any of these files to ncr@minneapolis.gov with the Subject Line: 2020-21 CPP Annual Report Images. If you have a large digital file with multiple images, please make arrangements to mail or deliver a copy directly to your NCR Neighborhood Specialist.

afoutayi_jammin_2.jpg (819.6KB)
