

# UNP Community Affairs Committee Brief December 16th, 2009

[cac@unpmn.org](mailto:cac@unpmn.org) - [www.unpmn.org](http://www.unpmn.org)

Companion to the agenda for the UNP Community Affairs Committee meetings.  
UNP Co-chairs: Raymond Dehn & Makeda Zulu-Gillespie

Karina Carlson, guest editor

## UPDATES

### **Community Affairs Committee and UNP Partnership**

The Community Affairs Committee's undertaking is to facilitate involvement of the Northside communities, the city of Minneapolis, Hennepin County and the University of Minnesota to move the University Northside Partnership forward.

For the past few months a group of small group of stakeholders have been meeting to access and evaluate possible structures of the Community Affairs Committee of the UNP, and to consider what that might look like in the future.

Recommendations proposed by this group include:

- Consider changing committee's name from Community Affairs Committee to Partners Group
- Consider a mission statement that is more reflective of the group's tag line—*"building healthier families and stronger communities together"*
- Define the roles of the city, county, UROC/university and the community
- Define the commitments of the city, county, UROC/university and the community (including staff and financial)
- Reframe monthly meetings around topics versus reporting previous activities of the partners

We also discussed if the University is willing to continue to be the convener of the Partners Group.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS AND EVENTS

### Announcements

#### **CitySongs**

CitySongs performed for a huge audience at the Walk To End Hunger on Thanksgiving morning at the Mall of America. These talented children were received with shouts of appreciation and clapping from shoppers, and walkers. On Sunday, Dec. 6, CitySongs performed its annual Winter Concert at the Capri Theater for parents, friends, relatives, and community. The concert was filled with inspirational songs, and even an audience sing-along. Everyone was excited and enthusiastic about this new youth choir on the Northside! For more information about CitySongs, please contact Cheryl Reeves at 612-624-4556, [creeves@umn.edu](mailto:creeves@umn.edu).

### Events

#### **MLK Birthday Party – Jan. 18, 2009**

**Where: UROC**

**When: 9 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.**

To make Martin Luther King Day a “day on, not a day off,” the OBCED Digital Divide Initiative will mark the holiday by hosting a MLK Birthday Party, a poster and instrument-making event and opportunity to refurbish computers. The project will bring together students, parents, teachers, AmeriCorps members, and technical volunteers to honor the memory of Dr. King.

#### **Activities**

9 - 11:45 a.m. - Poster and Instrument making

noon- 1:30 - MLK Birthday party (cake, ice cream, and pizza provided by OBCED)

9 a.m. – 3 p.m. - Computer refurbishing and troubleshooting (For tech support you must live in 55411 or 55412 zip code area and pre-register.)

Dr. King believed each individual possessed the power to lift himself or herself up no matter what his or her circumstances – rich or poor, black or white, man or woman. Whether teaching literacy skills, helping older adults surf the Web, or helping individuals build the skills they need to acquire jobs, acts of service can help others improve their own lives while doing so much for those who serve, as well.