

**Neighborhood Planning
for Community
Revitalization**

**Cedar Riverside
NRP Directory
1998**

A CONSORTIUM PROJECT OF: Augsburg College; College of St. Catherine; Hamline University; Higher Education Consortium for Urban Affairs; Macalester College; Metropolitan State University; Minneapolis Community College; Minneapolis Neighborhood Revitalization Program; University of Minnesota (Center for Urban and Regional Affairs; Children, Youth and Family Consortium; Minnesota Extension Service); University of St. Thomas; and Minneapolis community and neighborhood representatives.

CURA RESOURCE COLLECTION

**Center for Urban and Regional Affairs
University of Minnesota
330 Humphrey Center**

**Cedar Riverside
NRP Directory
1998**

Prepared by
Devon Idstrom
For the Cedar Riverside Neighborhood Revitalization
Program
February 1998

*This report [NPCR 1085] is also available at the following internet
address: <http://freenet.msp.mn.us/org/npcr>*

CURA RESOURCE COLLECTION

Center for Urban and Regional Affairs
University of Minnesota
300 University Center

"The real question we should be asking ourselves, then, is not whether planning is being done but rather whether we are a part of it and are sure that it is the most desirable and the best planning that can be done."

-- Herbert H. Smith

Acknowledgments

November 1997

Neighborhood Planning for Community Revitalization

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330 HHH Center
301 19th Avenue South
Minneapolis, MN 55455

Phone (612) 625.1020
Email npcr@freenet.msp.mn.us

Many people contributed time, energy, and advice to this project. First of all, thanks to everyone listed in the directory for taking the time sit down and explain how you serve people on the West Bank. This finished product is for you and my hope is that it will not only aide the NRP Steering Committee, but the larger community as well. Joe Horan, who took time every week to assist with the project, give thoughtful advice, and generally made sure things were on track, deserves a special thank you. In addition I extend my appreciation to everyone on the start-up committee: Linda Morey, Paul Rogers, Hansel Hall, Charles Viebahn and Peter Goelzer. I would also like to recognize Marcy Tollefson, David Lanegran, Thora Cartlidge, Donna Weispfenning, Kris Nelson and CURA staff.

Devon Idstrom
February 1998

Suggestions to aide inclusion in the NRP process:

- Include food in NRP meetings and activities
- Include ethnic food and cultural activities in the NRP process
- Hold focus sessions on specific topics that may be of interest to people
- Go door-to-door
- Advertise discussion groups
- Speak with key neighborhood leaders
- Collect data from the Minneapolis Planning Department, State Health Department, and the Office of Rural Health and Primary Care
- Translate written materials, but also have someone available to do verbal translations and classifications
- Meet with core leaders from different ethnic groups and involve them
- Use the Confederation of the Somali Community in MN
- Meet with people on their own turf instead of always asking them to come to your functions. Go to them! Some important community gathering places include: Currie Park at night, the Plaza, Chili Time, and Starbucks
- Provide daycare at NRP functions
- Make everyone feel welcome at neighborhood meetings
- The steering committee should represent the ethnicities that comprise this neighborhood
- Hire someone from a diverse culture to do the organizing in Cedar Riverside
- Coyle, RPTA, People's Center, and PAC will be great resources
- Seek out the leadership in the informal sector
- Work with existing ethnic organizations in the neighborhood
- Decide on NRP meeting times that are convenient
- Find ways to include Somali women in the process
- Include a summary of the latest NRP developments in a neighborhood newsletter, like the one issued by CRBA
- The structure of the process must accommodate the culture of those involved in the process
- Beware of token representation
- What about trying a debate format?
- Trust will be a key component in the process, take time to build it
- Who will be responsible for engaging/orienting cultural leaders?
- We need to look at what resources this neighborhood already possesses

- Use the Korean Service Center to translate newsletter and flyers in Korean
- Remember, the diversity of the neighborhood is an asset
- Be aware that there are significant numbers of Somali with strong Muslim beliefs, work with the Confederation of the Somali Community in MN to reach them
- A tremendous effort will need to be made to reach the non-English speaking population
- Learning to listen will be vital
- Reach out to other members of the community; this may mean making connections with people whom many have not had any prior contact
- Workshops may be needed to help people recognize and deal with some sensitive diversity awareness issues
- The use of interpreters will sometimes hinder trust-building between English and non-English speakers
- Sensitivity will play an important role in the process
- Give people ample opportunities to participate, so they can help in a way that is most meaningful to them (and fits their schedule)
- The process cannot be controlled by a single power structure in the neighborhood
- Communication sent out by NRP should clearly communicate what the goals and expectations are for residents in Cedar Riverside
- Explain terms like PAC, CRBA, MCDA, NRP to people. Recognize that the term meeting may mean different things in different cultures
- Hold social events and gatherings to spark interest
- Use existing organizations in the neighborhood that people trust to hold meetings
- Give people plenty of opportunities to speak and ask questions
- When canvassing Riverside Plaza, break down the complex by individual buildings because people can relate to whichever building they live in
- Work in conjunction with the CDC and co-op boards (which have an existing democratic structure)
- Understand that the NRP process will take lots of energy and hard work
- Contact the various ethnic groups in Riverside Plaza through the resource center
- Social service agencies need to be responsible for getting the word out and encouraging people to participate
- Have translation available at neighborhood meetings
- Use census data and collect more as needed
- Have tabling available at neighborhood events (like Cedarfest)
- Utilize local papers, KFAI
- Make the NRP visible to the neighborhood (flyers, radio and TV announcements)

- Publicize meetings and have a phone number people can call to get information about what will be discussed at the meeting
- Focus on getting people of color on the steering committee
- What about offering people money to sit on the committee?
- Use incentive programs to get people involved
- Be aware of religious holidays
- Use email

Augsburg College

Community Service Learning: Mary True
Box 108
2211 Riverside Avenue
Minneapolis, MN 55454

Phone (612) 330.1775
Fax (612) 330.1649
Email true@augzburg.edu

Mission

Augsburg's motto is "Education for Service". The college views its mission as educating future leaders of service to the world. The community service learning program at Augsburg encourages and supports student and staff participation in the community.

Governance

Augsburg is a private liberal arts college that offers undergraduate and graduate degrees.

Available Services

The community service learning program at Augsburg offers numerous opportunities for students to get involved with the larger community. The college sends about 30 students a semester to the Cedar Riverside Community School. These students either help out with the music program or tutor. In addition, there is an Augsburg faculty member (in the education department) who will teach at the school on a part-time basis. Augsburg students can also be found on Wednesday nights at St. Martin's Table serving dinner and providing childcare for families. Augsburg also provides food once a month for the dinner. The college, as part of its orientation sessions for incoming first year students, has city service projects that students must participate in. Augsburg also has a strong partnership with the Coyle Center. Work study students at Augsburg also have an opportunity to work off-campus at one of the local organizations in the community. The college also has a partnership with the Americorp program. Mary True, from the college, sits on the Council of Human Service Providers and attends monthly meetings, and other staff from Augsburg sit on the People's Center Board and the PAC. In addition, the college often host festival's for the neighborhood, like a Halloween party for children, a Christmas dinner for families, and a May Day festival.

Target Audience

Children often times benefit from programs offered through Augsburg, as well as the social service organizations in general.

Communication

The community service office serves as a liaison to the social service organizations in the community. Communication with students is coordinated through this office. Late August and early September are crucial times for getting student involvement in community organizations.

Other Neighborhood Information Sources

Students receive much of their information from the local businesses like North Country, No Frills, the various restaurants, Smiley's Clinic (which is Augsburg's health service), Target, Rainbow, Cub, St. Martin's, Davanni's, Starbuck's, and the community service office at the college.

Augsburg College

Community Service Learning: Mary True
Box 108
2211 Riverside Avenue
Minneapolis, MN 55454

Phone (612) 330.1775
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Possible NRP Participation

Augsburg would have resources like, faculty with areas of expertise, to offer to the NRP. The college also has students who are looking for internships and work study jobs to offer to the community. Contact should be made with Mary True or Gary Hesserr (Urban Studies Program). Both of these people may also have some good insights for students who might like to sit on the Steering Committee.

Brian Coyle Community Center

Director: Bob Frawley
420 15th Avenue South
Minneapolis, MN 55454

Phone (612) 338.5282
Fax (612) 338.8421

Mission

The two primary goals of the center are to help youth of color access post-secondary educational institutions and assist adults to obtain living wage jobs. The center provides a continuum of programs, services and activities to accomplish these goals.

Governance

The umbrella organization for the Coyle Center is Pillsbury Neighborhood Services, which has eight centers, four daycare facilities and over 200 employees throughout Minneapolis.

Available Services

Youth

- Afterschool and summer programs (20 athletic teams, academic, arts, recreational, and leadership)
- FANS project (long-term project offering college scholarships to youth)
- Youth Employment Services (one of four youth employment service providers in the city)
- Community Immersion (a camping program serving all of Minneapolis)
- Project Turnaround (a special project serving 22 ten to thirteen year-old juvenile offenders)
- AmeriCorps (a national service program; Coyle is one of eight centers for the program in the state of MN)
- Post-secondary services (the Educational Opportunity Center has office hours to help package financial deals for post-secondary education)

Adults

- an Emergency Foodshelf network; bi-monthly produce distributions; a Fare For All Program and a weekly grocery bus shuttle service
- an ESL and citizenship class serving 110-120 students per term (3 terms annually)
- employment and training programs/services including: Refugee Vocational Counseling and STRIDE (soon to be MFIP); one of eight NET Job Banks in the city
- an African Women's advocacy program
- a volunteer program
- Confederation of the Somali Community in MN (serves youth also)
- legal advice clinic
- tax assistance program
- a computer lab (for both adults and youth)

Communication

People are drawn to the center for recreation and services. The center hosts 40-50 large community events annually. The staff at the center speak six languages and reflect the people being served by the center (eg. 80% + staff of color).

Cedarfest, Inc.

Contact: Barb Lyke
325 Cedar Avenue South
Minneapolis, MN 55454

Phone (612) 339.5767
Fax (612) 339.2951

Mission

The mission of Cedarfest Incorporated is to present to the community at large a joyous music and arts festival celebrating a heterogeneous mix of ethnicities, varieties and styles of music appealing to all ages from children to seniors. The festival would be augmented by participation from the residential, business, and communal organizations.

Governance

Cedarfest, Inc. also has a Board of Directors (mostly made up from the business community). There is also a Steering Committee made up of volunteers who actually make decisions about Cedarfest and report back to the Board. The Steering Committee is made up of 20 members (although this number is not set, as many people can join as want to). The Committee starts meeting in March and meetings become more and more frequent as it gets closer to August.

Available Services

Cedarfest is a neighborhood wide festival with a parade, food vendors, music stages, and various other forms of entertainment. The event is held on the third Sunday in August.

Target Audience

Everyone in the neighborhood, as well as the businesses benefit from the event. In addition, Cedarfest, Inc. is a non-profit organization whose goal is to give extra funds made through Cedarfest back to the community. In the past CRBA, the People's Center, Brian Coyle Community Center, and the West Bank C.O.P. shop have benefited.

Communication

People usually come to Barb Lyke with ideas and suggestions for Cedarfest since she's been involved since 1980. We use flyers, the CRBA newsletter, KFAI-FM, Cities '97, KQRS, and the EDGE to advertise.

Other Neighborhood Information Sources

Brian Coyle Community Center, People's Center, CRBA's newsletter, and Riverside Plaza are all places people receive information from.

Possible NRP Participation

Cedarfest staff really don't see the organization becoming specifically involved with the NRP, although the organization recognizes that contribution to the neighborhood will benefit the future of Cedarfest.

Cedar Riverside Business Association

Chair: Peter Goelzer
CRBA
1801 Riverside Avenue
Minneapolis, MN 55454

Phone (612) 794.5190

Mission

CRBA's purpose is to provide a voice for the business community in helping to determine neighborhood affairs. CRBA is interested in promoting interests which will make Cedar Riverside a desirable place to live, work, shop, and do business.

Governance

There are 23 delegates to CRBA. These delegates are elected by the business community and represent approximately 120 businesses. There are 12 delegates for the traditional businesses in Cedar Riverside, one delegate from Augsburg, one from Fairview Riverside Hospital, one from the University of MN, three delegates who live in the business community, one delegate from the non-secular community, two delegates representing property owners, one cultural delegate, and one seat is reserved for the West Bank CDC. CRBA meets the third Thursday of every month at 4 pm at the Holiday Inn.

Available Services

CRBA's main role in the neighborhood is to review anything that would require city approval, like liquor licenses, bus stops, and parking concerns. CRBA manages the three main parking lots in the neighborhood. CRBA is also responsible for issuing a monthly newsletter. CRBA maintains contact with city council, and is willing to work with the city and property owners to alleviate issues in building with problems. The organization also offers a small grant program for businesses to improve their storefronts. Once a year the Brian Coyle Community Center and CRBA collaborate to sponsor Cleansweep to remove trash and graffiti from the neighborhood in the early spring.

Target Audience

All businesses in the area are eligible for participation in CRBA.

Communication

The CRBA newsletter is finalized two weeks prior to the monthly meeting (third Thursday of every month), and it is mailed the Thursday before the monthly meeting. If anything immediately comes up, and can still be included in the newsletter up to eight days prior to the monthly meeting. CRBA's monthly mailing list is somewhere between 180-200 people and the publication is mailed to every business in Cedar Riverside, the PAC, city council officials, and any resident who asks to be receive a copy.

Other Neighborhood Information Sources

Other information comes from the Seward Profile, which has a section devoted to the neighborhood. The Star Tribune is another source of information.

Possible NRP Participation

CRBA is willing to help with the dissemination of information. CRBA also will encourage as many businesses in the community to participate in the NRP process as possible. Meeting space could be arranged through CRBA if community center space is unavailable.

Cedar Riverside Community School

Contact: Denise Mallory-Ellis
1610 South Sixth Street #100
Minneapolis, MN 55454

Phone (612) 339.5767
Fax (612) 339.2951

Mission

Cedar Riverside Community School is committed to providing its students with an educational experience that fosters life-long learning that is of value to the community.

Governance

Available Services

CRCS is a K-12 school with small, multi-age classrooms.

Target Audience

The student body represents the diverse population surrounding the school; 60 percent of the students live in Riverside Plaza and the surrounding area, the other 40 percent live in North and South Minneapolis. Out of 111 students currently enrolled, 37 students have a first language other than English. CRCS has ESL services that address the needs of the Hmong, Somali, and Vietnamese students.

Communication

CRCS encourages parental and community involvement. Because of the proximity of the school, parents living in Riverside Plaza can drop off their children in the morning and pick them up at the end of the school day. This easy access leads parents to form closer relationships with teachers and school staff. Community involvement includes a partnership with Augsburg College where college students get hands-on experience working with youth and CRCS gets wonderful, energetic volunteers. The Brian Coyle Community Center provides physical education facilities and Fairview University Medical Center has begun to do health screenings for students at CRCS.

Other Neighborhood Information Sources

Possible NRP Participation

Denise Mallory-Ellis is the Community and Parent Liason. She will coordinate the role of CRCS in the NRP process.

Cedar Riverside Neighborhood Association

Contact: David Markle
504 Cedar Avenue
Minneapolis, MN 55454

Mission

CRNA's basic purpose is to represent the Cedar Riverside neighborhood to the city of Minneapolis, MCDA (Minneapolis Community Development Agency), and other appropriate governmental bodies.

Governance

CRNA has a board of directors. The board meets every two months or more frequently if deemed appropriate.

Available Services

CRNA formed as another option for those interested in community affairs. The Minneapolis Community Development Agency officially contracts with the Cedar Riverside Project Area Committee (PAC), which basically means that the PAC is recognized as the "official" neighborhood organization. CRNA formed to contest this recognition, and as a result a year long mediation process between the PAC, CRNA, and the MCDA was undertaken. This mediation process led to the formation of the Start-up Committee for the NRP. One of CRNA's concerns was the fact that the PAC had delayed the application for NRP funding.

Target Audience

Neighborhood residents

Communication

CRNA uses press releases, flyers, and phone calls to get in touch with members and others.

Other Neighborhood Information Sources

CRNA believes that the neighborhood desperately needs unbiased information about events and happenings in the community.

Possible NRP Participation

CRNA will make its presence felt in the NRP process by helping to make sure that matters are handled in an honest and open fashion.

Cedar Riverside People's Center

Executive Director: Sandy Bloom
2000 5th Street
Minneapolis, MN 55454

Phone (612) 332.4973
Fax (612) 371.0289

Mission

Given that the health of an individual or community includes physical, social-emotional, spiritual, economic and political factors, the purpose of the Cedar Riverside People's Center is to promote a high level of health by providing leadership, services, facilities for services, and resources. The Cedar Riverside People's Center directs services primarily to the needs of the Cedar Riverside community, low-income people, and the disenfranchised.

Governance

Available Services

The People's Center has four distinct programs: the medical clinic, the vet clinic, Way to Grow, and the senior program.

Target Audience

The senior program helps out about 400 different individuals, the clinic 3200, the vet clinic 3000, and Way to Grow made 892 home visits last year. Seniors, families with young children, the immigrant population, all people with low-incomes and without access to quality health care, people with pets, and anybody who needs health care in general benefit from the People's Center. The center is directed toward families on the West Bank and also toward the low-income, disenfranchised, and immigrant populations. We have a culturally sensitive staff .

Communication

The People's Center does not have a newsletter, although we have publicized in the Seward Profile. We post flyers at St. Martin's Table, along Cedar Avenue, in the co-ops, and in the drugstore. We also have a delegate who attends the West Bank Human Service Providers monthly meeting, and CRBA's monthly meeting as well.

Other Neighborhood Information Sources

People get information from the Seward Profile, the monthly newsletter that the Seward Towers prints, and the Minnehaha Center for Mentally Ill newsletter.

Possible NRP Participation

The staff at the People's Center have a very good understanding of the circumstances of the elderly in Cedar Riverside. The diverse staff at the center is also helpful in that the center is able to respond with expertise in regard to cultural issues. Simply the longevity of the center also creates a sense of stability for the neighborhood and the people who use the center. It is a trusted organization on the West Bank. The building manager, Tim Strick, is very interested in being involved. Sandy Bloom will also be involved.

Cedar Riverside People's Center Medical Clinic

Executive Director: Lynn Aagard
2000 South 5th Street
Minneapolis, MN 55454

Phone (612) 332.4973
Fax (612) 371.0289
Email medcrpc@usinternet

Mission

Given that the health of an individual or community includes physical, social-emotional, spiritual, economic and political factors, the purpose of the Cedar Riverside People's Center is to promote a high level of health by providing leadership, services, facilities for services, and resources. The Cedar Riverside People's Center directs services primarily to the needs of the Cedar Riverside community, low-income people, and the disenfranchised.

Governance

Available Services

This clinic provides the neighborhood with primary care. This includes preventative medicine for men, women, and children, acute illness care, and prenatal care as well.

Target Audience

Many of the immigrants in the neighborhood use the clinic. Really the clinic is open for anyone in the neighborhood to use. The clinic really benefits uninsured and low-income people because of the sliding fee scale. The clinic understands some of the issues which pertain to the immigrant groups in the neighborhood, like how birth control issues effect the Somalian and Ethiopian communities, and therefore provides them with a safe and caring place to go.

Communication

Mainly communication is done by word of mouth. The clinic has tried a limited amount of advertising, but the effectiveness of that is skeptical at best. The medical clinic also tries to participate in health fairs and various events within the community, as well as working in conjunction with other social service agencies in Cedar Riverside like the Coyle center, Children's Home Society, and participating in Cedarfest.

Other Neighborhood Information Sources

People certainly get information from the Coyle Center along with Riverside Plaza. Much of the information people receive about various issues in the neighborhood is probably through word of mouth. The neighborhood health care network is another agency that oversees all neighborhood clinics. Their hotline is 489.CARE, and they have referred people to the People's Center medical clinic.

Possible NRP Participation

People at the medical clinic certainly know a lot about health care issues, especially about how they effect the various immigrant populations. It seems a given that health care is an issue that is very important to people in this neighborhood, and that a health care provider be included on the steering committee (or at least play an integral role in the process). The People's Center Medical Clinic feels it knows this neighborhood and the issues pertaining to health care.

* *This document was not reviewed by the organization before publication*

Cedar Riverside People's Center Veterinary Clinic

Clinic Director: Michele Fluegel
2000 5th Street
Minneapolis, MN 55454

Phone (612) 305.1286
Fax (612) 371.0289

Mission

Given that the health of an individual or community includes physical, social-emotional, spiritual, economic and political factors, the purpose of the Cedar Riverside People's Center is to promote a high level of health by providing leadership, services, facilities for services, and resources. The Cedar Riverside People's Center directs services primarily to the needs of the Cedar Riverside community, low-income people and the disenfranchised.

Governance

The clinic has a full-time executive director and a board of directors that meets once a month. Each program has a coordinator/manager.

Available Services

The organization provides all sorts of veterinary services including wellness exams, illness exams, vaccinations, in house lab work, cat neutering. The clinic does not have X-ray or surgical facilities, although within one year the clinic will undergo renovations which will incorporate surgery facilities.

Target Audience

Mainly low-income people and students use the clinic. Half of people using the clinic have incomes below \$7,000 a year, and this statistic includes students. Their membership base has changed because before the clinic expanded its space clients had to be from the neighborhood. With the expanded space that restriction was removed. Consequently, more people from outside the neighborhood and also more youth are using the clinic. The vet clinic utilizes many volunteers. In 1996 there were 24 volunteer doctors who gave time to the clinic and 65 students.

Communication

Almost all advertising is done by word of mouth. The clinic does have a small ad in the yellow pages. NRP is welcome to display literature on clinic bulletin boards.

Other Neighborhood Information Sources

People's Center Medical Clinic, North Country Co-op, The Riv (before it closed), Hard Times (especially for the homeless youth population in the summer).

Possible NRP Participation

The clinic is unsure of the actual role they can play, although they would like to see other organizations in the neighborhood working together. This, at the present time, seems very absent from the neighborhood. Much more cooperation could be achieved in this community. Any of the systems that the clinic has developed may be used by NRP and they are also open to helping the Steering Committee as volunteers and helpers for any of their work.

Cedar Riverside Project Area Committee (CRPAC)

Contact: Lorna Rubenstein
1808 Riverside Avenue, Second Floor
Minneapolis, MN 55454

Phone (612) 338.6375
Fax (612) 673.0379

* Effective the October 1998 annual meeting, the CRPAC Board has unanimously decided to change the name to the "West Bank Community Coalition (WBCC)"

Mission

The CRPAC/WBCC is organized exclusively for charitable and educational purposes, other community wide concerns, and to ensure that the community (through CRPAC/WBCC) has clear and direct access to decision-making in all stages of the urban renewal and development process.

Governance

The CRPAC/WBCC is governed by a Board of 39 elected delegate directors, comprised of resident delegates from the four districts within the Cedar Riverside area, the business community, social and human service organizations, dormitory students, major private and public institutions, home owners, and small property owners. The CRPAC/WBCC meets monthly on the fourth Wednesday at 7 PM at the Coyle Center. The executive committee meets monthly on the third Wednesday at 7 PM, usually at the Coyle Center also.

Available Services

As part of its long-standing commitment to citizen participation the CRPAC/WBCC has been the organization which has organized people to address issues of importance and concern to the community. This is accomplished by providing times, places, information, connections, and organizing efforts all aimed at bettering the entire community through the democratic process of shared decision making.

Target Audience

The CRPAC/WBCC represents a large and diverse community, within the geographic boundaries of Cedar Riverside, including residents of many colors and nationalities. The structure of the organization provides opportunities and eligibility to all identifiable groups for representation: residents of Riverside Plaza, the public housing complexes, Seven Corners, the "old neighborhood" (Cedar East and Riverside Park), home owners, businesses, social service and religious organizations, small property owners, institutions (Augsburg, the U of M, and Fariview University Medical Center). The only eligibility requirements are that a person must live in the neighborhood or be a member of one of the above groups.

Cedar Riverside Project Area Committee (CRPAC)

Contact: Lorna Rubenstein
1808 Riverside Avenue, Second Floor
Minneapolis, MN 55454

Phone (612) 338.6375
Fax (612) 673.0379

Communication

The organization contacts the community through a variety of ways. CRPAC/WBCC has offered organizational sponsored committees to work on neighborhood wide issues. Meetings have been held for affected area residents on specific issues, for example. For larger issues, door-to-door flyers (in several languages) have been distributed. The district representatives are often contacted via the telephone and asked to inform neighbors of upcoming meetings and to hold special meetings of their own to discuss the issue. Notice of extremely important meetings and events are published in the *Seward Profile*. Due to drastic funding cuts the CRPAC/WBCC budget can no longer publish its own newsletter, *Snooze News*. Letters are also used as vehicles of communication and phone calling as well to contact people in the business and institutional community.

Other Neighborhood Information Sources

To name a few, CRPAC/WBCC delegates get information from the Coyle Center, the Cedar Riverside Community School, CRBA's newsletter, RPTA, public high-rise newsletters, the MCDA, the West Bank Community Development Corp., the Co-op Summit groups, the U of M, and the district organizations themselves.

Possible NRP Participation

The CRPAC/WBCC has a long history of democratic citizen participation. There are numerous people living and working in the neighborhood who have a history of leadership and commitment. People here are knowledgeable about processes and procedures. Because of CRPAC/WBCC's past experience with the citizen participation part of the NRP, the CRPAC/WBCC can help aide people in reaching their goals more quickly and effectively.

Central Village-- The Way To Grow

Executive Director: Tom Fitzpatrick
c/o Cedar Riverside People's Center
2000 South 5th Street
Minneapolis, MN 55454

Phone (612) 305.1284
Fax (612) 371.0289

Mission

Central Village-- The Way To Grow is a community-based collaboration that supports and empowers families in our diverse neighborhoods to promote the healthy development of young children.

Governance

The People's Center became the lead agency for Way to Grow in the Spring of 1995. There are eight other Way to Grow offices in other Minneapolis neighborhoods and these are located where they are to correspond roughly with panning districts.

Available Services

Way to Grow does home visiting and through these home visits, tries to link people to other social service agencies and informal resources. We refer people to agencies and organizations that will help people meet their needs. We also provide some basic food, clothing and shelter for those who need it. Way to Grow is specifically designed as a school readiness program that works with families with children up to age six. Way to Grow also co-sponsors events in the neighborhood. Some of their events in the past year included: a housing fair at the Brian Coyle Center, a children's multi-cultural festival, an EFCE person for 9 hours/wk at Children's Home Society, access for kids to the pool at Fairview University Hospital twice a year, a Cedarfest participant, participation in a conference at Augsburg on children and the law, and a holiday party for kids at Augsburg.

Target Audience

The home visiting component of Way to Grow reaches 35 families in the Cedar Riverside area. With these 35 families there are ongoing relationships maintained. Many more families in addition to these 35 participate in events. Between eight and ten families participate in ECFE. Approximately 50-60% of the 35 families with whom Way to Grow has developed an ongoing relationship are non-English speakers.

Communication

The initial contact is usually made because people have been referred to us from another social service agency. Once contact is established, we mostly use the phone if families have one (and most do). An essential part of our program is home visiting, often time it can be very helpful to meet people on their own turf. We also hold classes, sponsor events, and different activities to build trust and the comfort level of people so that they will be comfortable with home visits.

Central Village-- The Way To Grow

Executive Director: Tom Fitzpatrick
c/o Cedar Riverside People's Center
2000 South 5th Street
Minneapolis, MN 55454

Phone (612) 305.1284
Fax (612) 371.0289

Other Neighborhood Information Sources

Certainly the Brian Coyle Center, Children's Home Society, the Charter School, RPTA, the Confederation of Somali Community in MN, the Oromo Community Center, and also from the churches. There are two Ethiopian churches that people seem to go to a lot. One is an Orthodox church on 28th St. and 13th Ave, and the other is a Born Again church on 26th and Bloomington. There is also a Vietnamese Alliance Church and probably also Somali places of worship. The People's Center, St. Martin's, Trinity Lutheran, Fairview Medical Center, Healthpartners, the U of M, also are places of information. Some more informal networks include: Mimi's African Gallery, Enuye (a person who used to run the Merkato store on Cedar Ave.), Chili Time, Odaa (for Oromo), World Beat Video, and KFAI. Some organizations outside the neighborhood that provide information to people in Cedar Riverside include: the welfare agency in the government center, city hall, HCMC, CUHCC, Smiley's Clinic, and Person to Person. Some schools that kids from the neighborhood attend include Roosevelt, Benjamin Banneker in South Minneapolis, and the Cedar Riverside Community School.

Possible NRP Participation

Way to Grow would like to be a voice for the needs of families with young children. We serve a variety of families and know pretty well what these kids could benefit from. It is very important that someone who works with young kids be represented on the Steering Committee.

Children's Home Society

Center Director: Lynn Heibel
Cedar Riverside Child Care Center
1525 South 4th Street
Minneapolis, MN 55454

Phone (612) 338.2066
Fax (612) 338.8346

Mission

The purpose is to offer safe and nurturing experiences for kids-- and to be a leader in the field of early childhood.

Governance

Children's Home has 18 centers throughout Minnesota providing services for crisis nurseries, adoption, childcare, and child abuse prevention.

Available Services

Children's Home Society provides childcare for neighborhood families. We also provide family services for the families of children who use our center. Examples of this might include: clothing, one on one hand holding to help get families connected with the services they need such as medical services or parent education classes. Children's Home also offers a summer youth program with structured activities to promote growth and development for teens. Regular childcare is for kids aged 6 weeks through 10.

Target Audience

The childcare center is licensed for 95 children six weeks to 10 years old. The summer program, called West Bank Youth Group, offers space to an additional 40 youth 10 to 15 years old.. These 40 kids have gone through the regular daycare program when they were younger. West Bank Youth Group includes an internship program connecting participants with community work sites. The staff who lives in the neighborhood also benefits because the organization works hard to employ neighborhood people. Other organizations also benefit because Children's Home often times shares services with Coyle and the People's Center (an example of this might be to help a family find health services). The organization also works closely with the community school to provide childcare to students who are parents, offer internships to students interested in child development, and to share staff.

Communication

Children's Home Society often times gets in touch with folks through word of mouth. Referrals are sometimes made to Children's Home by STRIDE (a parent training program), and also through the RPTA newsletter. Posters are also displayed around the neighborhood.

Other Neighborhood Information Sources

Other places for information include: the Coyle Community Center, HCMC, Way to Grow, the Somali Confederation, the U of M (for education and training programs), the People's Center, RPTA, and word of mouth-- parents have a strong network among themselves, especially in some of the more ethnic communities.

Possible NRP Participation

Children's Home Society has a pretty truthful feel for things that are happening in the Cedar Riverside community. The organization also has a trusting relationship with parents-- they really have the ability to know how parents feel about things. Children's Home might be a good vehicle that could be used to dispense information.

Community-University Health Care Clinic/Variety Children's Clinic (CUHCC)

Executive Director: Amos S. Deinard, M.D., M..P.H.
2001 Bloomington Avenue
Minneapolis, MN 55404-3089

Clinic Phone (612) 627.4774
Dr. Deinard (612) 627.6888 x212
Fax (612) 627.4205

Mission

The clinic was purposefully placed in 1996 in the Phillips neighborhood by the University of Minnesota to serve the health needs of low-income people and promote continuity and comprehensive care of patients.

Governance

CUHCC was started in 1966 by the University of Minnesota upon the communities' insistence that the U should show more interest in neighboring areas. The center is run by paid staff; some premedical students volunteer.

Available Services

The clinic offers medical, dental, mental health and social services all under one roof. It also provides social services for registered patients-- like the pro bono legal clinic, which is housed in the health care center. It is not a walk-in urgent care center. CUHCC promotes continuity of care.

Target Audience

Mostly it is the immigrants of Cedar Riverside (Somali, Ethiopian, and Southeast Asian) who benefit from the center. About 250 patients out of a registered 8,000 come directly from the Cedar Riverside area. This number does not indicate how often Cedar Riverside residents visit the clinic. CUHCC is a traditional community health center that offers comprehensive, affordable, culturally acceptable continuity of care to its patients. The center also offers discounted care for the uninsured

Communication

Outreach to the bilingual population is mainly done through the interpreters. They have Hmong, Laotian, Cambodian, Vietnamese, Somali, and Spanish interpreters and through Fairview University Medical Center can acquire any other language that may be needed. The center is in the process of developing a newsletter. There is a special eye clinic on Saturday mornings and advertising was done for the clinic in The Alley and The Circle newspapers. The center is hesitant about advertising because it is fearful that such large numbers of clients would be generated that the center couldn't serve them all in a timely way in its present facility.

Other Neighborhood Information Sources

There is a good possibility that most of the advertising is done by word of mouth as the clinic has never done any advertising and has grown every year. The clinic is also located in the telephone book, and many people who are on medical assistance receive information about the center.

Possible NRP Participation

Staff from the clinic would be willing to come and attend some focus groups if it turns out that health care is an issue for the Cedar Riverside neighborhood.

Confederation of the Somali Community in Minnesota

Executive Director: Ali Mohammed
Brian Coyle Community Center
420 15th Avenue South
Minneapolis, MN 55454

Phone (612) 338.5282
Fax (612) 338.8421
Email anacnac.@aol.com

Mission

CSCM is an inclusive organization that's dedicated to responding to the needs of all Somali people. Our mission is to strengthen Somali people's capacity to be contributing members in Minnesota, while preserving our rich cultural heritage.

Governance

CSCM is a non-profit organization.

Available Services

CSCM programs/services are conducted in collaboration with the Coyle Center and other organizations and include: youth and adult advocacy, assisting Somali people access adequate housing, child and health care, education, ESL and employment services and engage in meaningful recreational activities, a youth crime prevention program that supports 60 middle and high school aged Somali youth in a year-around soccer initiative that promotes academics and leadership through a weekly Somali Youth Leadership Club, Somali Redesign Council which is a pilot redesign effort that trains, encourages, and supports youth and parents in initiatives that enhance the educational experiences of Somali children and youth, and cultural presentations. In addition the organization also tries to teach the host community about Somali culture and religion.

Target Audience

Primarily all Somali's of every age benefit from CSCM. All non-Somali's who help to serve Somali refugees also benefit, as well as for-profit and non-profit organizations. Between 25-35 people per day are seen at the CSCM office.

Communication

Many people contact Ali when they need services. Other ways of communicating with Somalis include the cable TV program, flyers written in Somali, word of mouth, and by disseminating information through the Somali counsel of elders, which consists of four men and four women that meet twice a month to discuss issues and for CSCM to get wisdom from the elders. The elders are a network that is used to communicate to the rest of the Somali community. All of them either live in Riverside Plaza or in MPHA. Some of them are known leaders in the community, others include typical Somali mothers who are committed and dedicated to volunteering their time. They are over age 55. In the past the elders have worked with officer Thunder on safety issues. The elders meet twice a month on the second and last Thursday of the month. One thing to keep in mind about the Somali community is that they are a very oral society, and it will be important to disseminate information by word of mouth. Written documents do not always receive as much attention from Somalis. The cable TV program has been running for almost 4 months now and it has achieved quite a large number of responses. Communicating with the Somali community via the cable tv and flyering can be very effective. KFAI has not been used very often but it's potential is great.

Confederation of the Somali Community in Minnesota

Executive Director: Ali Mohammed
Brian Coyle Community Center
420 15th Avenue South
Minneapolis, MN 55454

Phone (612) 338.5282
Fax (612) 338.8421

Other Neighborhood Information Sources

Way to Grow, Fairview hospital, Brian Coyle, CSCM, and the cable TV program that Ali is responsible for putting together are other sources of information. The cable program is shown on channel 32 Thursday nights at 5 pm and again at midnight, and Fridays at noon. Every week there is a different program that covers different topics and issues.

Possible NRP Participation

CSCM would like to be involved with refugee issues that look at the Somali culture and people. Issues such as translation/interpretation, ESL programs, job creation, and citizenship are all areas the Confederation would like to work with NRP on.

Fairview-University Medical Center

Contact: Ann Ellison
2450 Riverside Avenue
Minneapolis, MN 55454

Phone (612) 672.7272
Fax (612) 672.4111

Mission

Fairview-University's mission is to improve the health of the communities they serve.

Governance

Fairview-University is governed by a Board of Trustees.

Available Services

Fairview-University Medical Center provides services throughout the life span. Our services include: arthritis, battered women support services, diabetes services, education, emergency services, heart health, home health care, hospice, mental health and chemical dependency services, maternal/child health, multiple sclerosis, nutrition, orthopedic services, pain management, pastoral care, pharmacy, physician and program referral, radiology and imaging, rehabilitation, respiratory care, senior services, social work services, support groups and services, surgical services, urgent care, volunteer opportunities, indoor walking programs, and wound care.

Target Audience

Fairview-University serves a very large population. The organization also employs 83 people from the neighborhood on site. As a result of the recent merger with the U of M, they will now accept UCARE medical assistance, and are looking at expanding Boynton Health Services (for U of M students).

Communication

Fairview-University issues an internal employee newsletter as well as the Healthwise newsletter for the public. The Healthwise newsletter is distributed on a quarterly basis and every household in the Cedar Riverside neighborhood receives a copy. This newsletter contains health-related articles, and information on community education programs (such as prenatal, diabetic, or stroke classes).

Other Neighborhood Information Sources

HCMC, Abbot, Cedar Riverside People's Center, CUHCC, and Smiley's are other places people from this neighborhood would go for information about health-related issues.

Possible NRP Participation

Ann believes there is great potential in working with Fairview-University. The hospital also has a staff of interpreters and Ann has indicated that interpretation may be a way for Fairview-University to play an important role in the NRP process, as many documents will surely be needing translation. The hospital also has access to specialists in the environmental health and safety fields. There is a large body of knowledge and people with expertise in all sorts of different areas that is associated with the hospital. There is also the opportunity for Fairview-University to pull in U of M people with areas of expertise because of the merger. The hospital as an organization is very interested in the Steering Committee.

Franklin Learning Center

Contact: Kristin Keller
1314 East Franklin Avenue
Minneapolis, MN 55404

Phone (612) 630.6830
Fax (612) 630.6805

Mission

The mission of the Franklin Learning Center is to provide adults with the tools and opportunities to acquire the basic reading, writing, speaking and problem solving skills necessary to function at home, on the job, and in their community. The Franklin Learning Center works cooperatively with government agencies, human service providers and schools to provide and integrate services to adult learners.

Governance

The Learning Center is operated by the Minneapolis Public Library and has a publicly elected Board that meets once a month on a Wednesday.

Available Services

FLC offers one-on-one and small group instruction in the following areas: basic skill building in reading, writing, and math, English as a Second Language (ESL)-- intermediate and advanced levels, and GED test preparation (high school equivalency)

Target Audience

The center serves adults ages 16 and older who have not been enrolled in school during the previous year. In 1996, the center served 484 learners from 29 different countries. 127 of the 484 learners came from the Cedar Riverside area.

Communication

Franklin Learning Center is listed with the Minnesota Literacy Council as well as with the Basic Skills Hotline. The People's Center send some people to the center. A lot of information is acquired through word of mouth. The center is listed in many directories.

Other Neighborhood Information Sources

Other places to go for similar instruction include:
ESL instruction-- Brian Coyle Center, CLUES, English Learning Center, the Institute for Education and Advocacy, Person to Person, and the Urban Communities Association of Minneapolis at Central Lutheran Church
ABE/GED-- The American Indian Center, American Indian and Opportunities Industrialization Center, and the Loring-Nicollet Bethlehem Center.

Possible NRP Participation

The Franklin Learning Center and the Franklin Library have played a role in the Phillips NRP. Through the NRP process the library has acquired staffing funds for the Phillips Computer Center which will be open for anyone in the community to use. FLC would like to be involved with the Cedar Riverside NRP community meetings which focus on literacy issues.

KFAI-FM Radio 90.3 Minneapolis, 106.7 St. Paul

General Manager: Denise Mayotte
1808 Riverside Avenue
Minneapolis, MN 55454

Phone (612) 341.3144
Fax (612) 341.4281

Mission

KFAI is a volunteer-based community radio station that exists to broadcast information, arts and entertainment programming for a Twin Cities audience of diverse racial, social, and economic backgrounds. By providing a voice for people ignored or misrepresented by mainstream media, KFAI increases understanding between peoples and communities and fosters the values of democracy and social justice within its listening area.

Governance

The station is run by its board of directors and five paid staff members. The Board meetings are monthly, every third Monday, at the KFAI-FM radio station.

Available Services

KFAI-FM radio really provides two kinds of services; one is to listeners who may or may not live in Cedar Riverside, the other is to the community. They provide programming in numerous ethnic languages.

Target Audience

It is estimated that approximately 30,000 people per week tune in to KFAI-FM. The station has two frequencies-- one at 90.3 fm at 125 watts and the other at 106.7 fm at 170 watts in St. Paul. People belonging to the various ethnic groups benefit from KFAI-FM because it does programming in many different languages. The station has also been involved in neighborhood activities, such as providing tours for students at the Charter school. In addition to that, KFAI has worked with the People's Center. The station also has a community news broadcast where local issues are covered-- with an emphasis on neighborhood-based news.

Communication

The community news broadcast allows KFAI to contact residents of the neighborhood on a regular basis. In addition to that the station has open houses where the community is invited to drop by and see the inside workings of a radio station. KFAI-FM holds a twice yearly record sale, and they also participate in Cedarfest (held on the third Sunday in August every year). KFAI distributes a newsletter internal to the organization every other month. There are 250 volunteers who are actively involved in working at the station. The station has 3,000 members who contribute to it. Every month there is a new volunteer orientation on the first Monday of the month.

Other Neighborhood Information Sources

Other sources of information might come from the *Seward Profile*, ethnic news publications such as *Insight News* (African), *Asian News*, *La Prensa* (Spanish language), *The Circle* (Native American), *City Pages*, the Internet, and other radio stations such as KMOJ, KUOM (University of MN), KBEM (Minneapolis public schools), and MPR (Minnesota Public Radio).

KFAI-FM Radio 90.3 Minneapolis, 106.7 St. Paul

General Manager: Denise Mayotte
1808 Riverside Avenue
Minneapolis, MN 55454

Phone (612) 341.3144
Fax (612) 341.4281

Possible NRP Participation

KFAI-FM would very much like to be involved with the Cedar Riverside NRP. They would be interested in a steering committee seat. They also would have access to translators of various languages and are willing to provide airtime for community news (especially during that segment of the broadcast) as well as Public Service Announcements.

Korean Service Center

Executive Director: Yoonju Park
620 Cedar Avenue South
Minneapolis, MN 55454

Phone (612) 342.1344
Fax (612) 342.1341

Mission

The Korean Service Center was established to provide a variety of services needed by Korean immigrants, especially newly arriving families and elderly Korean immigrants whose needs require bilingual professional services in Korean and English.

Governance

Available Services

The organization is designed mainly for Korean-Americans to get access to social services because English is such a problem for many of them. The Korean Service Center offers a liaison program with banks, drug stores, and various other businesses because many Koreans can't communicate with English speakers-- this agency is here to help them out. The program is run by grants through the federal government and Hennipen county as a special access program for senior citizens (although the organization is open to anyone who needs help). The agency is especially located at 620 Cedar to help Koreans living in MPHA with things as applying for work orders or applying for public housing in general.

Target Audience

140 elderly Korean Americans benefit from the center. The wider community also benefits, like the banks, pharmacists, grocery stores, Riverside Plaza, MPHA, and just local businesses in general.

Communication

A quarterly newsletter is used to communicate with the Korean community. There is also a monthly meeting held on every first Wednesday of the month at 630 Cedar. In the summer the meetings start at 8:30 am, in the winter, 10 am. The meetings are designed to be forums where information, announcements, education are shared. There are usually between 30-40 people in attendance. The center calls to remind people prior to every meeting.

Other Neighborhood Information Sources

Because a large majority of the Koreans living in the neighborhood have limited proficiency skills, the Korean Service Center is often times the only source of information for these people. There is a Korean Presbetyrian Church in Brooklyn Center that some attend, a Korean United Methodist Church in New Brighton that others use, a Korean United Gospel Methodist Church some use, and also a Korean Catholic Church in Roseville. There are two newspapers from Korea that are printed in Chicago that many read. Some households have a satellite system that allows them to receive TV news from Korea. There is a Korean Associated Newsletter that is printed bi-monthly in the Twin Cities, as well as the Korean Service Center newsletter which is printed quarterly. Other Asian newspapers around the Twin Cities serve people from Southeast Asia, not Koreans in particular, and these papers are not read as frequently.

Korean Service Center

Executive Director: Yoonju Park
620 Cedar Avenue South
Minneapolis, MN 55454

Phone (612) 342.1344
Fax (612) 342.1341

Possible NRP Participation

The only spokespeople for the Korean community would have to come from the Korean Service Center because of the language barrier within the Korean community at large. The Korean Service Center is also interested in applying for NRP funding. One large project that the center feels is very important is to provide an assisted living program and not send non-English speaking Koreans into mainstream nursing homes. This type of program allows Koreans to maintain their current life in apartments and lets them eat common meals together in a social setting. The House and Senate have passed a bill in favor of this program (the author of the bill is Representative Karen Clark) and the Governor has signed the bill. The Board of MPHA has approved this project to be housed in the four MPHA buildings in Cedar Riverside. The state has only come up with 1/3 of the funding needed for this project, however, and the remaining 2/3 needs to be generated. This program is not limited to the Koreans in their services but open to the people with any ethnic background if they can speak English or Korean. In addition there is some renovation of the public housing high rises needed, like a canopy style hallway which would make walking easier for the elderly in the wintertime.

Mimi's African Art

Contact: Mimi Girma
1810 Riverside Avenue
Minneapolis, MN 55454

Phone (612) 339.1742
Fax (612) 339.1742

Mission

Mimi used to work for an organization called Ethiopian Refugees Mutual Assistance Association, now know as Ethiopians in MN, Inc. The program Mimi worked with was the pre-employment related support service. Although she no longer works for this agency, she has maintained an ongoing network with human service agencies since the early 1980's. She works entirely independent of any formal social service agency, however. She also usually works from her own resources. Lately much of her work is being done through the Powderhorn Phillips Cultural Wellness Center. One event that Mimi helped to coordinate recently was the African graduation which was held at Brian Coyle Community Center and attended by parents and elders.

Governance

Private business

Available Services

The store is a place where people can come to see and or buy African art. Some interpreting/support services for African immigrants and refugees are provided. She is listed in an Amharic calendar and some other organizations also refer my services to people.

Target Audience

Mostly Mimi works with Ethiopians because of the shared language, but she works with Africans in general.

Communication

The only advertising is done through the calendar which is distributed and mailed out to Ethiopian households.

Other Neighborhood Information Sources

Information sources are: the Powderhorn Phillips Cultural Wellness Center, the different Somali organizations, Lutheran Social Services, Catholic Charities, and the International Institute of Minnesota. The last three in this list are the main resettlement agencies through which most immigrants come to the Minnesota.

Possible NRP Participation

Translation is one area that Mimi would be willing to help with. She also has the capacity to help with much more than that because of her understanding about how immigrant groups live and function in Cedar Riverside. She has an inside understanding of how to get people involved and interested in coming to meetings.

* *This document was not reviewed by the organization before publication*

The Mixed Blood Theatre

Contact: Christine Nelson
1501 South 4th Street
Minneapolis, MN 55454

Phone (612) 338.0937
Fax (612) 338.1851
Email: mixedblood@wavetech.net

Mission

The Mixed Blood Theatre Company is a professional multi-racial theatre company dedicated to promoting cultural pluralism, individual equality, and artistic excellence. In order to accomplish this mission. Mixed Blood was founded on five primary objectives.

1. To produce plays using color-blind casting.
2. To take artistic risks in the selection and/or production of plays.
3. To reach a non-traditional audience.
4. To provide professional experience for actors of color.
5. To provide educational programs on racial and cultural themes.

Governance

Non-profit organization

Available Services

Mixed Blood is a source of entertainment and education for productions on a main stage. The Theatre also participates in a series of educational outreach touring shows that go into schools; there have also been performances at the U of M, the Coyle Community Center, and numerous churches. The theatre also offers matinee performances at the theatre during the tour season. The theatre is a work site for the city of Minneapolis Summer Youth Employment Training Program.

Target Audience

The young people who use the Coyle Center sometimes get to view preview performances. It is hard to know who comes to shows from the West Bank neighborhood, although productions are open to anyone.

Communication

The theatre uses direct mailings, and it also advertises in area newspapers like the Star Trib, City Pages, Insight, and other neighborhood papers. Press releases and photos are usually sent out. Occasionally the theatre uses paid advertising, but more often they attempt to have an article written about an upcoming show. Sometimes posters are also used, although these are relatively expensive for the return achieved. When posters are used they are most likely to be placed on the West Bank.

Other Neighborhood Information Sources

Unsure

Possible NRP Participation

The Mixed Blood Theatre chose to stay in the neighborhood because of the diversity here and they hope that people in the area will recognize the theatre as part of the community and attend more performances. The theatre would like to find out what the Cedar Riverside community would like to see from the arts community. Use of the facility is a possibility.

North Country Co-op

Contact: John
2129 Riverside Avenue
Minneapolis, MN 55454

Phone (612) 338.3110
Fax

Mission

The basic purpose of North Country Co-op is to be a working example of a participatory democracy in all facets of operation and governance. We use our collective resources to promote participatory democracy through economic, political, and cultural systems within the co-op and the larger community.

Governance

The Board of directors meets monthly on the second Thursday of the month from 6:30-9:30pm. The co-op is owned by several hundred working members who earn discounts on their purchases.

Available Services

North Country is a full service natural foods co-op. They provide people with a wide selection of food, health and beauty products, and household items.

Target Audience

Anybody can benefit who shops here and one does not have to be a member to purchase food here. North Country does offer a discount to people on assistance. They offer discounts for seniors, people on disability, and for people on AFDC. The store is oriented to save low-income folks money. Increasingly North Country is starting to serve more of the African community in the neighborhood. The store also serves many people who work in the area.

Communication

The kiosk and the bulletin board located outside the store are used as well as the monthly newsletter. There is a mid-month deadline in order to publish by the first of each month, and publication is skipped for one month in the summer. There are probably around 1000 copies of each newsletter printed. In addition there are two general meetings held a year. The co-op also has a library connected to it with all kinds of literature about food and the politics of food. They also hold classes on various topics like local herbs (herb walks have been held in the past) and gay/lesbian/transgender issues.

Other Neighborhood Information Sources

There is a kiosk located right outside the store where lots of information gets posted. North Country also has resource books for customers to look through. One book concentrates on housing with people either offering housing or else looking for it. A second book lists a variety of services. Other sources of information would include the *Seward Profile*, KFAI-FM, and *North Country News*, the co-op monthly newsletter.

Possible NRP Participation

There is a possibility that someone connected with North Country may want to run for one of the Steering Committee seats. North Country is also interested in the NRP process in that it will be needing funding to support its big move. The co-op is being forced to move out by Augsburg and will have to bear a considerable expense in renovating the building they are moving into.

Person to Person

Contact: Lynda Halbert
201 Main Street Southeast #224
Minneapolis, MN 55414

Phone (612) 623.4438
Fax (612) 623.4548

Mission

Person to Person's mission is to support the efforts of low-income neighbors as they strive to achieve self-sufficiency.

Governance

Person to Person has a staff of five and a volunteer network of about 200 people. The organization serves all of Minneapolis.

Available Services

Person to Person offers an educational program that links neighbors in the West Bank community with trained volunteer tutors. This program was designed to create one on one interaction between the volunteer and the neighbor [Person to Person does not refer to their membership base as clients, rather as neighbors]. Partnerships are formed with volunteers in such areas as ESL, GED preparation and citizenship. Person to Person's volunteer tutors generally work in the home, although there are some classes which are offered on site in community rooms. Person to Person forms collaborations with existing human service organizations on the West Bank to serve populations of people who are not being served by other social service agencies. It is important not to have duplications of effort in neighborhoods, and Person to Person strives to serve the unserved.

Target Audience

The organization serves a variety of families of different ethnic origin. There are 72 people involved on the West Bank in tutoring classes. There are four classes being taught on the West Bank and individual tutoring as well. More than half of the people involved with Person to Person on the West Bank have stated ESL as their goal, and 35 have citizenship as their goal. Of the 72 people involved, 35 are women, 31 are men, and there are 6 children involved.

Communication

Person to Person uses word of mouth from neighbors themselves, referrals from community organizations, information that is included in the RPTA newsletter, information that goes out in Person to Person quarterly newsletter "Neighborhood News", and the established volunteer network of tutors to communicate with people.

Other Neighborhood Information Sources

RPTA is a source of information, as are the other various mutual assistance associations in the neighborhood. MAA's include any group formed by and for an ethnic group.

Person to Person

Contact: Lynda Halbert
201 Main Street Southeast #224
Minneapolis, MN 55414

Phone (612) 623.4438
Fax (612) 623.4548

Possible NRP Participation

This organization would be willing to provide technical support to NRP. The organization is willing to serve as a resource in educational issues, in particular for ESL and citizenship. Person to Person could disseminate information about the NRP process to its volunteers and neighbors through its newsletter or other regular mailings. Person to Person as an organization would also like to be considered for NRP funding and would like information about proposal deadlines.

Riverside Holistic Health Clinic

Director: Dr. Marjorie Lokich
1820 Riverside Avenue
Minneapolis, MN 55454

Phone (612) 338.4282
Fax (612) 338.0865

Mission

The goal is to provide alternative health care in an underinsured area. Many doctors do not take medical assistance but Riverside Holistic Health tries to be more flexible about payments. The clinic does take medical assistance, and many different types of insurance policies. In addition to this overall mission, they are also trying to start up a student teaching program in the MPHA Cedars high rises and get scholarships for people living there who are interested in learning more about alternative health care to attend schools that specialize in that area. They want to have an open house for women who are interested in going into alternative medicine next year on the "take your daughters to work day"; holistic health care is a field that has been dominated by males in the past. They would like to work more with community organizations in the neighborhood. In addition, they would like to sponsor some cancer education classes.

Governance

Private business

Available Services

The Riverside Holistic Health Clinic offers chiropractic care as well as homeopathy and acupuncture.

Target Audience

The clinic really sees a wide variety of people from many different backgrounds, everyone from street people to corporate executives. They see people with serious mental disabilities, a larger than average percentage of the gay and lesbian population than most health care clinics, and some immigrants (mainly Somali and Ethiopian).

Communication

Usually people just come to the clinic. Occasionally the clinic will send out reminder cards to patients. The clinic has a high retention rate. They do not have a newsletter.

Other Neighborhood Information Sources

Local newspapers and bulletin boards are good places to get information from, as well as listings in the Medica provider handbook.

Possible NRP Participation

Unsure at this time.

* *This document was not reviewed by the organization before publication*

Riverside Plaza Tenants Association (RPTA)

Executive Director: Michael Melgaard
1615 South 4th Street
Minneapolis, MN 55454

Phone (612) 338.4192
Fax (612) 338.1386
Email rpta@aol.com

Mission

The Riverside Plaza Resident Resource Center shall encourage and assist residents to enhance their economic self-sufficiency through meaningful education and skills development.

Governance

The Board meets each month in the Resident Resource Center. The current board president is Patricia Wade.

Available Services

RPTA provides advocacy and mediation services to tenants of Riverside Plaza. Problems effecting the lease or housing in general will be mediated with the property manager. RPTA also distributes an informational newsletter that provides information on Riverside Plaza events, the neighborhood in general, listings/advertisements of organizations providing various types of assistance, a place for people to publish their own writing or poetry, a resident profile, and information about the Resource Center which will enable groups and other organizations to come to Riverside Plaza and provide services on-site to residents.

Target Audience

Riverside Plaza residents benefit from this organization.

Communication

RPTA's newsletter, flyers, bulletin boards, and the Resource Center are all ways to communicate with people living in Riverside Plaza. It takes about three weeks to put the RPTA newsletter together (writing, editing, printing, and delivery).

Other Neighborhood Information Sources

Information sources include: the Seward Profile, RPTA Newsletter (distributed to 1,303 households), KFAI (especially for the Somali's who listen to the Focus on Africa program Sunday nights at 7 pm), Somali Confederation, the Somali Committee for Culture and Development, the Sahan Educational Project (Resource Center-- Osman Mahamoud (w) 376.0619, the Somali Community in MN (Franklin-- Mohammed Essa), and the Somali Clubhouse in Phillips (2511 Bloomington-- Ali Abdul). Students get information from the *Daily*, and there are a lot of international students and some adult students with children who live in the complex. People who attend the People's Center and the Coyle Center read the bulletin boards. The Vietnamese are still the largest group at Riverside Plaza. The Vietnamese Minnesotans Association is located in the Resident Resource Center. The other groups are Koreans (Yoonju Park, the Korean Service Center), the Ethiopians, Eritrians, and the Oromos.

Riverside Plaza Tenants Association (RPTA)

Executive Director: Michael Melgaard
1615 South 4th Street
Minneapolis, MN 55454

Phone (612) 338.4192
Fax (612) 338.1386
Email rpta@aol.com

There are two separate Oromo groups: one is called Oromo Community, Inc. The board chair is Mahdi Ahmed. The other is Oromo Community Center.

Possible NRP Participation

The Resource Center may be used as a clearinghouse for the NRP process. NRP should be able to tap into the space for translation, as well as space that will be available for meetings and an election site for steering committee members. RPTA needs to help make sure that the steering committee seats are filled. It will be important for Riverside Plaza to have strong representation on the committee. Traditionally residents from Riverside Plaza have not had a strong voice in community decision making.

Seward Profile

West Bank Editor: Burt Berlowe
2412 East Franklin Avenue
Minneapolis, MN 55406

General Phone (612) 729.9410
West Bank Phone (612) 722.1504
Fax (612) 729.3510

Mission

The purpose of the *Profile* is to provide information and education to the neighborhood. The paper provides the people on the West Bank with the opportunity to provide input into neighborhood events. It will also be an important vehicle to let people know what is going on with the NRP.

Governance

Available Services

The *Seward Profile* provides the Cedar Riverside community with a newspaper which has a section devoted to the West Bank. Their two main goals are to inform and to educate by letting people know what the neighborhood news is. Areas typically covered by the paper include:

- events
- feature stories on interesting people in the neighborhood
- a monthly Somali column
- an "Around the West Bank" column
- updates on neighborhood developments/projects
- a forum for people's voices to be heard

Target Audience

First and foremost English speakers benefit from this paper, as there are no translated versions available. Other than that, a broad range of people, including the business community, benefits. Currently the paper is in the process of trying to improve outreach and there is a movement underway to work with Augsburg college.

Communication

The paper is distributed on a monthly basis, usually around the first weekend of the month. The paper goes to press one week before distribution, and all articles/stories/photographs/artwork needs to be in by around the 20th of each month. The newspaper is delivered door to door to West Bank residents. Other papers are placed in businesses and in the high rises. The paper has a staff which includes Dan Nordley (editor for the entire paper), the West Bank editor (Burt Berlowe), somewhere between three to ten writers, a layout person, and also some professional photographers.

The West Bank section usually runs two to three pages (the entire paper runs 12-16). Dan estimates that 2500 papers are delivered to residents in Cedar Riverside, with about 1500 residents receiving a paper on their doorstep and another 1000 or more distributed to the high rises.

Seward Profile

West Bank Editor: Burt Berlowe
2001 Riverside Avenue
Minneapolis, MN 55454

General Phone (612) 729.9410
West Bank Phone (612) 722.1504
Fax (612) 729.3510

Other Neighborhood Information Sources

Other sources of information include the CRBA and RPTA newsletters. Dat Dao is currently working on printing a cross-cultural newsletter. Abdullahi Muhammad puts out a Somali newsletter. The community center bulletin boards and neighborhood kiosks are other places of information. The city of Minneapolis is required to notify the neighborhood about development projects, which would be another source of information. Many people also get news from KFAI-Radio, as well as by word of mouth.

Possible NRP Participation

The paper would very much like to provide information to the Cedar Riverside Community about the NRP including informing people about meetings, proposals, projects, etc. it would like to do. There is the opportunity for pretty extensive space and coverage within the West Bank section of the paper. The paper could be a forum where people could write in and urge people to take part, or voice concerns,/hopes for the NRP. The paper could also provide people with information about polling places in the community. There could also be opportunities for paid advertising.

* *This document was not reviewed by the organization before publication*

Smiley's Clinic

Clinic Manager: Kathy Diamond
2615 East Franklin Avenue
Minneapolis, Mn 55406

Phone (612) 343.7120
Fax (612) 333.1986

Mission

It is our mission to provide excellent, comprehensive health care and service to our patients, their families and the community in an educational environment that values the dignity of individuals.

Governance

The clinic is owned by the private practice of the Department of Family Practice at the University of Minnesota. There is a governing Board that meets once a month.

Available Services

Smiley's is strictly a family practice clinic that serves all ages from prenatal to geriatrics. Some of their patients, in fact, live in nursing homes. This is a residency clinic with 30 residents and seven faculty from the University of Minnesota. There is also one psychiatrist, two psychologists, and one social worker as well as ob/gyn staff. Smiley's participates in a birthpartners program in conjunction with Fairview Hospital and Seton Catholic Services. This program is designed for the under and un-insured and allows patients to pay a one-time reduced cost fee at the beginning of their pregnancy that pays for the entire prenatal, delivery, and postnatal visits. In addition to the one social worker affiliated directly with Smiley's, this program also has two social workers.

Target Audience

The clinic sees 30,000 patients a year, many from the Cedar Riverside area. Although there aren't exact figures for the number of people living in Cedar Riverside seen at the clinic, 70% of Smiley's clients come from the Seward/Cedar Riverside vicinity. Smiley's serves a very large Somali population-- somewhere between 20-25% of the patients seen at the clinic are of this ethnic origin. The clinic is also visited by many Asians and Hmong. There is pretty much an even split between whites and African Americans who use the clinic. Smiley's is also the student health clinic for students at Augsburg College.

There are many U-CARE patients living in Cedar Riverside and Smiley's has a number of incentive programs for people on this type of insurance. For example, the clinic offers gift certificates for people who visit the clinic for appropriate prenatal care, or immunization care for their children. Gift certificates to Cub, Rainbow, and Target may be given out. 30% of the clinic's patients are on U-CARE, and it is estimated that many more would be eligible for the program if they knew of it. U-CARE also provides free childcare, and taxi rides to and from the clinic. In addition when U-CARE holds special classes (on topics such as nutrition, special health care for immigrants and such) there is free transportation provided.

Smiley's Clinic

Clinic Manager: Kathy Diamond
2615 East Franklin Avenue
Minneapolis, Mn 55406

Phone (612) 343.7120
Fax (612) 333.1986

Communication

Mainly communication is established through whatever insurance carrier people have. Smiley's does try to participate in community events also. In addition, all residents at the clinic must satisfy a community health project requirement, and they have one month in which to do so. The clinic also promotes patient education in the form of classes, available brochures and other information at the clinic.

Other Neighborhood Information Sources

The Indian Health Board, various community clinics, the West Bank Pharmacy, and U-CARE (a health insurance plan for low-income families) are major sources of information.

Possible NRP Participation

Smiley's is open to possible involvement in the NRP process. Let people in Cedar Riverside know about Smiley's and what services are available at the clinic. Some discussion has occurred at Smiley's surrounding the idea of opening up an evening clinic near Riverside Plaza to better serve the schedules of the population living there. Evening clinics are costly to run, however, and the likelihood of this occurring may not be very good.

Somali Committee for Culture and Development

President: Abdullahi Sheikh Muhammad
P.O. Box 2082
Minneapolis, MN 55402

Phone (612) 371.4570
Fax (612) 371.4570

Mission

The Somali Committee for Culture and Development, which is comprised of mature Somali leaders assisted by American volunteers from the Twin Cities, was created to design, implement, and evaluate community programs to accomplish the stated goals: to promote effective communication for the Somali community, and the host community of Minnesota, and to create materials and methods of educating the Somali community in Minnesota about the impact of the new social welfare legislation and the new immigrant regulations. This shall be accomplished through a media of workshops, open meetings, newsletters, brochures, presentations on radio and television, video and audio tape programs.

Governance

The Somali Committee for Culture and Development is comprised of nine members of both American and Somali decent and is governed by a board of directors comprised of eight people drawn from sectors relevant to its mission.

Available Services

One of the Somali Committee for Culture and Development's primary services is to inform immigrants and refugees about welfare and immigration changes and to effect the much needed coordination and collaboration between existing Somali service organizations with a view to avoid duplication of efforts and to ensure cooperation for the benefit of the Somali community. To that effect, it has published newsletters, brochures, and fact sheets dealing with the changes. The Committee has also held meetings at Riverside Plaza to explain these issues to immigrants. In cooperation with the *Sewrad Profile* the President of the Committee, Abdullahi Sheikh Muhammad, writes a column for the paper. The Somali Committee also intends to have regular broadcasts this fall on radio station KFAI and MNN radio network to publicize welfare and immigration issues.

Target Audience

It can be estimated that the Committee serves the 8,000 to 10,000 Somali's in the Twin Cities, but the possibility of the Committee serving other ethnic and immigrant groups is high, which means a total of 20,000 to 30,000 people could be served by the Somali Committee for Culture and Development.

Somali Committee for Culture and Development

President: Abdullahi Sheikh Muhammad
P.O. Box 2082
Minneapolis, MN 55402

Phone (612) 371.4570
Fax (612) 371.4570

Communication

The Somali Committee issues a quarterly newsletter whose first edition came out in January 1997, the second in April, the third in July, and the fourth now under print scheduled for October. (However, if more funding were available the newsletter would be printed on a more frequent basis). There are also three brochures, two of which have been published (one on welfare, the other dealing with immigration). The third brochure, which will answer questions surrounding obtaining a US citizenship will be published soon. The brochures as well as the monthly newsletter are published in both the Somali and English languages. Notices for meetings, in the form of posters, are also hung in gathering spots for many Somali's, like the high rises around and in Riverside Plaza.. The Somali Committee announces meetings through a variety of mediums such as word of mouth, posters, and announcements on radio station KFAI-FM.. There were approximately 100 people in attendance at each of the Riverside Plaza meetings, and so far 1,000 newsletters have been printed and distributed.

Other Neighborhood Information Sources

The Somali Committee derives much of their information from various governmental agencies such as Hennipen County, Minneapolis City Council, Congress, the White House, and the Immigration Department. *The New York Time*, *Star Tribune*, and *Seward Profile* newspapers also provide information. Somali's in Cedar Riverside do not really receive any information about welfare and immigration issues except from the Somali Committee for Culture and Development newsletter.

Possible NRP Participation

The Somali Committee for Culture and Development will gladly participate in NRP discussions, elections, and finding and identifying appropriate projects for the neighborhood. The Committee will also spread the word about NRP and the process to the Somali community and the neighborhood at large. Already Mr. Muhammad writes a column for the *Seward Profile* where he has mentioned NRP. The Somali Committee is also open to help with translation.

St. Martin's Table

Contact: Karen Franzmeier
2001 Riverside Avenue
Minneapolis, MN 55454

Phone (612) 341.0871
Fax (612) 321.9788

Mission

Governance

The umbrella organization for St. Martin's is the Community of St. Martin.

Available Services

St. Martin's Table is one of three projects that the larger Community of St. Martin's runs. One main service that St. Martin's Table provides people is a restaurant. Servers from lunch (the only meal served), donate their tips to hunger organizations. Each month between \$1600 and \$2000 is generated from this. All of the servers who work at St. Martin's Table are volunteers and they have between 80 and 100 who volunteer some amount of time. St. Martin's Table also provides volunteer opportunities for neighborhood folks, and a lot of Augsburg students take advantage of this opportunity. There is also a bookstore located in the building that specializes not only in books, but in music, cards and posters with spiritual and peace and justice themes. St. Martin's Table also has a Friday night entertainment program called "Friday Night Live" which sometimes features discussion topics, singers, dialogs, or a wide variety of things. Donations are given for this event.

Target Audience

Lots of peace and justice groups use St. Martin's Table as well as other church related groups. Not very many immigrants or students really come. Trinity also holds its Wednesday night dinners in their space, and although St. Martin's is the organization that first started the dinners, Trinity now is in charge and is running the program quite successfully. On average 75 people appear daily and Karen estimates that between 40-50% of St. Martin's Table customers either live or work in the neighborhood.

Communication

St. Martin's Table does issue a by-monthly newsletter that is internal to the organization and people who use St. Martin's Table. There are over 2100 people on the mailing list and the newsletter gives information about upcoming programs, restaurant news, and book reviews. The deadline for the newsletter is the 15th of the month before it goes to print. Because the publication is internal to St. Martin's, it does not usually publish community news.

Other Neighborhood Information Sources

The Coyle Center, the People's Center, North Country Co-op. and St. Martin's are places people would go to get information.

St. Martin's Table

Contact: Karen Franzmeier
2001 Riverside Avenue
Minneapolis, MN 55454

Phone (612) 341.0871
Fax (612) 321.9788

Possible NRP Participation

The umbrella organization for St. Martin's Table, the Community of St. Martin, also runs a summer camp for children called Peace Village. In the Seward neighborhood, Peace Village has received NRP funds for the third year now to give scholarships to children to go to camp. St. Martin's would certainly be willing to contribute meeting space and they are very concerned about Cedar Riverside and would like to help bridge the two sides of the neighborhood that seem polarized. There are also two large bulletin boards located in St. Martin's Table. One is near the back door and has housing information posted on it; the other is in the front. These would be perfect places to post community news.

* *This document was not reviewed by the organization before publication*

Trinity Lutheran Congregation

Contact: Pastor Paul Rogers
2001 Riverside Avenue
Minneapolis, MN 55454

Phone (612) 333.2561

Mission

Trinity's Christian congregation has several dual missions. One is to serve Trinity's members with worship, pastoral care, and Christian education. Another goal of Trinity is to be in mission to the community. This is done to serve social needs, and also as Christian witness-- to proclaim to what Christians believe.

Governance

A council is elected from congregation members and meets monthly for normal business. The highest authority rests in the congregational meeting, scheduled annually for special purposes as needed.

Available Services

Trinity offers weekly Christian worship services in the chapel at Augsburg College. Trinity also sponsors a weekly meal for mom's and children; this event is held every Wednesday at St. Martin's Table at 6 pm. In addition Trinity provides a lot of interpersonal support and guidance for individuals living in Cedar Riverside. Occasionally Trinity may help somebody with financial support. Trinity helps to provide volunteers for other programs and organizations in the neighborhood from their congregation. In addition Trinity has held some training classes for refugees interested in areas such as ESL, sewing, and tutoring. Trinity also provides ongoing support for the food shelf located at the Brian Coyle Center. Involvement on various neighborhood boards and organizations is also a part of Trinity's philosophy.

Target Audience

Typically about 150 people worship at Trinity, although there are 450 people affiliated with the church. Many of these people are elderly citizens who grew up in the neighborhood. Not many of those families live in Cedar Riverside anymore, but there are about 20 families who are members of Trinity and also live in the neighborhood. Trinity also serves others in the neighborhood in addition to its members. An estimate of the number of people served by Trinity would be somewhere around 70 people in one year. Refugees, single mothers and children, and people on disability are the groups of people who probably benefit the most from Trinity.

Communication

Sometimes Trinity uses word of mouth to communicate; other times flyers are distributed (mainly in Riverside Park, Cedar East, and Riverside Plaza-- permission has not be granted to Trinity to distribute flyers in the MPHA buildings). Occasionally Trinity will run a newspaper ad or put postings up for U of M and Augsburg students who live in dorms on the West Bank. Letters will be sent out for critical matters. Trinity also provides a weekly newsletter which is mailed, and the normal bulletin and announcements present at every Sunday service. These forums provide the opportunity to include information for people about neighborhood events or chances to volunteer.

Trinity Lutheran Congregation

Contact: Pastor Paul Rogers
2001 Riverside Avenue
Minneapolis, MN 55454

Phone (612) 333.2561

Other Neighborhood Information Sources

Refugees, the elderly, the disabled, and working people compromise the neighborhood, and within this diverse group of people, the whole spectrum of agencies and organizations would be used.

Possible NRP Participation

Paul Rogers indicated that he is anxious to be through with the committee work and looks forward to seeing Trinity staff involvement and support for the NRP as well as encouraging others to be involved in the process and providing them with the support to do a good job. The only role Trinity sees itself playing is that of a supporter and provider of information to the community (in particular within the weekly newsletter which is mailed). Generally the newsletter is just for and about the Trinity community, although Trinity also tries to include special items-- like what new things may be happening with the NRP. It may be possible that Trinity would submit a proposal for NRP funding.

University of Minnesota Coordinator of Community and Collegiate Relations

Coordinator: Ann O'Loughlin
12 Morrill Hall
100 Church Street SE
Minneapolis, MN 55455

Phone (612) 624.8318
(612) 626.9234
Fax (612) 626.9899

Mission

The University would like to be viewed as a positive force rather than a negative one by the neighboring communities. The Cedar Riverside community has multiple institutions that tend to be focused inward. The challenge is to bring institutions and the neighborhood together to form community.

Governance

The University of Minnesota is governed by the Board of Regents. There are twelve regents, eight representing congressional districts and four at-large. The Board of Regents meets every month except August. Proposals are brought forth by the Administration to the Regents for their determination.

Available Services

The Office of Community Relations serves as a liaison between communities that border the U of M campuses and the U's administration. In the Cedar Riverside community the Coordinator is a member of the Boards CRBA and the PAC. Both the offices of Community Relations and Master Planning attend meetings of Riverside Crossings.

Target Audience

The public. The University of Minnesota serves 37,000+ undergraduate and graduate day students on the Twin Cities campuses with another 15,000+ night students.

Communication

The Coordinator tries to attend as many community meetings as possible and to stay in touch with the groups on a regular basis. Communication of problems, tensions, and more particularly, opportunities for working together is encouraged.

Other Neighborhood Information Sources

Students at the U get information from the MN Student Association (MSA), which elects the president of the student body. Graduate students get information from the Graduate Student Association (GSA).

Possible NRP Participation

Representatives from the University should be involved in committees where common concerns are discussed and solutions planned: parking, safety, housing, and other natural connections the neighborhood sees between the University and the community at large.

West Bank Community Development Corporation

Executive Director: Tim Mungavan
1808 Riverside Avenue
Minneapolis, MN 55454

Phone (612) 673.0478
Fax (612) 673.0379

Mission

The mission of the West Bank Community Development Corporation is to promote a neighborhood economy through resident-based redevelopment. To accomplish this task, the WBCDC works closely with neighborhood people and democratically elected representatives to formulate and implement specific development proposals for housing, business revitalization, and comprehensive social service development. The WBCDC seeks to serve low- and moderate-income residents, retain needed retail services, and produce jobs for the unemployed and low-income people in the neighborhood.

Governance

The West Bank CDC Board members are all volunteer and they meet at least every other month, often times more frequently than that. The contact would be Tim Mungavan.

Available Services

The West Bank Community Development Corporation develops and owns mostly affordable housing units in Cedar Riverside. The organization also provides some forms of economic assistance through:

- venture capital loans to small businesses
- a technical assistance program for small businesses
- a job program whereby businesses on the West Bank are given financial incentives to hire people from the neighborhood
- commercial development
- planning services

Target Audience

A wide range of persons benefit from the CDC. Most of the housing units are affordable to low- to moderate-income residents, although some projects have served other income levels as well. Estimates are that about half of the units are occupied by families without children, and half by families with children. There is also a wide generation age range of people living in the coops.

Communication

The West Bank CDC primarily uses the co-op structures as a means of communication. Each co-op has its own elected board (to sit on the board one must be a resident of the co-op), and often times the CDC sends out mailing to all residents in the co-ops, to board members, or sometimes just to the board presidents.

Other Neighborhood Information Sources

The *Seward Profile* and CRBA newsletters are two sources of published information, although co-op members do not receive the CRBA newsletter. People living in the co-ops also receive a lot of information from their respective co-op. There are seven co-ops: Family Tree, Blue Goose, Sherlock Holmes, Watchcat co-op, Union Homes, West Bank Home, Riverbluff, and Seven Corners Apartments, and each has its own Board which has monthly meetings.

West Bank Community Development Corporation

Executive Director: Tim Mungaven
1808 Riverside Avenue
Minneapolis, MN 55454

Phone (612) 673.0478
Fax (612) 673.0379

Possible NRP Participation

The West Bank CDC wants to ensure that the seven co-ops have a presence in the NRP process. The CDC also feels it has years of development planning experience which it brings with it; this should definitely be seen as an asset to the community. It also has the capacity to actually implement programs that are accountable to the community.

West Bank Community Fund

Contact: Peter Goelzer
P.O. Box 14004
Minneapolis, MN 55414-0004

Phone N/A

Mission

The fund is intended to build a stronger community through celebration of cultural diversity, development of social connections, and encouragement of participation in projects that benefit the community and community organizations.

Governance

There are 11 seats on the West Bank Community Fund Board. The guidelines for membership on the Board are very specific, and are intended to reflect as closely as possible the make-up of the Cedar Riverside community. Included on the full Board should be seven seats for delegates who reside in Cedar Riverside, three seats for delegates from either business and/or human services organizations, and one seat for a delegate appointed by the Minneapolis Foundation.

Available Services

The fund is an endowed fund established to provide grants for a wide range of projects and activities that will benefit the West Bank community. The West Bank Community Fund Board officially meets four times a year; they meet on the second Wednesday of January, April, July, and October unless the scheduled date is problematic for Board Members, in which case a meeting is rescheduled. Two of those meetings are granting meetings, whereby the Board decides the approval of grants. The other two meetings are business meetings. The executive committee of the West Bank Community Fund can meet more often than four times a year, and does. Their task is to consider small grant applications which request up to \$300 in funds. If one wishes to either apply for a grant from the Community Fund or to be considered for a seat on the Board, simply contact any one of the current Board members.

Target Audience

Everybody, however, more could be done with marketing and advertising to let others who may not already be familiar with it, know about the fund. Already there are more applicants than funds available, and that has been why a more extensive promotion of the Community Fund has not occurred.

Communication

Communication with grant applicants frequently occurs initially through a recommendation or referral from the Brian Coyle Center or the People's Center.

Other Neighborhood Information Sources

Brian Coyle and the People's Center are information sources.

Possible NRP Participation

The Board, because it is intended to reflect the diversity of Cedar Riverside may offer some good contacts to ethnic populations in the neighborhood. It is conceivable the Community Fund would benefit from the NRP process itself and receive more funding.

Community Member

Contact: Linda Bryant
Brian Coyle Community Center
420 15th Avenue South
Minneapolis, MN 55454

I spoke with Linda Bryant, who is the manager at the Coyle Center for youth and adult programming, about the West Bank.

There are not a lot of places to go in this community to get information. People typically come to the Coyle Center, RPTA, Riverside Plaza Management, or the Community School. That is one thing people need in this community, a place to go where someone will sit down and talk about what kind of services are available and where to get them.

Linda worked at the **Currie Center** until it essentially moved into the building that the Coyle Center is in (and changed names). The programs that the Currie Center was offering (ESL, employment, youth activities, and the foodshelf), just expanded once the center was moved into a larger building. People in the neighborhood had set high expectations on the Coyle Center, but now again this center is becoming overcrowded. There are some new services that have been added at Coyle, like the Somali Confederation and Legal Aid and a strong partnership with the Minneapolis Park Board and Community Education.

Communicating with the neighborhood has never been a problem. Much information is generated through the **foodshelf**. There is a full-time adult services person who gives people referrals for times of crisis. The center really operates with a humanistic approach and volunteerism is looked at as a great way to give back to the community. Many people associated with the center do volunteer.

Every year the Coyle Center's membership base increases. The number of people in need of food, and people in need of ESL, is constantly increasing.

One role Linda would like to play and see the center play is that of helping to recruit people for the **Steering Committee**. It will be important to make sure there is support, training and mentoring that goes on with those who decide to commit to the Steering Committee to insure that those people dedicating their time have a positive experience.

Someone needs to be responsible for ensuring that people get **equal access to information** in a timely matter. In addition to offering translation for the written materials, there should also be someone available to answer people's questions verbally. One good way to give out information is at community events.

Some other tips/advice:

The Steering Committee needs to reflect people of color.

Recognize that the way meetings are traditionally structured is foreign to many from different culture.

What about the idea of offering some sort of stipend to people who sit on committees?

It is the community's responsibility to encourage people to take part in the NRP process who aren't already on committees.

Community Member

Contact: Johara Mohammed
Riverside People's Center Medical Clinic
2000 South 5th Street
Minneapolis, MN 55454

I spoke with Johara Mohammed who works at the People's Center Medical Clinic as a medical assistant/interpreter. Johara was recommended by Sandy Bloom (People's Center Director) and Lynn Aagard (Director of the Medical Clinic). Johara is very active in the Oromo community and I asked her to tell me about the organizations which represent the Oromo.

There are two different organizations which represent the Oromo community and these two are trying to come together. One is called OSA, Oromo Study Associations. The Oromo Community is the other organization and is involved with fundraising and cultural activities like singing, theater, weddings, graduations, etc. There are also other Oromo organizations like the Oromo American organization.

In the city of Minneapolis there are between 5,000 and 7,000 Oromo. Some started out in Riverside Plaza and have since moved, although many still reside there. Some Oromo belong to RPTA. Many Oromo live in families and have more than one child. Some Oromo students attend a Muslim school in Fridley called Al-Amal School where students learn Arabic and the Koran. Most Oromo know English fairly well and many are very well educated. The level of an Oromo's education would depend on the geographic region of Ethiopia the person is from.

I specifically asked Johara to address issues concerning the Muslim religion for the steering committee:

Oromo have two main religions: **Christian and Muslim**. Muslims follow a separate Arabic calendar and there are three main holidays. First there is a holiday for Mohammed's Birthday which is celebrated sometime in June or July according to the western calendar. The second important holiday is Rhamadon which is the fasting period for 30 days (no food or water from sunrise to sunset). The date for this will change according to the Arabic calendar. When the 30 days are up, a huge feast is eaten, and the name for this is Id Al Fiter. The third important holiday for Muslim Oromo is the tenth day of the third month after Rhamadon. This is known as Iid Arafa and it is the time when the pilgrimage to Mecca and Madina takes place. Muslim Oromo should attempt to come to Mecca one time in their lifetime if they can afford to do so.

In most countries men and women Muslims do **pray** separately, although this is not always the case in the United States. Before prayer one must wash the hands, face, and legs and touch the hair and ears with water. After this has occurred one is ready for prayer. Prayer occurs five times a day in the morning, around lunch time, in the early afternoon, at sunset, and again before bedtime. One can pray anywhere that is dry and clean. It is acceptable to leave a meeting to pray, and it is also acceptable to pray a little bit earlier than scheduled if one is aware of an important meeting one must attend at the scheduled prayer time.

There are many mosques in the Twin Cities and three **mosques** in the immediate area that Johara is familiar with: one on Minnehaha, one on Central and 26th, and another in Dinkeytown. Every Friday there is a special prayer and many Muslims will attend services on this day in particular.

There is an Oromo Bible and many Oromo Christians from the neighborhood probably attend church at Bethany Lutheran on Franklin Avenue. This church offers services in the Oromo language.

There is some tension between **Amhara's and Oromo's**, and this sometimes limits the closeness of the two groups. The Oromo are the majority in Ethiopia and can be found in fourteen different states. Amhara's come from only one state and overthrew the Oromo with modern weapons over 200 years ago. It is very hard to distinguish the physical differences between these two groups, but it can sometimes be done. Amharic is the official language taught in schools in Ethiopia.

In general Oromo **gender differences** in the US are not very pronounced. Men respect women, and often times both work. This differs from life in Ethiopia where the women would be much more likely to stay at home and raise their children with hired helpers.

History

Oromia is the land that lost its statehood due to forced occupation of the Abyssinian (today's Ethiopia) rule. Oromos are the largest ethnic group in East Africa. Long before the occupation, Oromos used to administer themselves by a democratic system known as Geda. For the last one hundred years, the Oromo's cultural, linguistic, and human rights have been violated by the conservative Ethiopian rulers and subsequently, Oromo's become colonial subjects. They were forced to flee from their land to escape from persecution. As a result, many thousands of them have resettled in the USA. About 5,000 reside in the Twin Cities alone. The majority of the Oromo have been educated and have adjusted to the USA very well. There is a good sized teen age Oromo population who are in need of special attention.

The Oromo's in the Twin Cities do have different organizations. One of them is the Oromo Community which is utilizing the Oromo Center. This center is the main focal place for community activities. Some of the activities undertaken in the center serve to guide newly arriving Oromo immigrants, like with work placement. The center is also used as a youth recreation center, in addition to being a cultural center for the community.

Community Member

Contact: Dat Dao

I spoke with Dat Dao about the Vietnamese Community.

Many Vietnamese use the Brian Coyle Center, USCC (United States Catholic Charity in St. Paul for sponsorship and ESL in particular), Lutheran Social Services, the VMA (Vietnamese Minnesotan Association which provides an array of social services including ESL and citizenship), Vietnamese Social Services in St. Paul (this organization apparently will not serve all Vietnamese, although it has an annual budget of \$800,000), CAPI (Center for Asians and Pacific Islanders which serves the entire Asian community and is located on Lake Street), and the IRC (International Rescue Center). There are **two main health clinics/doctors** Vietnamese use: Dr Dat Truong's clinic is located on Franklin, and Dr. Khai Vo is located in St. Paul. Many Vietnamese attend the Cedar Riverside Community School, Tuttle School (Minneapolis), Fulton, Southwest, South High, and Sanford. Many Vietnamese also attend higher educational institutions, especially the U of M.

April 1975 was the beginning of the migration wave of the Vietnamese. People came to the United States as refugees usually via boat or airplane. Riverside Plaza has become the largest center of Vietnamese in the Twin Cities. This ethnic group occupies **600 units in Riverside Plaza and comprise almost 1000 of the people living in Riverside Plaza**. Many of the Vietnamese are low-income and pay 1/3 of the market price for their apartments. Dat has been living in Riverside Plaza for 20 years and cites the time period from 1976 to 1986 as not very good/safe. It has gotten better since the late 80's Dat feels due to an increase in security and the installation of security cameras in the elevators and the parking lots. Many Vietnamese living in Riverside Plaza could be characterized as intellectuals. Approximately half are students and the **Vietnamese refer to the area as "University City"** because the U of M is such an important aspect of the community for them. The University of Minnesota is viewed as an excellent school for Vietnamese to attend and to receive a superb education from (and consequently later a good job).

The **Vietnamese have formed many different organizations**, under one umbrella organization called "The Vietnamese Community". Some of the different branches, although this certainly may not be all of the branches, include: the Vietnamese Minnesotan Association (VMA), the Vietnamese Former Political Detainees Association, the Vietnamese Student Association, the Vietnamese Mutual Association, the Vietnamese Rental Association at Riverside Plaza, the Youth Scout Program, the Buddhist Association, the Catholic Association, and the Lutheran Association. In Riverside Plaza, housed in the Resource Center, are the VMA and the Vietnamese Former Political Detainees Association. It seems that there is quite a lot of duplication of efforts going on within the Vietnamese community, and that there is more tension and conflict between the different organizations and associations than there is cooperation, Dat told me.

The VMA has connections to somewhere around 30 families in Cedar Riverside. About 50 families use the Vietnamese Social Service agency. Lutheran Social Services has by far the most connection with the Vietnamese in this community; this organization has ties to somewhere around 1000 Vietnamese. US Catholic Charity also reaches quite a few Vietnamese, although somewhat less than Lutheran Social Services. The VMA has four offices located in the Twin Cities. One of those is in Riverside Plaza.

The Vietnamese community is **struggling right now to try and achieve more unity within the community as a whole**. Many would like to see one general office for the Vietnamese with a library. It would be nice if there was one newsletter entire community and also some common funding. The Vietnamese community has not been as effective as either the Hmong or the Somali at mobilizing and cooperation. There is a **bi-weekly newspaper** that is printed by the umbrella organization: The Vietnamese Community, but the quality of this publication is not as high as it could be. In Dat's view it does not serve the community and is not very informative as it is made up of mostly advertisements. The publication is "Ngay Nay Minnesota" which means "Minnesota Today" when translated. Some Vietnamese newspapers from other states also come to Minnesota and are read by Vietnamese who live here. The Vietnamese in general do read quite a bit, and many do read English publications. Dat Dao is publishing a magazine every three months called "**Ydan Magazine**", or "The People's Opinion". This publication is distributed to all Vietnamese organizations, churches, at large events and gatherings, in grocery stores, bookstores, etc. The magazine has three branches: one in Chicago, one in Houston, and one in Minneapolis. It is intended to provide news for the community and compare issues effecting the Vietnamese in Minnesota with other states and also to compare the Vietnamese with other ethnic groups like the Somali and the Hmong. One other goal of the magazine is to encourage fragmented Vietnamese organizations to join together and work cooperatively. The magazine is also distributed door to door in Riverside Plaza as many who live there are interested in the publication.

* *This document was not reviewed by the organization before publication*

Community Member

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I spoke with Fathia Warsame about the Somali community.

I asked Fathia **what organizations Somali's on the West Bank use.**

A lot of Somali's use the Confederation of the Somali Community in Minnesota at the Coyle Center. Many women use the organization. Central Village also sees many Somali, and places such as HCMC and other social service agencies refer people to Central Village.

Somali men and women tend to be very **religious**, and it may be difficult to establish a trusting relationship. One thing to keep in mind is that recent Somali immigrants are going through culture shock.

It will be vital to write documents and translate them in Somali. Keep in mind, however, that the Somali are very **oral people**, and any communication that NRP undertakes should stress this point with the Somali community. There will have to be people in the community willing to patiently explain and talk about what the NRP process is, why it's important to become involved, and what involvement will entail.

I also asked Fathia what kind of participation NRP could expect to generate from **Somali women**. She seemed to feel that if an issue were being discussed, and it was felt to be important to Somali women, then there would be involvement from women. Things she mentioned to encourage people's involvement include: free events, offering food at events, educational/learning opportunities, and holding forums that are family oriented and would be of interest to them.

The main religious holiday that Fathia mentioned for Muslim's is **Rhamadon**, which usually falls sometime in March. This is when the month-long fasting season is broken.

The **Somali elders** are an important facet of this community. They can be contacted through the Somali Confederation at the Coyle Center. One key item to think about engaging them would also be to give something back to them, like providing them with a safe, clean area where they could gather and exchange ideas, or receive help with the citizenship exam. Fathia seemed to think that if the elders were to become involved in the NRP process, this might spark involvement on the part of the larger Somalian community.

One note, just as an aside, Somalians like to drink a lot of hot tea.

Another helpful hint: many Somali, especially the new immigrants, have a hard time adjusting to the clock time that Americans follow. When communicating with newly arrived Somali, it might help to make sure they understand what time a meeting is at, and tell the corresponding time in Somalia.