



Request for City Council Committee Action from the Department of Neighborhood and Community Relations

Date: June 16, 2014

To: Council Member Cam Gordon, Chair, Health, Environment and Community Engagement Committee

Subject: One Minneapolis Fund Grant Awards

Recommendation:

- 1) Approve the following grants totaling \$80,000 for the 2014 One Minneapolis Fund Grant program:

Lake Street Council	\$15,000
Appetite for Change	\$15,000
Asian Media Access	\$15,000
Council on American Islamic Relations	\$10,000
Youth Care	\$10,000
Twin Cities Media Alliance	\$10,000
Organizing Apprenticeship Project	\$5,000

- 2) Authorize the Neighborhood and Community Relations Director to execute the necessary contracts with the organizations receiving the grants.

Previous Directives:

On February 21, 2014 the City Council authorized the release of a request for proposals for the One Minneapolis Fund and further authorized the Neighborhood and Community Engagement Commission to review proposals for funding from the One Minneapolis Fund and make recommendations to the City Council on funding awards.

Department Information

Prepared by: Howard Blin, Community Engagement Manager

Approved by:

David Rubedor, Neighborhood and Community Relations Director _____

Jay Stroebel, interim City Coordinator _____

Presenters in Committee: Howard Blin; and NCEC Commissioners Tessa Wetjen, Saciido Shaie, Andres Hortillosa and Ishmael Israel

Financial Impact

Funding for the One Minneapolis Fund was included in the 2014 budget of the Neighborhood and Community Relations Committee.

Supporting Information

The One Minneapolis Fund is a City funded grant program established to support organizations serving under represented communities in the city. The focus of the program is on leadership development and building engagement within those communities. Organizations eligible for the grants are those which do not receive funding through the traditional neighborhood funding programs.

The program was started in 2013. In the first year three grants totaling \$62,000 were provided to the Pillsbury Waite House and Lao Assistance Center for leadership development programs in immigrant communities and to the Conflict Resolution Center for a youth leadership development program. Each of the projects funded in 2013 will be concluding in the near future.

For the 2014 program, \$80,000 is available. To provide more grants, the maximum grant award was reduced from \$25,000 to \$15,000. A request for proposals was issued on February 21st. By the April 7th deadline 24 applications were received with funding requests totaling \$333,574.

2014 Recommendations

The applications were reviewed by a committee of the Neighborhood and Community Engagement Commission (NCEC) comprised of the following members: Tessa Wetjen, Chair, Andres Hortillosa, Vice-Chair, Matthew Dobratz, Ishmael Israel, Henry Jimenez, Kenya McKnight, Saciido Shaie and Jeff Strand. The Committee evaluated each application on the basis of a set of predetermined criteria. Four applications were recommended for full funding and three additional applications were recommended for partial funding. On May 27th the full NCEC acted to approved the recommendations of the Committee and forward the recommendations to the City Council.

The following are brief descriptions of the applications recommended for funding:

Fully Funded Applications

Lake Street Council - \$15,000. The Lake Street Council is a business association serving the Lake Street area. The Council will partner with the Latino Economic Development Center and the YMCA to provide civic engagement training to people of color and immigrants who are small business owners.

Appetite for Change - \$15,000. The One Minneapolis Fund grant will be used as part of the larger Good Food Advocacy Campaign. This project works to build the leadership capacity of African-American and low-income individuals to lead the food movement, connect with other communities in Minneapolis and increase community and civic engagement around food issues.

Council on American Islamic Relations - \$10,000. This project will provide training in leadership development and civic engagement to Muslim community in Minneapolis which is comprised of East African, Arab, South Asian, and African American communities of color. The goal is to remove barriers and increase civic participation among currently under engaged groups.

Asian Media Access - \$15,000. This grant would fund the Project PENN initiative, which is a place-based effort to engage under represented communities in North Minneapolis. The focus will be on developing leaders for an economic development scan and vision plan focused on the Penn and Plymouth Avenue Corridors.

Partially Funded Applications

Youth Care - \$10,000. This funding would support a project with the Lind-Bohanon Neighborhood Association to provide 30 Camden area youth with after school leadership development, civic engagement and social activities.

Twin Cities Media Alliance - \$10,000. The project will work with underrepresented residents of North Minneapolis to develop skills in civic engagement. This will include training in working in civic organizations, media literacy and use of social media. A key goal of the project is to shape the way North Minneapolis neighborhoods are depicted in the media.

Organizing Apprenticeship Project - \$5,000. Through a series of events designed to develop community leadership for racial equity across Minneapolis, this project will work to bring underrepresented voices to city policymaking.

Applications Not Recommended for Funding

As with the first year of the program, many excellent applications were received which, due to limited funding, are not recommended for approval. The applications and the amounts requested are listed below.

African Chamber of Commerce	\$15,000
CAPI USA	\$15,000
Conflict Resolution Center	\$15,000
Friends of Barbara Schneider	\$15,000
Jewish Community Action	\$15,000
Reve Academy	\$15,000
Open Eye Figure Theatre	\$13,700
Twin Cities Juneteenth	\$10,000
Nonprofits Assistance Fund	\$5,000
Pillsbury United Communities – Waite House	\$15,000
Open Access Communications	\$15,000
Redeemer Center for Life	\$15,000
Pangea World Theater	\$15,000
The Anika Foundation	\$15,000
Minneapolis Television Network	\$15,000
Mixed Blood Theatre	\$15,000
Athletes Committed to Educating Students	\$15,000