



## League of Women Voters of Minnesota Records

### **Copyright Notice:**

This material may be protected by copyright law (U.S. Code, Title 17). Researchers are liable for any infringement. For more information, visit [www.mnhs.org/copyright](http://www.mnhs.org/copyright).

*Changing Faces,  
Changing Communities*

Immigration Study Circles

MAILINGS

## Action Forum Presenters, April 29, 2000

FNAME	LNAME	ADDRESS 1	CITY	STATE	ZIP	PHONE
Trina	Alvero	5606 Sherwood Ave	Edina	MN	55424	612/920-0820
Bev	Benson	4930 Yorktown Lane N	Plymouth	MN	55442	612/517-1174
Jessica	Crary	994 Grand Avenue #2	St. Paul	MN	55105	651/224-5762
Vera	Dougher	633 Woodhaven Court NE	Rochester	MN	55906	507/252-1561
Carol	Frisch	7025 Comanche Court	Edina	MN	55139-1004	612/829-0604
Mary	Gover	838 Lower Johnson Circle	St. Peter	MN	56082	507/934-1895
Dick	Little	Augsburg College CB 185	Minneapolis	MN	55454	612/330-1505
Jane	McWilliams	901 W 1st Street	Northfield	MN	55057-1613	507/645-8423
Ellen	Mork	1013 Borgert Avenue	St. Cloud	MN	56303	320/252-1034
Zoe	Nagell	11825 45th Ave N	N. Plymouth	MN	55422	651/553-2701
Susy	Olsen	1427 NW 15th Ave	Rochester	MN	55901	507/281-4469
Connie	Payson	PO Box 793	Elizabeth	MN	56533	218/736-4427
Tim	Penny	500 N State Street	Waseca	MN	56093	507/835-2275
Jeanne	Poppe	301 SW 4th Avenue	Austin	MN	55912	507/433-5687
Judy	Schuck	395 Lake Street	Wayzata	MN	55391	612/249-0142
Jackie	Zerr	605 Southview	Marshall	MN	56258	507/532-3158

(Minneapolis circles)

(Pelican Rapids circle)

Winona: Tanya Tunijc\*, Mary Vang\*, Thai Vang\*

Willmar: Flo Pendergrast

St. Paul: Jessica Crary

Minneapolis: Trina Alvero, Robert Edwards\*

Armstrong High School: Zoe Nagell

Plymouth/Wayzata: Bev Benson

Edina: Carol Frische

Eden Prairie: Judy Schuck

Mankato: Kathy Robinson\*

Northfield: Jane McWilliams

Pelican Rapids: Connie Payson

Austin: Jeanne Poppe

Rochester: Susy Olsen, Vera Dougher

St. Peter: Mary Gover

College of St. Catherine: no presenter

Marshall: Jackie Zerr

St. Cloud: Hildara Blakesly\*, Ellen Mork

Presenters of Comments:

Marshall: Lul Hersi\*

Willmar: Dr. Lilia Barrientos\*

Rochester: Selam Alem\*

\* I don't have contact information for those with stars.

Action Forum  
AGENDA  
Saturday, April 29, 2000  
1:00 - 4:30 p.m.  
Minnesota History Center

**DRAFT**

- 12:30 p.m. Facilitators pre-meeting - Facilitators who will be working with small groups meet to talk about expectations and outcomes for today's session.
- Participants and Action Bazaar Organizations are welcome to arrive, set up their tables, visit and settle in.
- 1:00 p.m. Opening remarks: Joel Wurl, Assistant Curator of The Minnesota Immigration and History Center at the University of Minnesota
- 1:15 p.m. Presentation of Action Items by communities
- 2:00 p.m. Small group discussion according to topic - such as ESL, housing, youth, health care, and the workplace.
- 3:00 p.m. Coffee and light refreshments - participants visit Action Bazaar and exchange ideas with other communities
- 3:30 p.m. Final presentation of Next Steps
- 4:15 p.m. Speakers - What happened at the circle that was the most important?
- 4:30 p.m. Adjourn



The League of Women Voters of Minnesota Education Fund presents



# ACTION FORUM

Saturday, April 29, 2000

1:00 - 4:30 p.m.

Minnesota History Center  
Auditorium and 2<sup>nd</sup> floor classroom

## ACTIVITIES WILL INCLUDE:

- Participants from 17 communities throughout the state who've been involved with circle dialogues sharing their ideas for action in meeting the challenges and opportunities of newcomers to Minnesota
- Representatives from organizations that are currently working on immigration issues available for people to learn more about getting involved in their communities
- A skills presentation, provided by the League of Women Voters, to teach citizen participation skills
- Breakout small-group discussions by topic

Please RSVP at the League of Women Voters of Minnesota Education Fund  
550 Rice Street ~ St. Paul, MN 55103 ~ 651/224-5445 ~ FAX 651/290-2145 ~ Email [lwvmn@mtn.org](mailto:lwvmn@mtn.org)

# **LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF MINNESOTA EDUCATION FUND COMMUNITY CIRCLES NEWSLETTER**

## **MARCH 20, 2000**

From the Project Director...

Janet Gendler reports from the March Board Meeting (LWVMN) that this is one of the biggest projects that LWVMN has ever done and that they are pleased and excited by the enthusiasm and energy put forth by the seventeen communities involved. Congratulations to Local League units, communities, and the many individuals that have made this happen.

Susan

### **EVALUATION**

Evaluations are beginning to come in. We appreciate this prompt turnaround. Hopefully we will have a finished report back from Scott Stiles at Study Circle Resource Center by late May or early June. Just one more request, from Matt, Scott and myself – It would be nice to know the total number of people that were involved in Community Circles – Steering Committee, Facilitators, Participants – anyone who was involved in the program. – Thanks!

### **ACTION FORUM**

The question has been asked – How many people would you like us to bring to the forum?

We would suggest at least three and more if you are interested in having someone from your community in each of the small group discussions. At this point there will be groups discussing housing, youth, health care, education, legal assistance, and welfare benefits. The other answer is, of course, anyone who wants to come is welcome.

With this Newsletter we will be sending you a map of the area around the MN History Center, parking information and information about where you might have lunch before the Forum. Besides the wonderful ethnic restaurants mentioned on the orange piece of paper, there is a restaurant in the MN History Center – nice, but in the moderate price range and a McDonald's on University and Marion – across the freeway bridge and left on University.

We will be requesting from communities:

1. Names and addresses and telephone numbers of people from your community that will be attending the Action Forum.
2. A list (typewritten preferred) of action items that you want to present at the State Action Forum.
3. A list of local action items.
4. Lists of initiatives already happening in your community and contact person's name, address and telephone number.
5. A list of the people you would like to see invited to the State Action Forum

We will also need to know if any of the attendees need translators and if childcare is needed.

Please let me know if a member of your circles would be interested in saying a few words about their experience at the end of the program. We would like to celebrate and wrap up with some words from participants.

## **MONEY**

The final 5% of your pass through grant will be available after your final reports and receipts or invoices have been turned in. Several communities have indicated they will not need the last 5%. The Community Circles Project is out of money as of March 6 (with the exception of the money for the pass through grants and money for limited refreshments at the Action Forum). If you have excess funds due to in-kind donations or additional grants please consider the option of replenishing the LWVMN Community Circles Fund.

## **OPPORTUNITIES**

"Partnership for Preventing Violence: The Six-part Satellite Training Forum," is scheduled for April 14, 2000, from 9AM to 3:00 PM. This is the fifth broadcast in the series titled "Preventing Bias and Promoting Respect" Local programs will include a program at the Department of Human Services entitled "Accessing State Resources" and a program at Armstrong High School which would have a broader base community focus. To participate call 1-877-778-4774.

The results from the Saint Paul Pioneer Press poll, which surveyed immigrants in the 7 county metro area, are beginning to come in. Groups surveyed were Russian, Somali, Latino and Hmong. Some of the questions included were: "Why did you come to this country?" "How are you being treated?" "What are the biggest causes of stress in your life?" Results will be published in the Pioneer Press on April 16.

## **DISCUSSION GUIDES**

Remember to tell interested people that the Discussion Guide can be downloaded from our web site – [www.lwvmn.org](http://www.lwvmn.org) – go to projects and studies – go to Community Circles – go to Discussion Guide

## **ONLINE DISCUSSION**

To be part of the community circle discussion on line, log onto <http://community.twincities.com/realcities/changingfaces>. Questions? Email Janet Gendler at [jhgendler@aol.com](mailto:jhgendler@aol.com)

## **CONTACT**

League of Women Voters of Minnesota  
Education Fund  
550 Rice Street  
St. Paul, MN 55103  
651/224-5445  
651/290-2145 (Fax)  
[lwvmn@mtn.org](mailto:lwvmn@mtn.org)  
<http://www.lwvmn.org>

Susan Anderson  
Project Director  
612/331-1117  
612/331-1912 (Fax)  
[susan331@aol.com](mailto:susan331@aol.com)

Janet Gendler  
LWVMN Board of Directors  
Project Chair  
612-920-3567  
[jhgendler@aol.com](mailto:jhgendler@aol.com)



SECRET

1/18/00

JANET GENDLER

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

SECRET

1/18/00

JANET GENDLER

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

January 18, 2000

Connie Hord  
League of Women Voters - Edina  
5209 Tilden Drive  
Edina, MN 55439-1458

Dear Connie,

Thank you for submitting a request for proposal for Changing Faces, Changing Communities - a community circle project. We hope this will be an opportunity to strengthen local leagues as well as a means to support citizen involvement in your community.

At this time we are awarding 1/4 of the total amount granted -- \$800. In mid February you will receive the next 45%, and the remaining 5% will be awarded upon completion of your final report. Please review the Grant Application and Agreement to make sure that you are carrying out the requested activities.

We are sending newsletters to the project directors in each community to keep them updated on the activities of other community circle projects and to disseminate information and remind them of deadlines. Metro area facilitator training will be held on February 2 at the College of St. Catherine. The statewide Action Forum will be held on April 29 from 1 to 5 p.m. (place to be determined).

We are eager to hear of the progress of the Edina Community Circle Project. Please call Susan Anderson or Janet Gendler, Chair with questions or comments.

Sincerely,

*Janet Gendler*  
Janet Gendler, Project Chair  
612-920-3567

*Susan Anderson*  
Susan Anderson, Project Director  
612-331-1117

SECRET

1/18/00

JANET GENDLER

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

1/18/00

January 18, 2000

Gail Hanson  
League of Women Voters - Minneapolis  
1101 - 1st Avenue NE #1603  
Minneapolis, MN 55413

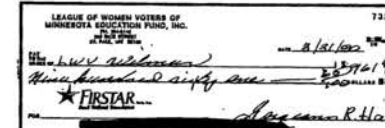
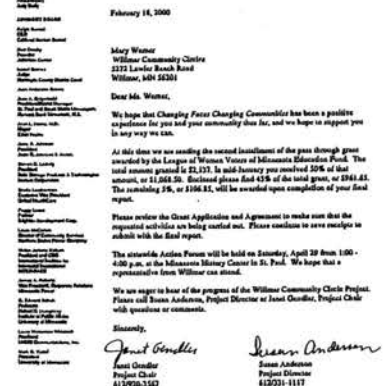
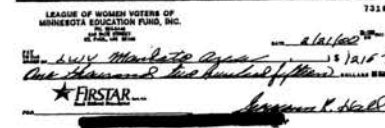
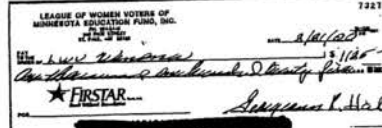
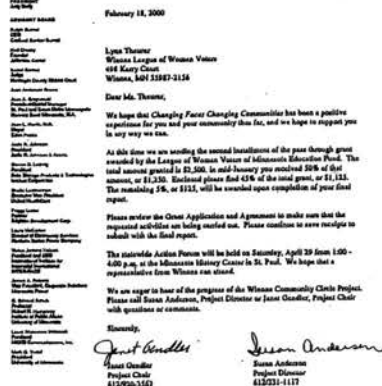
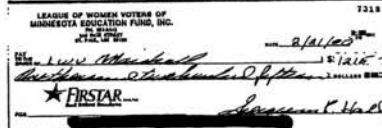
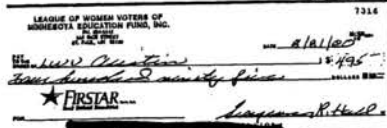
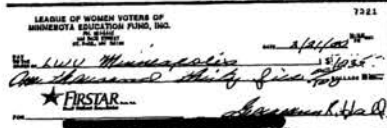
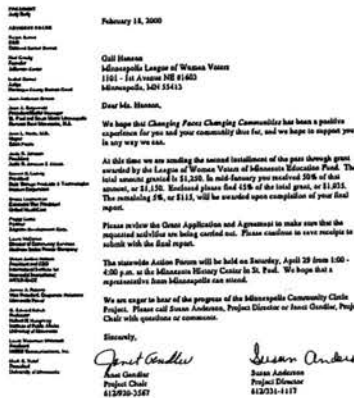
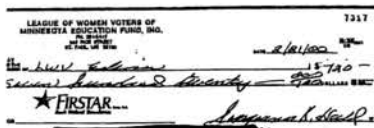
Dear Gail,

Thank you for submitting a request for proposal for Changing Faces, Changing Communities - a community circle project. We hope this will be an opportunity to strengthen local leagues as well as a means to support citizen involvement in your community.

At this time we are awarding 1/4 of the total amount granted -- \$1150. In mid February you will receive the next 45%, and the remaining 5% will be awarded upon completion of your final report. Please review the Grant Application and Agreement to make sure that you are carrying out the requested activities.

We are sending newsletters to the project directors in each community to keep them updated on the activities of other community circle projects and to disseminate information and remind them of deadlines. Metro area facilitator training will be held on February 2 at the College of St. Catherine. The statewide Action







## **Partially Redacted Material**

A portion of this page/item was redacted due to privacy considerations. The original can be viewed at the Minnesota Historical Society's Gale Family Library in Saint Paul, Minnesota. For more information, visit [www.mnhs.org/library/](http://www.mnhs.org/library/).



February 18, 2000

**Emily Meyer**  
Executive League of Women Veterans  
Box 108, Mason, MO 65686

Dear Ms. Meyer,

We hope that Changing Faces Changing Communities has been a positive experience for you and your community. In fact, we hope to suggest you in any way we can.

At this time we are sending the second installment of the press through grant to the Executive League of Women Veterans of Missouri Chapter. The total amount granted is \$20,000. To date January you received 28% of that amount, or 21,536. Estimated final 47% of the total grant, or 11,213. The remaining 14% or 1123, will be awarded upon completion of your final report.

Please review the Grant Application and Agreement to make sure that the required updates have been satisfied. Please continue to make reports in to us with the final report.

The Associate Action Forum will be held on Saturday, April 29 from 1:00 - 6:00 p.m. at the Missouri History Center of St. Paul. We hope that a representative from Redstone can attend.

We are very excited of the progress of the Redstone Community Grants Project. Please call Susan Anderson, Project Director or Janet Oosterlinck, Project Chair with questions or comments.

Sincerely,

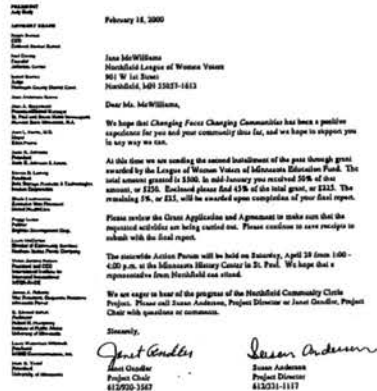
*Janet Oosterlinck*  
Project Chair  
417/339-1565

*Susan Anderson*  
Susan Anderson  
Project Director  
417/333-1117

7324

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF  
MINNESOTA EDUCATION FUND, INC.  
P.O. BOX  
ST. PAUL, MN 55108

The \_\_\_\_\_ was refused by \_\_\_\_\_  
Susan Lockmeyer IS 1A15-  
Care Hansen This number of file \_\_\_\_\_  
★ **FIRSTAR** \_\_\_\_\_  
FOR \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_




LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF  
MINNESOTA EDUCATION FUND, INC.  
1000 W. WASHINGTON  
ST. PAUL, MN 55102

7323

DATE 2/21/68 ☒ **PAID**

TO 1000 Northfield \$ 125

FOR Two hundred twenty five 950 ☒ **PAID**

 **FIRST STAR** FOR WOMEN

NAME Shirley K. Hall





## **Partially Redacted Material**

A portion of this page/item was redacted due to privacy considerations. The original can be viewed at the Minnesota Historical Society's Gale Family Library in Saint Paul, Minnesota. For more information, visit [www.mnhs.org/library/](http://www.mnhs.org/library/).

Community Circles Schedule  
College of St. Catherine, Eden Prairie, Edina, Minneapolis, St. Paul, Rochester  
2/8/2000

**FEBRUARY 6 - FEBRUARY 12**

MONDAY 2/7/00

TUESDAY 2/8/00

Edina	Tuesday, 2/8/00	7:00 - 9:00 p.m.	Edina Community Center
-------	-----------------	------------------	------------------------

WEDNESDAY 2/9/00

St. Catherine's	Wednesday, 2/9/00	5:00 - 6:30 p.m.	St. Catherine's
-----------------	-------------------	------------------	-----------------

THURSDAY 2/10/00

FRIDAY 2/11/00

Edina	Friday, 2/11/00	9:30 - 11:30 a.m.	Edina Community Center
-------	-----------------	-------------------	------------------------

SATURDAY 2/12/00

Edina	Saturday, 2/12/00	9:30 - 11:30 a.m.	Edina Community Center
-------	-------------------	-------------------	------------------------

**FEBRUARY 13 - FEBRUARY 19**

MONDAY 2/14/00

Rochester	2:00 - 4:00 p.m.	Rochester Senior Center
<b>St. Paul</b>	<b>5:00 - 7:30 p.m.</b>	<b>St. Peter Claver Church</b>
Rochester	6:30 - 8:30 p.m.	Red Cross

Dates in **BOLD FACE** indicate community Kick-off event.

Community Circles Schedule  
College of St. Catherine, Eden Prairie, Edina, Minneapolis, St. Paul, Rochester  
2/8/2000

TUESDAY 2/15/00

Rochester	1:00 - 3:00 p.m.	Workforce @ PIC
St. Paul	5:30 - 7:30 p.m.	NCCJ
St. Paul	6:00 - 8:30 p.m.	McDounough
Rochester	7:00 - 9:00 p.m.	Public Library
Edina	7:00 - 9:00 p.m.	Edina Community Center

WEDNESDAY 2/16/00

Rochester	10:00 - 12:00 p.m.	United Way
St. Catherine's	5:00 - 6:30 p.m.	St. Catherine's
St. Paul	6:00 - 8:00 p.m.	Neighborhood House
Minneapolis	6:00 - 8:00 p.m.	Painter's Park
Rochester	6:30 - 7:30 p.m.	Gage
St. Paul	6:30 - 8:30 p.m.	Merriam Park

THURSDAY 2/17/00

St. Paul	7:00 - 9:00 p.m.	JCC
----------	------------------	-----

FRIDAY 2/18/00

Edina	9:30 - 11:30 a.m.	Edina Community Center
St. Paul	3:00 - 5:00 p.m.	Somali Community
St. Paul	5:00 - 8:30 p.m.	Frogtown

SATURDAY 2/19/00

Edina	9:30 - 11:30 a.m.	Edina Community Center
Rochester	10:00 - 12:00 p.m.	Library
Minneapolis	10:00 - 12:00 p.m.	Bryant Square

Dates in **BOLD FACE** indicate community Kick-off event.

Community Circles Schedule  
College of St. Catherine, Eden Prairie, Edina, Minneapolis, St. Paul, Rochester  
2/8/2000

**FEBRUARY 20 - FEBRUARY 26**

MONDAY 2/21/00

Rochester	2:00 - 4:00 p.m.	Senior Center
Rochester	6:30 - 8:30 p.m.	Red Cross

TUESDAY 2/22/00

Rochester	1:00 - 3:00 p.m.	Workforce @ PIC
St. Paul	5:30 - 7:30 p.m.	NCCJ
St. Paul	6:00 - 8:30 p.m.	McDounough
Rochester	7:00 - 9:00 p.m.	Library
Edina	7:00 - 9:00 p.m.	Edina Community Center

WEDNESDAY 2/23/00

Rochester	Wednesday, 2/23/00	10:00 - 12:00 p.m.	United Way
Eden Prairie	Wednesday, 2/23/00	1:30 - 3:00 p.m.	Eden Prairie Center
St. Catherine's	Wednesday, 2/23/00	5:00 - 6:30 p.m.	St. Catherine's
Minneapolis	Wednesday, 2/23/00	6:00 - 8:00 p.m.	Painter's Park
St. Paul	Wednesday, 2/23/00	6:00 - 8:00 p.m.	Neighborhood House
Rochester	Wednesday, 2/23/00	6:30 - 7:30 p.m.	Gage
St. Paul	Wednesday, 2/23/00	6:30 - 8:30 p.m.	Merriam Park
Eden Prairie	Wednesday, 2/23/00	7:00 - 9:00 p.m.	Eden Prairie Center

THURSDAY 2/24/00

Eden Prairie	Thursday, 2/24/00	7:00 - 9:00 p.m.	Eden Prairie Center
St. Paul	Thursday, 2/24/00	7:00 - 9:00 p.m.	JCC

Dates in **BOLD FACE** indicate community Kick-off event.

Community Circles Schedule  
College of St. Catherine, Eden Prairie, Edina, Minneapolis, St. Paul, Rochester  
2/8/2000

FRIDAY 2/25/00

Edina	Friday, 2/25/00	9:30 - 11:30 a.m.	Edina Community Center
St. Paul	Friday, 2/25/00	3:00 - 5:00 p.m.	Somali Community
St. Paul	Friday, 2/25/00	5:00 - 8:30 p.m.	Frogtown

SATURDAY 2/26/00

Edina	Saturday, 2/26/00	9:30 - 11:30 a.m.	Edina Community Center
Rochester	Saturday, 2/26/00	10:00 - 12:00 p.m.	Library
Minneapolis	Saturday, 2/26/00	10:00 - 12:00 p.m.	Bryant Square

**FEBRUARY 27 - MARCH 4**

MONDAY 2/28/00

Rochester	Monday, 2/28/00	2:00 - 4:00 p.m.	Senior Center
Rochester	Monday, 2/28/00	6:30 - 8:30 p.m.	Red Cross
Rochester	Monday, 2/28/00	7:00 - 9:00 p.m.	Assisi Community Center

TUESDAY 2/29/00

Rochester	Tuesday, 2/29/00	1:00 - 3:00 p.m.	Workforce @ PIC
St. Paul	Tuesday, 2/29/00	5:30 - 7:30 p.m.	NCCJ
St. Paul	Tuesday, 2/29/00	6:00 - 8:30 p.m.	McDounough
Rochester	Tuesday, 2/29/00	7:00 - 9:00 p.m.	Library
Edina	Tuesday, 2/29/00	7:00 - 9:00 p.m.	Edina Community Center

Dates in **BOLD FACE** indicate community Kick-off event.

Community Circles Schedule  
College of St. Catherine, Eden Prairie, Edina, Minneapolis, St. Paul, Rochester  
2/8/2000

WEDNESDAY 3/1/00

Rochester	Wednesday, 3/1/00	10:00 - 12:00 p.m.	United Way
Eden Prairie	Wednesday, 3/1/00	1:30 - 3:30 p.m.	Eden Prairie Center
St. Catherine's	Wednesday, 3/1/00	5:00 - 6:30 p.m.	St. Catherine's
Minneapolis	Wednesday, 3/1/00	6:00 - 8:00 p.m.	Painter's Park
St. Paul	Wednesday, 3/1/00	6:00 - 8:00 p.m.	Neighborhood House
St. Paul	Wednesday, 3/1/00	6:30 - 8:30 p.m.	Merriam Park
Rochester	Wednesday, 3/1/00	6:30 - 7:30 p.m.	Gage
Eden Prairie	Wednesday, 3/1/00	7:00 - 9:00 p.m.	Eden Prairie Center

THURSDAY 3/2/00

Rochester	Thursday, 3/2/00	10:00 - 12:00 p.m.	Family Y
Eden Prairie	Thursday, 3/2/00	7:00 - 9:00 p.m.	Eden Prairie Center
St. Paul	Thursday, 3/2/00	7:00 - 9:00 p.m.	JCC
Rochester	Thursday, 3/2/00	7:00 - 9:00 p.m.	Extension Bldg

FRIDAY 3/3/00

Edina	Friday, 3/3/00	9:30 - 11:30 a.m.	Edina Community Center
St. Paul	Friday, 3/3/00	3:00 - 5:00 p.m.	Somali Community
St. Paul	Friday, 3/3/00	5:00 - 8:30 p.m.	Frogtown

SATURDAY 3/4/00

Edina	Saturday, 3/4/00	9:30 - 11:30 a.m.	Edina Community Center
Rochester	Saturday, 3/4/00	10:00 - 12:00 p.m.	Library
Minneapolis	Saturday, 3/4/00	10:00 - 12:00 p.m.	Bryant Square

Dates in **BOLD FACE** indicate community Kick-off event.

Community Circles Schedule  
College of St. Catherine, Eden Prairie, Edina, Minneapolis, St. Paul, Rochester  
2/8/2000

**MARCH 5 - MARCH 11**

**MONDAY 3/6/00**

Rochester	Monday, 3/6/00	2:00 - 4:00 p.m.	Senior Center
Rochester	Monday, 3/6/00	6:30 - 8:30 p.m.	Red Cross
Rochester	Monday, 3/6/00	7:00 - 9:00 p.m.	Assisi Community Center

**TUESDAY 3/7/00**

Rochester	Tuesday, 3/7/00	1:00 - 3:00 p.m.	Workforce @ PIC
St. Paul	Tuesday, 3/7/00	5:30 - 7:30 p.m.	NCCJ
St. Paul	Tuesday, 3/7/00	6:00 - 8:30 p.m.	McDounough
Rochester	Tuesday, 3/7/00	7:00 - 9:00 p.m.	Library
Edina	Tuesday, 3/7/00	7:00 - 9:00 p.m.	Edina Community Center

**WEDNESDAY 3/8/00**

Rochester	Wednesday, 3/8/00	10:00 - 12:00 p.m.	United Way
Eden Prairie	Wednesday, 3/8/00	1:30 - 3:30 p.m.	Eden Prairie Center
St. Catherine's	Wednesday, 3/8/00	5:00 - 6:30 p.m.	St. Catherine's
St. Paul	Wednesday, 3/8/00	6:00 - 8:00 p.m.	Neighborhood House
Minneapolis	Wednesday, 3/8/00	6:00 - 8:00 p.m.	Painter's Park
Rochester	Wednesday, 3/8/00	6:30 - 7:30 p.m.	Gage
Eden Prairie	Wednesday, 3/8/00	7:00 - 9:00 p.m.	Eden Prairie Center

**THURSDAY 3/9/00**

Rochester	Thursday, 3/9/00	10:00 - 12:00 p.m.	Family Y
Eden Prairie	Thursday, 3/9/00	7:00 - 9:00 p.m.	Eden Prairie Center
St. Paul	Thursday, 3/9/00	7:00 - 9:00 p.m.	JCC
Rochester	Thursday, 3/9/00	7:00 - 9:00 p.m.	Extension Bldg

Dates in **BOLD FACE** indicate community Kick-off event.

Community Circles Schedule  
College of St. Catherine, Eden Prairie, Edina, Minneapolis, St. Paul, Rochester  
2/8/2000

FRIDAY 3/10/00

St. Paul	Friday, 3/10/00	3:00 - 5:00 p.m.	Somali Community
St. Paul	Friday, 3/10/00	5:00 - 8:30 p.m.	Frogtown

SATURDAY 3/11/00

Rochester	Saturday, 3/11/00	10:00 - 12:00 p.m.	Library
Minneapolis	Saturday, 3/11/00	10:00 - 12:00 p.m.	Bryant Square

**MARCH 12 - MARCH 18**

MONDAY 3/13/00

Rochester	Monday, 3/13/00	2:00 - 4:00 p.m.	Senior Center
Rochester	Monday, 3/13/00	6:30 - 8:30 p.m.	Red Cross
Rochester	Monday, 3/13/00	7:00 - 9:00 p.m.	Assisi Community Center

TUESDAY 3/14/00

Rochester	Tuesday, 3/14/00	1:00 - 3:00 p.m.	Workforce @ PIC
St. Paul	Tuesday, 3/14/00	6:00 - 8:30 p.m.	McDounough
Rochester	Tuesday, 3/14/00	7:00 - 9:00 p.m.	Library

Dates in **BOLD FACE** indicate community Kick-off event.



Community Circles Schedule  
College of St. Catherine, Eden Prairie, Edina, Minneapolis, St. Paul, Rochester  
2/8/2000

WEDNESDAY 3/15/00

Rochester	Wednesday, 3/15/00	10:00 - 12:00 p.m.	United Way
Eden Prairie	Wednesday, 3/15/00	1:30 - 3:00 p.m.	Eden Prairie Center
Minneapolis	Wednesday, 3/15/00	6:00 - 8:00 p.m.	Painter's Park
St. Paul	Wednesday, 3/15/00	6:00 - 8:00 p.m.	Neighborhood House
Rochester	Wednesday, 3/15/00	6:30 - 7:30 p.m.	Gage
St. Paul	Wednesday, 3/15/00	6:30 - 8:30 p.m.	Merriam Park
Eden Prairie	Wednesday, 3/15/00	7:00 - 9:00 p.m.	Eden Prairie Center

THURSDAY 3/16/00

Rochester	Thursday, 3/16/00	10:00 - 12:00 p.m.	Family Y
Eden Prairie	Thursday, 3/16/00	7:00 - 9:00 p.m.	Eden Prairie Center
Rochester	Thursday, 3/16/00	7:00 - 9:00 p.m.	Extension Bldg
St. Paul	Thursday, 3/16/00	7:00 - 9:00 p.m.	JCC

FRIDAY 3/17/00

St. Paul	Friday, 3/17/00	3:00 - 5:00 p.m.	Somali Community
St. Paul	Friday, 3/17/00	5:00 - 8:30 p.m.	Frogtown

SATURDAY 3/18/00

Rochester	Saturday, 3/18/00	10:00 - 12:00 p.m.	Library
Minneapolis	Saturday, 3/18/00	10:00 - 12:00 p.m.	Bryant Square

Dates in **BOLD FACE** indicate community Kick-off event.

Community Circles Schedule  
College of St. Catherine, Eden Prairie, Edina, Minneapolis, St. Paul, Rochester  
2/8/2000

**MARCH 19 - MARCH 25**

MONDAY 3/20/00

Rochester	Monday, 3/20/00	7:00 - 9:00 p.m.	Assisi Community Center
-----------	-----------------	------------------	-------------------------

TUESDAY 3/21/00

St. Paul	Tuesday, 3/21/00	5:30 - 7:30 p.m.	NCCJ
----------	------------------	------------------	------

WEDNESDAY 3/22/00

Eden Prairie	Wednesday, 3/22/00	1:30 - 3:30 p.m.	Eden Prairie Center
St. Paul	Wednesday, 3/22/00	6:30 - 8:30 p.m.	Merriam Park
Eden Prairie	Wednesday, 3/22/00	7:00 - 9:00 p.m.	Eden Prairie Center

THURSDAY 3/23/00

Rochester	Thursday, 3/23/00	10:00 - 12:00 p.m.	Family Y
Rochester	Thursday, 3/23/00	7:00 - 9:00 p.m.	Extension Building
Eden Prairie	Thursday, 3/23/00	7:00 - 9:00 p.m.	Eden Prairie Center

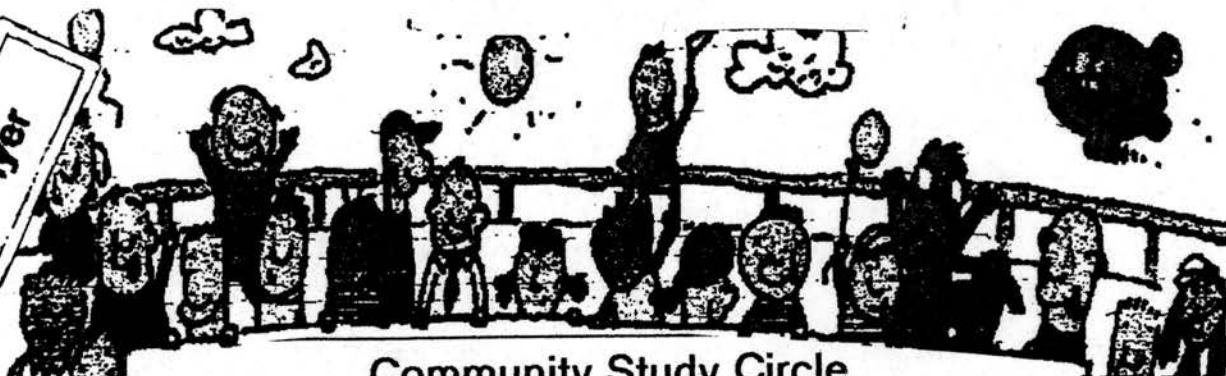
**MARCH 26 - APRIL 1**

THURSDAY 3/30/00

Rochester	Thursday, 3/30/00	10:00 - 12:00 p.m.	Family Y
Rochester	Thursday, 3/30/00	7:00 - 9:00 p.m.	Extension Building

Dates in **BOLD FACE** indicate community Kick-off event.

Please take a Flyer



**Community Study Circle**  
**Changing Faces – Changing Communities**

***Study Circles Foster Dialogue on Immigration and Community Change***

Across the nation, immigration is changing the face of our communities.

Communities of all sizes are trying to sort out what to do about issues such as language differences, bias crimes against immigrants, multiculturalism in the school curriculum, competition for jobs, and the impact of immigration on existing racial and ethnic tensions.

Changing Faces, Changing Communities offers an opportunity to talk about how these issues impact on our local communities. It will also offer examples of steps communities around the country are taking to make progress on the issues associated with increased immigration.

*We need you to be on the ground floor of this series of these forums. We need you as participants. We need you to spread the word that these forums are occurring.*

*The Study Circle sessions will be held at:*

**Wayzata High School Cafeteria,  
4955 Peony Lane  
Plymouth, MN**

RECEIVED FEB 14 2000

*Each Session Begins at: 7:00 pm*

*Dates:*

**February 24,  
March 9,  
March 16,  
March 23,  
March 30.**

To participate, contact Bev Benson, or Doug Ernst (Project Coordinators) at 519-1174  
e-mail at [ernst@mninter.net](mailto:ernst@mninter.net)

**Sponsored By:**

**Wayzata/Plymouth League of Women Voters  
Plymouth Human Rights Commission**

A Community Circle Project  
Sponsored by the League of Women Voters of Minnesota/Rochester Education Fund  
**Changing Faces, Changing Communities: Immigration**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date registered: \_\_\_\_\_

What does it mean to be an American in the current age of immigration?  
Creating a better Minnesota with Citizen Involvement

**Participant Pledge Information**

Thank you for expressing an interest in the Community Circle Project. A Community Circle:

1. includes about 8 to 12 people who meet 5 times during the months of February and March to discuss their immigration experiences.
2. lasts for about 2 hours. Each week, different questions are brought up to help participants understand the immigration experiences others have had.
3. includes people from different backgrounds so that participants have a chance to learn about the experiences of other people in our community.

To be a participant in the Community Circles you are asked to:

1. Plan on attending all 5 meetings.
2. Read or have read to you materials before the meetings.
3. Respectfully share your experiences and views with the group.
4. Respectfully listen while other group members share their views and experiences that might be different from your own.
5. Keep information that is shared in the circle within your group setting.

**Please notice the table below. These are your first, second and third choices for participating in the Community Circles project. You will be receiving a letter in late January to confirm the dates of your circle and to invite you to the kickoff.**

Circle # 1	Circle # 2	Circle # 3	Circle # 4	Circle # 5	Circle # 6	Circle # 7	Circle # 8	Circle # 9	Circle # 10
Downtown Monday 2-4 PM Senior Citizen Center 2/14-3/13	SE Monday 6:30-8:30 PM Red Cross 2/14-3/13 <u>Daycare Site</u>	NW Monday 7-9 PM Assisi Community Center 2/28-3/20	NW Tuesday 1-3 PM Workforce @ PIC 2/15-3/14	Downtown Tuesday 7-9 PM RP Library 2/15-3/14	NW Wednesday 10-12 AM United Way 2/16-3/15	NW Wednesday 6:30-7:30 PM Gage 2/16-3/15 <u>Daycare Site</u>	SE Thursday 10-12 AM Family Y 3/2-3/30 <u>Daycare Site</u>	SE Thursday 7-9 PM Extension Bldg 3/2-3/30	Downtown Saturday 10-12 AM RP Library 2/19-3/18

NOTE: Registration is on a first come, first served basis.

If you registered over the phone, please keep this letter as your record. If you are filling out this form yourself, fill in the table above and keep this page for your records.

Return the attached completed **Participant Form** to:

**Olsen & Associates**

Box # 7522

Rochester, MN 55903

e-mail: so.smile@juno.com

Phone: 507.281.4469

**Subject: Fwd: Qns and answers**

**Date:** Mon, 14 Feb 2000 09:25:18 EST

**From:** Susan331@aol.com

**To:** lwvmn@mtn.org

---

**Subject: Qns and answers**

**Date:** Sat, 12 Feb 2000 15:23:10 -0600

**From:** Mary Gover <mgover@gac.edu>

**To:** susan331@aol.com

Susan --

- 1) St. Peter schedule is five Thursday evenings, Feb. 17 and 24, March 2, 9, and 16, 6:45 until 9:00 p.m. at Trinity Lutheran Church
- 2) I can't report the number of participants until we meet for the first time, since we've issued a general invitation to the public.
- 3) Thanks for talking with Deb from Montgomery. I'm glad that between the two of us, we managed to convince her that she needed to think about circles in Montgomery, rather than invading St. Peter. Of course, she may still turn up here, but that seems less likely now than it did when I talked with her.
- 4) Facilitators Checklist from St. Pual includes some puzzling--to me--instructions, e.g. "get in touch with your contact (list included)" I see no list. Who is the "contact," other than myself? Also, what is Jessica Crary's role? (Facilitators may well ask, Who is Jessica Crary? I see her phone number is the LWVMN office, so I'll tell them she's there.) Does she have particular knowledge of the discussion guide and facil. handbook? And what are the facilitators to do with their report forms after filling them out after each session? Are they to come to me? Or to Jessica? Or where? and when? Under EVALUSATION, facilitators are told to "ask participants to help discuss the last four questions posed in the discussin guide." Doe that mean the last four questions on the session evaluation? (I don't see four questions in the discussion guide.)

Thanks for keeping in touch.

MG

CONTACT LIST:

Table1 Query

01/31/2000

Field1	Field2	Field3	Field6
Armstrong	Pro Dir	Zoe Nagell	
Austin	Pro Dir	Jeanne Poppe	800-333-2584
DL/PelicanRapi	Pro Dir	Connie Payson	218-736-4427
Edina	Pro Dir	Carol Frisch	651-772-4255
Eden Prairie	Pro Dir	Judy Schuck	612-249-0142
Eden Prairie	Pro Dir	Bette Anderson	612-941-2853
Mankato	Pro Dir	Diana Olvedo Munoz	507-389-6278
Minneapolis	Pro Dir	Trina Alvero	612-502-6885
Northfield	Pro Dir	Jane McWilliams	507-6645-8423
College of St. Ca	Pro Dir	Sue Hendricks	
Plymouth/Wayzatt	Pro Dir	Bev Benson	612-348-7773
Winona	Pro Dir	Lee Luebbe	507-452-5747
St. Peter	Pro Dir	Mary Gover	507-931-1895
Rochester	Pro Dir	Susy Olsen	507-281-4469
St. Cloud	Pro Dir	Ellen Mork	320-252-1034
St. Paul	Pro Dir	Jessica Crary	651-224-5445
Marshall	Pro Dir	Jackie Zerr	507-532-3158
Willmar	Pro Dir	Andrea Carruthers	320-214-6840

\*TAKE DOWN  
NAMES & #S  
OF THOSE INTERESTED  
IN NEW BRIGHTON

612/519-1174

↓  
OR GIVE  
SUSAN  
ANDERSON'S  
NUMBER

612/331-1117

690-6670  
Dick Kitter suggestion for facilitator  
for Somali Community  
612 330-1505

To: Marilyn

1-800-858-4235

From: Susan

Phone 331-1117

Fax 1912

Marilyn - Armstrong + St. Catherine is not  
open to the public - these are classroom  
settings



Community Circles Schedule  
College of St. Catherine, Eden Prairie, Edina, Minneapolis, St. Paul, Rochester  
2/7/2000

**FEBRUARY 6 - FEBRUARY 12**

MONDAY 2/7/00

TUESDAY 2/8/00

<b>Edina</b>	<b>Tuesday, 2/8/00</b>	<b>7:00 - 9:00 p.m.</b>	<b>Edina Community Center</b>
--------------	------------------------	-------------------------	-------------------------------

WEDNESDAY 2/9/00

St. Catherine's	Wednesday, 2/9/00	5:00 - 6:30 p.m.	St. Catherine's
-----------------	-------------------	------------------	-----------------

THURSDAY 2/10/00

FRIDAY 2/11/00

Edina	Friday, 2/11/00	9:30 - 11:30 a.m.	Edina Community Center
-------	-----------------	-------------------	------------------------

SATURDAY 2/12/00

Edina	Saturday, 2/12/00	9:30 - 11:30 a.m.	Edina Community Center
-------	-------------------	-------------------	------------------------

**FEBRUARY 13 - FEBRUARY 19**

MONDAY 2/14/00

Rochester	2:00 - 4:00 p.m.	Rochester Senior Center
<b>St. Paul</b>	<b>5:00 - 7:30 p.m.</b>	<b>St. Peter Claver Church</b>
Rochester	6:30 - 8:30 p.m.	Red Cross

Dates in **BOLD FACE** indicate community Kick-off event.

Community Circles Schedule  
College of St. Catherine, Eden Prairie, Edina, Minneapolis, St. Paul, Rochester  
2/7/2000

TUESDAY 2/15/00

Rochester	1:00 - 3:00 p.m.	Workforce @ PIC
St. Paul	5:30 - 7:30 p.m.	NCCJ
St. Paul	6:00 - 8:30 p.m.	McDounough
Rochester	7:00 - 9:00 p.m.	Public Library
Edina	7:00 - 9:00 p.m.	Edina Community Center

WEDNESDAY 2/16/00

Rochester	10:00 - 12:00 p.m.	United Way
St. Catherine's	5:00 - 6:30 p.m.	St. Catherine's
St. Paul	6:00 - 8:00 p.m.	Neighborhood House
Minneapolis	6:00 - 8:00 p.m.	Painter's Park
Rochester	6:30 - 7:30 p.m.	Gage
St. Paul	6:30 - 8:30 p.m.	Merriam Park

THURSDAY 2/17/00

St. Paul	7:00 - 9:00 p.m.	JCC
----------	------------------	-----

FRIDAY 2/18/00

Edina	9:30 - 11:30 a.m.	Edina Community Center
St. Paul	3:00 - 5:00 p.m.	Somali Community
St. Paul	5:00 - 8:30 p.m.	Frogtown

SATURDAY 2/19/00

Edina	9:30 - 11:30 a.m.	Edina Community Center
Rochester	10:00 - 12:00 p.m.	Library
Minneapolis	10:00 - 12:00 p.m.	Bryant Square

Dates in **BOLD FACE** indicate community Kick-off event.



Community Circles Schedule  
College of St. Catherine, Eden Prairie, Edina, Minneapolis, St. Paul, Rochester  
2/7/2000

TUESDAY 2/15/00

Rochester	1:00 - 3:00 p.m.	Workforce @ PIC
St. Paul	5:30 - 7:30 p.m.	NCCJ
St. Paul	6:00 - 8:30 p.m.	McDounough
Rochester	7:00 - 9:00 p.m.	Public Library
Edina	7:00 - 9:00 p.m.	Edina Community Center

WEDNESDAY 2/16/00

Rochester	10:00 - 12:00 p.m.	United Way
St. Catherine's	5:00 - 6:30 p.m.	St. Catherine's
St. Paul	6:00 - 8:00 p.m.	Neighborhood House
Minneapolis	6:00 - 8:00 p.m.	Painter's Park
Rochester	6:30 - 7:30 p.m.	Gage
St. Paul	6:30 - 8:30 p.m.	Merriam Park

THURSDAY 2/17/00

St. Paul	7:00 - 9:00 p.m.	JCC
----------	------------------	-----

FRIDAY 2/18/00

Edina	9:30 - 11:30 a.m.	Edina Community Center
St. Paul	3:00 - 5:00 p.m.	Somali Community
St. Paul	5:00 - 8:30 p.m.	Frogtown

SATURDAY 2/19/00

Edina	9:30 - 11:30 a.m.	Edina Community Center
Rochester	10:00 - 12:00 p.m.	Library
Minneapolis	10:00 - 12:00 p.m.	Bryant Square

Dates in **BOLD FACE** indicate community Kick-off event.

Community Circles Schedule  
College of St. Catherine, Eden Prairie, Edina, Minneapolis, St. Paul, Rochester  
2/7/2000

**FEBRUARY 6 - FEBRUARY 12**

MONDAY 2/7/00

TUESDAY 2/8/00

Edina	Tuesday, 2/8/00	7:00 - 9:00 p.m.	Edina Community Center
-------	-----------------	------------------	------------------------

WEDNESDAY 2/9/00

St. Catherine's	Wednesday, 2/9/00	5:00 - 6:30 p.m.	St. Catherine's
-----------------	-------------------	------------------	-----------------

THURSDAY 2/10/00

FRIDAY 2/11/00

Edina	Friday, 2/11/00	9:30 - 11:30 a.m.	Edina Community Center
-------	-----------------	-------------------	------------------------

SATURDAY 2/12/00

Edina	Saturday, 2/12/00	9:30 - 11:30 a.m.	Edina Community Center
-------	-------------------	-------------------	------------------------

**FEBRUARY 13 - FEBRUARY 19**

MONDAY 2/14/00

Rochester	2:00 - 4:00 p.m.	Rochester Senior Center
<b>St. Paul</b>	<b>5:00 - 7:30 p.m.</b>	<b>St. Peter Claver Church</b>
Rochester	6:30 - 8:30 p.m.	Red Cross

Dates in **BOLD FACE** indicate community Kick-off event.

Community Circles Schedule  
College of St. Catherine, Eden Prairie, Edina, Minneapolis, St. Paul, Rochester  
2/7/2000

**FEBRUARY 20 - FEBRUARY 26**

MONDAY 2/21/00

Rochester	2:00 - 4:00 p.m.	Senior Center
Rochester	6:30 - 8:30 p.m.	Red Cross

TUESDAY 2/22/00

Rochester	1:00 - 3:00 p.m.	Workforce @ PIC
St. Paul	5:30 - 7:30 p.m.	NCCJ
St. Paul	6:00 - 8:30 p.m.	McDounough
Rochester	7:00 - 9:00 p.m.	Library
Edina	7:00 - 9:00 p.m.	Edina Community Center

WEDNESDAY 2/23/00

Rochester	Wednesday, 2/23/00	10:00 - 12:00 p.m.	United Way
Eden Prairie	Wednesday, 2/23/00	1:30 - 3:00 p.m.	Eden Prairie Center
St. Catherine's	Wednesday, 2/23/00	5:00 - 6:30 p.m.	St. Catherine's
Minneapolis	Wednesday, 2/23/00	6:00 - 8:00 p.m.	Painter's Park
St. Paul	Wednesday, 2/23/00	6:00 - 8:00 p.m.	Neighborhood House
Rochester	Wednesday, 2/23/00	6:30 - 7:30 p.m.	Gage
St. Paul	Wednesday, 2/23/00	6:30 - 8:30 p.m.	Merriam Park
Eden Prairie	Wednesday, 2/23/00	7:00 - 9:00 p.m.	Eden Prairie Center

THURSDAY 2/24/00

Eden Prairie	Thursday, 2/24/00	7:00 - 9:00 p.m.	Eden Prairie Center
St. Paul	Thursday, 2/24/00	7:00 - 9:00 p.m.	JCC

Dates in **BOLD FACE** indicate community Kick-off event.

Community Circles Schedule  
College of St. Catherine, Eden Prairie, Edina, Minneapolis, St. Paul, Rochester  
2/7/2000

FRIDAY 2/25/00

Edina	Friday, 2/25/00	9:30 - 11:30 a.m.	Edina Community Center
St. Paul	Friday, 2/25/00	3:00 - 5:00 p.m.	Somali Community
St. Paul	Friday, 2/25/00	5:00 - 8:30 p.m.	Frogtown

SATURDAY 2/26/00

Edina	Saturday, 2/26/00	9:30 - 11:30 a.m.	Edina Community Center
Rochester	Saturday, 2/26/00	10:00 - 12:00 p.m.	Library
Minneapolis	Saturday, 2/26/00	10:00 - 12:00 p.m.	Bryant Square

**FEBRUARY 27 - MARCH 4**

MONDAY 2/28/00

Rochester	Monday, 2/28/00	2:00 - 4:00 p.m.	Senior Center
Rochester	Monday, 2/28/00	6:30 - 8:30 p.m.	Red Cross
Rochester	Monday, 2/28/00	7:00 - 9:00 p.m.	Assisi Community Center

TUESDAY 2/29/00

Rochester	Tuesday, 2/29/00	1:00 - 3:00 p.m.	Workforce @ PIC
St. Paul	Tuesday, 2/29/00	5:30 - 7:30 p.m.	NCCJ
St. Paul	Tuesday, 2/29/00	6:00 - 8:30 p.m.	McDounough
Rochester	Tuesday, 2/29/00	7:00 - 9:00 p.m.	Library
Edina	Tuesday, 2/29/00	7:00 - 9:00 p.m.	Edina Community Center

Dates in **BOLD FACE** indicate community Kick-off event.

Community Circles Schedule  
College of St. Catherine, Eden Prairie, Edina, Minneapolis, St. Paul, Rochester  
2/7/2000

FRIDAY 2/25/00

Edina	Friday, 2/25/00	9:30 - 11:30 a.m.	Edina Community Center
St. Paul	Friday, 2/25/00	3:00 - 5:00 p.m.	Somali Community
St. Paul	Friday, 2/25/00	5:00 - 8:30 p.m.	Frogtown

SATURDAY 2/26/00

Edina	Saturday, 2/26/00	9:30 - 11:30 a.m.	Edina Community Center
Rochester	Saturday, 2/26/00	10:00 - 12:00 p.m.	Library
Minneapolis	Saturday, 2/26/00	10:00 - 12:00 p.m.	Bryant Square

**FEBRUARY 27 - MARCH 4**

MONDAY 2/28/00

Rochester	Monday, 2/28/00	2:00 - 4:00 p.m.	Senior Center
Rochester	Monday, 2/28/00	6:30 - 8:30 p.m.	Red Cross
Rochester	Monday, 2/28/00	7:00 - 9:00 p.m.	Assisi Community Center

TUESDAY 2/29/00

Rochester	Tuesday, 2/29/00	1:00 - 3:00 p.m.	Workforce @ PIC
St. Paul	Tuesday, 2/29/00	5:30 - 7:30 p.m.	NCCJ
St. Paul	Tuesday, 2/29/00	6:00 - 8:30 p.m.	McDounough
Rochester	Tuesday, 2/29/00	7:00 - 9:00 p.m.	Library
Edina	Tuesday, 2/29/00	7:00 - 9:00 p.m.	Edina Community Center

Dates in **BOLD FACE** indicate community Kick-off event.

Community Circles Schedule  
College of St. Catherine, Eden Prairie, Edina, Minneapolis, St. Paul, Rochester  
2/7/2000

**FEBRUARY 20 - FEBRUARY 26**

MONDAY 2/21/00

Rochester	2:00 - 4:00 p.m.	Senior Center
Rochester	6:30 - 8:30 p.m.	Red Cross

TUESDAY 2/22/00

Rochester	1:00 - 3:00 p.m.	Workforce @ PIC
St. Paul	5:30 - 7:30 p.m.	NCCJ
St. Paul	6:00 - 8:30 p.m.	McDounough
Rochester	7:00 - 9:00 p.m.	Library
Edina	7:00 - 9:00 p.m.	Edina Community Center

WEDNESDAY 2/23/00

Rochester	Wednesday, 2/23/00	10:00 - 12:00 p.m.	United Way
Eden Prairie	Wednesday, 2/23/00	1:30 - 3:00 p.m.	Eden Prairie Center
St. Catherine's	Wednesday, 2/23/00	5:00 - 6:30 p.m.	St. Catherine's
Minneapolis	Wednesday, 2/23/00	6:00 - 8:00 p.m.	Painter's Park
St. Paul	Wednesday, 2/23/00	6:00 - 8:00 p.m.	Neighborhood House
Rochester	Wednesday, 2/23/00	6:30 - 7:30 p.m.	Gage
St. Paul	Wednesday, 2/23/00	6:30 - 8:30 p.m.	Merriam Park
Eden Prairie	Wednesday, 2/23/00	7:00 - 9:00 p.m.	Eden Prairie Center

THURSDAY 2/24/00

Eden Prairie	Thursday, 2/24/00	7:00 - 9:00 p.m.	Eden Prairie Center
St. Paul	Thursday, 2/24/00	7:00 - 9:00 p.m.	JCC

Dates in **BOLD FACE** indicate community Kick-off event.

Community Circles Schedule  
College of St. Catherine, Eden Prairie, Edina, Minneapolis, St. Paul, Rochester  
2/7/2000

WEDNESDAY 3/1/00

Rochester	Wednesday, 3/1/00	10:00 - 12:00 p.m.	United Way
Eden Prairie	Wednesday, 3/1/00	1:30 - 3:30 p.m.	Eden Prairie Center
St. Catherine's	Wednesday, 3/1/00	5:00 - 6:30 p.m.	St. Catherine's
Minneapolis	Wednesday, 3/1/00	6:00 - 8:00 p.m.	Painter's Park
St. Paul	Wednesday, 3/1/00	6:00 - 8:00 p.m.	Neighborhood House
St. Paul	Wednesday, 3/1/00	6:30 - 8:30 p.m.	Merriam Park
Rochester	Wednesday, 3/1/00	6:30 - 7:30 p.m.	Gage
Eden Prairie	Wednesday, 3/1/00	7:00 - 9:00 p.m.	Eden Prairie Center

THURSDAY 3/2/00

Rochester	Thursday, 3/2/00	10:00 - 12:00 p.m.	Family Y
Eden Prairie	Thursday, 3/2/00	7:00 - 9:00 p.m.	Eden Prairie Center
St. Paul	Thursday, 3/2/00	7:00 - 9:00 p.m.	JCC
Rochester	Thursday, 3/2/00	7:00 - 9:00 p.m.	Extension Bldg

FRIDAY 3/3/00

Edina	Friday, 3/3/00	9:30 - 11:30 a.m.	Edina Community Center
St. Paul	Friday, 3/3/00	3:00 - 5:00 p.m.	Somali Community
St. Paul	Friday, 3/3/00	5:00 - 8:30 p.m.	Frogtown

SATURDAY 3/4/00

Edina	Saturday, 3/4/00	9:30 - 11:30 a.m.	Edina Community Center
Rochester	Saturday, 3/4/00	10:00 - 12:00 p.m.	Library
Minneapolis	Saturday, 3/4/00	10:00 - 12:00 p.m.	Bryant Square

Dates in **BOLD FACE** indicate community Kick-off event.

Community Circles Schedule  
College of St. Catherine, Eden Prairie, Edina, Minneapolis, St. Paul, Rochester  
2/7/2000

**MARCH 5 - MARCH 11**

**MONDAY 3/6/00**

Rochester	Monday, 3/6/00	2:00 - 4:00 p.m.	Senior Center
Rochester	Monday, 3/6/00	6:30 - 8:30 p.m.	Red Cross
Rochester	Monday, 3/6/00	7:00 - 9:00 p.m.	Assisi Community Center

**TUESDAY 3/7/00**

Rochester	Tuesday, 3/7/00	1:00 - 3:00 p.m.	Workforce @ PIC
St. Paul	Tuesday, 3/7/00	5:30 - 7:30 p.m.	NCCJ
St. Paul	Tuesday, 3/7/00	6:00 - 8:30 p.m.	McDounough
Rochester	Tuesday, 3/7/00	7:00 - 9:00 p.m.	Library
Edina	Tuesday, 3/7/00	7:00 - 9:00 p.m.	Edina Community Center

**WEDNESDAY 3/8/00**

Rochester	Wednesday, 3/8/00	10:00 - 12:00 p.m.	United Way
Eden Prairie	Wednesday, 3/8/00	1:30 - 3:30 p.m.	Eden Prairie Center
St. Catherine's	Wednesday, 3/8/00	5:00 - 6:30 p.m.	St. Catherine's
St. Paul	Wednesday, 3/8/00	6:00 - 8:00 p.m.	Neighborhood House
Minneapolis	Wednesday, 3/8/00	6:00 - 8:00 p.m.	Painter's Park
Rochester	Wednesday, 3/8/00	6:30 - 7:30 p.m.	Gage
Eden Prairie	Wednesday, 3/8/00	7:00 - 9:00 p.m.	Eden Prairie Center

**THURSDAY 3/9/00**

Rochester	Thursday, 3/9/00	10:00 - 12:00 p.m.	Family Y
Eden Prairie	Thursday, 3/9/00	7:00 - 9:00 p.m.	Eden Prairie Center
St. Paul	Thursday, 3/9/00	7:00 - 9:00 p.m.	JCC
Rochester	Thursday, 3/9/00	7:00 - 9:00 p.m.	Extension Bldg

Dates in **BOLD FACE** indicate community Kick-off event.



Community Circles Schedule  
College of St. Catherine, Eden Prairie, Edina, Minneapolis, St. Paul, Rochester  
2/7/2000

**MARCH 5 - MARCH 11**

**MONDAY 3/6/00**

Rochester	Monday, 3/6/00	2:00 - 4:00 p.m.	Senior Center
Rochester	Monday, 3/6/00	6:30 - 8:30 p.m.	Red Cross
Rochester	Monday, 3/6/00	7:00 - 9:00 p.m.	Assisi Community Center

**TUESDAY 3/7/00**

Rochester	Tuesday, 3/7/00	1:00 - 3:00 p.m.	Workforce @ PIC
St. Paul	Tuesday, 3/7/00	5:30 - 7:30 p.m.	NCCJ
St. Paul	Tuesday, 3/7/00	6:00 - 8:30 p.m.	McDounough
Rochester	Tuesday, 3/7/00	7:00 - 9:00 p.m.	Library
Edina	Tuesday, 3/7/00	7:00 - 9:00 p.m.	Edina Community Center

**WEDNESDAY 3/8/00**

Rochester	Wednesday, 3/8/00	10:00 - 12:00 p.m.	United Way
Eden Prairie	Wednesday, 3/8/00	1:30 - 3:30 p.m.	Eden Prairie Center
St. Catherine's	Wednesday, 3/8/00	5:00 - 6:30 p.m.	St. Catherine's
St. Paul	Wednesday, 3/8/00	6:00 - 8:00 p.m.	Neighborhood House
Minneapolis	Wednesday, 3/8/00	6:00 - 8:00 p.m.	Painter's Park
Rochester	Wednesday, 3/8/00	6:30 - 7:30 p.m.	Gage
Eden Prairie	Wednesday, 3/8/00	7:00 - 9:00 p.m.	Eden Prairie Center

**THURSDAY 3/9/00**

Rochester	Thursday, 3/9/00	10:00 - 12:00 p.m.	Family Y
Eden Prairie	Thursday, 3/9/00	7:00 - 9:00 p.m.	Eden Prairie Center
St. Paul	Thursday, 3/9/00	7:00 - 9:00 p.m.	JCC
Rochester	Thursday, 3/9/00	7:00 - 9:00 p.m.	Extension Bldg

Dates in **BOLD FACE** indicate community Kick-off event.

Community Circles Schedule  
College of St. Catherine, Eden Prairie, Edina, Minneapolis, St. Paul, Rochester  
2/7/2000

WEDNESDAY 3/1/00

Rochester	Wednesday, 3/1/00	10:00 - 12:00 p.m.	United Way
Eden Prairie	Wednesday, 3/1/00	1:30 - 3:30 p.m.	Eden Prairie Center
St. Catherine's	Wednesday, 3/1/00	5:00 - 6:30 p.m.	St. Catherine's
Minneapolis	Wednesday, 3/1/00	6:00 - 8:00 p.m.	Painter's Park
St. Paul	Wednesday, 3/1/00	6:00 - 8:00 p.m.	Neighborhood House
St. Paul	Wednesday, 3/1/00	6:30 - 8:30 p.m.	Merriam Park
Rochester	Wednesday, 3/1/00	6:30 - 7:30 p.m.	Gage
Eden Prairie	Wednesday, 3/1/00	7:00 - 9:00 p.m.	Eden Prairie Center

THURSDAY 3/2/00

Rochester	Thursday, 3/2/00	10:00 - 12:00 p.m.	Family Y
Eden Prairie	Thursday, 3/2/00	7:00 - 9:00 p.m.	Eden Prairie Center
St. Paul	Thursday, 3/2/00	7:00 - 9:00 p.m.	JCC
Rochester	Thursday, 3/2/00	7:00 - 9:00 p.m.	Extension Bldg

FRIDAY 3/3/00

Edina	Friday, 3/3/00	9:30 - 11:30 a.m.	Edina Community Center
St. Paul	Friday, 3/3/00	3:00 - 5:00 p.m.	Somali Community
St. Paul	Friday, 3/3/00	5:00 - 8:30 p.m.	Frogtown

SATURDAY 3/4/00

Edina	Saturday, 3/4/00	9:30 - 11:30 a.m.	Edina Community Center
Rochester	Saturday, 3/4/00	10:00 - 12:00 p.m.	Library
Minneapolis	Saturday, 3/4/00	10:00 - 12:00 p.m.	Bryant Square

Dates in **BOLD FACE** indicate community Kick-off event.

Community Circles Schedule  
College of St. Catherine, Eden Prairie, Edina, Minneapolis, St. Paul, Rochester  
2/7/2000

FRIDAY 3/10/00

St. Paul	Friday, 3/10/00	3:00 - 5:00 p.m.	Somali Community
St. Paul	Friday, 3/10/00	5:00 - 8:30 p.m.	Frogtown

SATURDAY 3/11/00

Rochester	Saturday, 3/11/00	10:00 - 12:00 p.m.	Library
Minneapolis	Saturday, 3/11/00	10:00 - 12:00 p.m.	Bryant Square

**MARCH 12 - MARCH 18**

MONDAY 3/13/00

Rochester	Monday, 3/13/00	2:00 - 4:00 p.m.	Senior Center
Rochester	Monday, 3/13/00	6:30 - 8:30 p.m.	Red Cross
Rochester	Monday, 3/13/00	7:00 - 9:00 p.m.	Assisi Community Center

TUESDAY 3/14/00

Rochester	Tuesday, 3/14/00	1:00 - 3:00 p.m.	Workforce @ PIC
St. Paul	Tuesday, 3/14/00	6:00 - 8:30 p.m.	McDounough
Rochester	Tuesday, 3/14/00	7:00 - 9:00 p.m.	Library

Community Circles Schedule  
College of St. Catherine, Eden Prairie, Edina, Minneapolis, St. Paul, Rochester  
2/7/2000

WEDNESDAY 3/15/00

Rochester	Wednesday, 3/15/00	10:00 - 12:00 p.m.	United Way
Eden Prairie	Wednesday, 3/15/00	1:30 - 3:00 p.m.	Eden Prairie Center
Minneapolis	Wednesday, 3/15/00	6:00 - 8:00 p.m.	Painter's Park
St. Paul	Wednesday, 3/15/00	6:00 - 8:00 p.m.	Neighborhood House
Rochester	Wednesday, 3/15/00	6:30 - 7:30 p.m.	Gage
St. Paul	Wednesday, 3/15/00	6:30 - 8:30 p.m.	Merriam Park
Eden Prairie	Wednesday, 3/15/00	7:00 - 9:00 p.m.	Eden Prairie Center

THURSDAY 3/16/00

Rochester	Thursday, 3/16/00	10:00 - 12:00 p.m.	Family Y
Eden Prairie	Thursday, 3/16/00	7:00 - 9:00 p.m.	Eden Prairie Center
Rochester	Thursday, 3/16/00	7:00 - 9:00 p.m.	Extension Bldg
St. Paul	Thursday, 3/16/00	7:00 - 9:00 p.m.	JCC

FRIDAY 3/17/00

St. Paul	Friday, 3/17/00	3:00 - 5:00 p.m.	Somali Community
St. Paul	Friday, 3/17/00	5:00 - 8:30 p.m.	Frogtown

SATURDAY 3/18/00

Rochester	Saturday, 3/18/00	10:00 - 12:00 p.m.	Library
Minneapolis	Saturday, 3/18/00	10:00 - 12:00 p.m.	Bryant Square

Community Circles Schedule  
College of St. Catherine, Eden Prairie, Edina, Minneapolis, St. Paul, Rochester  
2/7/2000

WEDNESDAY 3/15/00

Rochester	Wednesday, 3/15/00	10:00 - 12:00 p.m.	United Way
Eden Prairie	Wednesday, 3/15/00	1:30 - 3:00 p.m.	Eden Prairie Center
Minneapolis	Wednesday, 3/15/00	6:00 - 8:00 p.m.	Painter's Park
St. Paul	Wednesday, 3/15/00	6:00 - 8:00 p.m.	Neighborhood House
Rochester	Wednesday, 3/15/00	6:30 - 7:30 p.m.	Gage
St. Paul	Wednesday, 3/15/00	6:30 - 8:30 p.m.	Merriam Park
Eden Prairie	Wednesday, 3/15/00	7:00 - 9:00 p.m.	Eden Prairie Center

THURSDAY 3/16/00

Rochester	Thursday, 3/16/00	10:00 - 12:00 p.m.	Family Y
Eden Prairie	Thursday, 3/16/00	7:00 - 9:00 p.m.	Eden Prairie Center
Rochester	Thursday, 3/16/00	7:00 - 9:00 p.m.	Extension Bldg
St. Paul	Thursday, 3/16/00	7:00 - 9:00 p.m.	JCC

FRIDAY 3/17/00

St. Paul	Friday, 3/17/00	3:00 - 5:00 p.m.	Somali Community
St. Paul	Friday, 3/17/00	5:00 - 8:30 p.m.	Frogtown

SATURDAY 3/18/00

Rochester	Saturday, 3/18/00	10:00 - 12:00 p.m.	Library
Minneapolis	Saturday, 3/18/00	10:00 - 12:00 p.m.	Bryant Square

Dates in **BOLD FACE** indicate community Kick-off event.

Community Circles Schedule  
College of St. Catherine, Eden Prairie, Edina, Minneapolis, St. Paul, Rochester  
2/7/2000

FRIDAY 3/10/00

St. Paul	Friday, 3/10/00	3:00 - 5:00 p.m.	Somali Community
St. Paul	Friday, 3/10/00	5:00 - 8:30 p.m.	Frogtown

SATURDAY 3/11/00

Rochester	Saturday, 3/11/00	10:00 - 12:00 p.m.	Library
Minneapolis	Saturday, 3/11/00	10:00 - 12:00 p.m.	Bryant Square

**MARCH 12 - MARCH 18**

MONDAY 3/13/00

Rochester	Monday, 3/13/00	2:00 - 4:00 p.m.	Senior Center
Rochester	Monday, 3/13/00	6:30 - 8:30 p.m.	Red Cross
Rochester	Monday, 3/13/00	7:00 - 9:00 p.m.	Assisi Community Center

TUESDAY 3/14/00

Rochester	Tuesday, 3/14/00	1:00 - 3:00 p.m.	Workforce @ PIC
St. Paul	Tuesday, 3/14/00	6:00 - 8:30 p.m.	McDounough
Rochester	Tuesday, 3/14/00	7:00 - 9:00 p.m.	Library

Community Circles Schedule  
College of St. Catherine, Eden Prairie, Edina, Minneapolis, St. Paul, Rochester  
2/7/2000

**MARCH 19 - MARCH 25**

MONDAY 3/20/00

Rochester	Monday, 3/20/00	7:00 - 9:00 p.m.	Assisi Community Center
-----------	-----------------	------------------	-------------------------

TUESDAY 3/21/00

St. Paul	Tuesday, 3/21/00	5:30 - 7:30 p.m.	NCCJ
----------	------------------	------------------	------

WEDNESDAY 3/22/00

Eden Prairie	Wednesday, 3/22/00	1:30 - 3:30 p.m.	Eden Prairie Center
St. Paul	Wednesday, 3/22/00	6:30 - 8:30 p.m.	Merriam Park
Eden Prairie	Wednesday, 3/22/00	7:00 - 9:00 p.m.	Eden Prairie Center

THURSDAY 3/23/00

Rochester	Thursday, 3/23/00	10:00 - 12:00 p.m.	Family Y
Rochester	Thursday, 3/23/00	7:00 - 9:00 p.m.	Extension Building
Eden Prairie	Thursday, 3/23/00	7:00 - 9:00 p.m.	Eden Prairie Center

**MARCH 26 - APRIL 1**

THURSDAY 3/30/00

Rochester	Thursday, 3/30/00	10:00 - 12:00 p.m.	Family Y
Rochester	Thursday, 3/30/00	7:00 - 9:00 p.m.	Extension Building

Dates in **BOLD FACE** indicate community Kick-off event.

ST. PETER

5 THURSDAYS

FEB. 17, 24

MAR. 2, 9 & 16

6:45 - 9:00 PM

TRINITY LUTHERAN  
CHURCH



# Elsa Batika

Frogtown Family Center

839 University Avenue, St. Paul

Fridays, 5:30 - 8:00 p.m.

2/18, 2/25, 3/3, 3/10, 3/17

Site Contact: Kristen Kidder, 651/205-4260

Co-Facilitator: Chente Vue, 502-4262

Project Director: Barb Rose, 651/659-6031

Jessica Crary, 651/224-5445

**Subject: Fwd: schedule for immigration circles**

**Date:** Fri, 11 Feb 2000 11:26:04 EST

**From:** Susan331@aol.com

**To:** lwvmn@mtn.org

---

**Subject: schedule for immigration circles**

**Date:** Thu, 10 Feb 2000 23:20:21 -0600

**From:** "Ellen Mork" <ellenmork@hotmail.com>

**To:** <dhost@stcloud.gannett.com>, <sihne@stcloud.gannett.com>, <susan331@aol.com>, <minnimmreform@webtv.net>

Hello all!

Here are the locations, dates and times for the community circles on immigration held in the St. Cloud area. The delay was caused by a laast minute need to change one of the meeting places.

**St. Cloud Circles**

Whitney Senior Center  
1527 Northway Drive  
Whitney Room  
Tuesdays, 7-9 p.m.  
Feb. 29, March 7, 14, 21, & 28

District 742 Community Education Building  
245 37th Ave. N.  
Room 301- use door 1  
Wednesdays, 12 noon - 2 p.m.  
March 1, 8, 15, 22, & 29

Midtown Square  
3333 W. Division St.  
Conference room (108)  
Thursdays, 4-6 p.m.  
March 2, 9, 16, 23, & 30

**Sauk Rapids Circle**

Sauk Rapids Senior High  
901 1st St. S.  
Room 402 - use door 4  
Tuesdays, 4--6 p.m.  
Feb. 29, March 7, 14, 21, & 28

**St. Joseph Circle**

College of St. Benedict  
Main building on College Ave.  
Gatewood Room  
park in lot 1 - use main door  
Tuesdays, 6:30-8:30 p.m.  
Feb. 29, March 7, 14, 21 & 28

**Cold Spring Circle**

Senior Center  
527 Main St.  
Mondays, 7-9 p.m.  
March 6, 13, 20, 27, & April 3

Thank you for your assistance in pubicizing the circles!

Ellen Mork

Subj: **Re: Community Circles/Translation/Diversity Training**  
Date: 02/01/2000 2:02:44 PM Central Standard Time  
From: JCavallaro@stkate.edu  
To: Susan331@aol.com

Susan - the community circles we are doing here at College of St. Catherine are set for Wed late afternoons, 5 - 6:30 starting Feb 9 and continuing every Wed until Mar 8. We are doing one here on campus, in the Women's Center in St. Joseph's Hall, and one in the Riverside Library on St. Paul's westside. I think we are starting a bit earlier than other groups because I am out of town in mid March. Do you need any other information? And I am interested in hearing more about the immigration reform efforts you wrote about and would like to be able to contact the person you mentioned. Thanks.  
Joanne Cavallaro

---

----- Headers -----

Return-Path: <JCavallaro@stkate.edu>  
Received: from rly-zb01.mx.aol.com (rly-zb01.mail.aol.com [172.31.41.1]) by air-zb03.mail.aol.com (v67\_b1.21) with ESMTP; Tue, 01 Feb 2000 15:02:44 -0500  
Received: from andrea.stkate.edu (andrea.stkate.edu [140.225.1.100]) by rly-zb01.mx.aol.com (v67\_b1.21) with ESMTP; Tue, 01 Feb 2000 15:02:37 -0500  
Received: by andrea.stkate.edu (Lotus SMTP MTA v4.6.5 (863.2 5-20-1999)) id 86256878.006EA76D ; Tue, 1 Feb 2000 14:08:38 -0600  
X-Lotus-FromDomain: CSC  
From: JCavallaro@stkate.edu  
To: Susan331@aol.com  
Message-ID: <86256878.006EA281.00@andrea.stkate.edu>  
Date: Tue, 1 Feb 2000 14:04:42 -0600  
Subject: Re: Community Circles/Translation/Diversity Training  
Mime-Version: 1.0  
Content-type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii  
Content-Disposition: inline

Community Circles  
Grant Schedule  
2/17/2000

Community	50% - Sent 1/18/00	45% - Sent	5% - Sent	Total
Austin	\$550.00	\$495.00	\$55.00	\$1,100.00
Edina	\$800.00	\$720.00	\$80.00	\$1,600.00
DL/PR	\$1,100.00	\$990.00	\$110.00	\$2,200.00
Mankato	\$1,350.00	\$1,215.00	\$135.00	\$2,700.00
Marshall	\$1,350.00	\$1,215.00	\$135.00	\$2,700.00
MEPH	\$1,200.00	\$1,080.00	\$120.00	\$2,400.00
Minneapolis	\$1,150.00	\$1,035.00	\$115.00	\$2,300.00
Northfield	\$250.00	\$225.00	\$25.00	\$500.00
Rochester	\$1,350.00	\$1,215.00	\$135.00	\$2,700.00
St. Cloud	\$1,350.00	\$1,215.00	\$135.00	\$2,700.00
St. Paul	\$1,350.00	\$1,215.00	\$135.00	\$2,700.00
Willmar	\$1,068.50	\$961.65	\$106.85	\$2,137.00
Winona	\$1,250.00	\$1,125.00	\$125.00	\$2,500.00
	\$14,118.50	\$12,706.65	\$1,411.85	\$28,237.00

Field1	Field2	Field3	Field6	circles/participants	Pass thru Gr	1st inst	2nd inst	3rd inst
Armstrong	Pro Dir	Zoe Nagell	612-553-2701	3 circles/45 particip				
✓ Austin	Pro Dir	Jeanne Poppe	800-333-2584	3/4 circles 40 partici	\$2,200.00	\$550.00	\$495.00	\$55.00
DL/PelicanRapi	Pro Dir	Connie Payson	218-736-4427	3/4/circles 40 partici	\$2,200.00	\$1,100.00	\$990.00	\$110.00
✓ Edina	Pro Dir	Carol Frisch	651-772-4255	4 circles 40 particip	\$1,600.00	\$800.00	\$720.00	\$80.00
✓ Eden Prairie	Pro Dir	Judy Schuck	612-249-0142	5/6 circles 65 partici	\$2,400.00	\$1,200.00	\$1,080.00	\$120.00
Eden Prairie	Pro Dir	Bette Anderson	612-941-2853					
✓ Mankato	Pro Dir	Diana Olvedo Munoz	507-389-6278	2 circles 30 particip	\$2,700.00	\$1,350.00	\$1,215.00	\$135.00
✓ Minneapolis	Pro Dir	Trina Alvero	612-502-6885	2 circles 30 particip	\$2,300.00	\$1,150.00	\$1,035.00	\$115.00
3C/100 P → Northfield	Pro Dir	Jane McWilliams	507-645-8423	7 circles 75 particip	\$500.00	\$250.00	\$225.00	\$25.00
College of St. Cath	Pro Dir	Sue Hendricks	651-690-6670	2 circles 30 particip				
Plymoth/Wayzata	Pro Dir	Bev Benson	612-348-7773	3-5 circles 40 partici				
✓ Winona	Pro Dir	Lee Luebbe	507-452-5747		\$2,500.00	\$1,250.00	\$1,125.00	\$125.00
St. Peter	Pro Dir	Mary Gover	507-934-1895	3 circles 45 particip				
✓ Rochester	Pro Dir	Susy Olsen	507-281-4469		\$2,700.00	\$1,350.00	\$1,215.00	\$135.00
105 → St. Cloud	Pro Dir	Ellen Mork	320-252-1034	6 circles 70 particip	\$2,700.00	\$1,350.00	\$1,215.00	\$135.00
✓ St. Paul	Pro Dir	Jessica Crary	651-224-5445	6 circles 70 particip	\$2,700.00	\$1,350.00	\$1,215.00	\$135.00
✓ Marshall	Pro Dir	Jackie Zerr	507-532-3158	8 circles 100 partici	\$2,700.00	\$1,350.00	\$1,215.00	\$135.00
✓ Willmar	Pro Dir	Andrea Carruthers	320-214-6840	3 circles 45 particip	\$2,137.00	\$1,068.50	\$961.50	\$106.85
New Brighton	Pro Dir	Gerri Evans	651-633-6542					
Moorhead	Pro Dir	Josie Gonzales	218-236-1168					

29,337 14,118.5 12,706.65 1411.85

Please return this completed form to:

**Olsen & Associates, PO Box 7522, Rochester, MN 55903**

## Participant Form

1. Who was the person who told you about these circles? \_\_\_\_\_

2. What is your name? \_\_\_\_\_  
please print

3. What is your address? \_\_\_\_\_

4. What is your telephone #? \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

5. Do you need child care? ☐ yes ☐ no 6. If yes, how many children: \_\_\_\_\_

(if no, skip questions 6, 7 and 8)

7. What ages are the children? \_\_\_\_\_

8. Are there any health, religious or dietary restrictions for your children? \_\_\_\_\_

9. Which of the following characteristics apply to you: (check off all that apply)

- ☐ young person ☐ middle aged person ☐ older person  
☐ I am a natural born American  
☐ I am an immigrant from \_\_\_\_\_  
☐ I am a person who is concerned about current immigration practices.  
☐ I am a person who doesn't know any immigrants.  
☐ other : \_\_\_\_\_

10. Can you provide your own transportation? \_\_\_\_\_

11. Do you need a translator? ☐ yes ☐ no 6. If yes, what language: \_\_\_\_\_

12. Which meeting times are most convenient for you?

Please write a ① below your first choice, ② below your second choice and ③ below your third choice.

Circle # 1	Circle # 2	Circle # 3	Circle # 4	Circle # 5	Circle # 6	Circle # 7	Circle # 8	Circle # 9	Circle # 10
Downtown Monday 2-4 PM Senior Citizen Center 2/14-3/13	SE Monday 6:30-8:30 PM Red Cross 2/14-3/13 <u>Daycare Site</u>	NW Monday 7-9 PM Assisi Community Center 2/28-3/20	NW Tuesday 1-3 PM Workforce @ PIC 2/15-3/14	Downtown Tuesday 7-9 PM RP Library 2/15-3/14	NW Wednesday 10-12 AM United Way 2/16-3/15	NW Wednesday 6:30-8:30 PM Gage 2/16-3/15 <u>Daycare Site</u>	SE Thursday 10-12 AM Family Y 3/2-3/30 <u>Daycare Site</u>	SE Thursday 7-9 PM Extension Bldg 3/2-3/30	Downtown Saturday 10-12 AM RP Library 2/19-3/18

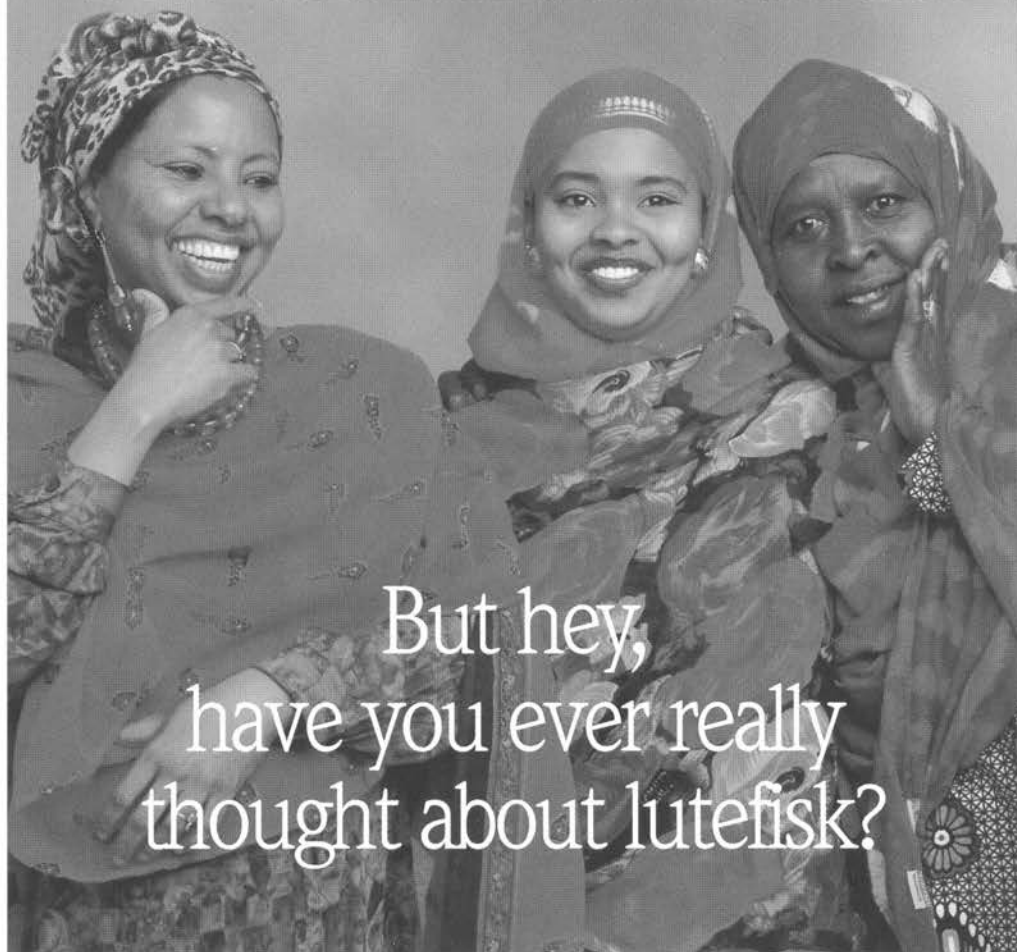
(Please record the 1st, 2nd and 3rd choices on the Participant Pledge Form )

I understand and agree to the responsibilities of being a community circle participant.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

**M**aybe you're just not sure what to make of all these new Minnesotans bringing in all these strange new cultures and customs.



But hey,  
have you ever really  
thought about lutefisk?



im.migration  
MINNESOTA

# Minnesota, nice or not?

Veiled African women wrapped in long gowns on their way to work, Mexican youths playing basketball, a Russian couple strolling in a mall, a Hmong family buying groceries. These are Minnesota's newcomers, a second wave of immigration that has significantly increased our foreign-born population.

They've come for the same reason the first wave did—opportunity. And they go through the same kind of readjustment stress—language barriers, culture shock, isolation, sense of loss, confusion and resulting health problems.

They also bring the same cultural richness and hard-work ethic as the first wave. Our vibrant Twin Cities art scene is already a testament to their influence, and their entrepreneurship is obvious in the large number of successful small businesses and self-help organizations they've started. Immigrants and refugees are part of the new workforce that's helping Minnesota bridge its labor shortage and keep its economy healthy.

Sometimes, we can't help staring at them—their interesting clothes, unfamiliar language and unusual customs. But we may not take time to learn more about them. We probably should. It might help us understand how much a frightful word or gesture can mean when you're in a strange place surrounded by people you don't know. It might make us take a risk and offer help, or just a little patience and empathy. It might make us remember that, 100 years ago, our own families were the newcomers.

## Heroes

*...all of them—at least they're my heroes, especially the new immigrants, especially the refugees. Everyone makes fun of New York cabdrivers who can't speak English: they're heroes. To give up your country is the hardest thing a person can do: to leave the old familiar places and ship out over the edge of the world to America and learn everything over again different that you learned as a child, learn the new language that you will never be so smart or funny in as in your true language. It takes years to start to feel semi-normal. And yet people still come—from Russia, Vietnam and Cambodia and Laos, Ethiopia, Iran, Haiti, Korea, Cuba, Chile, and they come on behalf of their children, and they come for freedom. Not for our land (Russia is as beautiful), not for our culture (they have their own, thank you), not for our system of government (they don't even know about it, may not even agree with it), but for freedom. They are heroes who make an adventure on our behalf, showing by their struggle how precious beyond words freedom is, and if we knew their stories, we could not keep back the tears.*

~ Garrison Keillor



The State Department of Human Services estimates that there are 15,000 Somali refugees in Minnesota, with the vast majority of them having arrived in the past five years. Minnesota has the largest Somali population in the United States.

## About Somalia

Somalia gained independence in 1960. With Mogadishu as its capital and nearly 7 million people, the country is mostly desert with a hot climate. Nomads and semi-nomads make up a large portion of the population; others are crop farmers, fishermen or urban dwellers. The average life expectancy is about 46 years. The main language is Somali, which uses the Roman alphabet, and the literacy rate is about 24%.

# SOMALIA

## Islam

The vast majority of Somalis are Sunni Muslims, but there are different levels of orthodoxy. Islam's fundamental tenet is the existence of one God, *Allah*, without equal or partner, who created and maintains the world.

Important Islamic beliefs include: 1) angels—two angels attend every person, one records sins and the other, good deeds, 2) prophets, of whom Muhammad was the final and greatest, but which also include Adam, Noah, Moses and Jesus, 3) the *Quran*, the holiest book of Islam—God's final revelation to man passed orally to Muhammad from the angel Gabriel and 4) the day of judgment which determines eternity in heaven or hell.

Important Islamic practices include: 1) prayer five times a day, 2) giving 2½% of one's annual income in cash or in kind to charity, 3) fasting from dawn until dusk every day during the month of *Ramadan* (observed in the U.S. near the end of the calendar year) and 4) making a pilgrimage to Mecca, Saudi Arabia, the birthplace of Muhammad, at least once if it's affordable. Alms giving is part of wealth purification, a belief that prevents many Muslims from having any involvement with interest and makes it hard for them to deal with western finance.

## People Government

Although most Somalis share the same language, religion and culture, they are divided into groups by deeply ingrained clan structure, such as the Darod, Dir, Isaaq and Digi.

Somalia has no functioning government and has been the scene of political strife and civil war since the overthrow of Siyad Barre's regime nine years ago set off conflicts among 16 rival factions. Ensuing clan wars and a series of natural disasters (flood, famine and drought) have forced more than 900,000 Somalis, many in a serious state of exhaustion and starvation, to flee to neighboring countries like Kenya and Ethiopia. Others have found shelter in the United States.

## Somali in Minnesota



Some Somalis in Minnesota were highly educated urban dwellers, some were from coastal regions, others from agricultural regions. The vast majority now live in Minneapolis, with smaller numbers settled in Rochester, Owatonna and Marshall. The State Department of Planning expects more arrivals from Somalia due to recent changes in our immigration policy that permit new visas for family reunification.

**Halkani  
waa hoygaysii  
cusbaa.** This is my  
new home.

## Cultural Highlights

*Waaberi*, "morning" in Somali, is the name given to the elite group of singers and folk dancers who used to perform at the Somali National Theatre before the civil war. After years of exile, some of these artists have found each other again and are creating a new dawn for Somali music with *Waaberi* CDs. Unable to carry instruments, Somali nomads learned beat rhythms on whatever was handy. Those ancient rhythms serve as accompaniment to a chorus that supports a lead voice as they all sing their way through the old *Waaberi* songs about love and death.

## Current Situation

Mutual assistance groups have been the first sources of help for Somali refugees. According to the head of one such group, when they first arrived here individuals tried to help each other. As the population has increased, however, clan/tribe affiliations have been reestablished. Several Somali self-help organizations now exist, such as the Confederation of Somali Community, the Somali Community of Minnesota, the Horn of Africa and the Somalian Womens Association.

Right now, most Somalis are focused on issues of survival and resettlement—finding adequate housing, coping with cultural adjustment, overcoming loss and isolation and learning English. Some ethnic enclave businesses have been developed to serve specific Somali needs. Local jobs in which Somalis are most visible include parking lot attendant (they are often hired because of their reputation for honesty) and taxi cab driver. Somali women are eagerly joining the workforce. In fact, one of the emerging issues in the American Somali community is women assuming new roles while men seek to maintain old traditions.

## Education

In the past three years, the number of Somali students has tripled in Minneapolis schools—making them the third largest group of non-English speaking students. One-fourth of the total student body at Roosevelt High School in Minneapolis is Somali. Half of Somali youngsters have been in the U.S. for less than three years and half live with their mother only. (Many Somali men were civil war casualties.) As their student numbers grow, Somalis are being offered culturally specific academic support and the opportunity to adhere to their religious practices by local schools.



## About Russia

Geographically the largest country in the world, the Russian Federation, or Russia as it's commonly called, is nearly twice the size of the United States and contains 11 time zones and 21 republics.



## People & Government

Three-quarters of the population of 150 million reside in one-quarter of the land mass west of the Ural Mountains, while the eastern three-fourths of Russia has vast tracks of unoccupied land. Russian is the official language, and 98% of the population is literate. Life expectancy 64 years.

Under its 1993 constitution, Russia has a democratic, federative government divided into executive, legislative and judicial branches. The president, elected to a four-year term, sets the basic tone for domestic and foreign policy and represents the state at home and abroad. The prime minister appoints the cabinet and administers policy according to constitution, laws and presidential decrees.

A diversity of populations from the former Soviet Union are often lumped together under the heading of Russian immigrants, but the State Demographic Center estimates that there are 6,000-7,000 currently residing in Minnesota.

# RUSSIA

## Judaism in the Former Soviet Union

Most Russians in the United States are Jews who fled religious persecution. During the 19th century, despite repressive conditions and high levels of emigration to the U.S., the Jewish population in Russia grew rapidly to a total of 5.2 million. By 1922, due in part to a civil war that took place in areas where Jews were settled, that number had been reduced by more than half. The Jewish population continued to decline, and because all religious practice was banned under Soviet rule, Jews were semi-assimilated into the larger Russian culture. After *perestroika* in the late 1980s, large numbers of Russian Jews began applying to leave the Soviet Union for Israel and the United States.

Judaism is the oldest of the monotheistic faiths. It affirms the existence of one God, *Yahweh*, who entered into covenant with the descendants of Abraham, God's chosen people. Judaism's holy writings are known as the *Torah*, specifically the Five Books of Moses (traditionally called the Old Testament by Christians) and the compilation of oral tradition and law known as the *Talmud*.

## Current Situation

While Russian immigrants are dispersed throughout the Twin Cities, Jewish refugees were initially resettled in St. Louis Park, downtown Minneapolis and Highland Park in St. Paul, based on proximity to services. Affordable housing remains an issue for these groups. Families have gradually begun to move to first ring suburbs, as housing has become available. Jewish immigrants have had access to a number of Jewish social service agencies in both the east and west metro areas to assist them in resettlement. Also of help is a Russian language newspaper called *The Mirror*. Emerging issues are intergenerational communication problems and translation/interpretation needs for medical purposes.

For Pentecostal and Baptist Russian immigrants, their first line of support has been faith-based. In the 1980s the new arrivals began to form their own churches, of which six now exist. A number of these churches have started Russian language newspapers.

## Cultural Highlights

Russian ballet has contributed enormously to the development of dance throughout the West. Building on a century-long reputation, renowned Russian ballet companies like the Bol'shoi and Kirov tour the world regularly. In the early part of this century, Sergey Diaghilev founded the innovative Ballet Russe, which featured famed dancer Vaslav Nijinsky. Then came ballerina Anna Pavlova and choreographer George Balanchine. Two of the most admired and influential dancers of this century have been the Russian defectors Rudolf Nureyev and Mikhail Barishnikov—both credited with helping to establish the dominant role of the male dancer in classical ballet.



# ЭТО – МОЙ НОВЫЙ ДОМ.

This is my new home.

## Russians in Minnesota

The current wave of Russian immigration, which began in the late 1980s, followed the collapse of the Soviet Union and was precipitated by religious persecution of Jews as well as Pentecostal and Baptist Christians in the former Soviet Union Republics. In 1980, no Russian refugee arrivals were recorded in Minnesota; in 1988, there were 69 and by 1989, 721.

The majority of the newcomers are Russian-speaking Jews. Since 1987, more than 3,000 have settled in Minneapolis—making up 10% of its Jewish population. Nearly 50% are over 55 years old—some are in their 90s. Recent economic and political developments in Russia have set the stage for another immigration wave. The majority of the immigrants who are already here are from urban areas, are educated and often hold professional positions such as doctors, teachers and engineers. Many encounter difficulties pursuing their careers due to certification or licensing requirements. During recent years, dozens of small, Russian-owned businesses have been started successfully.



## About Mexico

Mexico is home to 98.5 million people — 60% of whom are *Mestizo* (Indian-Spanish), 30% Indian and the rest white. Life expectancy is 72 years. The predominant language is Spanish, with a national literacy rate of about 90%.

Mexico has a free-market economy with a mixture of modern and outmoded industry and agriculture, increasingly dominated by the private sector. The economy is in its third year of recovery from a 1995 recession that was touched off by a financial crisis. Trade with the U.S. and Canada has nearly doubled in the five years since NAFTA was implemented.

## Economy & Government

Made up of 31 states and one district, Mexico is a federal republic operating under a centralized government headed by a president who is elected by popular vote for a six-year term; the next election will be in 2000. The bicameral National Congress consists of the Senate and the Chamber of Deputies.

*Este es mi nuevo hogar.*  
This is my new home.



## Cultural Highlights

Mexico has given the world some of its best writers and artists—from Diego Rivera and the ground-breaking Mexican School of muralists (known for their colorful frescoes) to the architecture of Luis Barragán, famous for distilling the style of old Mexican convents, monasteries and haciendas into modern homes. Writers like Carlos Fuentes (*The Death of Artemio Cruz*) and Octavio Paz (*The Labyrinth of Solitude*), who won the 1990 Nobel Prize, have woven the distinctive character of their country into some of the most critically acclaimed literary works of our century. Evidence that immigrants are carrying on these vibrant artistic traditions is clear in the famous Chicano murals of Los Angeles as well as the Mexican murals on St. Paul's West Side and along Lake Street in Minneapolis.

## Roman Catholicism

About 90% of Mexicans are Roman Catholics. There are two central ideas to Roman Catholicism: 1) the Church as a teaching authority, which means that the Church is the interpreting agent for the Bible and the Pope speaks officially and infallibly on matters of faith and morals, and 2) the Church as a sacramental agent, which means that the Church institutes sacraments like baptism, penance, holy communion, confirmation, marriage, holy orders and last rites to help its followers live more spiritually. In Mexico, many villages and sectors in the major cities honor a patron saint with festivities usually lasting a week or more.



The State Demographic Center estimates that there are 125,000 Hispanic immigrants in Minnesota, more than half of whom are Mexican.

# MEXICO



## Mexicans in Minnesota

Mexicans have been settling in Minnesota since the late 19th century. After World War I, Mexican men found work in South St. Paul's meat packing plants, sent for their families and settled along the river flats and, in the 1930s, in Swede Hollow. Not long afterward, an influx of Mexican farm workers came to Minnesota.

By the 1940s, St. Paul's West Side was predominantly Mexican. A decade later, Our Lady of Guadalupe Church and a variety of restaurants and shops supported the community, and Mexican immigrants moved from the flats to the bluffs above the river. By 1975, Latinos comprised the largest minority community in the state. Many Mexican workers still find employment in Minnesota's meat packing, food service or agricultural industries. Each summer between 15,000 and 20,000 Mexican migrant farm workers come here to work.



## Current Situation

Statisticians predict the Spanish-speaking population will be the fastest growing in the state over the next several years. The Mexican community is now spread throughout Minnesota with concentrations in Winona, Scott and Carver counties as well as the southwest metro area. In Watonwan and Kandiyohi Counties, Spanish-speaking students make up about 15% of the total student body in the public schools. In Minneapolis, Hispanic students make up about 6%; in St. Paul, 8%.



The newer Spanish-speaking immigrants in parts of the metro area and out-state have not always found it easy to assimilate. Families speak of the challenges of schooling and of prejudices, such as being wrongly branded as illegals. The majority of Mexicans are here legally on work permits and many others are U.S. citizens who have relocated here from other parts of the country.

Today, as the Mexican population in Minneapolis grows, St. Stephen's Church has become an informal center for them, offering masses in Spanish and staff who help locate useful services. As on St. Paul's West Side, Mexican entrepreneurs have changed the face of Minneapolis' Lake Street, culminating in the recent opening of *Mercado Central* at Lake and Bloomington. The *Mercado*, a cooperative shopping and cultural center, features 45 shops in a market bazaar atmosphere. Currently, four newspapers—*La Prensa de Minnesota*, *La Voz Latina*, *Latino Midwest* and *Nuestra Gente*—serve the state's Spanish-speaking population.

# LAOS

## About Laos

Slightly larger than Utah, Laos is a landlocked Southeast Asian country that is mostly mountainous and has a tropical monsoon climate. Its capital city, Vientiane, lies along the Mekong River, which marks Laos' western border. Lao is the official language, although French and English are also spoken. Life expectancy is about 51 years.

Most of Minnesota's 60,000 Hmong come from northern or upland Laos, where they are the majority ethnic group. Minnesota now has the largest urban Hmong population in the world.

## People & Government

More than 85% of Laos' 4.7 million people live in rural areas, many as subsistence farmers who grow rice. The low population density allows the continuation of a village society, formed through kinship links. Laos is ethnically diverse, with more than 40 ethnic groups classified as upland Lao (*Lao Sung*), midland Lao (*Lao Theung*) and lowland Lao (*Lao Loum*). Within the Hmong (*Lao Sung*) culture, families are structured around a system of 18 clans.

After 600 years as a monarchy, Laos has been ruled by a one-party communist government since the end of the Vietnam War. The executive governmental power is held by a president who is chosen by an elected National Assembly to serve a five-year term.

## Belief Systems

Traditionally, most Hmong are animists who believe in the existence of spirits, which are separate from (but coexist with) physical bodies. Today, however, there are as many Hmong Christians, Catholics, Mormons and practitioners of other religions as there are animists.

Hmong animists believe in a variety of spirits associated with the house, nature or ancestors. Many animist homes have altars that serve as the center of spirit rituals. Hmong New Year ceremonies renew the general protection of the household and ancestral spirits.

Animists rely heavily on shamans (or healers) to carry out many of the rituals and ceremonies that keep their families healthy and their ancestors appeased.

## Cultural Highlights

Usually made by women and girls, Hmong textile arts feature some of the finest, smallest stitching human hands can sew. *Paj ntaub*, or flower cloths, are made using techniques such as reverse appliqué, embroidery or batik to create colorful fabric squares with elaborate patterns or scenes. Some basic *paj ntaub* designs are thousands of years old. Not bartered or sold, *paj ntaub* traditionally are used as decorations on clothing and household items. The modern "story cloth" sold in the U.S. was created in the 1970s as a means for the Hmong to earn income while in Thai refugee camps.



## Hmong in Minnesota

From 1975 to 1990, nearly 17,000 Hmong immigrated to Minnesota. The first wave arrived in the late 1970s with many families reuniting in St. Paul from other resettlement areas around the country. Because Hmong have a strong sense of clan and family ties, it's been natural for each new wave of immigrants from refugee camps in Thailand to find their way to Minnesota. Recently, as many as 8,000 Hmong have come to Minnesota from the Fresno, California area. Most Hmong live in the Twin Cities, with a high concentration in St. Paul. Hmong now ranks behind English as the most spoken language in the Minneapolis and St. Paul School Districts.

Ntawm no yog  
lwb neej thsialb  
van kuv.

This is my new home.

## Current Situation

After almost 20 years of assimilation into American culture, the Hmong still struggle to balance the demands of a strong cultural heritage and the challenge of being Hmong American at work and in school. The community has supported a variety of entrepreneurial efforts, including three Hmong funeral homes that follow American burial customs while continuing to practice traditional Hmong funeral rites. The increasing number of Hmong-owned businesses has led to the establishment of a local Hmong Chamber of Commerce.

Many Hmong have started family and community gardens. Our local farmers' markets reflect the large number of families who supplement their income with weekend produce sales. Hmong often invest in family-owned businesses with relatives providing start-up funds and operating capital. Examples include the many shops along University Avenue in St. Paul. The Neighborhood Development Center has assisted many new Hmong ventures, among them the Hmong Arts, Books, and Crafts Store, and the local Hmong radio and television programs that help keep the community informed and connected. Two newspapers—the *Hmong Times* and the *Hmong Tribune*—serve the same purpose.



## Education & Jobs

The first Hmong who came to this country were farmers and villagers who had worked undercover for the U.S. Army and C.I.A. during the Vietnam War and were forced to flee to refugee camps when the war ended. Hmong had no written language (until the 1950s) and few opportunities for formal education. Once they arrived here, they were employed in factories where English proficiency wasn't necessary. As young immigrants completed high school and post-secondary programs, many entered teaching and social service jobs. Several local colleges and universities now have special programs encouraging Hmong to pursue higher education, especially teaching. Today, Hmong enter all kinds of professions, notably the medical and dental fields and business support services.

# LAOS

## About Laos

Slightly larger than Utah, Laos is a landlocked Southeast Asian country, that is mostly mountainous and has a tropical monsoon climate. Its capital city, Vientiane, lies along the Mekong River, which marks Laos' western border. Lao is the official language, although French and English are also spoken. Life expectancy is about 51 years.

Most of Minnesota's 60,000 Hmong come from northern or upland Laos, where they are the majority ethnic group. Minnesota now has the largest urban Hmong population in the world.

## People Government

More than 85% of Laos' 4.7 million people live in rural areas, many as subsistence farmers who grow rice. The low population density allows the continuation of a village society, formed through kinship links. Laos is ethnically diverse, with more than 40 ethnic groups classified as upland Lao (*Lao Sung*), midland Lao (*Lao Theung*) and lowland Lao (*Lao Loum*). Within the Hmong (*Lao Sung*) culture, families are structured around a system of 18 clans.

After 600 years as a monarchy, Laos has been ruled by a one-party communist government since the end of the Vietnam War. The executive governmental power is held by a president who is chosen by an elected National Assembly to serve a five-year term.

## Cultural Highlights

Usually made by women and girls, Hmong textile arts feature some of the finest, smallest stitching human hands can sew. *Paj ntaub*, or flower cloths, are made using techniques such as reverse appliqué, embroidery or batik to create colorful fabric squares with elaborate patterns or scenes. Some basic *paj ntaub* designs are thousands of years old. Not bartered or sold, *paj ntaub* traditionally are used as decorations on clothing and household items. The modern "story cloth" sold in the U.S. was created in the 1970s as a means for the Hmong to earn income while in Thai refugee camps.



## Belief Systems

Traditionally, most Hmong are animists who believe in the existence of spirits, which are separate from (but coexist with) physical bodies. Today, however, there are as many Hmong Christians, Catholics, Mormons and practitioners of other religions as there are animists.

Hmong animists believe in a variety of spirits associated with the house, nature or ancestors. Many animist homes have altars that serve as the center of spirit rituals. Hmong New Year ceremonies renew the general protection of the household and ancestral spirits.

Animists rely heavily on shamans (or healers) to carry out many of the rituals and ceremonies that keep their families healthy and their ancestors appeased.

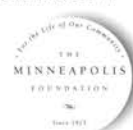
## About us

Special thanks to Ilean Her, Yer M. Xiong, Asya Fridland, Tatiana Przytulka, Paul Carrizales, José González, Tyrone Guzmán, Miski Abdulle and Amal Yusef for their invaluable contributions to this booklet. Staff research was done by Valerie Lee, Gayle Thorsen, Joanne Walz and Donna Weldon.

This booklet was produced by The Minneapolis Foundation with support from the General Mills Foundation. It is available free by calling 612-672-3869. It's also on our Web site at [mpisfoundation.org](http://mpisfoundation.org).

Founded in 1915, The Minneapolis Foundation encourages and facilitates philanthropy in the Twin Cities region. It is the oldest foundation in Minnesota and one of the nation's largest community foundations. With assets of \$450 million, last year the Foundation awarded nearly \$25 million in grants and loans, primarily in the areas of human service, public benefit, education, health care and the arts and humanities. Through donor advised grants, supporting organizations and special projects, the Foundation supports a wide variety of statewide programs. In addition, for the next several years its discretionary grantmaking will focus largely on improving life for children and families in seven of Minneapolis' highest poverty neighborhoods.

For more information about The Minneapolis Foundation, visit our Web site at [mpisfoundation.org](http://mpisfoundation.org). To order our grantmaking guidelines, call 612-672-3861. To find out more about creating a charitable fund at the Foundation, call 612-672-3871.



# Resources

## General Resources

American Refugee Committee  
612-872-7000  
[www.archq.org](http://www.archq.org)

The Center for Victims of Torture  
612-626-1400

Minnesota Advocates for Human Rights  
612-341-3302  
[www.mnadvocates.org](http://www.mnadvocates.org)

United Way of Minneapolis Research and Planning Dept. "Immigrants in the Twin Cities: A Snapshot" 612-340-7560  
[www.uwmnsp.org/mpis](http://www.uwmnsp.org/mpis)

## Somalia

Confederation of Somali Community in Minnesota  
612-338-5282  
[www.cscmn.org](http://www.cscmn.org)

Somali Community of Minnesota  
612-871-6786

Somali Women's Association  
612-343-9213  
[www.somaliwomen.org](http://www.somaliwomen.org)

Somali TV and the Somali Show — Twin Cities cable channels 6 and 32 (Check programming schedules for exact times, which can vary week to week.)  
[www.arab.net/](http://www.arab.net/) (Select the Somali flag)

ArabNet Somalia  
[www.arab.net/](http://www.arab.net/) (Select the Somali flag)

## Russia

Minneapolis Jewish Federation  
612-593-2600  
[www.jewishminnesota.org/federations](http://www.jewishminnesota.org/federations)

Jewish Family and Children's Service  
612-546-0616

Minnesota Council of Churches Refugee Services Program  
612-874-8605

The Face of Russia  
[www.pbs.org/weta/faceofrussia/](http://www.pbs.org/weta/faceofrussia/)

History and Culture of Russia  
[www.interknowledge.com/russia/rushis01.htm](http://www.interknowledge.com/russia/rushis01.htm)

## Mexico

Chicano-Latino Affairs Council  
651-296-9587  
[www.clac.state.mn.us](http://www.clac.state.mn.us)

Centro (formerly Centro Cultural Chicano)  
612-874-1412

Chicanos Latinos Unidos en Servicio  
651-292-0117  
[www.clues.org](http://www.clues.org)

HACER  
612-625-0573  
[www.hacer-mn.org](http://www.hacer-mn.org)

Brisas Latinas radio show KBEM 88.5 FM  
Sundays, 1-5 p.m.

BrownPride Online  
[www.brownpide.com/history.html](http://www.brownpide.com/history.html)

Mexican American History and Culture  
[home.ici.net/customers/nikos/mex.html](http://home.ici.net/customers/nikos/mex.html)

## Laos

Hmong American Partnership  
651-642-9601  
[www.hmong.org](http://www.hmong.org)

Hmong Arts, Books and Crafts Store  
298 University Avenue St. Paul  
651-293-0019

Lao Family Community of Minnesota  
651-221-0069  
[www.laofamily.org/lfc.htm](http://www.laofamily.org/lfc.htm)

Council on Asian-Pacific Minnesotans  
651-296-0538  
[www.state.mn.us/branch/capm](http://www.state.mn.us/branch/capm)

This is Home: The Hmong in Minnesota  
[www.news.mpt.org/features/199903/08\\_ryman\\_home/](http://www.news.mpt.org/features/199903/08_ryman_home/)



immigration  
MINNESOTA



immigration  
MinNESOTA

The Minneapolis Foundation  
A200 Foshay Tower  
821 Marquette Avenue  
Minneapolis, MN 55402

Community Circles Schedule  
College of St. Catherine, Eden Prairie, Edina, Minneapolis, St. Paul, Rochester  
2/3/2000

9 PAGES  
2/3  
SUSY - PLEASE  
FAX BACK CORRECTIONS/  
EDITS. THANKS!  
JESSICA  
651/296-2145  
(FAX #)

**FEBRUARY 6 - FEBRUARY 12**

MONDAY 2/7/00

TUESDAY 2/8/00

Edina	Tuesday, 2/8/00	7:00 - 9:00 p.m.	Edina Community Center
-------	-----------------	------------------	------------------------

WEDNESDAY 2/9/00

St. Catherine's	Wednesday, 2/9/00	5:00 - 6:30 p.m.	St. Catherine's
-----------------	-------------------	------------------	-----------------

THURSDAY 2/10/00

FRIDAY 2/11/00

Edina	Friday, 2/11/00	9:30 - 11:30 a.m.	Edina Community Center
-------	-----------------	-------------------	------------------------

SATURDAY 2/12/00

Edina	Saturday, 2/12/00	9:30 - 11:30 a.m.	Edina Community Center
-------	-------------------	-------------------	------------------------

**FEBRUARY 13 - FEBRUARY 19**

MONDAY 2/14/00

Rochester	2:00 - 4:00 p.m.	Rochester Senior Center
<b>St. Paul</b>	<b>5:00 - 7:30 p.m.</b>	<b>St. Peter Claver Church</b>
Rochester	6:30 - 8:30 p.m.	Red Cross

Dates in **BOLD FACE** indicate community Kick-off event.



Community Circles Schedule  
College of St. Catherine, Eden Prairie, Edina, Minneapolis, St. Paul, Rochester  
2/3/2000

TUESDAY 2/15/00

Rochester	1:00 - 3:00 p.m.	Workforce @ PIC
St. Paul	5:30 - 7:30 p.m.	NCCJ
St. Paul	6:00 - 8:30 p.m.	McDounough
Rochester	7:00 - 9:00 p.m.	Public Library
Edina	7:00 - 9:00 p.m.	Edina Community Center

WEDNESDAY 2/16/00

Rochester	10:00 - 12:00 p.m.	United Way
St. Catherine's	5:00 - 6:30 p.m.	St. Catherine's
St. Paul	6:00 - 8:00 p.m.	Neighborhood House
Minneapolis	6:00 - 8:00 p.m.	Painter's Park
Rochester	6:30 - 7:30 p.m.	Gage
St. Paul	6:30 - 8:30 p.m.	Merriam Park

THURSDAY 2/17/00

St. Paul	7:00 - 9:00 p.m.	JCC
----------	------------------	-----

FRIDAY 2/18/00

Edina	9:30 - 11:30 a.m.	Edina Community Center
St. Paul	3:00 - 5:00 p.m.	Somali Community
St. Paul	5:00 - 8:30 p.m.	Frogtown

SATURDAY 2/19/00

Edina	9:30 - 11:30 a.m.	Edina Community Center
Rochester	10:00 - 12:00 p.m.	Library
Minneapolis	10:00 - 12:00 p.m.	Bryant Square

Dates in **BOLD FACE** indicate community Kick-off event.



Community Circles Schedule  
College of St. Catherine, Eden Prairie, Edina, Minneapolis, St. Paul, Rochester  
2/3/2000

**FEBRUARY 20 - FEBRUARY 26**

MONDAY 2/21/00

Rochester	2:00 - 4:00 p.m.	Senior Center
Rochester	6:30 - 8:30 p.m.	Red Cross

TUESDAY 2/22/00

Rochester	1:00 - 3:00 p.m.	Workforce @ PIC
St. Paul	5:30 - 7:30 p.m.	NCCJ
St. Paul	6:00 - 8:30 p.m.	McDounough
Rochester	7:00 - 9:00 p.m.	Library
Edina	7:00 - 9:00 p.m.	Edina Community Center

WEDNESDAY 2/23/00

Rochester	Wednesday, 2/23/00	10:00 - 12:00 p.m.	United Way
Eden Prairie	Wednesday, 2/23/00	1:30 - 3:00 p.m.	Eden Prairie Center
St. Catherine's	Wednesday, 2/23/00	5:00 - 6:30 p.m.	St. Catherine's
Minneapolis	Wednesday, 2/23/00	6:00 - 8:00 p.m.	Painter's Park
St. Paul	Wednesday, 2/23/00	6:00 - 8:00 p.m.	Neighborhood House
Rochester	Wednesday, 2/23/00	6:30 - 7:30 p.m.	Gage
St. Paul	Wednesday, 2/23/00	6:30 - 8:30 p.m.	Merriam Park
Eden Prairie	Wednesday, 2/23/00	7:00 - 9:00 p.m.	Eden Prairie Center

THURSDAY 2/24/00

Eden Prairie	Thursday, 2/24/00	7:00 - 9:00 p.m.	Eden Prairie Center
St. Paul	Thursday, 2/24/00	7:00 - 9:00 p.m.	JCC

Dates in **BOLD FACE** indicate community Kick-off event.

Community Circles Schedule  
College of St. Catherine, Eden Prairie, Edina, Minneapolis, St. Paul, Rochester  
2/3/2000

FRIDAY 2/25/00

Edina	Friday, 2/25/00	9:30 - 11:30 a.m.	Edina Community Center
St. Paul	Friday, 2/25/00	3:00 - 5:00 p.m.	Somali Community
St. Paul	Friday, 2/25/00	5:00 - 8:30 p.m.	Frogtown

SATURDAY 2/26/00

Edina	Saturday, 2/26/00	9:30 - 11:30 a.m.	Edina Community Center
Rochester	Saturday, 2/26/00	10:00 - 12:00 p.m.	Library
Minneapolis	Saturday, 2/26/00	10:00 - 12:00 p.m.	Bryant Square

**FEBRUARY 27 - MARCH 4**

MONDAY 2/28/00

Rochester	Monday, 2/28/00	2:00 - 4:00 p.m.	Senior Center
Rochester	Monday, 2/28/00	6:30 - 8:30 p.m.	Red Cross
Rochester	Monday, 2/28/00	7:00 - 9:00 p.m.	Assisi Community Center

TUESDAY 2/29/00

Rochester	Tuesday, 2/29/00	1:00 - 3:00 p.m.	Workforce @ PIC
St. Paul	Tuesday, 2/29/00	5:30 - 7:30 p.m.	NCCJ
St. Paul	Tuesday, 2/29/00	6:00 - 8:30 p.m.	McDounough
Rochester	Tuesday, 2/29/00	7:00 - 9:00 p.m.	Library
Edina	Tuesday, 2/29/00	7:00 - 9:00 p.m.	Edina Community Center

Dates in **BOLD FACE** indicate community Kick-off event.

Community Circles Schedule  
College of St. Catherine, Eden Prairie, Edina, Minneapolis, St. Paul, Rochester  
2/3/2000

WEDNESDAY 3/1/00

Rochester	Wednesday, 3/1/00	10:00 - 12:00 p.m.	United Way
Eden Prairie	Wednesday, 3/1/00	1:30 - 3:30 p.m.	Eden Prairie Center
St. Catherine's	Wednesday, 3/1/00	5:00 - 6:30 p.m.	St. Catherine's
Minneapolis	Wednesday, 3/1/00	6:00 - 8:00 p.m.	Painter's Park
St. Paul	Wednesday, 3/1/00	6:00 - 8:00 p.m.	Neighborhood House
St. Paul	Wednesday, 3/1/00	6:30 - 8:30 p.m.	Merriam Park
Rochester	Wednesday, 3/1/00	6:30 - 7:30 p.m.	Gage
Eden Prairie	Wednesday, 3/1/00	7:00 - 9:00 p.m.	Eden Prairie Center

THURSDAY 3/2/00

Rochester	Thursday, 3/2/00	10:00 - 12:00 p.m.	Family Y
Eden Prairie	Thursday, 3/2/00	7:00 - 9:00 p.m.	Eden Prairie Center
St. Paul	Thursday, 3/2/00	7:00 - 9:00 p.m.	JCC
Rochester	Thursday, 3/2/00	7:00 - 9:00 p.m.	Extension Bldg

FRIDAY 3/3/00

Edina	Friday, 3/3/00	9:30 - 11:30 a.m.	Edina Community Center
St. Paul	Friday, 3/3/00	3:00 - 5:00 p.m.	Somali Community
St. Paul	Friday, 3/3/00	5:00 - 8:30 p.m.	Frogtown

SATURDAY 3/4/00

Edina	Saturday, 3/4/00	9:30 - 11:30 a.m.	Edina Community Center
Rochester	Saturday, 3/4/00	10:00 - 12:00 p.m.	Library
Minneapolis	Saturday, 3/4/00	10:00 - 12:00 p.m.	Bryant Square

Dates in **BOLD FACE** indicate community Kick-off event.

Community Circles Schedule  
College of St. Catherine, Eden Prairie, Edina, Minneapolis, St. Paul, Rochester  
2/3/2000

**MARCH 5 - MARCH 11**

MONDAY 3/6/00

Rochester	Monday, 3/6/00	2:00 - 4:00 p.m.	Senior Center
Rochester	Monday, 3/6/00	6:30 - 8:30 p.m.	Red Cross
Rochester	Monday, 3/6/00	7:00 - 9:00 p.m.	Assisi Community Center

TUESDAY 3/7/00

Rochester	Tuesday, 3/7/00	1:00 - 3:00 p.m.	Workforce @ PIC
St. Paul	Tuesday, 3/7/00	5:30 - 7:30 p.m.	NCCJ
St. Paul	Tuesday, 3/7/00	6:00 - 8:30 p.m.	McDounough
Rochester	Tuesday, 3/7/00	7:00 - 9:00 p.m.	Library
Edina	Tuesday, 3/7/00	7:00 - 9:00 p.m.	Edina Community Center

WEDNESDAY 3/8/00

Rochester	Wednesday, 3/8/00	10:00 - 12:00 p.m.	United Way
Eden Prairie	Wednesday, 3/8/00	1:30 - 3:30 p.m.	Eden Prairie Center
St. Catherine's	Wednesday, 3/8/00	5:00 - 6:30 p.m.	St. Catherine's
St. Paul	Wednesday, 3/8/00	6:00 - 8:00 p.m.	Neighborhood House
Minneapolis	Wednesday, 3/8/00	6:00 - 8:00 p.m.	Painter's Park
Rochester	Wednesday, 3/8/00	6:30 - 7:30 p.m.	Gage
Eden Prairie	Wednesday, 3/8/00	7:00 - 9:00 p.m.	Eden Prairie Center

THURSDAY 3/9/00

Rochester	Thursday, 3/9/00	10:00 - 12:00 p.m.	Family Y
Eden Prairie	Thursday, 3/9/00	7:00 - 9:00 p.m.	Eden Prairie Center
St. Paul	Thursday, 3/9/00	7:00 - 9:00 p.m.	JCC
Rochester	Thursday, 3/9/00	7:00 - 9:00 p.m.	Extension Bldg

Dates in **BOLD FACE** indicate community Kick-off event.

Community Circles Schedule  
College of St. Catherine, Eden Prairie, Edina, Minneapolis, St. Paul, Rochester  
2/3/2000

FRIDAY 3/10/00

St. Paul	Friday, 3/10/00	3:00 - 5:00 p.m.	Somali Community
St. Paul	Friday, 3/10/00	5:00 - 8:30 p.m.	Frogtown

SATURDAY 3/11/00

Rochester	Saturday, 3/11/00	10:00 - 12:00 p.m.	Library
Minneapolis	Saturday, 3/11/00	10:00 - 12:00 p.m.	Bryant Square

**MARCH 12 - MARCH 18**

MONDAY 3/13/00

Rochester	Monday, 3/13/00	2:00 - 4:00 p.m.	Senior Center
Rochester	Monday, 3/13/00	6:30 - 8:30 p.m.	Red Cross
Rochester	Monday, 3/13/00	7:00 - 9:00 p.m.	Assisi Community Center

TUESDAY 3/14/00

Rochester	Tuesday, 3/14/00	1:00 - 3:00 p.m.	Workforce @ PIC
St. Paul	Tuesday, 3/14/00	6:00 - 8:30 p.m.	McDounough
Rochester	Tuesday, 3/14/00	7:00 - 9:00 p.m.	Library

Dates in **BOLD FACE** indicate community Kick-off event.

Community Circles Schedule  
College of St. Catherine, Eden Prairie, Edina, Minneapolis, St. Paul, Rochester  
2/3/2000

WEDNESDAY 3/15/00

Rochester	Wednesday, 3/15/00	10:00 - 12:00 p.m.	United Way
Eden Prairie	Wednesday, 3/15/00	1:30 - 3:00 p.m.	Eden Prairie Center
Minneapolis	Wednesday, 3/15/00	6:00 - 8:00 p.m.	Painter's Park
St. Paul	Wednesday, 3/15/00	6:00 - 8:00 p.m.	Neighborhood House
Rochester	Wednesday, 3/15/00	6:30 - 7:30 p.m.	Gage
St. Paul	Wednesday, 3/15/00	6:30 - 8:30 p.m.	Merriam Park
Eden Prairie	Wednesday, 3/15/00	7:00 - 9:00 p.m.	Eden Prairie Center

THURSDAY 3/16/00

Rochester	Thursday, 3/16/00	10:00 - 12:00 p.m.	Family Y
Eden Prairie	Thursday, 3/16/00	7:00 - 9:00 p.m.	Eden Prairie Center
Rochester	Thursday, 3/16/00	7:00 - 9:00 p.m.	Extension Bldg
St. Paul	Thursday, 3/16/00	7:00 - 9:00 p.m.	JCC

FRIDAY 3/17/00

St. Paul	Friday, 3/17/00	3:00 - 5:00 p.m.	Somali Community
St. Paul	Friday, 3/17/00	5:00 - 8:30 p.m.	Frogtown

SATURDAY 3/18/00

Rochester	Saturday, 3/18/00	10:00 - 12:00 p.m.	Library
Minneapolis	Saturday, 3/18/00	10:00 - 12:00 p.m.	Bryant Square

Community Circles Schedule  
College of St. Catherine, Eden Prairie, Edina, Minneapolis, St. Paul, Rochester  
2/3/2000

**MARCH 19 - MARCH 25**

MONDAY 3/20/00

Rochester	Monday, 3/20/00	7:00 - 9:00 p.m.	Assisi Community Center
-----------	-----------------	------------------	-------------------------

TUESDAY 3/21/00

St. Paul	Tuesday, 3/21/00	5:30 - 7:30 p.m.	NCCJ
----------	------------------	------------------	------

WEDNESDAY 3/22/00

Eden Prairie	Wednesday, 3/22/00	1:30 - 3:30 p.m.	Eden Prairie Center
St. Paul	Wednesday, 3/22/00	6:30 - 8:30 p.m.	Merriam Park
Eden Prairie	Wednesday, 3/22/00	7:00 - 9:00 p.m.	Eden Prairie Center

THURSDAY 3/23/00

Rochester	Thursday, 3/23/00	10:00 - 12:00 p.m.	Family Y
Rochester	Thursday, 3/23/00	7:00 - 9:00 p.m.	Extension Building
Eden Prairie	Thursday, 3/23/00	7:00 - 9:00 p.m.	Eden Prairie Center

**MARCH 26 - APRIL 1**

THURSDAY 3/30/00

Rochester	Thursday, 3/30/00	10:00 - 12:00 p.m.	Family Y
Rochester	Thursday, 3/30/00	7:00 - 9:00 p.m.	Extension Building

Dates in **BOLD FACE** indicate community Kick-off event.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2000

1:00 - 3:30 P.M.

Cultural Competency with Elizabeth Campbell - Session II

	NAME	PHONE
1		
2		
3		
4		
5		
6		
7		
8		
9		
10		
11		
12		
13		
14		
15		
16		
17		
18		
19		
20		
21		
22		
23		
24		
25		
26		
27		
28		
29		
30		
31		
32		
33		
34		
35		
36		



WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2000

6:30 - 9:00 P.M.

Cultural Competency with Elizabeth Campbell - Session I

	NAME	PHONE
1		
2		
3		
4		
5		
6		
7		
8		
9		
10		
11		
12		
13		
14		
15		
16		
17		
18		
19		
20		
21		
22		
23		
24		
25		
26		
27		
28		
29		
30		
31		
32		
33		
34		
35		
36		

from  
VERA:

Kick-off

Tuesday, Feb. 8<sup>th</sup>

7 - 8:30 p.m.

Kahler Grad Hotel

Steady circle begins

Monday

7 - 9  
2/21

Mississ  
Cm. Center

# LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF MINNESOTA EDUCATION FUND COMMUNITY CIRCLES NEWSLETTER

## JANUARY 2000

From the Director...

This is the second in a series of newsletters intended for sharing information, ideas and impending deadlines. Thank you for all the hard work, innovative ideas and commitment. I have enjoyed my conversations with each of you! It is heartening, no, *exciting* to see so many good people working on such a demanding but important effort.

Susan

### MONEY

You can expect the first installment of your grant the week of January 17. As you recall, the second 45% will be forthcoming in the middle of February. The last 5% will be awarded after your final report is received. Please save all receipts and enclose copies of checks and/or receipts when you do your final accounting.

### FACILITATORS

Please email or call Susan with the number of facilitators that will be attending facilitator training. This information is necessary in order to plan for size of room and for refreshments.

If you are having trouble finding facilitators please let me know. We might be able to help you. However, we have had a limited response to the ads that were put into the newsletters of the MN Facilitators Network, MN Humanities Commission and the Minnesota Chapter for Dispute Resolution. If you haven't already done so, check with local Minnesota Extension agents, churches and teachers in your school district. Many of them have been trained as facilitators. Also talk with friends and neighbors – facilitator skills are considered to be a welcome addition to a resume these days and they might appreciate the opportunity.

We suggest that you meet with your facilitators before the circles begin and talk about the goals of the project, the action forum, and the importance of facilitator neutrality. Make sure they have a copy of our discussion guide and a copy of the *Facilitators' Handbook* (to be mailed later) and ask that they read them carefully.

#### Facilitator Training:

**Wednesday, February 2, 5 - 8:30pm**

Room 323, St. Joseph's Hall, College of St. Catherine, 2004 Randolph, St. Paul, MN 55105

**Thursday, February 3, 4:30 - 7:30 PM**

Rochester, MN

**Friday, February 4, 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM**

Willmar, MN

**Cultural Competency in Facilitation: A conversation about how cultural ethnicity and race interact and influence the practice of facilitation** with Elizabeth Campbell, facilitator.

The League of Women Voters of St. Paul has arranged for an additional "diversity" training to supplement the general facilitator training. All are encouraged to attend!

**Wednesday, February 9, 6:30 - 9:00 PM**

Minnesota Women's Building, 550 Rice Street, St. Paul, MN 55103

### PUBLICITY/MEDIA COVERAGE

**Press Release template:** Andrea Lex, Development and Communications Director for LWVMN, has been kind enough to develop a template for communities to use for press releases. In the packet given to each community there is a more generic one -- please feel free to use these as you see fit.

### FLYER TEMPLATE

Jessica Crary, administrative assistant for LWVMN, has designed a brochure and a flyer that we will include with this mailing. We can also email this material (if computers are compatible) so you will not have to key it in.

### LISTSERVE

What is a listserve, you ask? It's a way to have a discussion with a group of people electronically. When you send a message to the listserve, it is sent to all those who are on the list. You can ask questions, solicit advice, and share your ideas to all who are on the list. It's a great way to communicate *at your and others' convenience*. First, however, you must sign up so you are a member of the list.

Go to the website at <http://www.onelist.com/community/Mncommunitycircles>. This page will tell you that "you are not a member of this community." Select "Join Community." This page will say "New Member - Click here to register for free." Select to register. Registration is in 4 steps.

1. Fill out your information. At the "HTML E-mail Selection" choose "normal (text) email". Select "Next." (You may read the "Terms of Service" if you'd like; it's more of a technicality than anything.)
2. In confirming your email, *de-select* the check box that says "Check here to get email..." (This will prevent you from getting junk mail.) Select "Next."
3. Verify your settings. (Filling out additional information is optional.) Select "next."
4. Select topics *only if you are interested in receiving regular messages about them*. Otherwise you can bypass this step by selecting "Submit."

On the "Subscription Options" page select "Send email messages to *youremail@abc.com*," the first option. Select "Join." (You can ignore the next page unless you want to make changes to your options.)

You'll receive a message from onelist.com with instructions to which you must reply. After you are confirmed for the list, the League Office will send you an additional confirmation.

## ACTION FORUM

The action forum is an important part of the community circle process. If you are having more than one circle, you will need to have an action forum. The purpose is for the participants to share their action items, and form task forces to work on solving local problems that have been identified.

### STATE ACTION FORUM

On **Saturday, April 29** from 1 to 5pm in St. Paul we will hold a State Action forum.

#### Goals:

To share common concerns identified by Community Circles across the state

To share workable solutions to problems identified by participants

To form task forces to work on state-wide issues

#### Hopes:

To have several or many participants from each community that hosted a community circle project

To have organizations represented at our "Action Bazaar" that will make us aware of which of these ideas is already being addressed on some level

To present concerns, exchange ideas and find workable solutions without duplicating an already existing effort

### HELP NEEDED

We have had a request for a list of interpreters. Does anyone know of such a list? We suggest you call service providers in your area or schools/ colleges or organizations that represent each ethnic group. We will make calls and see if we can locate a list of interpreters.

## CONTACT

League of Women Voters of Minnesota  
Education Fund  
550 Rice Street  
St. Paul, MN 55103  
651/224-5445  
651/290-2145 (Fax)  
[lwvmn@mtn.org](mailto:lwvmn@mtn.org)  
<http://www.lwvmn.org>

Susan Anderson  
Project Director  
612/331-1117  
612/331-1912 (Fax)  
[susan331@aol.com](mailto:susan331@aol.com)

Janet Gendler  
LWVMN Board of Directors  
Project Chair  
612-920-3567  
[jhgendler@aol.com](mailto:jhgendler@aol.com)

---

# LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF MINNESOTA EDUCATION FUND

## COMMUNITY CIRCLES NEWSLETTER

## JANUARY 24, 2000

---

From the Director...

This is third in a series of newsletters intended for sharing information, ideas and impending deadlines. Thank you for all the good questions (many of them featured here) as well as great new ideas. You should know that Amy Malik of the Study Circle Resource Center said; "Minnesota's Immigration project is one of the most interesting programs we are supporting right now. I would like to seek national media attention for your communities." Yea Minnesota!

Susan

---

### MONEY

**Question:** Do we handle this money differently than other money from the LWVMN Office?

**Answer:** This money is to be deposited in the checking account of your local league and to be used only for this project. You must save all receipts and copies of checks and keep an accurate record of what you have spent. As you recall, the second 45% will be forthcoming in the middle of February. The last 5% will be awarded after your final report is received.

---

### FACILITATORS

**Please email or call Susan with the number of facilitators that will be attending facilitator training. This information is necessary in order to plan for size of room and for refreshments!**

In order to accommodate the facilitators, who could not make it to the three scheduled training sessions, we have investigated ITV (Interactive Television). It is available in many colleges throughout Minnesota. At this point, the information would lead me to believe that it is costly and difficult to arrange. I am still investigating but it doesn't look hopeful.

We will tape the first training and make this available to communities for \$11. It is always best to be there in person, but if this is absolutely impossible -- viewing the film and going through the discussion guide and facilitator's handbook with your facilitators is next best. Remember to emphasize facilitator neutrality.

**On the subject of facilitator neutrality – It was suggested, just this morning, that the use of flip charts helps participants see that ideas were listened to and were heard. Do you still have room in your budgets for flip charts? Can you borrow one from a workplace, school or Community Ed facility?**

#### *Facilitator Training:*

**Wednesday, February 2, 5 - 8:30pm**

West Marian Lounge, St. Joseph's Hall, College of St. Catherine, 2004 Randolph, St. Paul, MN 55105

(St. Joseph's Hall is the building west of Bertlem Center.) Uuse O'Shaughnessy Parking Lot The entrance is on Fairview.

Pizza and carrot sticks will be available – donations gratefully accepted. Soft drinks are available at a vending machine.

**Thursday, February 3, 4:30 - 7:30 PM**

201 SE 4<sup>th</sup> Street, Rochester, MN. Come into town on Civic Center Drive. When you get to the T in the road, go Right. On your left you pass the Mayo Civic Center. You'll see the library on your Right. Keep going, over the bridge and the Government Center is to your Right.

**Friday, February 4, 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM**

Kandiyohi County Health and Human Services Building, 1900 HWY 294 NE, Suite 2090, Willmar, MN. (Please see the enclosed map.)

***Cultural Competency in Facilitation: A conversation about how cultural ethnicity and race interact and influence the practice of facilitation*** with Elizabeth Campbell, facilitator.

The League of Women Voters of St. Paul has arranged for an additional "diversity" training to supplement the general facilitator training. All are encouraged to attend!

**Wednesday, February 9, 6:30 - 9:00 PM**

Minnesota Women's Building, 550 Rice Street, St. Paul, MN 55103

---

### PUBLICITY/MEDIA COVERAGE

Remember to call local radio stations. Many communities are being interviewed. Some stations are going to feature immigrants' stories.

**Question:** What is the correct way to identify this project? Is it Community Circles, Study Circles, Discussion Groups?

**Answer:** We are officially calling them Community Circles. Reasons: Study Circles sound too official and may scare some people away. The League usually does studies and we want people to understand that this is different.

---

### PARTICIPANT SELECTION:

Remember we are looking for people with all points of view to participate in this process. You might want to call service clubs such as Elks, Lions and Rotary. You might want to check with the local barber, grocer or bank manager. We don't want just people who give their full support to immigrants and the immigration process; we want everyone to feel their point of view is welcome.



---

## DISCUSSION GUIDES

We have two versions of our Discussion Guide. One has facilitator tips in the margins and one does not. Discussion Guides with facilitator tips will be brought to the training sessions along with a booklet called *The Facilitator's Handbook*. We will also bring discussion guides for the participants. Facilitator guides and Discussion Guides will be mailed to those communities not having representatives at the training sessions. **Again – we need to know numbers! – As soon as you have a good idea of number of participants – let us know – Thanks!**

---

## LISTSERVE - JOIN THE LISTSERVE AND RECEIVE YOUR NEWSLETTER VIA E-MAIL!

What is a listserve, you ask? It's a way to have a discussion with a group of people electronically. When you send a message to the listserve, it is sent to all those who are on the list. You can ask questions, solicit advice, and share your ideas to all that are on the list. It's a great way to communicate *at your and other's convenience*. First, however, you must sign up so you are a member of the list.

Go to the website at <http://www.onelist.com/community/Mncommunitycircles>. This page will tell you that "you are not a member of this community." Select "Join Community." This page will say "New Member - Click here to register for free." Select to register. Registration is in 4 steps.

1. Fill out your information. At the "HTML E-mail Selection" choose "normal (text) email". Select "Next." (You may read the "Terms of Service" if you'd like; it's more of a technicality than anything.)
2. In confirming your email, *de-select* the check box that says "Check here to get email..." (This will prevent you from getting junk mail.) Select "Next."
3. Verify your settings. (Filling out additional information is optional.) Select "next."
4. Select topics *only if you are interested in receiving regular messages about them*. Otherwise you can bypass this step by selecting "Submit." On the "Subscription Options" page select "Send email messages to [youremail@abc.com](mailto:youremail@abc.com)," the first option. Select "Join." (You can ignore the next page unless you want to make changes to your options.)

You'll receive a message from onelist.com with instructions to which you must reply. After you are confirmed for the list, the League Office will send you an additional confirmation.

---

## ACTION FORUM

The action forum is an important part of the community circle process. If you are having more than one circle, you will need to have an action forum. The purpose is for the participants to share their action items, and form task forces to work on solving local problems that have been identified.

### STATE ACTION FORUM

On **Saturday, April 29** from 12:30 to 5pm in St. Paul we will hold a State Action Forum at the Minnesota History Center

Goals:

To share common concerns identified by Community Circles across the state.

To share workable solutions to problems identified by participants

To form task forces to work on statewide issues

Hopes:

To have several or many participants from each community that hosted a community circle project.

To have organizations represented at our "Action Bazaar" that will make us aware of which of these ideas is already being addressed on some level.

To present concerns, exchange ideas and find workable solutions without duplicating an already existing effort.

---

## LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

Harry Boyte, from the Humphrey Institute, suggested that communities might find the following web sites helpful: [www.publicachievement.org](http://www.publicachievement.org) and [www.publicwork.org](http://www.publicwork.org).

The Humphrey Institute will also hold a public discussion/panel on February 8 from 4:30 - 6:30 p.m. at Cowles Auditorium, Humphrey Institute, 301 19<sup>th</sup> Ave, Minneapolis, dealing with the changing demographics of Minnesota and the ways in which institutions are (or are not) meeting the needs of newcomers.

### STUDY CIRCLE RESOURCE CENTER:

Scott Stiles of SCRC will be e-mailing or calling you to set up a 20-minute interview. Their goal is to better understand statewide study circle programs, how to initiate them, how to support them and how to keep them going. Be ready with your feedback.

---

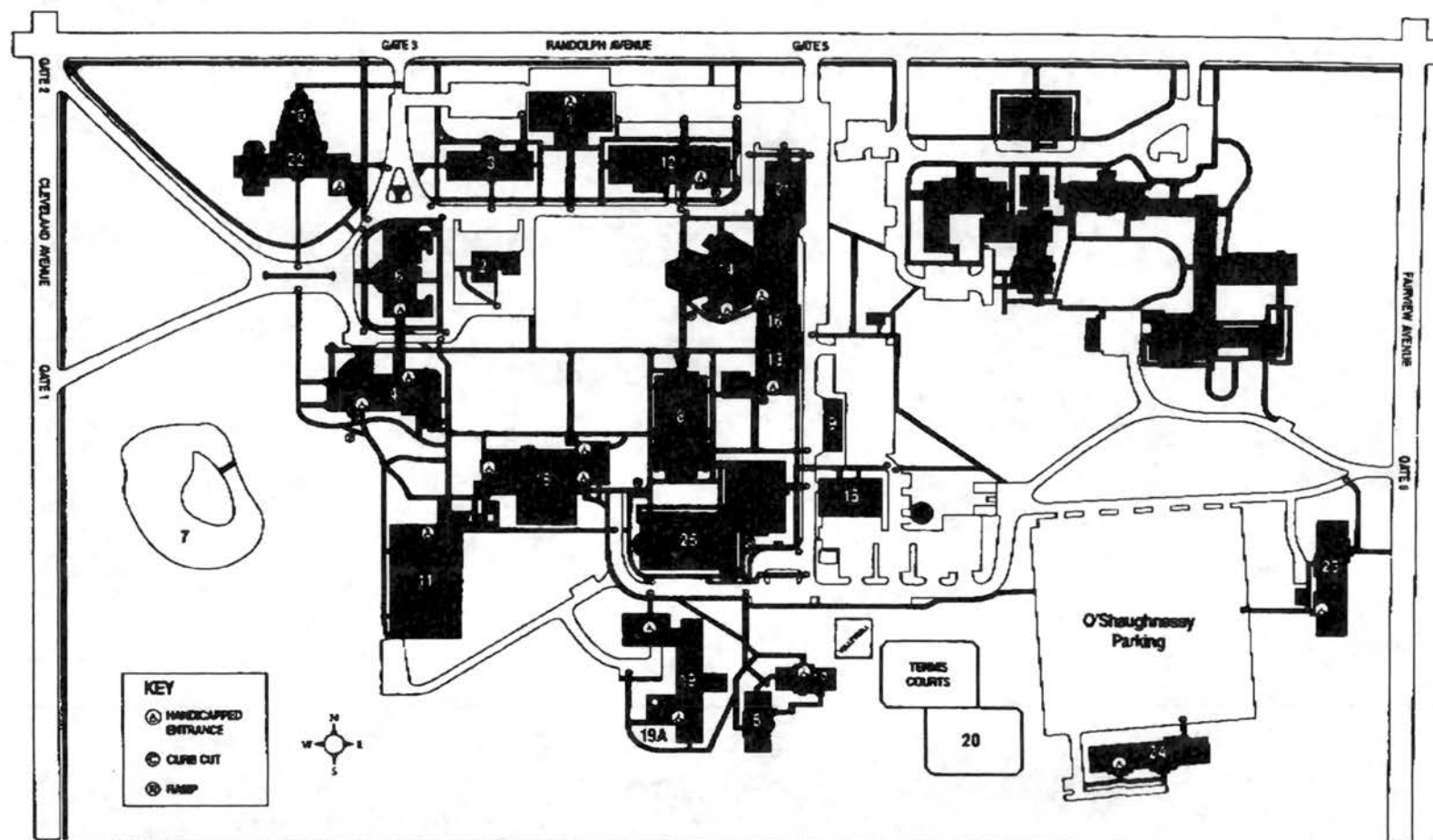
## CONTACT

League of Women Voters of Minnesota  
Education Fund  
550 Rice Street  
St. Paul, MN 55103  
651/224-5445  
651/290-2145 (Fax)  
[lwvmn@mtn.org](mailto:lwvmn@mtn.org)  
<http://www.lwvmn.org>

Susan Anderson  
Project Director  
612/331-1117  
612/331-1912 (Fax)  
[susan331@aol.com](mailto:susan331@aol.com)

Janet Gendler  
LWVMN Board of Directors  
Project Chair  
612-920-3567  
[jhgendler@aol.com](mailto:jhgendler@aol.com)

# St. Paul campus



- 1 Art Building
- 2 Bookstore
- 3 Caecilian Hall
- 4 Chapel
- 5 Crandall Hall
- 6 Derham Hall

- 7 Dewdrop Pond
- 8 Fonbonne Hall
- 9 Garage
- 10 Jeanne d'Arc Auditorium
- 11 Library
- 12 Mendel Hall

- 13 Music Building
- 14 The O'Shaughnessy
- 15 Power House
- 16 Recital Hall
- 17 Stanton Hall
- 18 St. Joseph Hall
- 19 St. Mary Hall

- 19A Early Childhood Center
- 20 Tennis Courts
- 21 Mabel Frey Theater
- 22 Whitby Hall
- 23 Sr. Georgia Apts.
- 24 Sr. Alberta Apts.
- 25 Aimee and Patrick Butler Center for Sports & Fitness

The Sisters of St. Joseph  
Carondelet

- A Administratio
- B Bethany Conv
- C Chapel
- D Carondelet Ce
- E Provincial Ho

## SITE SELECTION (SITE RECRUITMENT POSSIBILITIES AND PRIORITIES)

Bremer is interested in community circles in Willmar\*, St. Cloud\*, Marshall\*\*, Pelican Rapids\*\*, Detroit Lakes\*\*, Moorhead, and Cottonwood

Local LWV'S are present in those communities marked with an asterisk (\*).  
Communities with individual League members are marked with a double asterisk. ( \*\* ).

## LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS INTEREST IN COMMUNITY CIRCLES

<u>Committed*</u>	<u>Considering</u>
Armstrong High School	N. MN Foundation
Austin*	New Brighton
Detroit Lakes/Pelican Rapids*	Moorhead
Eden Prairie*	
Edina *	
Mankato*	
Marshall	
Minneapolis*	
Northfield*	
Plymouth/Wayzata	
Rochester*	
St. Catherine's	
St. Cloud*	
St. Paul*	
St. Peter	
Willmar	
Winona*	

Asterisk indicates proposal has been sent in and funds allocated

1/10/00





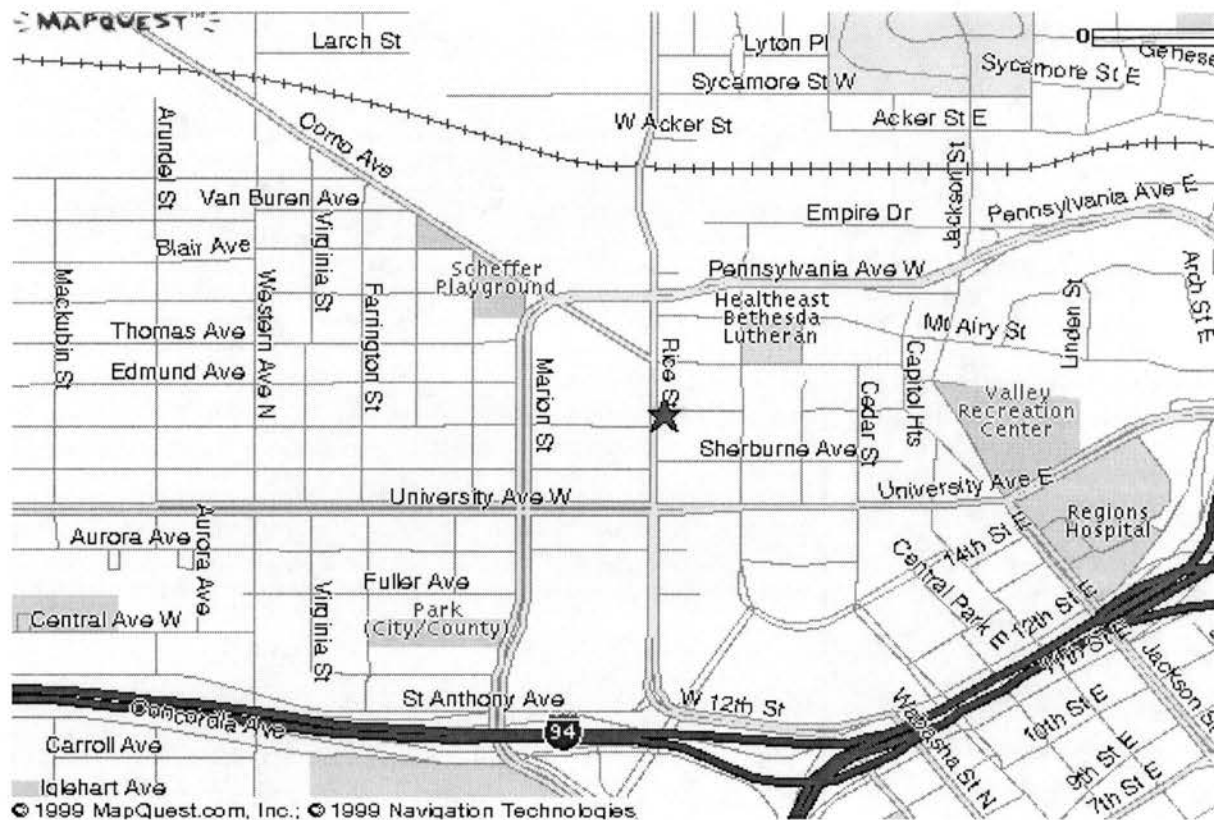
[Yahoo! - Maps - Yellow Pages - Help](#)

**Yahoo! Games-** play online chess, bridge, spades, backgammon

**Yahoo! Maps**

[New Location](#)

**550 Rice Street, St Paul, MN 55103-2116**



Need Help? See the [FAQ](#) Or report [map problems](#).  
Copyright © 2000 [Yahoo! Inc.](#) All Rights Reserved.

FEB. 9 CULTURAL COMPETENCY  
TRAINING



[Yahoo!](#) - [Maps](#) - [Yellow Pages](#) - [Help](#)

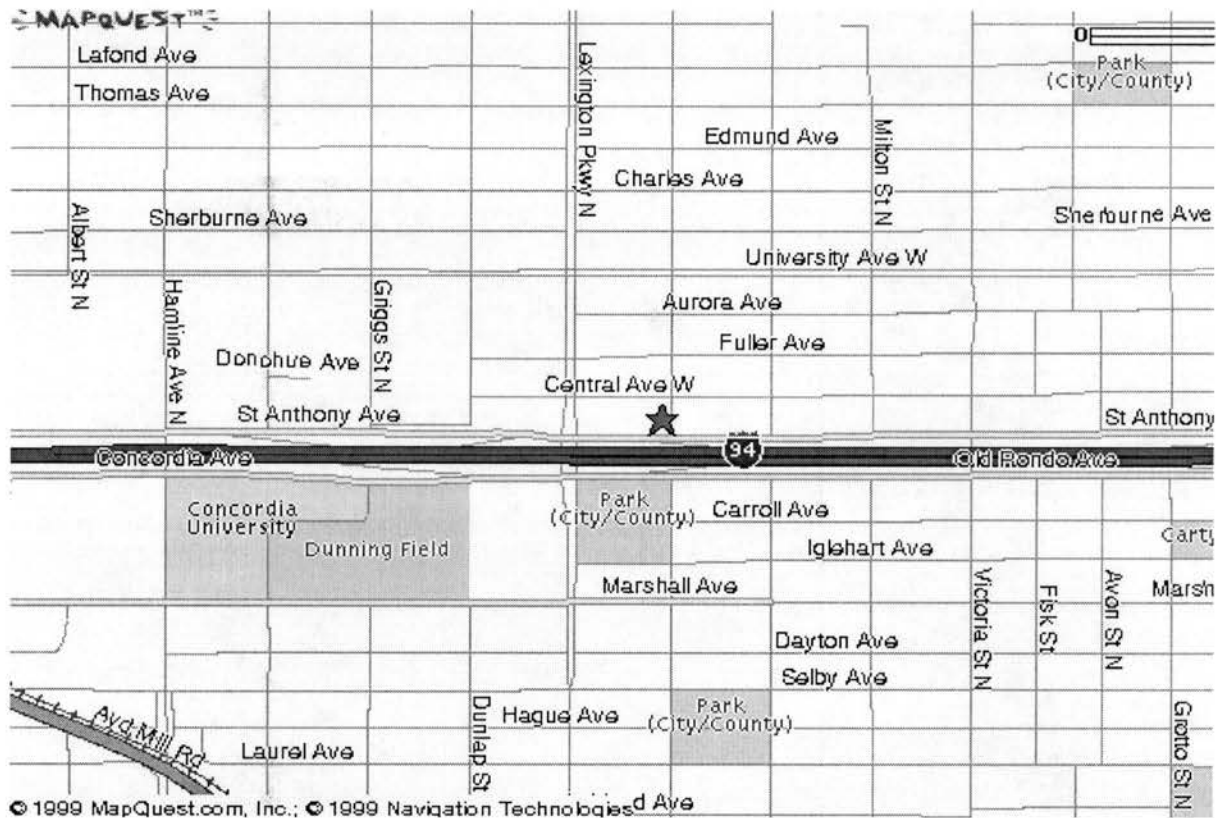
Get your favorite author's book **FREE** with membership

☒ Grisham ☐ Steele ☐ Cornwell ☐ Patterson

Yahoo! Maps

[New Location](#)

**375 North Oxford, St Paul, MN 55104-4734**

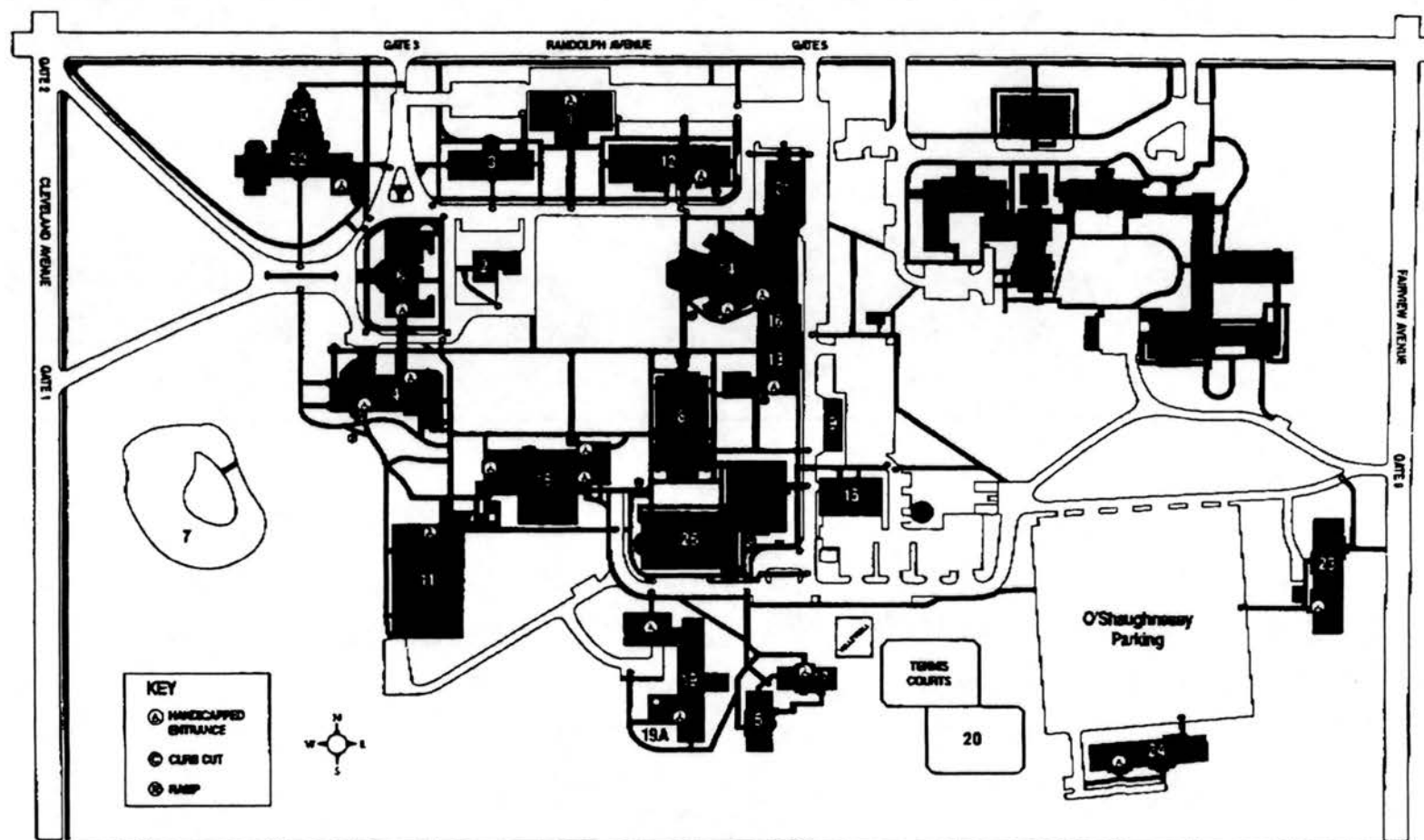


Need Help? See the [FAQ](#) Or report [map problems](#).  
Copyright © 2000 [Yahoo! Inc.](#) All Rights Reserved.

FEB. 14<sup>TH</sup> KICKOFF CELEBRATION

# St. Paul campus

FEB. 2  
FACILITATOR  
TRAINING



- 1 Art Building
- 2 Bookstore
- 3 Caecilian Hall
- 4 Chapel
- 5 Crandall Hall
- 6 Derham Hall

- 7 Dewdrop Pond
- 8 Fontbonne Hall
- 9 Garage
- 10 Jeanne d'Arc Auditorium
- 11 Library
- 12 Mendel Hall

- 13 Music Building
- 14 The O'Shaughnessy
- 15 Power House
- 16 Recital Hall
- 17 Stanton Hall
- \* 18 St. Joseph Hall
- 19 St. Mary Hall

- 19A Early Childhood Center
- 20 Tennis Courts
- 21 Mabel Frey Theater
- 22 Whitby Hall
- 23 Sr. Georgia Apts.
- 24 Sr. Alberta Apts.
- 25 Aimee and Patrick Butler  
Center for Sports & Fitness

- The Sisters of St. Joseph  
Carondelet
- A Administration
- B Bethany Conv.
- C Chapel
- D Carondelet Ce.
- E Provincial Ho

*Changing Faces, Changing Communities*  
**Community Circles on Immigration in Minnesota**  
The League of Women Voters of Minnesota Education Fund (LWVMNEF)

<b>Budget per Community</b>	<b>Amt. Req.</b>	<b>Amt. Used</b>
Publicity and Advertising	\$	\$
Room Rental	\$	\$
Facilitator honorarium	\$	\$
Office costs	\$	\$
Refreshments	\$	\$
Rental of audio/video equipment	\$	\$
Travel	\$	\$
Child Care	\$	\$
Translators	\$	\$
Project Coordinator *	\$	\$
Other	\$	\$
Total	\$	\$

We ask that you turn in all receipts, checks or copies of it and that you seek inkind donations whenever possible. We also ask that you return unused funds. The project is funded at about 70% at this time -- however, there are still grants pending. Shifting of expenses from one budget item to another is permissible.

# LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF MINNESOTA EDUCATION FUND COMMUNITY CIRCLES NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER 1999

From the Director...

This is the first of what I hope will be a periodic update on the progress of the Community Circles throughout Minnesota. The goal is for you all to give and receive ideas in organizing your community's dialogue. If there are items that you'd like included or left out, please let me know. I will also try to remember to ask what information can be shared with the rest of the communities.

The State League office has started a list serve for project directors throughout the state. To subscribe, go to [www.onelist.com/community/MNcommunitycircles](http://www.onelist.com/community/MNcommunitycircles). Follow the registration instructions and you will soon thereafter receive a confirmation. (Be sure to keep alert to "special offers" or "periodic updates" options during registration. Typically you'll be able to de-select these options. Otherwise you may end up with some extra "junk mail" in your inbox.)

Susan

## PILOT PROJECTS

Willmar and Austin were the hosts for the fall pilot projects. What follows are some of their suggestions and some of their challenges and their outcomes.

### *Attendance*

Out of 12 or 13 invited in each community the lowest attendance was 8 people, usually only one or two were absent. Willmar felt part of the problem was that some of the people worked nights and getting up for a noon meeting was difficult.

### *Translators*

Not needed in either community

### *Facilitation*

Facilitators donated their time in both communities - extension people, teachers and league members. According to the evaluation one facilitator was challenged regarding neutrality. It is very difficult to be a neutral facilitator - thus the importance of selection and training and the use of co-facilitators.

### *Location*

Both communities had location donated.

### *Food*

Willmar purchased food supplied to Bremer Bank employees at a discount.

### *Child Care*

Not necessary

### *Media coverage*

Willmar expressed concern about lack of media coverage. Media didn't use press release supplied by LWVMN. There was one article in the paper and a radio interview is pending.

### *Action*

Both plan to continue to meet as a task force or as friends. Both communities plan to have community circles in February and March.

## PILOT CIRCLE OUTCOMES

### *Willmar*

Agenda for first task force meeting following the conclusion of the community circles

1. Recruit for future circles
2. Study and implement the "You're the One" project
3. Learn more about UMOS (United Migrant Outreach Service)
4. Gather information about Project Fine

## Austin

1. Housing
  - Create transitional housing for people new to the community.
  - Make sure there is some truly affordable housing in Austin.
2. Ombudsman
  - Create a permanent position for an ombudsman that would act as an advocate for newcomers.
  - Make Austin a community that welcomes newcomers, i.e., reinstate the welcome wagon.
3. Telephone hot line
4. Sponsor employee/ employer sensitivity training with respect to the ethnic background of people arriving in our community.
5. Language
  - Provide free Spanish classes.
  - Increase availability of ESL classes.
  - Put "Spanish spoken here" or Vietnamese or other language signs in business windows and storefronts.
6. Community
  - Hold a city wide diversity week.
  - Use the Community Circle Project as a model and sponsor more community circles.

## DISCUSSION GUIDES

Discussion Guides will be available just in the nick of time. There will be a limited but hopefully ample supply. We thank Reliastar for contributing printing as an in-kind donation.

## SUGGESTIONS OR QUESTIONS FROM OTHER COMMUNITIES

Do we need to sponsor women only groups? (It was brought to the attention of one community that women in some ethnic groups will only participate if men are not present.)

How do you handle more than one translator in one group?

Possible solutions – Other group members might be bilingual or investigate the use of earphones.

## KICKOFF PLANS

**Rochester** has their plans in place. An evening event – offer coffees from around the world – Hmong comedienne – ½ hour presentation on the plight of the immigrant.

**Edina** has arranged a panel discussion about immigration dynamics and community impact.

**Other suggestions include** a multicultural potluck, bazaar. Participants speak about issues affecting the community or about issues affecting the newcomer.

## FACILITATOR TRAINING

Matt Leiningher from the Study Circle Resource Center will conduct facilitator training:

Feb. 2, 5 - 8:30 p.m., College of St Catherine, St. Joseph's Hall, Room 323

Feb. 3, 4:30 - 8:00 p.m., Rochester

Feb. 4, 10 - 2:00 p.m., Willmar

(Further information about locations and directions will follow.)

## LEARNING OPPORTUNITY

A screening of "Well Founded Fear," a PBS/POV documentary about the political asylum process in the U.S.

January 10, 2000, 4:30 - 6:30 p.m., Sabathani Center, 310 East 38<sup>th</sup> Street in Minneapolis. Reserve a space by calling 612-672-3852.

## CONTACT

League of Women Voters of Minnesota  
Education Fund  
550 Rice Street  
St. Paul, MN 55103  
651/224-5445  
651/290-2145 (Fax)  
lwvmn@mtn.org  
<http://www.lwvmn.org>

Susan Anderson  
Project Director  
612/331-1117  
612/331-1912 (Fax)  
susan331@aol.com  
(On vacation January 2  
through 9, 2000.)

Janet Gendler  
LWVMN Board of Directors  
Project Chair  
612/920-3567  
jhgendler@aol.com





**League of Women Voters of Minnesota**  
**League of Women Voters of Minnesota Education Fund**

550 Rice Street, St. Paul, MN 55103

## Fax Cover Sheet

**DATE:** October 26, 1999

**TIME:** 10:30 AM

**TO:** Bob Hulteen

**PHONE:**

**FAX:** 218/233-0945

**FROM:** Susan Anderson  
Project Director

**PHONE:** 715/349-7337

**FAX:** 715/349-7124

**RE:** Community Circles Project

**E-Mail:** lwvmn@mtn.org  
www.lwvmn.org

**CC:**

**Number of pages including cover sheet:** [ 10 ]

**Message:**

I will be available at the phone number listed above for today only. (It is my cabin phone.) Otherwise my home phone is 612/331-1117, fax 612/331-1912, email susan331@aol.com

Thanks!

## *Responding to immigration...*

# League initiates community conversations

by Janet Gendler

A record 8,977 immigrants came to Minnesota directly from their native countries in 1996 (Minnesota Planning publication). Many of these were refugees--more than forty percent of Minnesota's immigrants that year--from places such as the former Soviet Union, Somalia, Sudan, Ethiopia, Eritrea, Cameroon, and Southeast Asian countries. In addition, Minnesota's economy is strong at this time, and immigrants are attracted to a welcoming job market.

Their integration into the communities in which they settle, however, has not always been smooth. In response to this development, LWVMNEF is beginning a two-year project to focus community discussions state wide on immigration and the accompanying issues of race, jobs, housing, language differences, and education.

### **Study Circles**

This project will use Study Circles, a process for small-group deliberation developed in 1990 as a project of the Topsfield Foundation, a nonprofit, nonpartisan foundation whose goal is to improve the quality of public life in the United States.

Groups of 8-12 people representing a cross-section of their communities will meet to discuss immigration and how it affects their community, to get to know one another, to consider different points of view, and suggest solutions for problems. They may use discussion materials and a guide developed in cooperation with the Study Circle Resource Center to help focus serious and broad public conversation among conservative and liberal voices, uninformed but interested citizens, service veterans, those who lived here originally, recent immigrants, community leaders, and other folks.

### **Pilot programs**

Pilot programs are planned for May and early fall with a target of 1,000 participants in 100 study circles throughout the state during January, 2000. During this month each study circle would meet four or five times,

with an ultimate outcome of an action plan for the group.

Study Circles have been used successfully in Oklahoma, where the League of Women Voters and several other organizations initiated a study circle program on criminal justice and corrections called "Balancing Justice."

Over 1,000 citizens joined judges, sheriffs, and legislators in deliberation about how to handle the challenges of skyrocketing corrections costs and falling public confidence in the judicial system. Over 50 state and local civic organizations and churches co-sponsored the project with study circles in 13 communities. A bill enacted into law a month after the study circles were completed upheld the two major policy themes identified by the study circle participants.

The LWVMNEF will be the lead sponsor of this project in Minnesota. A League steering committee of Executive Director Sally Sawyer, President Judy Duffy, Development Director Andrea Lex, and Board Member Janet Gendler joined Harry Boyte of the University of Minnesota Humphrey Institute and Nan Kari of the Jane Addams School for Democracy in St. Paul to plan.

A seed grant from the law firm of Siegal, Brill, Greupner, Duffy & Foster PA has enabled the League to hire a project director, Janna Wallin Haug. Currently, this core group is working to form partnerships with community organizations for the Study Circles project.

### **Information at Convention**

The Study Circles on Immigration is a separate initiative from whatever traditional two-year study delegates to the LWV State Convention may choose in April. Two workshops at the Convention on April 17 will give participants a chance to ask questions about Study Circles. Local Leagues will have an opportunity to take leadership roles in this project, and individual members can and should participate.

*Janet Gendler was Co-Chair of the just-completed Election of Judges Study. She has been Vice-President, Community Services, for the Minneapolis League.*



***Changing Faces, Changing Communities***  
**Community Circles on Immigration in Minnesota**  
**League of Women Voters of Minnesota Education Fund**

*Changing Faces, Changing Communities* will focus on immigration and diversity in Minnesota using Community Circles, a process for small-group deliberation developed in 1990 by the Topsfield Foundation of Connecticut, a nonprofit, nonpartisan foundation whose goal is to improve the quality of life in the United States. The Study Circle Resource Center (started by the Topsfield Foundation) is providing the League of Women Voters of Minnesota Education Fund (LWVMNEF) with in-kind contributions of advice, training and materials.

The purpose of the project is to initiate discussion on immigration and diversity, and all of the accompanying issues, such as jobs, housing, schools and language differences. The Community Circles will bring a broad-based group of individuals and opinion leaders together in face-to-face discussions on immigration and how it affects their communities.

One pilot program has taken place and another is planned for this fall in a rural community. Community Circles will be held in February and March 2000, with a target of 1,000 participants in 100 Community Circles throughout the state. Each Community Circle of 8-12 people will meet five times, with an outcome of an action plan appropriate for their community. In May 2000, the League will prepare a final report.

Specific goals of the Community Circles include:

- Participants will represent a cross-section of our society, including people from all ethnic, socioeconomic, political, religious and citizenship-status backgrounds.
- Participants will develop a better understanding of each other and build trust in each other.
- Participants will bring their own values to the Community Circles, and will speak from their perspective of values. If they come and only want to listen, then that would be respected.
- Participants will leave feeling empowered, valued and important.
- Participants may take action, whether this is in the form of starting a support group, setting up a cultural center or an after-school program, developing curriculum or educational materials, or influencing state or local policy. Public policy action that participants undertake may include employment and/or housing initiatives; small business loans for immigrants and people of diverse backgrounds; and policies against discrimination in any context.
- Communities will recognize and value the cultural and economic contributions of immigrant groups.

The League views this project as an opportunity to form strong coalitions with many area organizations working with immigration and diversity. LWVMNEF has formed or is in the process of forming coalitions with the Center for Democracy and Citizenship at the Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs, the Jane Addams School for Democracy, the Refugee and Immigrant Programs of the Minnesota Advocates for Human Rights, the Chicano and Latino Affairs Council, the Council on Black Minnesotans, the Indian Affairs Council, Neighborhood House, Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW), the St. Paul Pioneer Press, the Minneapolis Star Tribune, KTCA-TV, Minnesota Public Radio, Minnesota Extension Service, Minnesota Chamber of Commerce, Minnesota Council of Churches, the College of St. Catherine, the League of

Minnesota Cities, the Citizen's League, the Education and Housing Equity Project, and the Center of the American Experiment, as well as Asian and Asian Pacific organizations. By forming these partnerships, the League will be able to focus serious and broad public conversation among conservative and liberal voices, uninformed but interested citizens, service veterans, those who lived here originally, recent immigrants and others.

Minnesota leads the United States in taking in refugees. According to *PopBites, Trends in International Migration to Minnesota Continue*, published by Minnesota Planning, refugees made up 42.2 percent of all Minnesota immigrants in 1996. Many have come from the former Soviet Union, Somalia, Sudan, Ethiopia, Eritrea, Cameroon and Southeast Asian countries. The majority of immigrants in Minnesota are from Southeast Asia. In 1996, there were 4,163 immigrants from Asia with more than half, 2,445, coming from Southeast Asian countries.

Church programs and human services offered in our state are attractive to immigrants, especially refugees seeking asylum. Immigrants tend to settle in places where friends, family members and others from their countries have settled, thus Minnesota is facing a migration of Hmong people from the West Coast. We are now experiencing an influx of immigrants from the former Yugoslavia. Many newcomers in Minnesota seek employment in the food processing and manufacturing, often located in towns of 35,000 or less.

For evaluation and assessment, the steering committee has proposed that all Community Circle participants complete a pre- and post-Community Circle survey. Upon completion of the project, there will be internal and external evaluations conducted by the steering committee as well as partnering organizations. Community opinion leaders will also be surveyed before and after the Community Circles take place. Once the Community Circles are completed, these opinion leaders will be asked questions along such lines as to whether they see a difference in attitudes in their communities. The impact on the individuals who go through the Community Circles and the impact on the larger community will be assessed.

Community Circles have been used successfully in Oklahoma, where the League of Women Voters and several other organizations initiated a Community Circle program on criminal justice and corrections called *Balancing Justice*. Over 1,000 citizens joined judges, sheriffs and legislators in deliberation about how to handle the challenges of skyrocketing corrections costs and falling public confidence in the judicial system. Over 50 state and local civic organizations and churches co-sponsored the project with Community Circles in 13 communities. A bill enacted into law a month after the Community Circles were completed upheld the two major policy themes identified by the Community Circle participants.

Successful government depends upon how well we use our power as native-born citizens, brand-new citizens, or just-arrived immigrants in creating ways to work together. This project will help all Minnesotans use their power as citizens to work for a better Minnesota. The perspectives of new immigrants on issues such as family, community and educational policies are fresh resources that we should tap. As new arrivals define how they contribute to their communities and what it means to become an American, we can rediscover what it means to be an American and how lucky we are to be living in a democracy. We want to use a broad framework for these discussions so that when the participants and all Minnesotans "imagine America," we can move from a "we - they" stance to one that reflects a diverse "we."

Minnesota Cities, the Citizen's League, the Education and Housing Equity Project, and the Center of the American Experiment, as well as Asian and Asian Pacific organizations. By forming these partnerships, the League will be able to focus serious and broad public conversation among conservative and liberal voices, uninformed but interested citizens, service veterans, those who lived here originally, recent immigrants and others.

Minnesota leads the United States in taking in refugees. According to *PopBites, Trends in International Migration to Minnesota Continue*, published by Minnesota Planning, refugees made up 42.2 percent of all Minnesota immigrants in 1996. Many have come from the former Soviet Union, Somalia, Sudan, Ethiopia, Eritrea, Cameroon and Southeast Asian countries. The majority of immigrants in Minnesota are from Southeast Asia. In 1996, there were 4,163 immigrants from Asia with more than half, 2,445, coming from Southeast Asian countries.

Church programs and human services offered in our state are attractive to immigrants, especially refugees seeking asylum. Immigrants tend to settle in places where friends, family members and others from their countries have settled, thus Minnesota is facing a migration of Hmong people from the West Coast. We are now experiencing an influx of immigrants from the former Yugoslavia. Many newcomers in Minnesota seek employment in the food processing and manufacturing, often located in towns of 35,000 or less.

For evaluation and assessment, the steering committee has proposed that all Community Circle participants complete a pre- and post-Community Circle survey. Upon completion of the project, there will be internal and external evaluations conducted by the steering committee as well as partnering organizations. Community opinion leaders will also be surveyed before and after the Community Circles take place. Once the Community Circles are completed, these opinion leaders will be asked questions along such lines as to whether they see a difference in attitudes in their communities. The impact on the individuals who go through the Community Circles and the impact on the larger community will be assessed.

Community Circles have been used successfully in Oklahoma, where the League of Women Voters and several other organizations initiated a Community Circle program on criminal justice and corrections called *Balancing Justice*. Over 1,000 citizens joined judges, sheriffs and legislators in deliberation about how to handle the challenges of skyrocketing corrections costs and falling public confidence in the judicial system. Over 50 state and local civic organizations and churches co-sponsored the project with Community Circles in 13 communities. A bill enacted into law a month after the Community Circles were completed upheld the two major policy themes identified by the Community Circle participants.

Successful government depends upon how well we use our power as native-born citizens, brand-new citizens, or just-arrived immigrants in creating ways to work together. This project will help all Minnesotans use their power as citizens to work for a better Minnesota. The perspectives of new immigrants on issues such as family, community and educational policies are fresh resources that we should tap. As new arrivals define how they contribute to their communities and what it means to become an American, we can rediscover what it means to be an American and how lucky we are to be living in a democracy. We want to use a broad framework for these discussions so that when the participants and all Minnesotans "imagine America," we can move from a "we - they" stance to one that reflects a diverse "we."



**THE LEAGUE  
OF WOMEN VOTERS**  
MINNESOTA EDUCATION FUND

550 RICE STREET ST. PAUL, MN 55103 PHONE (651) 224-5445 FAX (651) 290-2145

**PRESIDENT**

Judy Duffy

**ADVISORY BOARD**

Ralph Burnet  
CEO  
Coldwell Banker Burnet

Ned Crosby  
Chair  
Jefferson Center

Isabel Gomez  
Judge  
Hennepin County District Court

Joan Anderson Grove

Joan A. Grzywinski  
President/District Manager  
St. Paul and South Metro Minneapolis  
Norwest Bank Minnesota, N.A.

Roger L. Hale  
Chairman & CEO  
Tennant Company

Jean L. Harris, M.D.  
Mayor  
Eden Prairie

Josie R. Johnson  
Senior Fellow  
College of Education  
University of Minnesota

Steven D. Ladwig  
President  
Data Storage Products & Technologies  
Imation Corporation

Sheila Leatherman  
Executive Vice President  
United HealthCare

Peggy Lucas  
Partner  
Brighton Development Corp.

Laura McCarten  
Director of Community Services  
Northern States Power Company

Vivian Jenkins Nelsen  
President and CEO  
International Institute for  
Interracial Interactions:  
INTER-RACE

James A. Roberts  
Vice President, Corporate Relations  
Minnesota Power

G. Edward Schuh  
Professor  
Hubert H. Humphrey  
Institute of Public Affairs  
University of Minnesota

Laura Waterman Wittstock  
President  
MIGIZI Communications, Inc.

Mark G. Yudof  
President  
University of Minnesota

Date: October 26, 1999

To: Bob Hulteen, Moorhead

From: Janet Gendler, Chair

Re: "Changing Faces, Changing Communities," community circles on  
immigration sponsored by the League of Women Voters of Minnesota  
Education Fund

The application deadline for the Community Circles Project has been extended to October 15, 1999. We encourage you to submit your proposals and to also look for money from community sources.

The following memo was sent to League presidents in June:

Are you looking for increased visibility in your community? Do you want to learn about a new tool for addressing an important public policy issue? Are you interested in a new way to add to community life and perhaps to recruit new members in the process? Are you interested in cooperating with other Leagues in your area on an interesting local issue with regional as well as statewide implications?

If so, you're invited to participate in "Changing Faces, Changing Communities," a community circles project on immigration sponsored by the League of Women Voters of Minnesota Education Fund.

Community Circles are a means of small-group deliberation developed in 1990 as a project of the Topsfield Foundation, a nonprofit nonpartisan foundation whose goal is to improve the quality of public life in the United States.

For the Minnesota project, groups of 8 - 12 people representing a cross-section of their communities will meet to discuss immigration and how it affects their community, to get to know one another, to consider different points of view, and suggest solutions for problems. They will use a discussion guide which was developed in cooperation with the SCRC by a committee led by the LWVMN to help focus serious and broad public conversation among a range of voices: conservative and liberal; young, middle-aged, old; new and not-so-new immigrants as well as Native Americans; leaders as well as followers; skeptics and believers.

The LWVMNEF is the lead sponsor of this project in Minnesota. Local government, community organizations, church groups, ethnic groups, and media

organizations serve as members of the steering committee and as coalition partners.

What will the LWVMN provide participating communities? All participating Leagues will receive organizer and facilitator training; assistance in connecting with diverse populations; easy-to-use, tested discussion guides for facilitators and participants; and general on-going support.

In addition, communities may apply for a grant which would help cover the cost of a project coordinator, child care, refreshments, transportation, room rental, translators (if needed), publicity and advertising; office costs; costs for rental of audio/video equipment, or other miscellaneous costs incurred by communities..

If you are interested in participating in this Community Circles project, please return the enclosed application by October 15, 1999. If you have questions, please call project chair Janet Gendler (tel:612-920-3567 ) or project director Susan Anderson (tel:612-331-1117).



Grant Application and Agreement

APPLICATION

Name of community \_\_\_\_\_

Person responsible for this application

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Community/Communities which will be involved in the project \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Amount requested as grant stipend \$ \_\_\_\_\_

(Attach a separate page with a description of the grant request and budget line items.)

If awarded a grant, I, \_\_\_\_\_, fully understand and agree that this money may in no way be used to further any League activities that advance or promote membership programs or advocacy programs or issues.

One half of the grant will be distributed upon approval of the grant application in January 2000. The next 45% will be distributed when the community circles convene in mid-February/early March and the final 5% will be awarded upon submission of the financial report.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Please submit this application no later than October 15, 1999 to: Janet Gendler, Project Chair, "Changing Faces, Changing Communities," LWVMNEF, 550 Rice Street, St. Paul, MN 55103

Please call Janet Gendler, project chair (tel: 612-920-3567) or Susan Anderson, project director (tel: 612-331-1117) with questions or requests for assistance.

## AGREEMENT

### **The local League/grant recipient will:**

designate at least one individual to participate in a training workshop sponsored by the League of Women Voters of Minnesota Education Fund.

organize at least one community circle\* consisting of eight to twelve individuals representing a broad range of people from the community who will meet once a week for five weeks from mid-February to late March 2000. (Community circles must be held by April 2000.)

devote special attention to bringing together as diverse a group as possible, i.e., old immigrants and new, Native Americans (if appropriate in the given community), a variety of religious and political views, old and young, business people, local government officials, unemployed etc.

assist in identifying a facilitator for each community circle organized.

arrange for room rental, refreshments, and childcare, transportation, translators as needed for each community circle.

contact local print and broadcast media to arrange for coverage of the community circles and/or to encourage other news articles or editorials related to the topics to be addressed by the community circle(s)

communicate regularly with the "Changing Faces, Changing Communities" project chair and/or project director.

at the end of the project, submit receipts and invoices and prepare a final report documenting the expenditures included in the grant request.

### **The League of Women Voters of Minnesota Education Fund will provide:**

organizer and facilitator training for each participating community (at a location and time to be determined)

discussion guides for community circle facilitators and participants

assistance in connecting with diverse populations in participating communities

general on-going support and counsel

timely payment of all grant requests

\* Each local organizer is committed to establishing at least one community circle but may form as many as ten circles (or more) depending on the level of interest in the respective community.

*Changing Faces, Changing Communities*  
**Community Circles on Immigration in Minnesota**  
The League of Women Voters of Minnesota Education Fund (LWVMNEF)

<b>Budget Per Community</b>	<b>Amount Requested</b>
Project Coordinator/Manager	\$
Publicity and Advertising	\$
Room Rental	\$
Facilitator honorarium	\$
Office costs	\$
Refreshments	\$
Rental of audio/video equipment	\$
Travel	\$
Child Care	\$
Translators	\$
Other	\$

Please note that we have a limited amount of available grant money . Whenever possible please use donated space, child care etc. and remember you may have money available in your LWVMNEF account (form included)



**LOCAL LEAGUE APPLICATION FOR APPROVAL TO DO A PROJECT\***

To: LWVMNEF  
550 Rice Street  
St. Paul, MN 55103  
651/224-5445  
Fax: 651/290-2145  
lwvmn@mtn.org

From: LWV of \_\_\_\_\_  
Name/Treasurer: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Who is responsible for the project? \_\_\_\_\_ Portfolio \_\_\_\_\_

Title and Date of the Project: \_\_\_\_\_

\*Please note: this application must be submitted **at least three weeks** before the project is begun.

**Type of Project:**

- \_\_\_\_\_ Conference Attendance  
\_\_\_\_\_ Publication  
\_\_\_\_\_ Meeting to Educate the Public on an Issue  
\_\_\_\_\_ Candidate Forum  
\_\_\_\_\_ Voter Reimbursement  
\_\_\_\_\_ Other (please specify: \_\_\_\_\_)

**Note:** **Publication** applications should include contents, authors, timetable and distribution. **Meeting** applications should include the planning committee, participants, program and materials. For applications to distribute publications other than LWVMNEF, include a sample copy and the distribution plan. For **Voter reimbursement**, calculate the percentage of column inches devoted to citizen education and voter service.

**Purpose of the Project:** (Why are you doing this project? What is the need in the community?)

**Details of the Project** (please be specific):

**Who is the project designed to serve? Who will benefit from the project?**

**Project Budget:** (Basic Outline)**Income**

\$\_\_\_\_\_ in your Ed Fund Account  
\$\_\_\_\_\_ to be raised

**Expenses**

\$\_\_\_\_\_ Total

**Date of Local League Board Approval:** \_\_\_\_\_

**From:** Susan331@aol.com <Susan331@aol.com>  
**To:** JHGendler@aol.com <JHGendler@aol.com>  
**Cc:** lwvmn@mtn.org <lwvmn@mtn.org>  
**Date:** Tuesday, June 22, 1999 8:29 AM  
**Subject:** Cover sheet for discussion guides, and Strg com. Summary

---

Hi Jessica,

Please ask Sally to review rough draft of summary and check for omissions, etc. and to approve or disapprove of cover letter for discussion guide.

STEERING COMMITTEE SUMMARY - JUNE 21, 1999 12 NOON TO 2PM

Attendance: Susan Anderson, Project Director; Therese Gales, Mn. Advocates for Human Rights; Janet Gendler, Chair; Jana Haug, outgoing Project Director; Maria Hanson, Extension: Nan Kari, College of St. Catherine; Andrea Lex, Development and Communications Director LWVMN; Lucia Orcutt, Extension, U of M; Sally Sawyer Executive director LWVMN; Sara Taylor, Ramsey Co.; Joel Wurl, Immigration History Resource Center; Steve Young, Center of the American Experiment

FUNDING UPDATE: Total requested to date - \$219,500. Total received 17,000. Total refused - \$75,000. Total pending - \$127,500. Budget is \$140,000. Details available on attached sheet.

DISCUSSION GUIDE COMMITTEE REPORT: - Therese Gales

REVISIONS: Based on the pilot project there were suggestions for facilitators, and suggestions for discussion guide revisions. Harry Boyte has rewritten Session 4. Jana gathered the feedback and amended sessions 1-3 and session 5.

Sawyer pointed out that she was pleased with the product so far but was concerned that we were a homogeneous group and not everyone's voice had been heard. Members of the discussion guide sub committee in attendance will each be mailed discussion guides and will then distribute them to a more diverse group for feedback.

COST: Anderson received a bid from Kinkos and will seek a bid for printing as well as talk to Study Circle Resource Center to see if they can help with any of the formatting or printing.

Jana pointed out that attachments had not been decided on and that would add to the cost of printing or copying.

It is hoped that we can have a draft ready for the October pilot and make final revisions after the results of that pilot are in.

NEXT MEETING OF DISCUSSION GUIDE COMMITTEE IS; July 14, 9am to 11am

TIMELINE:

The Fall Pilot Project had been scheduled for November. It is 5

sessions and will not fit into the month of November without using the week of Thanksgiving. Pilot Project is slated to start the week of October 11th or October 18th.

**SITE RECRUITMENT:**

The discussion centered around the location of the Pilot Project.

There had previously been discussion of two pilots - a metro and a non-metro site. It was also suggested that we review the reasons for having a pilot project - is it necessary?

Decision: A Pilot Project is necessary to answer the following questions:

1. Do the materials work?
2. How do we form a diverse coalition in a small community as well as a metropolitan area?
3. How do we get a 5 week commitment from study circle participants?
4. Transportation, translators, child care, location, food - what is needed and how much?
5. Identify other unforeseen problems.
6. Would this work in your community?

Maria Hanson from Mary Ann Hendersen's office reported that pilots could take place in 4 communities that were currently ready for a study circle project; these are Nobles County - Worthington, Wantonwan County - Madelia and St. James and Blooming Prairie. The League asked for a written proposal and suggested that they might use or test drive the discussion guide draft now available but that human and monetary resources probably wouldn't allow us to do more than one pilot project.

Steve Young suggested we try hard to include people from all religious perspectives, local political leaders - but not nec. those running for office, people from Rotary, Lions, people who are apathetic and not usually heard from, students ala history teachers or mock debate program .

Other ideas thought to be key were a pilot project site should have a solid infrastructure be it LWV or extension and that the community might draw from surrounding communities and therefore be ambassadors for their own local projects.

**MEMO:**

**TO: DISCUSSION GUIDE REVIEWER**

Name:

Address:

Phone Number:

Email:

**FROM: Susan Anderson, Project Director**

LWVMN Study Circles Project -

Changing Faces, Changing Communities

Address: 135 Orlin Ave. SE, Minneapolis, Mn 55414

Phone 612-331-1117  
Email: [susan331@aol.com](mailto:susan331@aol.com)

Thank you in advance for being willing to take the time to read and think about the questions asked in this very important dialogue about immigration and its' affect on our communities. We are hoping that every voice will be heard and that every point of view will be represented

Please review the discussion guide with the following questions in mind:

1. Do you find a view that you can agree with? If not what is missing?
2. Are the questions open ended? Do the questions allow you to draw your own conclusions?
3. Are the questions balanced?
4. Are there questions that are useful and meaningful to youth?
5. Are there questions that are useful and meaningful to people of all ages, ethnic, economic, religious and political backgrounds?
6. Would this work in your community?

All feedback is welcomed and will be considered when the next draft is written. The next draft will be used in the fall pilot project and a final version will be ready for the study circles which will take place in February and March of 2000.

Hi Jessica - the above memo should be oked by Sally and then should be paper clipped to the front of each study guide. I also will email a draft summary of yesterdays meeting so Sally can comment and suggest additions and deletions.

THANKS!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

A packet of 3 should go to Lucia Orcutt  
U. Of M. Extension Service  
340 Coffey Hall  
1420 Eckles Ave.  
St. Paul, Mn 55108

A packet of 4 should go to Sara Taylor  
Office of Diversity Programs  
50 W. Kellogg Blvd. Suite 913  
St. Paul, Mn. 55102

A packet of 3 should go to Therese Gales  
Refugee and Immigrant Program  
MN Advocates for Human Rights  
310 4th Ave. S., Suite 1000  
Minneapolis, MN. 55415

and a packet should be mailed out to each of the following individuals:

Kent Kaiser 1800 LINCOLN W #18  
ST. PAUL. SS113

Joe Day, Indian Affairs Council  
1450 Energy Park Dr. Suite 140  
St. Paul, MN. 55108

Betty King  
Council on Black Minnesotans  
Wright Building  
2233 University Ave.  
St. Paul, Mn. 55114

SAUDIA FOUNDATION  
1216 SELBY STE 2  
ST. SS104

Hector Garcia  
National Conference for Community and Justice  
Iris Park Place, Suite 55  
1885 University Ave.  
St. Paul, Mn. 55104  
Thanks - Susan

***Changing Faces, Changing Communities***  
Community Discussion Circles on Immigration in Minnesota  
League of Women Voters of Minnesota Education Fund Project  
Pilot Event Outcomes

**Pilot Description**

On the morning of May 18th, 1999, approximately 60 community members gathered at the Minnesota State Office Building to participate in a pilot event for *Changing Faces, Changing Communities* Community Circles on Immigration in Minnesota. The pilot event was designed to demonstrate and test some of the questions that will be used by Community Circles meeting statewide in the spring of 2000 focusing on immigration.

Questions addressed during the pilot included: What does it mean to be an American? What impact does immigration have on language, culture, the workplace and marketplace? And what does it mean to be a citizen? Participants in the two-hour session included project steering committee members, representatives of a broad range of community groups, youth involved in the Public Achievement program at Humboldt High School in St. Paul, media representatives, and members of the League of Women Voters.

Participants met in small groups in order to facilitate deeper discussion and evaluation of particular chapters and questions of the proposed study guide. During the first half of the small group sessions, each group was involved in an activity designed to make group members more familiar and comfortable with one another and to set the stage for further discussion. Each individual brought a story or something tangible to share with members of their group, such as a photo, newspaper clipping, family curio, fabric, tool, art object, -- something that expressed an important aspect of their heritage, or of becoming or being American. Each group was allowed 45 minutes to complete this activity.

After a brief break, participants reconvened in small groups for the second part of the pilot that ran a full hour. At this time, each of the groups was assigned a separate chapter of the study guide. These sessions were challenging because participants were not only trying to get a sense of how a Community Circle works, they were also asked to evaluate and react to the particular chapter to which they had been assigned.

In order to do this, the groups spent up to 45 minutes on the particular questions or views laid-out in each chapter. The facilitators then spent the last 15 minutes guiding participants through a discussion of their views on the usefulness and quality of the questions, activities and views outlined in each chapter.

The pilot closed with a session in which all participants were invited to reconvene in a large group to discuss the various outcomes in the individual sessions. The responsibility for reporting on each of the groups rested with a pre-assigned group reporter. However, facilitators and others who wished to remain for this session were encouraged to offer comments and insights on the group dynamics and reactions to the discussion guide.



## **Pilot Outcomes**

Generally, it was felt that the opening exercise was effective in introducing participants to one another and establishing a sense of community. This was important since this sense of community had to be set very quickly given the abridged nature of the pilot. Ordinarily, Community Circle participants would have five weeks to become acquainted with one another.

The high school students were felt to be an exceptionally important element of the pilot. Their stories were brief, but very moving. The intergenerational aspect of their participation is very valuable and youth should be strongly encouraged to participate in all communities in which Community Circles will be held. Organizers and facilitators should think carefully about how to fully engage young participants, and how to intentionally draw them into the discussion as soon as possible. The discussion guide should also include views and questions that reflect young people's questions and concerns.

While careful consideration was given to bringing together as diverse a group as possible for the pilot, participants felt the groups could have been still more varied in terms of ethnic backgrounds. Also, the pilot participants could have been even more varied in their political views. Bringing together individuals who already share common views can be interesting and engaging, but does not lead to the tough discussions that must take place in communities that are deeply divided on issues surrounding immigration and diversity.

There were several tips for facilitators. These included: the need to keep two or three individuals from dominating the discussion; the need to repeat the questions several times in order to keep the group focused; and the recommendation that facilitators ask questions in a variety of ways in order to elicit responses and discussion that addresses ideas and underlying assumptions that are not always obvious or even included in the discussion guide.

It is nearly impossible to include every single view, assumption or fact on a given subject in the discussion guide. However, through a combination of open-ended questions, examples, and supplementary materials, facilitators should be able to lead participants through a discussion that is focused while also representing a broad range of opinions and views.

The final chapter of the discussion guide will be entitled "What kind of Minnesota do we want to build?" This session will raise the basic questions of where do we go from here? What kind of Minnesota do we want for ourselves? For our children? What ideas do we have for action in our respective communities? And how, given an alternate view of citizenship, do we respond or contribute? While this chapter will be focused almost entirely on ideas for action by individuals, at the community, state and federal levels, some participants felt the discussion on action ideas shouldn't wait until the final session but should be integrated through the entire five-week series.

Participants also raised questions as to whether or not there are plans to publish the discussion guide in other languages and/or to use translators. Organizers plan to encourage the use of translators in communities where they are needed. However, the cost of translating the entire discussion guide into more than one language might be prohibitive.

***Changing Faces, Changing Communities***  
**Community Circles on Immigration in Minnesota**  
**League of Women Voters of Minnesota Education Fund**

*Changing Faces, Changing Communities* will focus on immigration and diversity in Minnesota using Community Circles, a process for small-group deliberation developed in 1990 by the Topsfield Foundation of Connecticut, a nonprofit, nonpartisan foundation whose goal is to improve the quality of life in the United States. The Study Circle Resource Center (started by the Topsfield Foundation) is providing the League of Women Voters of Minnesota Education Fund (LWVMNEF) with in-kind contributions of advice, training and materials.

The purpose of the project is to initiate discussion on immigration and diversity, and all of the accompanying issues, such as jobs, housing, schools and language differences. The Community Circles will bring a broad-based group of individuals and opinion leaders together in face-to-face discussions on immigration and how it affects their communities.

One pilot program has taken place and another is planned for this fall in a rural community. Community Circles will be held in February and March 2000, with a target of 1,000 participants in 100 Community Circles throughout the state. Each Community Circle of 8-12 people will meet five times, with an outcome of an action plan appropriate for their community. In May 2000, the League will prepare a final report.

Specific goals of the Community Circles include:

- Participants will represent a cross-section of our society, including people from all ethnic, socioeconomic, political, religious and citizenship-status backgrounds.
- Participants will develop a better understanding of each other and build trust in each other.
- Participants will bring their own values to the Community Circles, and will speak from their perspective of values. If they come and only want to listen, then that would be respected.
- Participants will leave feeling empowered, valued and important.
- Participants may take action, whether this is in the form of starting a support group, setting up a cultural center or an after-school program, developing curriculum or educational materials, or influencing state or local policy. Public policy action that participants undertake may include employment and/or housing initiatives; small business loans for immigrants and people of diverse backgrounds; and policies against discrimination in any context.
- Communities will recognize and value the cultural and economic contributions of immigrant groups.

The League views this project as an opportunity to form strong coalitions with many area organizations working with immigration and diversity. LWVMNEF has formed or is in the process of forming coalitions with the Center for Democracy and Citizenship at the Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs, the Jane Addams School for Democracy, the Refugee and Immigrant Programs of the Minnesota Advocates for Human Rights, the Chicano and Latino Affairs Council, the Council on Black Minnesotans, the Indian Affairs Council, Neighborhood House, Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW), the St. Paul Pioneer Press, the Minneapolis Star Tribune, KTCA-TV, Minnesota Public Radio, Minnesota Extension Service, Minnesota Chamber of Commerce, Minnesota Council of Churches, the College of St. Catherine, the League of



Minnesota Cities, the Citizen's League, the Education and Housing Equity Project, and the Center of the American Experiment, as well as Asian and Asian Pacific organizations. By forming these partnerships, the League will be able to focus serious and broad public conversation among conservative and liberal voices, uninformed but interested citizens, service veterans, those who lived here originally, recent immigrants and others.

Minnesota leads the United States in taking in refugees. According to *PopBites, Trends in International Migration to Minnesota Continue*, published by Minnesota Planning, refugees made up 42.2 percent of all Minnesota immigrants in 1996. Many have come from the former Soviet Union, Somalia, Sudan, Ethiopia, Eritrea, Cameroon and Southeast Asian countries. The majority of immigrants in Minnesota are from Southeast Asia. In 1996, there were 4,163 immigrants from Asia with more than half, 2,445, coming from Southeast Asian countries.

Church programs and human services offered in our state are attractive to immigrants, especially refugees seeking asylum. Immigrants tend to settle in places where friends, family members and others from their countries have settled, thus Minnesota is facing a migration of Hmong people from the West Coast. We are now experiencing an influx of immigrants from the former Yugoslavia. Many newcomers in Minnesota seek employment in the food processing and manufacturing, often located in towns of 35,000 or less.

For evaluation and assessment, the steering committee has proposed that all Community Circle participants complete a pre- and post-Community Circle survey. Upon completion of the project, there will be internal and external evaluations conducted by the steering committee as well as partnering organizations. Community opinion leaders will also be surveyed before and after the Community Circles take place. Once the Community Circles are completed, these opinion leaders will be asked questions along such lines as to whether they see a difference in attitudes in their communities. The impact on the individuals who go through the Community Circles and the impact on the larger community will be assessed.

Community Circles have been used successfully in Oklahoma, where the League of Women Voters and several other organizations initiated a Community Circle program on criminal justice and corrections called *Balancing Justice*. Over 1,000 citizens joined judges, sheriffs and legislators in deliberation about how to handle the challenges of skyrocketing corrections costs and falling public confidence in the judicial system. Over 50 state and local civic organizations and churches co-sponsored the project with Community Circles in 13 communities. A bill enacted into law a month after the Community Circles were completed upheld the two major policy themes identified by the Community Circle participants.

Successful government depends upon how well we use our power as native-born citizens, brand-new citizens, or just-arrived immigrants in creating ways to work together. This project will help all Minnesotans use their power as citizens to work for a better Minnesota. The perspectives of new immigrants on issues such as family, community and educational policies are fresh resources that we should tap. As new arrivals define how they contribute to their communities and what it means to become an American, we can rediscover what it means to be an American and how lucky we are to be living in a democracy. We want to use a broad framework for these discussions so that when the participants and all Minnesotans "imagine America," we can move from a "we - they" stance to one that reflects a diverse "we."



THE LEAGUE  
OF WOMEN VOTERS  
MINNESOTA EDUCATION FUND

550 RICE STREET ST. PAUL, MN 55103 PHONE (651) 224-5445 FAX (651) 290-2145

**PRESIDENT**

Judy Duffy

**ADVISORY BOARD**

Ralph Burnet  
CEO  
Coldwell Banker Burnet

Ned Crosby  
Founder  
Jefferson Center

Isabel Gomez  
Judge  
Hennepin County District Court

Joan Anderson Grove

Joan A. Grzywinski  
President/District Manager  
St. Paul and South Metro Minneapolis  
Norwest Bank Minnesota, N.A.

Jean L. Harris, M.D.  
Mayor  
Eden Prairie

Josie R. Johnson  
President  
Josie R. Johnson & Assoc.

Ken D. Ladwig  
President  
Data Storage Products & Technologies  
Information Corporation

Sheila Leatherman  
Executive Vice President  
United HealthCare

Peggy Lucas  
Partner  
Brighton Development Corp.

Laura McCarten  
Director of Community Services  
Northern States Power Company

Vivian Jenkins Nelsen  
President and CEO  
International Institute for  
Interracial Interactions:  
INTER-RACE

James A. Roberts  
Vice President, Corporate Relations  
Minnesota Power

G. Edward Schuh  
Professor  
Hubert H. Humphrey  
Institute of Public Affairs  
University of Minnesota

Laura Waterman Wittstock  
President  
MIGIZI Communications, Inc.

Mark G. Yudof  
President  
University of Minnesota

May 5, 2000

«FNAME» «LNAME»  
«ORGANIZATION»  
«ADDRESS\_1»  
«ADDRESS\_2»  
«CITY», «STATE» «ZIP»

Dear «FNAME»,

The League of Women Voters of Minnesota would like to thank you for your participation in the *Changing Faces Changing Communities* Action Forum that was held last Saturday, April 29, 2000. We have heard from many participants that your presence was important to the process.

You were there to hear what seventeen Minnesota communities had to say about the impact of immigration on their communities and to further your understanding of the challenges that the immigrant families face. You were also able to offer suggestions and possible solutions to the problems they identified.

We apologize for the length of the first session and hope this did not inconvenience you. We hope that you were able to have significant interaction with the participants during the small group discussion and during the short break between the sessions.

The League of Women Voters would appreciate your feedback on the process and on the possible action that could come from the challenges that were identified. Please feel free to send comments to Susan Anderson, Project Director at the contact numbers listed below.

We will be mailing you a final report not later than July 1, 2000. Thanks again for your participation.

Sincerely,

Susan Anderson  
Project Director

Janet Gendler  
Project Chair

135 Orlin Avenue SE  
Minneapolis, MN 55414  
612/331-1117  
susan331@aol.com

League of Women Voters of Minnesota Education Fund  
Changing Faces Changing Communities  
Action Bazaar - 4/29/00

May 04 20 03:36p

Brian J. Anderson

1-612-331-1912

P.3

ACTIVATION FORUM PARTICIPANTS

4/29/00

	NAME	ORGANIZATION	ADDRESS	PHONE	EMAIL
1	Amy Kenosi	ctr for 4-H Youth Develop	104 MN Gateway 200 Oak St SE, St Paul, MN 55107	612-624-8190	kenos@umn.edu
2	Michelle Vandenberg	MN Literacy Council	750 Transfield St Paul	645-2277	mvandenberg@thelmc.org
3	Marisa Geisler	Neighborhood House	179 Robie St E St Paul, MN 55107	651-227-4291	Mgeisler@neighb.org
4	CAROL ANN BOMSTER	MN LEAGUE OF HUMAN RIGHTS	190 E. 5th St, Suite 700 St Paul, MN 55101	651-296-8882	Marsha.Battles.Jenks@
5	Marsha Battles-Jenks	MN Dept. of Human Rights	117 UNIVERSITY ST PAUL 55155	651-296-4731	BONNIE.ESPOSITO@STATE.MN.US
6	BONNIE ESPOSITO	MN OFFICE CITIZ. VOL. SERV	1894 Como Ave St. Paul, MN	651-647-0991	
7	Marjorie Dolera/Rie Anderson	International Institute of MN	615 Fulton St SE, MN 55455	612-301-4820	Lpearson@hotmail.com
8	Laura Pearson	Get Ready! Program	2746 Fremont Ave S #2 MN 55405	612-821-4488	campes@hero.state.mn.us
9	Marilyn Campes	Get Ready! MN Higher Ed Services	2205 2nd St S	612-370-3000	L. - Fets-BASTO HOD-88K
10	Katan Isast	AUD / Legal Aid	2575 University Ave #135 St. Paul 55114	651-642-1890	CentroLegal@ntn.org
11	Jose Schimming	Centro Legal	115 Valley View Npls	343-7975	Moccio.Kat@eddy.com
12	Katy Moccio	Auto	400 Sibley #300 St Paul	651-296-7620	MHFA@State.MN.US
13	ANNIE BOLEY-SPIGHT	MN Housing Finance Agency	1730 Clifton Pl. MN 55403	612-871-6350	maimengmoua@hotmail.com
14	Mai Neng Moua	Institute for Ed & Advocacy			
15					
16					
17					
18					
19					
20					
21					
22					
23					

League of Women Voters of Minnesota Education Fund  
Changing Faces Changing Communities  
Action Forum - 4/29/00

MAY 04 20 03:37P

Brian J. Anderson

1-612-331-1912

P.4

	NAME	ORGANIZATION	ADDRESS	PHONE	EMAIL
1	CAROL ANN BANISTER	MN LEAGUE OF HUMAN RIGHTS			
2	JOHN SIMCUX	Painter Park	1350 McCall St. MP5	612 871-2476	simcuxj@hotmail.com
3	ROBERT KOOPMAN		10410 WhiteTail King Eden Prairie	612 941-1419	bobkoopman@aol.com
4	DELL ERICKSON	DIVERSITY ACCEPTANCE FOR A SUSTAINABLE AMERICA (DASA)			
5	DR. LILIA BARRIENTOS		9196 Lake Ave. S. #200, MN 55420	214-2803	
6	CAROL FRISCH	LWVE	7025 Comanche Pt Edina	55459 612-829-0604	akfrisch@aol.com
7	Nicole HANSEN			1050-690-6120	
8	MARY-MARGARET ZINDRON	LEAGUE OF MINNESOTA CITIES	145 UNIVERSITY AVE. W. ST. PAUL	651-6215-4089	mzindron@lmmc.org
9	DAVID ZANDER	COMMUNITY PACIFIC MINN.	525 Park Ave. Suite 105	612/296-0572	david.zander@icloud.com
10	Susan Blood	Madrii Institute	2228 Chaparral Ln, Roseville	763/498/8429	sblood@quest-dynamics.com
11	Linda Young	Augsburg College	nursing student		
12	Michelle C. Rogers				
13	Anne Bachman	Armstrong High School	3208 Drew Ave. N Robbinsdale	763-529-1434	Dale2448@aol.com
14	Glan schief	US Senator Wellstone	2550 Union Ave West STP 55414	651-445-0323	glana99@hotmail.com
15	Patty Armstrong		1630 Concord St STP 55404	651-644-7092	pararmstrong@head.org
16	Denise Hedlund	Hedlund Law Office	624 S. 2nd St PO Box 2008	651-345-7145	(Fax) 507-345-6719
17	Kathy Robinson	Multicultural Resource Ctr	St. Jefferson Ave EAD 55415	507-237-2917	
18	Paula Schwartzbauer	Centro Legal	2575 University Ave. W. #125	651-642-1810	Paula-Schwartzbauer@Centro
19	Leon Rodriguez	Center for 4-H, U of MN	200 Oak St. SE, MPLS	612-624-8106	rodri@10@umn.edu legal.org
20	Ellie Ulrich	Mpls. Dept of Health	250 S. 4th Street #510	612-623-5438	ellie.ulrich@ci.minnepais.mn.us
21	Berni Johnson	Painter Park	2504 Silver Lane NE #201	612-782-9574	makoons@hotmail.com
22	G. Fjeldstad	AAUW	702 Highland St. St. Anthony, MN 55424	507-625-5763	Fjeldstad@stlsf.edu
23					



League of Women Voters of Minnesota Education Fund  
Changing Faces Changing Communities  
Action Forum - 4/29/00

MAY 04 20 03:38P

Brian J. Anderson

1-612-331-1912

P.5

	Name	Organization	Address	City	Phone	Email
24	Loren Piller	Lincoln Park Comm. Circle	5836 Russell Ave S.	Minneapolis	927-6254	
25	Maryrose Dotzler	International Institute of	UN 16th Comm. Ave. S.	Minneapolis	55104 651-647-1851	
26	Rid Anderson	"	"	"	"	"
27	Therese Gale	MN Advocates for Human Rights	310 4th Ave S.	Minneapolis	55415 612-341-3302	tgale@mnadvocates.org
28	Maria Woroby	American Immigrant Lawyers Assn	1625 Park Ave S.	Minneapolis	55404 612-332-8611	maraworoby@yahoo.com
29	Jose Schimming	Centro Legal	2575 University Ave	Minneapolis	651-642-1892	Jose-Schimming@CentroLegal.org
30	BONNIE ESPOSITO	(MOEVS) MN OFFICE OF CITIZENSHIP	117 UNIVERSITY AVE	Minneapolis	651-296-4736	BONNIE.ESPOSITO@state.mn.us
31	BEV BERTSON	Wapzuta / Annuity	4930 University Ave	Minneapolis	55412 519-1174	ernst@mninternet.net
32	Grace Norris	" " " " " " " "	2855 Dale St	Minneapolis	473-2373	TonyNorris@juno.com
33	Zoe Nagell	Armstrong HS	11825 45th Ave N	Minneapolis	55442 553-2701	ZSwift7@aol.com
34	JASON DWINEZ	"	10800 3rd Ave N	Minneapolis	55412 544-2913	chryah21@aol.com
35	Patricia Lyman	MHFA	400 Sibley St. Ste 300	Minneapolis	296-9825	patricia.lyman@state.mn.us
36	Willie Nesbitt	Legal Aid Society	2929 Hennepin Ave S	Minneapolis	55406 823-7771	willie@state.mn.us
37	Willie Nesbitt	St. Paul Public Schools	1030 University	Minneapolis	290-4800	willie.nesbitt@spkps.org
38	Barbara Porter	Cella	520 S 6th Ave	Minneapolis	343-7925	
39	Kate Shaugnessy	Rochester Community HERE #17	1619 Wilshire Ct	Rochester	289-6048	porter.bonnie@rochester.org
40	Pina Barnabas	"	13025 Dahlia Circle	Minneapolis	55414 594-5941	here17@rochester.org
41			55344			
42						L Pandeyji@aol.com
43						
44						
45						
46						
47						

24  
25  
26  
27  
28  
29

30  
31  
32  
33  
34  
35  
36  
37  
38  
39  
40  
41  
42  
43  
44  
45  
46  
47

League of Women Voters of Minnesota Education Fund  
Changing Faces Changing Communities  
Action Forum - 4/29/00

	NAME	ORGANIZATION	ADDRESS	PHONE	EMAIL
1	Marilyn Larson	minn. for Imm. Reform	5890 Stinson Blvd.	612-591-0615	MarilynMusic@webtv.net
2	Bette Anderson	LWV - MEPH	7336 TOPVIEW RD	952-941-2853	bettea7336@aol.com
3	Rev. Chuck Kashe	Wichita	1258 Randall St Apt 115	502-692-502	ckashe1@vax2.k-state.edu
4	Alan Shilepsky	C ?	19 So. 1st St #2507	mpls 612-333-5540	ashilep@bitstream.net
5	ROBERT EDWARDS		4211 WENTWORTH AVE	55409 612-822-3632	scrivener@tcinternet.net
6	Noah A. Kani	Armstrong High		575-5722	Kafka@aol.com
7	Senit Debesai	Armstrong High	5612 31st Ave. W.	555-3302	bonita320@aol.com
8	Jeanne E. Poppe	AUSTIN LWV	301 4th AVE SW	AUSTIN 507-833-5687	
9	Julie Tufte	Austin LWV	905 NW 8th Ave	41437-6756	j.tufte@education.winn.edu
10	Omot Omot	Austin LWV	201-31st S.W. Apt 108	434-9012	Omot@hotmail.com
11	Loh Lehmann Taber	Project FINE Winona	P.O. Box 1137 Winona	507-689-2670	llehmann23@hotmail.com
12	Shyllio A. Onstad	MN Extension Serv.	202 W Center Winona	507-457-6440	ponstad@extension.winn.edu
13	Vera Douglas	LWV Rochester	633 Woodhaven Ct	507-252-1361	Pvdouglas@aol.com
14	Tim Gordon	DHS Refugee Svcs	444 Lafayette Rd	651-297-5831	tim.gordon@state.mn.us
15	Vunni Kutty	Hennepin County	200 S. 12th St, Mpls. 55414	612-388-9494	
16	Lul HERSI	Community Circle	1002 PEARL AVE #11	507-537-1970	Lherse.LSSMN.org.
17	Jackie Terr	"	605 Southview	507-532-3158	
18	Thai Vay	Winona County	4815 W. 5th St	507-454-3638	
19	TRINA ALVERO	LWV MPAS	5606 SHERWOOD AVE EDINA	55424 952-920-0920	thinnint@angelfire.com
20	Maria Bengar	Community Circle	1317 S. Washington	56083-1524	itank@maria.net
21	Lul Ahmed	Somali Com.	50 Hill Top Ln Apt. 12	Minnetonka, MN 55001	507-3885309
22	Nancy Anderson	Community Circle	1230 Willow Lane SW	55902 Rochester MN 507-286-9394	
23	Flo Pendergraft	" LWV	2011 Prairie Ave, S6201	231-0554	Fpender@wecnet.com

League of Women Voters of Minnesota Education Fund  
Changing Faces Changing Communities  
Action Forum - 4/29/00

May 04 20 03:40p

Brian J. Anderson

1-612-331-1912

P.7

55903

24	Susy Olsen	LWV Rochester	PO Box 75002 Roch MN	507 281 4469	So.smile @ jump .com
25	Robert Meyer	<del>5567</del>	1369 Woodcrest Ave	651 784 5011	RMRobertmeyer. Apr .ca
26	Heleen R. Johnson	LWV Willmar 56701	7025 Hwy 71 NE	320-235-5335	
27	KER VANG		378 Minnetonka Ave W.	651-338-5600	KVANG@STKATE.EDU
28	FRANK SLAAN	US. INS	2910 Metro Dr Bloomington	612 313 9622	FRANCIS.T.SLAAN@USDOT.GOV
29	Sue Hendricks	College of St Catherine	2004 Randolph Ave St Paul	651-690-6670	shhendricks@stkate.edu
30	Ellen Mark	LWV St Cloud Area	1013 Borgert Ave N. St.	320/252-1034	ellenmark@hotmail.com
31	Janice Rottman	Ramsey City Commissioner	CH/CH 220-15 W. Kellogg	651-266-8360	
32	Jeff + Shelly Martin	Tax payer	2539 Polk St NE	651 28121	
33	Quinn Gupken	MEPH LWV	6008 W. 4th St	612-101-5535	
34	Judy Schueb	" "	395 Lakewood West	952 249 0142	
35	Carol Bomben	MEPH LWV	9260 Talus Circle	952 635	C/bomben@aol.ca
36	Amelia Franck	Neighborhood House			FranckA@dbsm.org
37	Chris Burgu	College of St. Catherine	2004 Randolph Ave.	651-312-0746	CMBurgu@StKate.edu
38	Don Riley	Austin	2012 5th Ave. NE	507-433-1458	
39	Munna Yasiri	Eden Prairie	16526 W. 78th #247 Eden Prairie	651-297-1220	MUNNA.YASIRI@STATE.MN.US
40	Susan Reinhardt	LWV Mpls	5304 Girard Ave S	612 827 6720	sreinhardt@aol.com
41	Joanne Cavallaro	College of St Catherine	130 Amhurst St St Paul	651 698-5556	jcavallaro@stkate.edu
42	DICK LITTLE	EDUCATION & HOUSING EQUITY PROJECT ADVISORY BOARD	2211 RIVERSIDE AVE CB-185, MPLS. 55454	612/330-1505	ehcp@augsbury.edu
43	John Kari	MEPH COUNCIL		651-6021518	
44	Janeen Rosas MN	Dept. of Human Rts.	190 5th St St Paul 55101	651-296-5665	janeen.rosas@state.mn.us
45	Nick Riley	Austin	2012 5th Ave. NE	507-433-1458	Nriley10@hotmail.com
46	Pauline Redmond	Owatonna MN	9908 SW 75th St.	507-463-8298	cdn@mncl.net
47	Clare Koonian	Eden Prairie	10410 White Tail Cross	952-941-1919	

55347



League of Women Voters of Minnesota Education Fund  
Changing Faces Changing Communities  
Action Forum - 4/29/00

May 04 20 03:41p

Brian J. Anderson

1-612-331-1912

P.8

	NAME	ORGANIZATION	ADDRESS	PHONE	EMAIL
1	Sheri Miller	Augsburg College	926 7th Ave SW	280 6112	
2	Debbie Brennan	"	934 7th Ave SW	289-4737	
3	Lee Luebbe	LWV - Winona	1009 W. Howard St.	507.452.5747	lluebbe@kbei.com
4	Tanja Tunjic	Winona	1259 Gilmore Ave.	507.457-0965	tajci_16@hotmail.com
5	CAROL MARSHALL	Community Circle	302 ENST Lynn St	(507) 532-3848	carolm@starpaint.net
6	Shirley Eriksen	"	MARSHALL, MN 55858 208 W. Scheppler	507-532-5547	Denerser.k@marshall.mn
7	Cheryl McChesney	"	608 Kendall Marshall	(507)-532-3986	-
8	Leu Killion	Fairview Ridges Hospital	201 Nicolet Blvd. Burnsville	952-892-2192	lekillion1@fairview.org
9	Mary Gover	LWV	838 Lower Johnson St Peter	507-934-1995	mgover@gac.edu
10	Nickto Mahana	Soomaaal.	1856 Vesta View St Peter	507-933-4636	
11	May Lou Werner	LWV	5272 Lower Broadway	651-25-1585	mwerner@wacnet.com
12	CAROL WHITE	Center for Victims of Torture	777 W River Rd Mpls	55455	cwhite@cvt.org
13	Connie Hande	LWV-EDINA	5209 Tifton Dr	944-1229	hande@aol.com
14	Tom GOVER	LWV-St. Peter	838 Lower Johnson	933-7819	gover@gac.edu
15	Ron Mazuranski	11 N Litchum (Mpls)	756 Ross Rd. St. P	612-52277	Ron M A the MLL.org
16	Kaitlin Vang	College of St Catherine	1555 Xavis St NW	862-2760	noulee.vang@hotmail.com
17	KIT HADLEY	MHFA	400 SIBLEY ST.	651-240-6738	KIT.HADLEY@STATE.MN.US
18	Helen R Friedlieb	economic Dev. Assoc	500 Metro Sq	651-297-8772	helen.friedlieb@state.mn.us
19	Hildaw Blakesley	502 White Park MN	5687 - Comm circles	253-0121	
20	Lynn Solo	Nicolet Co Public Health	2070 Hwy 101 N. Mankato	(507) 386-4501	lsolo@co.nicolet.us
21	Mai Neng Moua	IEA	1730 Clifton Pl.	612/8116355	
22	Kim Smith	CSC	944 St. Paul Ave #2	651-699-8126	KimSmi@aol.com
23	Kathleen Johnson	Pioneer Press	345 Cedar St.	651-288-5469	hjohnson@pioneerpress.com

Wally Wilkerson

Ron Mazuranski

KI Hedley

4/29/00

SENT: 5/5/2000

FNAME	LNAME	ORGANIZATION	ADDRESS 1	ADDRESS 2	CITY	STAT	ZIP	Circles Conta
Rio	Anderson	International Institute	1694 Como Avenue		St. Paul	MN	55104	AT
Hatan	Bast	HUD	2205 2nd Street S		Minneapolis	MN	55404	AT
Marsha	Battles-Jenks	MN Department of Human Rights	Army Corps of Engineers Ce	190 E 5th Street, #700	St. Paul	MN	55101	at
Scott	Beckman	Common Bond	328 Kellogg Blvd West		St. Paul	MN	55102	AT
Annie	Boley-Spight	MN Housing Finance Agency	400 Sibley	Suite 300	St. Paul	MN	55101	AT
Molly	Campe	Get Ready!	2746 Fremont Ave S	Suite 2	Minneapolis	MN	55408	AT
Maryrose	Dolezal	International Institute	1694 Conohoe		Minneapolis	MN	55408	AT
Bonnie	Esposito	MN Office Citizen Volunteer Servic	117 University Avenue		St. Paul	MN	55155	AT
Helen	Friedlieb	MN Trade & Economic Developme	500 Metro Square	121 7th Place East	St. Paul	MN	55101	AT
Therese	Gales	MN Advocates for Human Rights	310 4th Ave S.	#1000	Minneapolis	MN	55415	AT
Marisa	Geisler		1910 Bohland Avenue		St. Paul	MN	55116	at
Tim	Gordon	MN Dept. of Human Services	Refugee Services Sections	444 Lafayette Road	St. Paul	MN	55155	AT
Kit	Hadley	MHFA	400 Sibley Street		St. Paul	MN	55101	AT
Amy	Kenosi	Center for 4H Youth Development	U of M Gateway	200 Oak Street Suite 270	Minneapolis	MN	55453	AT
Vinodh	Kutty	Hennepin Cty Medical Center	330 S 12 Street	Suite 340	Minneapolis	MN	55101	AT
Phil	Lewenstein	HESO	1450 Energy Park Drive	Suite 350	St. Paul	MN	55108	AT
Dick	Little	EHEP	Augsburg College CB 185	2211 Riverside Avenue	Minneapolis	MN	55454	AT
Paxyinz	Ly Foug	MN Housing Finance Agency	400 Sibley Street	Suite 300	St. Paul	MN	55101	AT
Ron	Mazuronski	MLC	756 Transfer Road		St. Paul	MN	55114	AT
Laura	Melnick	SMRLS	300 Minnesota Buidling	46 East 4th Street	St. Paul	MN	55101	AT
Kate	Moccio	AILA	115 Valley View Place		Minneapolis	MN	55419	AT
Mai	Neng Mocia	Institute for Education & Advocacy	1730 Clifton Place Suite 100		Minneapolis	MN	55403	AT
Ed	Newinski	MHFA	400 Sibley Street	Suite 300	St. Paul	MN	55101	AT
Ann	O'Fallon	MN Department of Health	717 Delaware Street SE	PO Box 9441	Minneapolis	MN	55440	AT
Lucia	Orcutt	U of M Gateway	Center for 4H Youth Develo	200 Oak St SE #270B	Minneapolis	MN	55453	AT
Laura	Pearson	Get Ready!	615 Fulton Street SE		Minneapolis	MN	55455	AT
Diane	Pecoraro	Dept. of Children, Families and Le	1500 Hwy 36 West		Roseville	MN	55113	AT
Jennifer	Prestholdt	MN Advocates for Human Rights	310 4th Ave S	Suite 1000	Minneapolis	MN	55415	AT

FNAME	LNAME	ORGANIZATION	ADDRESS 1	ADDRESS 2	CITY	STAT	ZIP	Circles Conta
Leon	Rodrigues	Center for 4H, U of M	200 Oak Street SE		Minneapolis	MN	55455	AT
Janine	Rosas	MN Department of Human Rights	Army Corps of Engineers Ce ntre	190 E 5th Street, #700	St. Paul	MN	55101	AT
Jose	Schimming	Centro Legal	2575 University Avenue	Suite 135	St. Paul	MN	55114	AT
Paula	Schwartzbauer	Centro Legal	2375 University Ave. W.	#135	St. Paul	MN	55114	AT
Kate	Shaughnessy	Local 17	312 Central Avenue		Minneapolis	MN	55414	AT
Frank	Sloan	INS	2901 Metro Drive		Bloomington	MN	55425	AT
Ellie	Ulrich	Minneapolis Dept. of Health	250 S 4th Street	Suite 510	Minneapolis	MN	55401	AT
Michelle	Vallen	MLC	756 Transfer Road		St. Paul	MN	55114	At
Carol	White	Center for Victims of Torture	717 East River Road		Minneapolis	MN	55455	AT
Jay	Wilkinson	Legal Aid Society	2929 4th Avenue South		Minneapolis	MN	55408	AT
Ron	Williams	MHFA	400 Sibley Street Suite 300		St. Paul	MN	55101	AT
Lee Ann	Wolf	Minnesota Literacy Council	756 Transfer Road		St. Paul	MN	55114	AT
Maria	Woroby		1722 Canyon Lane		New Brighton	MN	55112	AT
David	Zander	Council on Asian Pacific Minnesot ans	525 Park	#105	St. Paul	MN	55103	AT
Mary-Margare t	Zindren	League of Minnesota Cities	145 University Avenue West		St. Paul	MN	55103	AT



**THE LEAGUE  
OF WOMEN VOTERS**  
MINNESOTA EDUCATION FUND

550 RICE STREET ST. PAUL, MN 55103 PHONE (651) 224-5445 FAX (651) 290-2145

**PRESIDENT**  
Judy Duffy

**ADVISORY BOARD**

Ralph Burnet  
CEO  
Coldwell Banker Burnet

Ned Crosby  
Founder  
Jefferson Center

Isabel Gomez  
Judge  
Hennepin County District Court

Joan Anderson Grove

Joan A. Grzywinski  
President/District Manager  
St. Paul and South Metro Minneapolis  
Norwest Bank Minnesota, N.A.

Jean L. Harris, M.D.  
Mayor  
Eden Prairie

Josie R. Johnson  
President  
Josie R. Johnson & Assoc.

Steven D. Ladwig  
President  
Data Storage Products & Technologies  
Corporation

Anna Leatherman  
Executive Vice President  
United HealthCare

Peggy Lucas  
Partner  
Brighton Development Corp.

Laura McCarten  
Director of Community Services  
Northern States Power Company

Vivian Jenkins Nelsen  
President and CEO  
International Institute for  
Interracial Interactions:  
INTER-RACE

James A. Roberts  
Vice President, Corporate Relations  
Minnesota Power

G. Edward Schuh  
Professor  
Hubert H. Humphrey  
Institute of Public Affairs  
University of Minnesota

Laura Waterman Wittstock  
President  
MIGZI Communications, Inc.

Mark G. Yudof  
President  
University of Minnesota

**TO:** Steering Committee and Coalition members,  
Changing Faces, Changing Communities

**FROM:** Janet Gendler, Chair and Susan Anderson, Project Manager

**DATE:** February 9, 2000

**RE:** Steering Committee Meeting  
**Note - Change of Date**

The next steering committee meeting will be held on **Tuesday, February 22** from 12:00 to 1:30 p.m. at the League of Women Voters of Minnesota. The League office is located in the Minnesota Women's Building, 550 Rice Street in St. Paul, just two blocks north of the State Capitol. The meeting will take place in the large conference room on the lower level of the building. If you need more detailed instructions, please call the League office at 651-224-5445.

Since the meeting falls during the lunch hour, you can either bring a lunch or buy a box lunch provided by Café Capitol for \$5.75. To confirm your attendance and to order a box lunch, call Susan Anderson (612-331-1117) or send an e-mail (susan331@aol.com) by Friday, February 18 at noon.

**Please know that you are invited to the State Wide Kickoff events being held in St. Paul, and Eden Prairie on February 14.**

**St. Peter Claver Church**  
**375 North Oxford**  
**5 to 7:30 pm – RSVP encouraged 651-224-5445**  
**and**  
**Atrium of Eden Prairie City Center**  
**8080 Mitchell Rd.**  
**4:30 to 5:30**

**Proposed meeting agenda for February 22**

- 1) Funding Update**
- 2) Community Circle Update**
- 3) Action Forum**
- 4) Following the Forum? After the Circles: What's Next?**
- 5) Dates: Action Forum – April 29**

**Steering Committee Summary**  
**Changing Faces, Changing Communities**  
**League of Women Voters Education Fund**  
**Tuesday, January 18, 2000 -- Noon to 2pm**

Attendance: Susan Anderson, Janet Gendler, Jen Kilps, Andrea Lex, Dick Little, Zoe Nagell, Myrna Nelson, Lucia Orcutt, Kate Parry, Sara Taylor, Joel Wurl.

**Announcements and Introductions:**

Jen Kilps joins us from The Minnesota Council of Churches. She works with sponsorship and development of the Refugee Services Program.

Harry Boyte called to inform the Steering Committee of the following:

1. Humphrey Institute Policy Forum - "Immigrants in Minnesota" on Tuesday, February 8, 2000, 4:30 - 6:30 p.m. in Cowles Auditorium at the Humphrey Institute
2. "Building Community," February 8 at 7:00 p.m. at the Wilkins Room of the Humphrey Institute. Speakers will be the Reverend Rufus Campbell from SPEAC and Ellen Sushak, State Community Education Coordinator. The speakers will be followed by an open discussion.
3. Web sites that would be interesting to individuals and communities working on this project: [www.publicachievement.org](http://www.publicachievement.org) and [www.publicwork.org](http://www.publicwork.org).
4. Kate Parry suggested we consider an opportunity to have an online discussion about Changing Faces, Changing Communities. Janet will investigate this option and work with Ady Wickstrom, LWVMN webmaster to implement, if feasible.

**Funding Update:**

Andrea Lex reported that we have received \$100,000. Our proposed budget is \$140,000. There are 7 proposals pending.

**General Update:** Janet Gendler

**Communities:** New Brighton League of Women Voters is interested in the community circle project which would bring the number of communities to 18. We now have commitments from the following 17 communities: Armstrong High School, Austin, College of St. Catherine, Detroit Lakes/ Pelican Rapids, Eden Prairie, Edina, Mankato, Marshall, Minneapolis, Northfield, Rochester, St. Cloud, St. Paul, St. Peter, Wayzata/ Plymouth, Winona, and Willmar. Moorhead is still a possibility, and Jean Weir from the Northwest Minnesota Foundation is interested in holding Community Circles in several northern Minnesota communities. We estimate that we could have as many as 20 communities participating; and as many as 1,000 participants.

**Discussion Guide:** The discussion guide is at the printers and will be ready to mail by January 26, 2000.

**Evaluation:** The evaluation form is finalized. Study Circle Resource Center will set up the program and analyze the data as it is collected.



**Facilitation:** Facilitator Training is scheduled for February 2, 3, and 4. A training entitled Cultural Competency in Facilitation will be offered on February 9 & 11. We are concerned about the facilitators that will not be able to attend any of the sessions. It has been suggested to communities that they hold a pre-circle meeting with facilitators and go over the Discussion Guide, the Facilitator's Handbook and discuss the evaluation process and the importance of facilitator neutrality. Lucia Orcut suggested we could investigate the possibility of ITV using the MNSCU system. We will do that promptly.

**Kickoff:** Preparations are close to complete in Eden Prairie, Pelican Rapids and St. Paul. The date is January 14, 2000. Programming will include immigrant stories, multicultural entertainers, and a multicultural potluck. We have been working with SPNN to film the three kickoff events. Our wish is to edit the three shoots and combine them into one video, which would then be available for cable viewing in the three communities and in the Metro area.

**Action Committee Report:** Myrna Nelson

**Action Forum:**

Date: April 14 or April 29, 1- 5:00 p.m.

Venue: Minnesota History Museum

**Program:**

1. Welcome to participants, legislators and organizations; overview of action forum's purpose
2. Brief presentation of action steps by members of each community, perhaps including a visual recording (on flipcharts?)
3. Breakout into small group discussions focused on particular issues (i.e., housing, youth, employment, etc. that will be determined before the forum but, reflecting the communities' action steps)
4. Brief presentations by small groups
5. Brief presentation by an archivist talking about the History Center's means of documenting immigrant experiences in Minnesota – and what people can do to help.
6. Time for people to wander the organizational bazaar and the History Center's exhibitions (which include one of contemporary photography and one on Minnesota families) and to eat hors d'oeuvres.
7. Closing

**Budget:**

- Now looking into cost for rooms
- Investigating possible food donations
- Appropriate to ask each organization with a representative on the steering committee to contribute \$50.00?
- Perhaps, also – the organizations participating in the bazaar?
- Advance registration – so we know rough number of participants in advance
- Have a display about the Festival of Nations with sign ups to staff the Community Circles booth



**Dates:**

February 2 - Facilitator Training  
February 3 - Facilitator Training  
February 4 - Facilitator Training  
February 7 - Community Circles start in Edina, some communities will start  
February 14 - State Kickoff

April 29 - State Action Forum

Next Meeting – Tuesday February 22, 2000 – 12:00 - 1:30 p.m.

---

**UPDATES:**

**Communities:**

Communities still considering are: New Brighton and possibly some Northwestern Minnesota Communities via the Northwest Minnesota Foundation.  
The following numbers change daily.

As of 2/11/00:

St. Cloud will be having 3 circles in St. Cloud and 1 each in Cold Springs, St. Joseph, and Sauk Rapids.

Winona is/was planning a circle in St. Charles as well as one in Winona.

Marshall is planning to have 9 circles and they have 80 participants already signed up

St. Paul - 6 circles

Minneapolis - 2

Willmar - 3

Northfield - 7

St. Peter - 3

St. Catherine's - 2

Armstrong - 3

Austin - 3 - 4

Plymouth/Wayzata - 3 - 4

Eden Prairie - 6

Mankato - 3

Pelican Rapids - 3 - 5

Edina - 3 - 4

**Facilitators:**

Facilitator Training was held in three communities the week of 2/1. Matt Leighninger from SCRC trained approximately 200 facilitators. The St. Paul League offered cultural Competency in Facilitation by Elizabeth Campbell the week of 2/7/2000. Elizabeth will be back on March 11 to offer a support session/debriefing session for facilitators.

**Kickoff:**

Kickoffs have been held in Edina and in Rochester the week of 2/7/2000. Attendance was excellent. The statewide kickoff events are planned for February 13 in Pelican Rapids and February 14 in St. Paul and in Eden Prairie. Call the League office 651-224-5445 if you would like more information or would like to attend a kickoff event or a series of community circles.

**Action Forum:**

**Plans are underway. Please come to the Steering Committee meeting with lists of organizations or people who should be included in the Action Bazaar. Please have phone numbers and addresses if possible.**

**Online:**

In an effort to include more people in the discussion of immigration and what it means to be a community citizen, we're experimenting with an online discussion thread similar to what community circles will follow:

Participants can respond to the first question at  
<http://community.twincities.com/realcities/changingfaces>

Janet recommends AOL subscribers use Netscape Navigator (or another server) when participating in the discussion. Use your mouse to increase the size of the window (and decrease and space).

Other local community organizations may want to take advantage of this new online community publishing system. Look for it at <http://community.twincities.com>

**Thanks to Janet for setting this up and monitoring it.**

To: Steering Committee and Coalition members,  
Changing Faces, Changing Communities

From: Janet Gendler, Chair and Susan Anderson, Project Manager

Date: January 10, 2000

RE: Steering Committee Meeting

**Note - Change of Date**

The next steering committee meeting will be held on **Tuesday, January 18** from 12:00 noon to 1:30 p.m. at the League of Women Voters of Minnesota. The League office is located in the Minnesota Women's Building, 550 Rice Street in St. Paul, just two blocks north of the State Capitol. The meeting will take place in the large conference room on the lower level of the building. If you need more detailed instructions, please call the League office at 651-224-5445.

Since the meeting falls during the lunch hour, you can either bring a lunch or buy a box lunch provided by Café Capitol for \$5.75. To confirm your attendance and to order a box lunch, call Susan Anderson (612-331-1117) or send an e-mail (susan331@aol.com) by Friday, January 14.

Enclosed you will find notes from the steering committee meeting on December 14. These notes are not minutes but a summary of major discussion topics and outcomes from this meeting.

**Proposed meeting agenda**

- 1) **Funding Update**
- 2) **Facilitators Needed /Facilitator Training**
- 3) **Kickoff plans**
- 4) **Action Forum**
- 5) **Following the Forum? After the Circles / What's Next?**
- 6) **Dates**

**Kickoff – February 14, 2000**

**Facilitator training – February 2, 5 to 8:30pm – College of St. Catherine**

**February 3, 4;30 TO 7:30 – Rochester**

**February 4, 10am TO 2pm – Willmar**

**February 4, evening -- to be announced**

**Community Circles – February 17 through March 16**

**Action Forum – April 29**

**Steering Committee Summary**  
**Changing Faces, Changing Communities**  
**League of Women Voters Education Fund**  
**Tuesday, December 14 1999 -- Noon to 2pm**

Attendance: Susan Anderson, Judy Duffy, Therese Gales, Janet Gendler, Nan Kari, Myrna Nelson, Kate Parry, Julie Plaut, Sally Sawyer, Joel Wurl and Steve Young.

**Announcements:** Kate Parry of the St. Paul Pioneer Press announced that they have received funding from the Knight Ridder Foundation for a poll that will measure the Minnesota immigrant experience. They will be talking to people recently here from Somalia, Russia, Central and South America and Southeast Asia. Most of the polling will take place in the metro area. Results will not be available until after the study circles are complete.

Nan Kari announced that the Humphrey Institute, HECUA and Jane Addams School for Democracy will be sponsoring two public forums on immigration and intergenerational issues.

**Funding Update:** Susan reported for Andrea Lex that we have received \$98,000. Our proposed budget is \$140,000. There are 7 proposals pending.

**Communities On Board:** Janet Gendler reports that we now have commitments from the following 18 communities: Armstrong High School, Austin, College of St. Catherine, Detroit Lakes/ Pelican Rapids, Eden Prairie, Edina, Mankato, Marshall, Minneapolis, Northfield, Rochester, St. Cloud, St. Paul, St. Peter, Wayzata/ Plymouth, Winona, and Willmar. Moorhead is still a possibility, and Jean Weir from the Northwest Minnesota Foundation is interested in holding Community Circles in several northern Minnesota communities. We estimate that we could have as many as 20 communities participating; and as many as 1,000 participants. We will need 200 facilitators. Please be aware of this and help us locate this precious resource.

**Pilots:** Willmar has had a positive experience. They have had good attendance (12 people invited with 9 to 15 participants attending each session). They will continue to meet as a group. They are most interested in how to assist immigrant youth; their initiatives and action plan are around this issue. They will hold two circles in February/ March; one will be comprised of youth and one will be for adults.

Austin participants will also continue to meet as a group and will hold more circles in February/ March. They reported some difficulties with attendance and real or perceived facilitator neutrality.

**Discussion Guide:** Janet reported that the only suggestions from the pilots regarding the discussion guide were to add page numbers. We have proofed it and it is now being formatted. Reliastar will print and have it ready by the end of January.

**Evaluation:** Based on our experience with the pilots, the Steering Committee felt positive about the data we were able to glean from our evaluation tool with the exception of items 3,4,5 and 6. After considerable discussion we decided to consider possible changes by email or if that fails – we will have another evaluation meeting.

**Kickoff:** Current suggestions:

Simultaneous Kickoff events in an urban, suburban and rural area. These are likely to be Eden Prairie, St. Paul, and Pelican Rapids.

Suggested date is February 14

Suggested format: - Multicultural potluck, with participants speaking briefly about issues that concern them and their hopes for the community circle experience.

Also suggested:

Have available copies of St. Paul Pioneer Press from Sunday February 13 which will talk about this Minnesota conversation as well as the history of immigration in Minnesota.

Contact the Minnesota Restaurant Association about donation of ethnic foods.

Possibly have reporters there to listen and talk to participants.

Link the communities together with satellite or ISPN technology.

Possibly have a brief few words from a high profile speaker – such as Ventura, or Nick Coleman.

**Action Committee Report:** Julie Plaut

1. Trina Alvero is compiling information about organizations that are supporting immigrants.
2. The following suggestions were made for providing community support.
  - Enter information about initiatives from other communities on the web.
  - Provide a mentoring relationship between members of the Steering Committee and Action Committees state-wide
  - Make available the model of the LWV Observer Corps
3. Action Forum possibilities:
  - A. Venue:
    - Governors Service Day has been changed to later in the summer
    - International Festival --Joel Wurl will do some investigating this possibility – but there are a number of reasons why this may not be a good match.
  - B. Program suggestions:
    - Emphasis should be on the participants, possibly the addition of an action bazaar, - a booth for each issue -- break out sessions also should be divided by issue – such as housing, education, health care. If there is a speaker -- the speech should be short and not detract from the participants.

Further discussion:

- A. Venue – History Center (symbolism), Room 15 of the State Capitol (it is a round room)
- B. Date – April 29

- C. Possible booth at the International Festival – Computer terminal people can type in their family immigration history
- D. Include Congressional staff in the invitations
- E. Suggest an anchor – such as someone from News Night Minnesota

**Dates:**

**Community Circles February 17 to March 16**

**Kickoff – February 14**

**Facilitator training –February 3, 4 and 5**

**Action Forum – April 29**

Next Meeting – Tuesday January 18, 2000 – 12 noon to 1:30pm

---

**UPDATES:**

**Evaluation:** The Evaluation Committee met by email with the following results:

Based on feedback received from Steve Young and several Evaluation Committee members as well as considerable help from Scott Stiles of the Study Circle Resource Center we have a finished product. We will have copies available for anyone who is interested at the next meeting. Thanks for all the good input on this important part of the process.

**Kickoff:** With the help of Bill Hanley from KTCA and Elizabeth Mische from SPNN we are hoping to uplink the three primary kickoff sites on February 14.

Our request to have Jesse Ventura speak at the Saint Paul site was denied. We are working on other options.

*Changing Faces Changing Communities*  
*What It Means to Be an American in This Age of Immigration*  
*And Creating a Better Minnesota with Citizen Involvement*

League of Women Voters of Minnesota Education Fund

*Funds Received:*

The Beim Foundation	\$ 2,000
Elmer L. & Eleanor J. Andersen Foundation	1,000
McNeely Foundation	5,000
The Medtronic Foundation	10,000
The Minneapolis Foundation	10,000
Otto Bremer Foundation	35,000
ReliaStar	Printing In-kind (Approx. 2,000)
Siegel, Brill, Greupner, Duffy & Foster, P.A.	5,000
The Study Circle Fund/Topsfield Foundation	20,000
Study Circle Fund/Topsfield Foundation	
Matching Grant	10,000

***TOTAL*** ***\$100,000 (Approx.)***

*Funds Pending:*

Central Minnesota Community Foundation	
St. Cloud	\$ 2,500
C.S. Mott Foundation	50,000
Initiative Fund of Southeast and South Central MN	
Mankato & St. Peter	2,000
Initiative Fund of Southeast & South Central MN	
Northfield	2,000
Initiative Fund of Southeast & South Central MN	
Rochester	2,000
Initiative Fund of Southeast & South Central MN	
Winona & St. Charles	2,000
International Dairy Queen	2,500
John S. & James L. Knight Foundation	10,000
Southwest Minnesota Foundation	
Marshall, Willmar, Worthington	3,000
United Way for St. Paul	5,000





**THE LEAGUE  
OF WOMEN VOTERS**  
MINNESOTA EDUCATION FUND

550 RICE STREET ST. PAUL, MN 55103 PHONE (651) 224-5445 FAX (651) 290-2145

**PRESIDENT**  
Judy Duffy

**ADVISORY BOARD**

Ralph Burnet  
CEO  
Coldwell Banker Burnet

Ned Crosby  
Founder  
Jefferson Center

Isabel Gomez  
Judge  
Hennepin County District Court

Joan Anderson Growe

Joan A. Grzywinski  
President/District Manager  
St. Paul and South Metro Minneapolis  
Norwest Bank Minnesota, N.A.

Jean L. Harris, M.D.  
Mayor  
Eden Prairie

Josie R. Johnson  
President  
Josie R. Johnson & Assoc.

Steven D. Ladwig  
President  
Data Storage Products & Technologies  
Imation Corporation

Debra Leatherman  
Executive Vice President  
United HealthCare

Peggy Lucas  
Partner  
Brighton Development Corp.

Laura McCarten  
Director of Community Services  
Northern States Power Company

Vivian Jenkins Nelsen  
President and CEO  
International Institute for  
Interracial Interactions:  
INTER-RACE

James A. Roberts  
Vice President, Corporate Relations  
Minnesota Power

G. Edward Schuh  
Professor  
Hubert H. Humphrey  
Institute of Public Affairs  
University of Minnesota

Laura Waterman Wittstock  
President  
MIGIZI Communications, Inc.

Mark G. Yudof  
President  
University of Minnesota

To: Steering Committee and Coalition members,  
Changing Faces, Changing Communities

From: Janet Gendler, Chair and Susan Anderson, Project Manager

Date: January 10, 2000

RE: Steering Committee Meeting

**Note - Change of Date**

The next steering committee meeting will be held on **Tuesday, January 18** from 12:00 noon to 1:30 p.m. at the League of Women Voters of Minnesota. The League office is located in the Minnesota Women's Building, 550 Rice Street in St. Paul, just two blocks north of the State Capitol. The meeting will take place in the large conference room on the lower level of the building. If you need more detailed instructions, please call the League office at 651-224-5445.

Since the meeting falls during the lunch hour, you can either bring a lunch or buy a box lunch provided by Café Capitol for \$5.75. To confirm your attendance and to order a box lunch, call Susan Anderson (612-331-1117) or send an e-mail (susan331@aol.com) by Friday, January 14.

Enclosed you will find notes from the steering committee meeting on December 14. These notes are not minutes but a summary of major discussion topics and outcomes from this meeting.

**Proposed meeting agenda**

- 1) Funding Update
- 2) Facilitators Needed /Facilitator Training
- 3) Kickoff plans
- 4) Action Forum
- 5) Following the Forum? After the Circles / What's Next?
- 6) Dates

**Kickoff – February 14, 2000**

**Facilitator training – February 2, 5 to 8:30pm – College of St. Catherine**

**February 3, 4:30 TO 7:30 – Rochester**

**February 4, 10am TO 2pm – Willmar**

**February 4, evening -- to be announced**

**Community Circles – February 17 through March 16**

**Action Forum – April 29**

**Steering Committee Summary  
Changing Faces, Changing Communities  
League of Women Voters Education Fund  
Tuesday, December 14 1999 -- Noon to 2pm**

Attendance: Susan Anderson, Judy Duffy, Therese Gales, Janet Gendler, Nan Kari, Myrna Nelson, Kate Parry, Julie Plaut, Sally Sawyer, Joel Wurl and Steve Young.

**Announcements:** Kate Parry of the St. Paul Pioneer Press announced that they have received funding from the Knight Ridder Foundation for a poll that will measure the Minnesota immigrant experience. They will be talking to people recently here from Somalia, Russia, Central and South America and Southeast Asia. Most of the polling will take place in the metro area. Results will not be available until after the study circles are complete.

Nan Kari announced that the Humphrey Institute, HECUA and Jane Addams School for Democracy will be sponsoring two public forums on immigration and intergenerational issues.

**Funding Update:** Susan reported for Andrea Lex that we have received \$98,000. Our proposed budget is \$140,000. There are 7 proposals pending.

**Communities On Board:** Janet Gendler reports that we now have commitments from the following 18 communities: Armstrong High School, Austin, College of St. Catherine, Detroit Lakes/ Pelican Rapids, Eden Prairie, Edina, Mankato, Marshall, Minneapolis, Northfield, Rochester, St. Cloud, St. Paul, St. Peter, Wayzata/ Plymouth, Winona, and Willmar. Moorhead is still a possibility, and Jean Weir from the Northwest Minnesota Foundation is interested in holding Community Circles in several northern Minnesota communities. We estimate that we could have as many as 20 communities participating; and as many as 1,000 participants. We will need 200 facilitators. Please be aware of this and help us locate this precious resource.

**Pilots:** Willmar has had a positive experience. They have had good attendance (12 people invited with 9 to 15 participants attending each session). They will continue to meet as a group. They are most interested in how to assist immigrant youth; their initiatives and action plan are around this issue. They will hold two circles in February/ March; one will be comprised of youth and one will be for adults. Austin participants will also continue to meet as a group and will hold more circles in February/ March. They reported some difficulties with attendance and real or perceived facilitator neutrality.

**Discussion Guide:** Janet reported that the only suggestions from the pilots regarding the discussion guide were to add page numbers. We have proofed it and it is now being formatted. Reliastar will print and have it ready by the end of January.

**Evaluation:** Based on our experience with the pilots, the Steering Committee felt positive about the data we were able to glean from our evaluation tool with the exception of items 3,4,5 and 6. After considerable discussion we decided to consider possible changes by email or if that fails – we will have another evaluation meeting.

**Kickoff:** Current suggestions:

Simultaneous Kickoff events in an urban, suburban and rural area. These are likely to be Eden Prairie, St. Paul, and Pelican Rapids.

Suggested date is February 14

Suggested format: - Multicultural potluck, with participants speaking briefly about issues that concern them and their hopes for the community circle experience.

Also suggested:

Have available copies of St. Paul Pioneer Press from Sunday February 13 which will talk about this Minnesota conversation as well as the history of immigration in Minnesota.

Contact the Minnesota Restaurant Association about donation of ethnic foods.

Possibly have reporters there to listen and talk to participants.

Link the communities together with satellite or ISPN technology.

Possibly have a brief few words from a high profile speaker – such as Ventura, or Nick Coleman.

**Action Committee Report:** Julie Plaut

1. Trina Alvero is compiling information about organizations that are supporting immigrants.
2. The following suggestions were made for providing community support.  
Enter information about initiatives from other communities on the web.  
Provide a mentoring relationship between members of the Steering Committee and Action Committees state-wide  
Make available the model of the LWV Observer Corps
3. Action Forum possibilities:
  - A. Venue:  
Governors Service Day has been changed to later in the summer International Festival --Joel Wurl will do some investigating this possibility – but there are a number of reasons why this may not be a good match.
  - B. Program suggestions:  
Emphasis should be on the participants, possibly the addition of an action bazaar, - a booth for each issue -- break out sessions also should be divided by issue – such as housing, education, health care. If there is a speaker -- the speech should be short and not detract from the participants.

**Further discussion:**

- A. Venue – History Center (symbolism), Room 15 of the State Capitol (it is a round room)
- B. Date – April 29

- C. Possible booth at the International Festival – Computer terminal people can type in their family immigration history
- D. Include Congressional staff in the invitations
- E. Suggest an anchor – such as someone from News Night Minnesota

**Dates:**

**Community Circles February 17 to March 16**

**Kickoff – February 14**

**Facilitator training –February 3, 4 and 5**

**Action Forum – April 29**

Next Meeting – Tuesday January 18, 2000 – 12 noon to 1:30pm

---

**UPDATES:**

**Evaluation:** The Evaluation Committee met by email with the following results:

Based on feedback received from Steve Young and several Evaluation Committee members as well as considerable help from Scott Stiles of the Study Circle Resource Center we have a finished product. We will have copies available for anyone who is interested at the next meeting. Thanks for all the good input on this important part of the process.

**Kickoff:** With the help of Bill Hanley from KTCA and Elizabeth Mische from SPNN we are hoping to uplink the three primary kickoff sites on February 14. Our request to have Jesse Ventura speak at the Saint Paul site was denied. We are working on other options.

## SITE SELECTION (SITE RECRUITMENT POSSIBILITIES AND PRIORITIES)

Bremer is interested in community circles in Willmar\*, St. Cloud\*, Marshall\*\*, Pelican Rapids\*\*, Detroit Lakes\*\*, Moorhead, and Cottonwood

Local LWV'S are present in those communities marked with an asterisk (\*).  
Communities with individual League members are marked with a double asterisk. ( \*\* ).

## LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS INTEREST IN COMMUNITY CIRCLES

### Committed\*

Armstrong High School  
Austin\*  
Detroit Lakes/Pelican Rapids\*  
Eden Prairie\*  
Edina \*  
Mankato\*  
Marshall  
Minneapolis\*  
Northfield\*  
Plymouth/Wayzata  
Rochester\*  
St. Catherine's  
St. Cloud\*  
St. Paul\*  
St. Peter  
Willmar  
Winona\*

### Considering

N. MN Foundation  
New Brighton  
Moorhead

Asterisk indicates proposal has been sent in and funds allocated

1/10/00



*Changing Faces Changing Communities*  
*What It Means to Be an American in This Age of Immigration*  
*And Creating a Better Minnesota with Citizen Involvement*

League of Women Voters of Minnesota Education Fund

*Funds Received:*

The Beim Foundation	\$ 2,000
Elmer L. & Eleanor J. Andersen Foundation	1,000
McNeely Foundation	5,000
The Medtronic Foundation	10,000
The Minneapolis Foundation	10,000
Otto Bremer Foundation	35,000
ReliaStar	Printing In-kind (Approx. 2,000)
Siegel, Brill, Greupner, Duffy & Foster, P.A.	5,000
The Study Circle Fund/Topsfield Foundation	20,000
Study Circle Fund/Topsfield Foundation	
Matching Grant	10,000

<b><i>TOTAL</i></b>	<b><i>\$100,000 (Approx.)</i></b>
---------------------	-----------------------------------

*Funds Pending:*

Central Minnesota Community Foundation	
St. Cloud	\$ 2,500
C.S. Mott Foundation	50,000
Initiative Fund of Southeast and South Central MN	
Mankato & St. Peter	2,000
Initiative Fund of Southeast & South Central MN	
Northfield	2,000
Initiative Fund of Southeast & South Central MN	
Rochester	2,000
Initiative Fund of Southeast & South Central MN	
Winona & St. Charles	2,000
International Dairy Queen	2,500
John S. & James L. Knight Foundation	10,000
Southwest Minnesota Foundation	
Marshall, Willmar, Worthington	3,000
United Way for St. Paul	5,000

Date: December 3, 1999  
TO: Steering Committee and Coalition members,  
Changing Faces, Changing Communities  
FROM: Janet Gendler, Chair and Susan Anderson, Project Manager  
RE: December 14 Steering Committee Meeting Note - **Change of Date**

The next steering committee meeting will be held on **Tuesday, December 14** from 12:00 noon to 1:30 p.m. at the League of Women Voters of Minnesota. The League office is located in the Minnesota Women's Building, 550 Rice Street in St. Paul, just two blocks north of the State Capitol. The meeting will take place in the large conference room on the lower level of the building. If you need more detailed instructions, please call the League office at 651-224-5445.

Since the meeting falls during the lunch hour, you can either bring a lunch or buy a box lunch provided by Café Capitol for \$5.75. To confirm your attendance and to order a box lunch, call Susan Anderson (612-331-1117) or send an e-mail (susan331@aol.com) by Friday, December 10.

Enclosed you will find notes from the steering committee meeting on November 15. These notes are not minutes but a summary of major discussion topics and outcomes from this meeting.

#### **Proposed meeting agenda**

- 1) **Funding Update**
- 2) **Report on numbers of communities and participants**
- 3) **Report on pilots in Willmar and Austin**
- 4) **Kickoff plans**
- 5) **Action Forum**
- 6) **Dates**
  - Kickoff – Early February**
  - Facilitator training – February 2, 5 to 8:30pm – College of St. Catherine**
  - February 3, 10 to 2pm – Rochester**
  - February 3, 5 to 8 pm – Willmar**
  - February 4, 11 to 3pm Alexandria (possible)**
  - Community Circles – February 17 through March 16**
  - Action Forum – April 29 or May 6**



**Steering Committee Summary**  
**Changing Faces, Changing Communities**  
**League of Women Voters Education Fund**  
**Monday, November 15, 1999 -- Noon to 2pm**

Attendance: Trina Alvero, Susan Anderson, Judy Duffy, Therese Gales, Janet Gendler, Andrea Lex, Dick Little, Myrna Nelson, Lucia Orcutt, Julie Plaut, Sally Sawyer, Sara Taylor, Joel Wurl.

**Introductions:** Trina Alvero joins us as a volunteer staff person for the action committee and as a project director for Minneapolis

**Announcements:** Dick Little from Education, Housing and Equity Project announced a Citizens Summit on Friday December 17, 8 to 11:30 AM – SPEAKER Lani Guinier of Harvard Law School. At South High on Thursday, November 18 An Intergenerational Dialogue on School Integration with Jim Gambone. Therese Gales from Minnesota Center for Advocacy made three announcements. Thursday, November 18 at 9:00am there will be a Public Hearing on Illegal Immigration in Minnesota at the State Office Building. This will be sponsored by the House Civil Law Committee. Friday November 19 at 8:00 pm there will be a benefit performance for Minnesota Advocates for Human Rights at the Mixed Blood Theater– Not in my Season of Songs, a play by Pangea World Theater, written and directed by Nigerian playwright Awam Amkpa. On December 2 from 5 to 7pm at the Uof M. Law School a fund-raiser for The Refugee and Immigrant Program of Minnesota Advocates for Human Rights .

**Funding Update:** Andrea Lex reported that we have not recently received any new funding; and that we are waiting to hear from ten foundations and corporations about pending requests.

**Communities Selected:** Janet Gendler reports that the following communities have been selected for pass through grants from the LWVMN ED Fund or as participating communities: Armstrong High School, Austin, College of St. Catherine, Detroit Lakes/ Pelican Rapids, Eden Prairie, Edina, Mankato, Marshall, Minneapolis, Northfield, Rochester, St. Cloud, St. Paul, Winona, and Willmar. Moorhead, North Branch, Wayzata/Plymouth and Worthington are still possibilities.

**Training Sessions:** Susan Anderson reported that training sessions were held in 4 communities. Eleven communities participated; approximately 65 people attended. The communities of Marshall and Edina were not able to send anyone. We hope to schedule a training session with Marshall on November 18. Matt Leighninger from SCRC spoke about the history of study circles, and the goals of SCRC and talked about the overall organizational requirements for community wide study circles. Susan and Janet talked about Community Circles from the "Minnesota Perspective." Communities said they would like to keep in touch by a LWVMN listserve.

**Pilots:** Willmar has had a positive experience. They have had good attendance; a diverse group of participants and action items as early as the first session. Their fifth session will be Thursday, November 18.

Austin had to postpone one week. They were disappointed because several people had dropped out.

**Kickoff:** Susan Anderson reported that during a brain storming session with Bill Hanley from KTCA and Larry Werner from Mpls Star and Tribune they had suggested that a multicultural potluck in one of the small towns would be an event that media would be interested in. Julie Plaut suggested that stories from the participants of the pilot in Willmar would be meaningful. There was discussion about the advisability of a speaker, including Jesse Ventura, other public officials and /or an author who writes about the immigrant experience. The consensus was that the participants own stories with a potluck and possibly a bazaar would be the most effective. We were encouraged to invite the mayors, city council people and other elected officials to the Kickoff. Susan will contact both Willmar and Pelican Rapids.

**Action Forum:** Matt Leighninger from SCRC has suggested that an Action Forum should be for the purpose of showcasing the participants action ideas; and if there is a speaker he or she should be given a short time slot and be last. One community also included an action bazaar – with organizations involved in the issues each having a sign up booth.

Further suggestions: 1. Tag onto the Governors Service Recognition Day in mid April or International Festival which is held either last weekend in April or first weekend in May.  
2. Have a booth for each issue not each organization.

**Dates:**

**Willmar pilot – October 21 – November 18**

**Austin pilot – November 1 – November 22**

**Community Circles February 17 to March 16**

**Kickoff – early February**

**Facilitator training –February 3 (tentative)**

**Action Forum – approximately 3 – 4 weeks after the community circles are over**

Next Meeting – Tuesday December 14, 1999 – 12 noon to 1:30pm

---

## **UPDATES:**

**Action Committee** - November 15, 1999: Trina Alvero, Susan Anderson, Judy Duffy, Therese Gales, Janet Gendler and Julie Plaut

### **Goals:**

1. Identify organizations already working on issues that have some impact on the immigrant experience
  - A. Each steering committee member should bring a list of organizations that they are familiar with
  - B. Trina Alvero will call known organizations that are working on issues related to immigrants such as resettlement agencies, housing agencies, college campuses,
2. Share information about what is happening in other communities. On web site, lwvmn.org, print community information about demographics, organizations that are taking action to support immigrants.
3. Assume responsibility for supporting task forces as they move forward
  - A. LWV Observers Corps- share information on how to start an observers corps
  - B. Buddy system between members of Action or Steering committees with communities to help them carry out their action plans
4. At action forum have participants fill out postcards with their pledge to see that an action item moves forward.

### **Pilots:**

The pilots are now complete, evaluations are turned in and we are working with Scott Stiles from SCRC to analyze the data.

Willmar had a good experience with a number of action items that will be considered further by a task force formed by members of the group. They plan to have at least two more community circles in Feb./ March.

Austin found their experience to be more challenging. There were problems with facilitator neutrality and with attendance. But they also plan to keep meeting as a group and plan to have more community circles in February/ March.

### **Communities:**

We now have 16 communities committed to the project. See attached sheet.

The training process is complete and Janet and Susan are working with communities as they find coalition partners, form steering committees and finalize budgets. Facilitator training will be offered February 2-4.

## **SITE SELECTION (SITE RECRUITMENT POSSIBILITIES AND PRIORITIES)**

Bremer is interested in community circles in Willmar\*, St. Cloud\*, Marshall\*\*, Pelican Rapids\*\*, Detroit Lakes\*\*, Moorhead, and Cottonwood

Local LWV'S are present in those communities marked with an asterisk (\*).  
Communities with individual League members are marked with a double asterisk. (\*\*).

## **LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS INTEREST IN COMMUNITY CIRCLES**

<u>Committed*</u>	<u>Considering</u>
Armstrong High School	Moorhead
Austin*	North Branch
Detroit Lakes/Pelican Rapids*	Plymouth/Wayzata
Eden Prairie*	St. Peter
Edina *	Worthington
Mankato*	
Marshall	
Minneapolis*	
Northfield*	
Rochester*	
St. Catherine's	
St. Cloud*	
St. Paul*	
Willmar	
Winona*	

Asterisk indicates proposal has been sent in and funds allocated



**THE LEAGUE  
OF WOMEN VOTERS**  
MINNESOTA EDUCATION FUND

550 RICE STREET ST. PAUL, MN 55103 PHONE (651) 224-5445 FAX (651) 290-2145

**PRESIDENT**

Judy Duffy

**ADVISORY BOARD**

Ralph Burnet  
CEO  
Coldwell Banker Burnet

Ned Crosby  
Chair  
Jefferson Center

Isabel Gomez  
Judge  
Hennepin County District Court

Joan Anderson Grove

Joan A. Grzywinski  
President/District Manager  
St. Paul and South Metro Minneapolis  
Norwest Bank Minnesota, N.A.

Roger L. Hale  
Chairman & CEO  
Tennant Company

Jean L. Harris, M.D.  
Mayor  
Eden Prairie

Josie R. Johnson  
Senior Fellow  
College of Education  
University of Minnesota

John D. Ladwig  
President  
Data Storage Products & Technologies  
Imation Corporation

Sheila Leatherman  
Executive Vice President  
United HealthCare

Peggy Lucas  
Partner  
Brighton Development Corp.

Laura McCarten  
Director of Community Services  
Northern States Power Company

Vivian Jenkins Nelsen  
President and CEO  
International Institute for  
Interracial Interactions:  
INTER-RACE

James A. Roberts  
Vice President, Corporate Relations  
Minnesota Power

G. Edward Schuh  
Professor  
Hubert H. Humphrey  
Institute of Public Affairs  
University of Minnesota

Laura Waterman Wittstock  
President  
MIGIZI Communications, Inc.

Mark G. Yudof  
President  
University of Minnesota

Date: December 3, 1999

TO: Steering Committee and Coalition members,  
Changing Faces, Changing Communities

FROM: Janet Gendler, Chair and Susan Anderson, Project Manager

RE: December 14 Steering Committee Meeting Note - **Change of Date**

The next steering committee meeting will be held on **Tuesday, December 14** from 12:00 noon to 1:30 p.m. at the League of Women Voters of Minnesota. The League office is located in the Minnesota Women's Building, 550 Rice Street in St. Paul, just two blocks north of the State Capitol. The meeting will take place in the large conference room on the lower level of the building. If you need more detailed instructions, please call the League office at 651-224-5445.

Since the meeting falls during the lunch hour, you can either bring a lunch or buy a box lunch provided by Café Capitol for \$5.75. To confirm your attendance and to order a box lunch, call Susan Anderson (612-331-1117) or send an e-mail (susan331@aol.com) by Friday, December 10.

Enclosed you will find notes from the steering committee meeting on November 15. These notes are not minutes but a summary of major discussion topics and outcomes from this meeting.

**Proposed meeting agenda**

- 1) **Funding Update**
- 2) **Report on numbers of communities and participants**
- 3) **Report on pilots in Willmar and Austin**
- 4) **Kickoff plans**
- 5) **Action Forum**
- 6) **Dates**

**Kickoff – Early February**

**Facilitator training – February 2, 5 to 8:30pm – College of St. Catherine**

**February 3, 10 to 2pm – Rochester**

**February 3, 5 to 8 pm – Willmar**

**February 4, 11 to 3pm Alexandria (possible)**

**Community Circles – February 17 through March 16**

**Action Forum – April 29 or May 6**

**Steering Committee Summary**  
**Changing Faces, Changing Communities**  
**League of Women Voters Education Fund**  
**Monday, November 15, 1999 -- Noon to 2pm**

Attendance: Trina Alvero, Susan Anderson, Judy Duffy, Therese Gales, Janet Gendler, Andrea Lex, Dick Little, Myrna Nelson, Lucia Orcutt, Julie Plaut, Sally Sawyer, Sara Taylor, Joel Wurl.

**Introductions:** Trina Alvero joins us as a volunteer staff person for the action committee and as a project director for Minneapolis

**Announcements:** Dick Little from Education, Housing and Equity Project announced a Citizens Summit on Friday December 17, 8 to 11:30 AM – SPEAKER Lani Guinier of Harvard Law School. At South High on Thursday, November 18 An Intergenerational Dialogue on School Integration with Jim Gambone. Therese Gales from Minnesota Center for Advocacy made three announcements. Thursday, November 18 at 9:00am there will be a Public Hearing on Illegal Immigration in Minnesota at the State Office Building. This will be sponsored by the House Civil Law Committee. Friday November 19 at 8:00 pm there will be a benefit performance for Minnesota Advocates for Human Rights at the Mixed Blood Theater– Not in my Season of Songs, a play by Pangea World Theater, written and directed by Nigerian playwright Awam Amkpa. On December 2 from 5 to 7pm at the Uof M. Law School a fund-raiser for The Refugee and Immigrant Program of Minnesota Advocates for Human Rights .

**Funding Update:** Andrea Lex reported that we have not recently received any new funding; and that we are waiting to hear from ten foundations and corporations about pending requests.

**Communities Selected:** Janet Gendler reports that the following communities have been selected for pass through grants from the LWVMN ED Fund or as participating communities: Armstrong High School, Austin, College of St. Catherine, Detroit Lakes/ Pelican Rapids, Eden Prairie, Edina, Mankato, Marshall, Minneapolis, Northfield, Rochester, St. Cloud, St. Paul, Winona, and Willmar. Moorhead, North Branch, Wayzata/Plymouth and Worthington are still possibilities.

**Training Sessions:** Susan Anderson reported that training sessions were held in 4 communities. Eleven communities participated; approximately 65 people attended. The communities of Marshall and Edina were not able to send anyone. We hope to schedule a training session with Marshall on November 18. Matt Leighninger from SCRC spoke about the history of study circles, and the goals of SCRC and talked about the overall organizational requirements for community wide study circles. Susan and Janet talked about Community Circles from the "Minnesota Perspective." Communities said they would like to keep in touch by a LWVMN listserve.



**Pilots:** Willmar has had a positive experience. They have had good attendance; a diverse group of participants and action items as early as the first session. Their fifth session will be Thursday, November 18.

Austin had to postpone one week. They were disappointed because several people had dropped out.

**Kickoff:** Susan Anderson reported that during a brain storming session with Bill Hanley from KTCA and Larry Werner from Mpls Star and Tribune they had suggested that a multicultural potluck in one of the small towns would be an event that media would be interested in. Julie Plaut suggested that stories from the participants of the pilot in Willmar would be meaningful. There was discussion about the advisability of a speaker, including Jesse Ventura, other public officials and /or an author who writes about the immigrant experience. The consensus was that the participants own stories with a potluck and possibly a bazaar would be the most effective. We were encouraged to invite the mayors, city council people and other elected officials to the Kickoff. Susan will contact both Willmar and Pelican Rapids.

**Action Forum:** Matt Leighninger from SCRC has suggested that an Action Forum should be for the purpose of showcasing the participants action ideas; and if there is a speaker he or she should be given a short time slot and be last. One community also included an action bazaar – with organizations involved in the issues each having a sign up booth.

Further suggestions: 1. Tag onto the Governors Service Recognition Day in mid April or International Festival which is held either last weekend in April or first weekend in May.  
2. Have a booth for each issue not each organization.

**Dates:**

**Willmar pilot – October 21 – November 18**

**Austin pilot – November 1 – November 22**

**Community Circles February 17 to March 16**

**Kickoff – early February**

**Facilitator training –February 3 (tentative)**

**Action Forum – approximately 3 – 4 weeks after the community circles are over**

Next Meeting – Tuesday December 14, 1999 – 12 noon to 1:30pm

---

## **UPDATES:**

**Action Committee** - November 15, 1999: Trina Alvero, Susan Anderson, Judy Duffy, Therese Gales, Janet Gendler and Julie Plaut

### **Goals:**

1. Identify organizations already working on issues that have some impact on the immigrant experience
  - A. Each steering committee member should bring a list of organizations that they are familiar with
  - B. Trina Alvero will call known organizations that are working on issues related to immigrants such as resettlement agencies, housing agencies, college campuses,
2. Share information about what is happening in other communities. On web site, lwvmn.org, print community information about demographics, organizations that are taking action to support immigrants.
3. Assume responsibility for supporting task forces as they move forward
  - A. LWV Observers Corps- share information on how to start an observers corps
  - B. Buddy system between members of Action or Steering committees with communities to help them carry out their action plans
4. At action forum have participants fill out postcards with their pledge to see that an action item moves forward.

### **Pilots:**

The pilots are now complete, evaluations are turned in and we are working with Scott Stiles from SCRC to analyze the data.

Willmar had a good experience with a number of action items that will be considered further by a task force formed by members of the group. They plan to have at least two more community circles in Feb./ March.

Austin found their experience to be more challenging. There were problems with facilitator neutrality and with attendance. But they also plan to keep meeting as a group and plan to have more community circles in February/ March.

### **Communities:**

We now have 16 communities committed to the project. See attached sheet.

The training process is complete and Janet and Susan are working with communities as they find coalition partners, form steering committees and finalize budgets. Facilitator training will be offered February 2-4.

## SITE SELECTION (SITE RECRUITMENT POSSIBILITIES AND PRIORITIES)

Bremer is interested in community circles in Willmar\*, St. Cloud\*, Marshall\*\*, Pelican Rapids\*\*, Detroit Lakes\*\*, Moorhead, and Cottonwood

Local LWV'S are present in those communities marked with an asterisk (\*).

Communities with individual League members are marked with a double asterisk. (\*\*).

## LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS INTEREST IN COMMUNITY CIRCLES

### Committed\*

Armstrong High School  
Austin\*  
Detroit Lakes/Pelican Rapids\*  
Eden Prairie\*  
Edina \*  
Mankato\*  
Marshall  
Minneapolis\*  
Northfield\*  
Rochester\*  
St. Catherine's  
St. Cloud\*  
St. Paul\*  
Willmar  
Winona\*

### Considering

Moorhead  
North Branch  
Plymouth/Wayzata  
St. Peter  
Worthington

Asterisk indicates proposal has been sent in and funds allocated

**Steering Committee Summary**  
**Changing Faces, Changing Communities**  
**League of Women Voters Education Fund**  
**Monday, October 18, 1999 -- Noon to 2pm**

Attendance: Susan Anderson, Emily Chen, Judy Duffy, Therese Gales, Janet Gendler, Nan Kari, Maire Mc Mahon, Zoe Nagell, Myrna Nelson, Lucia Orcutt, Kate Parry, Sally Sawyer, Sara Taylor, Joel Wurl, Seng Yang

**Introductions:** Zoe Nagell joins us from Armstrong High School. Zoe will be doing a *Changing Faces, Changing Communities* Study Circle project in her high school. Emily Chen joins us from Augsburg College. She is an intern with EHEP (Education & Housing Equity Project).

**Announcements:** Maire McMahon passed out flyers announcing the Wilder Forum – Beyond tolerance: A Call to Action on November 8 from 5 to 8:30pm. John Powell will be the keynote speaker.

**Kickoff:** One of the goals of the kickoff is to obtain visibility for the project. Kate Parry suggested that prior to or in addition to the kickoff we do the following:

1. Contact the following news organizations: Associated press, Katherine Lanpher from MPR, News Night Minnesota, Almanac, morning TV talk shows, Kimberly Hayes Taylor from the Minneapolis Tribune.
2. Prepare several specific examples of interesting items around the topics of immigration and citizenship (such as a profile of a local family); have them ready when talking to news organizations – if one story doesn't capture their attention, perhaps another one will. It is important to have at hand the numbers of people participating in or sponsoring the community circles.
3. Send an advance mailing (post cards to local churches, for example) before the Kickoff and the community circles begin.
4. Design our web site to include information on *Changing Faces, Changing Communities* and then link with other organizations interested in the same topic.

Kate also suggested we team up with other Minnesota organizations that are focusing on similar topics - Minneapolis Foundation, United Way, Wilder Foundation is polling immigrants on their use of tobacco. We might be able to combine our efforts and find a very high profile speaker such as Madeline Albright or Kofi Annan.

Kate said the *Pioneer Press* would be doing a feature article the Sunday before the circles begin.

Nan Kari suggested we might use International Fellows from the Humphrey Institute. They are interested in looking at the work that is being done around the issues of citizenship.

Joel Wurl suggested we plan a Kickoff event carefully so that it does not compete for time and money with the circles themselves. He also mentioned that there will be a University of Minnesota seminar on Race, Ethnicity and Migration. The timing may or may not coincide with our Kickoff event.

**Funding Update:** The budget is \$140,000. \$53,000 of that amount has been received. We are waiting to hear from ten more foundations. Joel asked if we knew why we did not have a more positive response. Susan suggested that at least one foundation had granted the requests of organizations that had specific action pieces.

**Pilots:** Willmar and Austin will do pilots projects. Willmar will start on October 21 for 5 weeks and Austin will start on November 1 for four weeks. Susan Anderson and Janet Gendler have done training for both sites; and will offer assistance and monitor their progress.

**Site Selection:** The following communities have returned their RFP's: Austin, Detroit Lakes, Edina, Eden Prairie, Mankato, Minneapolis, Northfield, Rochester, St. Cloud, St. Paul, Willmar and Winona. Marshall has asked for an extension. Matt Leighninger, Susan Anderson and Janet Gendler will visit sites on Tuesday, November 9 and Wednesday November 10 to further explain the study circle process and to answer questions.

**Dates:**

**Willmar pilot – October 21 – November 18**

**Austin pilot – November 1 – November 22**

**Community Circles February 17 to March 16**

**Kickoff – early February**

**Facilitator training – early February**

**Action Forum – to be decided**

Next Meeting – Monday November 15, 1999 – 12 noon to 1:30pm

---

TO: Steering Committee and Coalition members,  
Changing Faces, Changing Communities

FROM: Janet Gendler, Chair and Susan Anderson, Project Manager

Date: November 5, 1999

RE: November 15 Steering Committee Meeting

The next steering committee meeting will be held on Monday, **November 15** from 12:00 noon to 1:30 p.m. at the League of Women Voters of Minnesota. The League office is located in the Minnesota Women's Building, 550 Rice Street in St. Paul, just two blocks north of the State Capitol. The meeting will take place in the large conference room on the lower level of the building. If you need more detailed instructions, please call the League office at 651-224-5445.

Since the meeting falls during the lunch hour, you can either bring a lunch or buy a box lunch provided by Café Capitol for \$5.75. To confirm your attendance and to order a box lunch, call Susan Anderson (612-331-1117) or send an e-mail (susan331@aol.com) by Friday November 12.

Enclosed you will find notes from the steering committee meeting on October 18. These notes are not minutes but a summary of major discussion topics and outcomes from this meeting.

**Proposed meeting agenda**

- 1) **Funding Update**
- 2) **Communities Selected**
- 3) **Report on pilots in Willmar and Austin**
- 4) **Report on Training Sessions**
- 5) **Kickoff plans**
- 6) **Media – suggestions needed**
- 7) **Action – suggestions needed**
- 8) **Dates**

**Pilots: Willmar ( begins October 21) Austin (begins November 1)**

**Kickoff – to be decided**

**Facilitator training – late January or early February**

**Community Circles – February 17 through March 16**

**Action Forum – to be decided**



***Changing Faces Changing Communities***  
*What It Means to Be an American in This Age of Immigration*  
*And Creating a Better Minnesota with Citizen Involvement*

Development Update  
October 18, 1999

*Funds Received:*

Beim Foundation	\$ 2,000
Elmer L. & Eleanor J. Andersen Foundation	\$ 1,000
Medtronic Foundation	10,000
Otto Bremer Foundation	35,000
Siegel, Brill, Greupner, Duffy & Foster	5,000
ReliaStar	Printing In-kind

*Funds Pending:*

Berglund Foundation	\$ 3,000
Cargill Foundation	10,000
George Hormel Testamentary Trust	5,000
International Dairy Queen	2,500
John S. & James. L. Knight Foundation	10,000
Jostens Foundation	5,000
Margaret H. & James E. Kelly Foundation	5,000
Minneapolis Foundation	7,500
National Car Rental	500
Study Circles Fund	50,000
Wallin Foundation	2,500

## **SITE SELECTION ( SITE RECRUITMENT POSSIBILTIES AND PRIORITIES)**

Bremer is interested in community circles in Willmar\*, St. Cloud\*, Marshall\*\* , Pelican Rapids\*\*, Detroit lakes\*\*, Moorhead, and Cottonwood

Local LWV'S are present in those communities marked with an asterisk (\*).  
Communities with individual League members are marked with a double asterisk. ( \*\* ).

## **LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS INTEREST IN COMMUNITY CIRCLES**

<u>Committed*</u>	<u>Cosidering</u>
Edina *	Worthington
Minneapolis*	Moorhead
Austin*	
Marshall	
St. Paul*	North Branch
Detroit lakes/Pelican Rapids*	
Rochester*	
Northfield*	
St. Cloud*	
Eden Prarie*	
Winona*	
Mankato*	
Willmar	
Armstrong High School	
St. Catherines	

Asterisk indicates proposal has been sent in and funds allocated



**THE LEAGUE  
OF WOMEN VOTERS**  
MINNESOTA EDUCATION FUND

550 RICE STREET ST. PAUL, MN 55103 PHONE (651) 224-5445 FAX (651) 290-2145

**PRESIDENT**  
Judy Duffy

**ADVISORY BOARD**

Ralph Burnet  
CEO  
Coldwell Banker Burnet

Ned Crosby  
Chair  
Jefferson Center

Isabel Gomez  
Judge  
Hennepin County District Court

Joan Anderson Growe

Joan A. Grzywinski  
President/District Manager  
St. Paul and South Metro Minneapolis  
Norwest Bank Minnesota, N.A.

Roger L. Hale  
Chairman & CEO  
Tennant Company

Jean L. Harris, M.D.  
Mayor  
Eden Prairie

Josie R. Johnson  
Senior Fellow  
College of Education  
University of Minnesota

John D. Ladwig  
President  
Data Storage Products & Technologies  
Imation Corporation

Sheila Leatherman  
Executive Vice President  
United HealthCare

Peggy Lucas  
Partner  
Brighton Development Corp.

Laura McCarten  
Director of Community Services  
Northern States Power Company

Vivian Jenkins Nelsen  
President and CEO  
International Institute for  
Interracial Interactions:  
INTER-RACE

James A. Roberts  
Vice President, Corporate Relations  
Minnesota Power

G. Edward Schuh  
Professor  
Hubert H. Humphrey  
Institute of Public Affairs  
University of Minnesota

Laura Waterman Wittstock  
President  
MIGIZI Communications, Inc.

Mark G. Yudof  
President  
University of Minnesota

TO: Steering Committee and Coalition members,  
Changing Faces, Changing Communities

FROM: Janet Gendler, Chair and Susan Anderson, Project Manager

Date: November 5, 1999

RE: November 15 Steering Committee Meeting

The next steering committee meeting will be held on Monday, **November 15** from 12:00 noon to 1:30 p.m. at the League of Women Voters of Minnesota. The League office is located in the Minnesota Women's Building, 550 Rice Street in St. Paul, just two blocks north of the State Capitol. The meeting will take place in the large conference room on the lower level of the building. If you need more detailed instructions, please call the League office at 651-224-5445.

Since the meeting falls during the lunch hour, you can either bring a lunch or buy a box lunch provided by Café Capitol for \$5.75. To confirm your attendance and to order a box lunch, call Susan Anderson (612-331-1117) or send an e-mail (susan331@aol.com) by Friday November 12.

Enclosed you will find notes from the steering committee meeting on October 18. These notes are not minutes but a summary of major discussion topics and outcomes from this meeting.

**Proposed meeting agenda**

- 1) **Funding Update**
- 2) **Communities Selected**
- 3) **Report on pilots in Willmar and Austin**
- 4) **Report on Training Sessions**
- 5) **Kickoff plans**
- 6) **Media – suggestions needed**
- 7) **Action – suggestions needed**
- 8) **Dates**

**Pilots: Willmar ( begins October 21) Austin (begins November 1)**

**Kickoff – to be decided**

**Facilitator training – late January or early February**

**Community Circles – February 17 through March 16**

**Action Forum – to be decided**

**Steering Committee Summary**  
**Changing Faces, Changing Communities**  
**League of Women Voters Education Fund**  
**Monday, October 18, 1999 -- Noon to 2pm**

Attendance: Susan Anderson, Emily Chen, Judy Duffy, Therese Gales, Janet Gendler, Nan Kari, Maire Mc Mahon, Zoe Nagell, Myrna Nelson, Lucia Orcutt, Kate Parry, Sally Sawyer, Sara Taylor, Joel Wurl, Seng Yang

**Introductions:** Zoe Nagell joins us from Armstrong High School. Zoe will be doing a *Changing Faces, Changing Communities* Study Circle project in her high school. Emily Chen joins us from Augsburg College. She is an intern with EHEP (Education & Housing Equity Project).

**Announcements:** Maire McMahon passed out flyers announcing the Wilder Forum – Beyond tolerance: A Call to Action on November 8 from 5 to 8:30pm. John Powell will be the keynote speaker.

**Kickoff:** One of the goals of the kickoff is to obtain visibility for the project. Kate Parry suggested that prior to or in addition to the kickoff we do the following:

1. Contact the following news organizations: Associated press, Katherine Lanpher from MPR, News Night Minnesota, Almanac, morning TV talk shows, Kimberly Hayes Taylor from the Minneapolis Tribune.
2. Prepare several specific examples of interesting items around the topics of immigration and citizenship (such as a profile of a local family); have them ready when talking to news organizations – if one story doesn't capture their attention, perhaps another one will. It is important to have at hand the numbers of people participating in or sponsoring the community circles.
3. Send an advance mailing (post cards to local churches, for example) before the Kickoff and the community circles begin.
4. Design our web site to include information on *Changing Faces, Changing Communities* and then link with other organizations interested in the same topic.

Kate also suggested we team up with other Minnesota organizations that are focusing on similar topics - Minneapolis Foundation, United Way, Wilder Foundation is polling immigrants on their use of tobacco. We might be able to combine our efforts and find a very high profile speaker such as Madeline Albright or Kofi Annan.

Kate said the *Pioneer Press* would be doing a feature article the Sunday before the circles begin.

Nan Kari suggested we might use International Fellows from the Humphrey Institute. They are interested in looking at the work that is being done around the issues of citizenship.

Joel Wurl suggested we plan a Kickoff event carefully so that it does not compete for time and money with the circles themselves. He also mentioned that there will be a University of Minnesota seminar on Race, Ethnicity and Migration. The timing may or may not coincide with our Kickoff event.

**Funding Update:** The budget is \$140,000. \$53,000 of that amount has been received. We are waiting to hear from ten more foundations. Joel asked if we knew why we did not have a more positive response. Susan suggested that at least one foundation had granted the requests of organizations that had specific action pieces.

**Pilots:** Willmar and Austin will do pilots projects. Willmar will start on October 21 for 5 weeks and Austin will start on November 1 for four weeks. Susan Anderson and Janet Gendler have done training for both sites; and will offer assistance and monitor their progress.

**Site Selection:** The following communities have returned their RFP's: Austin, Detroit Lakes, Edina, Eden Prairie, Mankato, Minneapolis, Northfield, Rochester, St. Cloud, St. Paul, Willmar and Winona. Marshall has asked for an extension. Matt Leighninger, Susan Anderson and Janet Gendler will visit sites on Tuesday, November 9 and Wednesday November 10 to further explain the study circle process and to answer questions.

**Dates:**

**Willmar pilot – October 21 – November 18**  
**Austin pilot – November 1 – November 22**  
**Community Circles February 17 to March 16**  
**Kickoff – early February**  
**Facilitator training – early February**  
**Action Forum – to be decided**

Next Meeting – Monday November 15, 1999 – 12 noon to 1:30pm

---

## SITE SELECTION ( SITE RECRUITMENT POSSIBILTIES AND PRIORITIES)

Bremer is interested in community circles in Willmar\*, St. Cloud\*, Marshall\*\*, Pelican Rapids\*\*, Detroit lakes\*\*, Moorhead, and Cottonwood

Local LWV'S are present in those communities marked with an asterisk (\*).  
Communities with individual League members are marked with a double asterisk. ( \*\* ).

## LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS INTEREST IN COMMUNITY CIRCLES

<u>Committed*</u>	<u>Cosidering</u>
Edina *	Worthington
Minneapolis*	Moorhead
Austin*	
Marshall	
St. Paul*	North Branch
Detroit lakes/Pelican Rapids*	
Rochester*	
Northfield*	
St. Cloud*	
Eden Prarie*	
Winona*	
Mankato*	
Willmar	
Armstrong High School	
St. Catherines	

Asterisk indicates proposal has been sent in and funds allocated



***Changing Faces Changing Communities***  
*What It Means to Be an American in This Age of Immigration*  
*And Creating a Better Minnesota with Citizen Involvement*

Development Update  
October 18, 1999

*Funds Received:*

Beim Foundation	\$ 2,000
Elmer L. & Eleanor J. Andersen Foundation	\$ 1,000
Medtronic Foundation	10,000
Otto Bremer Foundation	35,000
Siegel, Brill, Greupner, Duffy & Foster	5,000
ReliaStar	Printing In-kind

*Funds Pending:*

Berglund Foundation	\$ 3,000
Cargill Foundation	10,000
George Hormel Testamentary Trust	5,000
International Dairy Queen	2,500
John S. & James L. Knight Foundation	10,000
Jostens Foundation	5,000
Margaret H. & James E. Kelly Foundation	5,000
Minneapolis Foundation	7,500
National Car Rental	500
Study Circles Fund	50,000
Wallin Foundation	2,500



# THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

MINNESOTA EDUCATION FUND

550 RICE STREET ST. PAUL, MN 55103 PHONE (651) 224-5445 FAX (651) 290-2145

## PRESIDENT

Judy Duffy

## ADVISORY BOARD

Ralph Burnet  
CEO  
Coldwell Banker Burnet

Ned Crosby  
Chair  
Jefferson Center

Isabel Gomez  
Judge  
Hennepin County District Court

Joan Anderson Growe

Joan A. Grzywinski  
President/District Manager  
St. Paul and South Metro Minneapolis  
Norwest Bank Minnesota, N.A.

Roger L. Hale  
Chairman & CEO  
Tennant Company

Jean L. Harris, M.D.  
Mayor  
Eden Prairie

Josie R. Johnson  
Senior Fellow  
College of Education  
University of Minnesota

Steven D. Ladwig  
President  
Data Storage Products & Technologies  
Imation Corporation

Sheila Leatherman  
Executive Vice President  
United HealthCare

Peggy Lucas  
Partner  
Brighton Development Corp.

Laura McCarten  
Director of Community Services  
Northern States Power Company

Vivian Jenkins Nelsen  
President and CEO  
International Institute for  
Interracial Interactions:  
INTER-RACE

James A. Roberts  
Vice President, Corporate Relations  
Minnesota Power

G. Edward Schuh  
Professor  
Hubert H. Humphrey  
Institute of Public Affairs  
University of Minnesota

Laura Waterman Wittstock  
President  
MIGIZI Communications, Inc.

G. Yudof  
President  
University of Minnesota

October 26, 1999

Marisa Geisler  
1408 Raleigh Drive  
Burnsville, MN 55337

Dear Ms. Geisler,

Thank you for submitting a request for proposal for *Changing Faces, Changing Communities* - a community circle project. We would like to congratulate the St. Paul League for making a significant contribution to your community.

You have requested \$2,700 for 5 community circle projects. We have funded you at the level requested. We ask that you turn in all receipts or copies of checks to verify that the money requested was spent on the appropriate budget items. We also must reiterate that the project is not yet fully funded and therefore please continue to seek inkind donations wherever possible and return unused funds.


On January 15 you will receive the first ½ of the grant. The next 45% will be distributed when the community circles convene in mid February and the final 5% will be awarded upon submission of the final report.


On November 9 a training will be held for the metropolitan communities in St. Paul at the Minnesota Women's Building at 550 Rice Street from 6:00 - 8:00 p.m. Pizza will be ordered for the meeting (approximate cost of \$5.00). Matt Leighninger from the Study Circle Resource Center will talk about the history and the purpose of the study circle concept as well as provide information on how to start a community circle. Janet, Susan and Matt will then be available to answer questions. Please email Susan (susan331@aol.com) with the number of people from St. Paul that can attend. Anyone who is interested is welcome.

In early February a facilitator training workshop will be held (time and places to be announced). The target date for beginning the Community Circles is February 17. We hope that communities can use a similar time frame. The Saint Paul Pioneer Press will run a corresponding story on the preceding Sunday. Plans are under way for a statewide Kickoff and a state wide action forum is being considered.

If you have not already done so, we suggest that you identify a project coordinator and then begin to form a coalition of interested persons and organizations who will act as sponsors or partners in this process. Janet Gendler and I will be eager to answer questions and help communities begin the process of organizing their community circles. We will have a large packet of information available for each community at the November training sessions.

Sincerely,

  
Janet Gendler, Project Chair  
612- 920-3567

  
Susan Anderson, Project Director  
612-331-1117



# THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

MINNESOTA EDUCATION FUND

550 RICE STREET ST. PAUL, MN 55103 PHONE (651) 224-5445 FAX (651) 290-2145

**PRESIDENT**  
Judy Duffy

**ADVISORY BOARD**

Ralph Burnet  
CEO  
Coldwell Banker Burnet

Ned Crosby  
Chair  
Jefferson Center

Isabel Gomez  
Judge  
Hennepin County District Court

Joan Anderson Growe

Joan A. Grzywinski  
President/District Manager  
St. Paul and South Metro Minneapolis  
Norwest Bank Minnesota, N.A.

Roger L. Hale  
Chairman & CEO  
Tennant Company

Jean L. Harris, M.D.  
Mayor  
Eden Prairie

Josie R. Johnson  
Senior Fellow  
College of Education  
University of Minnesota

Steven D. Ladwig  
President  
Data Storage Products & Technologies  
Imation Corporation

Sheila Leatherman  
Executive Vice President  
United HealthCare

Peggy Lucas  
Partner  
Brighton Development Corp.

Laura McCarten  
Director of Community Services  
Northern States Power Company

Vivian Jenkins Nelsen  
President and CEO  
International Institute for  
Interracial Interactions:  
INTER-RACE

James A. Roberts  
Vice President, Corporate Relations  
Minnesota Power

G. Edward Schuh  
Professor  
Hubert H. Humphrey  
Institute of Public Affairs  
University of Minnesota

Laura Waterman Wittstock  
President  
MIGIZI Communications, Inc.

Mark G. Yudof  
President  
University of Minnesota

October 26, 1999

Judy Schuck  
395 Lake Street  
Wayzata, MN 55391

Dear Ms. Schuck,

Thank you for submitting a request for proposal for *Changing Faces, Changing Communities* - a community circle project. We would like to congratulate the MEPH League for making a significant contribution to your community.

You have requested \$2,400 for 3-6 community circle projects. We have funded you at the level requested. We ask that you turn in all receipts or copies of checks to verify that the money requested was spent on the appropriate budget items. We also must reiterate that the project is not yet fully funded and therefore please continue to seek inkind donations wherever possible and return unused funds.

On January 15 you will receive the first ½ of the grant. The next 45% will be distributed when the community circles convene in mid February and the final 5% will be awarded upon submission of the final report.

On November 9 a training will be held for the metropolitan communities in St. Paul at the Minnesota Women's Building at 550 Rice Street from 6:00 - 8:00 p.m. Pizza will be ordered for the meeting (approximate cost of \$5.00). Matt Leighninger from the Study Circle Resource Center will talk about the history and the purpose of the study circle concept as well as provide information on how to start a community circle. Janet, Susan and Matt will then be available to answer questions. Please email Susan (susan331@aol.com) with the number of people from MEPH that can attend. Anyone who is interested is welcome.

In early February a facilitator training workshop will be held (time and places to be announced). The target date for beginning the Community Circles is February 17. We hope that communities can use a similar time frame. The Saint Paul Pioneer Press will run a corresponding story on the preceding Sunday. Plans are under way for a statewide Kickoff and a state wide action forum is being considered.

If you have not already done so, we suggest that you identify a project coordinator and then begin to form a coalition of interested persons and organizations who will act as sponsors or partners in this process. Janet Gendler and I will be eager to answer questions and help communities begin the process of organizing their community circles. We will have a large packet of information available for each community at the November training sessions.

Sincerely,

Janet Gendler, Project Chair  
612- 920-3567

Susan Anderson, Project Director  
612-331-1117



**THE LEAGUE  
OF WOMEN VOTERS**  
MINNESOTA EDUCATION FUND

555 RICE STREET ST. PAUL, MN 55103 PHONE (651) 224-5445 FAX (651) 290-2145

**PRESIDENT**

Judy Duffy

**ADVISORY BOARD**

Ralph Burnet  
CEO  
Coldwell Banker Burnet

Ned Crosby  
Chair  
Jefferson Center

Isabel Gomez  
Judge  
Hennepin County District Court

Joan Anderson Growe

Joan A. Grzywinski  
President/District Manager  
St. Paul and South Metro Minneapolis  
Norwest Bank Minnesota, N.A.

Roger L. Hale  
Chairman & CEO  
Tennant Company

Jean L. Harris, M.D.  
Mayor  
Eden Prairie

Josie R. Johnson  
Senior Fellow  
College of Education  
University of Minnesota

Steven D. Ladwig  
President  
Data Storage Products & Technologies  
Information Corporation

Sheila Leatherman  
Executive Vice President  
United HealthCare

Peggy Lucas  
Partner  
Brighton Development Corp.

Laura McCarten  
Director of Community Services  
Northern States Power Company

Vivian Jenkins Nelsen  
President and CEO  
International Institute for  
Interracial Interactions:  
INTER-RACE

James A. Roberts  
Vice President, Corporate Relations  
Minnesota Power

G. Edward Schuh  
Professor  
Hubert H. Humphrey  
Institute of Public Affairs  
University of Minnesota

Laura Waterman Wittstock  
President  
MIGIZI Communications, Inc.

G. Yudof  
President  
University of Minnesota

October 26, 1999

Carol Frisch  
7025 Comanche Court  
Edina, MN 55139-1004

Dear Ms. Frisch,

Thank you for submitting a request for proposal for *Changing Faces, Changing Communities* - a community circle project. We would like to congratulate the Edina League for making a significant contribution to your community.

You have requested \$1,600 for 3 community circle projects. We have funded you at the level requested. We ask that you turn in all receipts or copies of checks to verify that the money requested was spent on the appropriate budget items. We also must reiterate that the project is not yet fully funded and therefore please continue to seek inkind donations wherever possible and return unused funds.

On January 15 you will receive the first ½ of the grant. The next 45% will be distributed when the community circles convene in mid February and the final 5% will be awarded upon submission of the final report.

On November 9 a training will be held for the metropolitan communities in St. Paul at the Minnesota Women's Building at 550 Rice Street from 6:00 - 8:00 p.m. Pizza will be ordered for the meeting (approximate cost of \$5.00). Matt Leighninger from the Study Circle Resource Center will talk about the history and the purpose of the study circle concept as well as provide information on how to start a community circle. Janet, Susan and Matt will then be available to answer questions. Please email Susan (susan331@aol.com) with the number of people from Edina that can attend. Anyone who is interested is welcome.

In early February a facilitator training workshop will be held (time and places to be announced). The target date for beginning the Community Circles is February 17. We hope that communities can use a similar time frame. The Saint Paul Pioneer Press will run a corresponding story on the preceding Sunday. Plans are under way for a statewide Kickoff and a state wide action forum is being considered.

If you have not already done so, we suggest that you identify a project coordinator and then begin to form a coalition of interested persons and organizations who will act as sponsors or partners in this process. Janet Gendler and I will be eager to answer questions and help communities begin the process of organizing their community circles. We will have a large packet of information available for each community at the November training sessions.

Sincerely,

Janet Gendler, Project Chair  
612- 920-3567

Susan Anderson, Project Director  
612-331-1117





**THE LEAGUE  
OF WOMEN VOTERS**  
MINNESOTA EDUCATION FUND

550 RICE STREET ST. PAUL, MN 55103 PHONE (651) 224-5445 FAX (651) 290-2145

**PRESIDENT**

Judy Duffy

**ADVISORY BOARD**

Ralph Burnet  
CEO  
Coldwell Banker Burnet

Ned Crosby  
Chair  
Jefferson Center

Isabel Gomez  
Judge  
Hennepin County District Court

Joan Anderson Growe

Joan A. Grzywinski  
President/District Manager  
St. Paul and South Metro Minneapolis  
Norwest Bank Minnesota, N.A.

Roger L. Hale  
Chairman & CEO  
Tennant Company

Jean L. Harris, M.D.  
Mayor  
Eden Prairie

Josie R. Johnson  
Senior Fellow  
College of Education  
University of Minnesota

Steven D. Ladwig  
President  
Data Storage Products & Technologies  
Imation Corporation

Sheila Leatherman  
Executive Vice President  
United HealthCare

Peggy Lucas  
Partner  
Brighton Development Corp.

Laura McCarten  
Director of Community Services  
Northern States Power Company

Vivian Jenkins Nelsen  
President and CEO  
International Institute for  
Interracial Interactions:  
INTER-RACE

James A. Roberts  
Vice President, Corporate Relations  
Minnesota Power

G. Edward Schuh  
Professor  
Hubert H. Humphrey  
Institute of Public Affairs  
University of Minnesota

Laura Waterman Wittstock  
President  
MIGIZI Communications, Inc.

Mark G. Yudof  
President  
University of Minnesota

October 26, 1999

Jane McWilliams  
901 W 1st Street  
Northfield, MN 55057-1613

Dear Ms. McWilliams,

Thank you for submitting a request for proposal for *Changing Faces, Changing Communities* - a community circle project. We would like to congratulate the Northfield League for making a significant contribution to your community.

You have requested \$500 for 5 community circle projects. We have funded you at the level requested. We ask that you turn in all receipts or copies of checks to verify that the money requested was spent on the appropriate budget items. We also must reiterate that the project is not yet fully funded and therefore please continue to seek inkind donations wherever possible and return unused funds.

On January 15 you will receive the first ½ of the grant. The next 45% will be distributed when the community circles convene in mid February and the final 5% will be awarded upon submission of the final report.

On November 9 a training will be held for the metropolitan communities in St. Paul at the Minnesota Women's Building at 550 Rice Street from 6:00 - 8:00 p.m. Pizza will be ordered for the meeting (approximate cost of \$5.00). Matt Leighninger from the Study Circle Resource Center will talk about the history and the purpose of the study circle concept as well as provide information on how to start a community circle. Janet, Susan and Matt will then be available to answer questions. Please email Susan (susan331@aol.com) with the number of people from Northfield that can attend. Anyone who is interested is welcome.

In early February a facilitator training workshop will be held (time and places to be announced). The target date for beginning the Community Circles is February 17. We hope that communities can use a similar time frame. The Saint Paul Pioneer Press will run a corresponding story on the preceding Sunday. Plans are under way for a statewide Kickoff and a state wide action forum is being considered.

If you have not already done so, we suggest that you identify a project coordinator and then begin to form a coalition of interested persons and organizations who will act as sponsors or partners in this process. Janet Gendler and I will be eager to answer questions and help communities begin the process of organizing their community circles. We will have a large packet of information available for each community at the November training sessions.

Sincerely,

Janet Gendler, Project Chair  
612- 920-3567

Susan Anderson, Project Director  
612-331-1117



# THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

## MINNESOTA EDUCATION FUND

100 RICE STREET ST. PAUL, MN 55103 PHONE (651) 224-5445 FAX (651) 290-2145

### PRESIDENT

Judy Duffy

### ADVISORY BOARD

Ralph Burnet

CEO

Coldwell Banker Burnet

Ned Crosby

Chair

Jefferson Center

Isabel Gomez

Judge

Hennepin County District Court

Joan Anderson Growe

Joan A. Grzywinski

President/District Manager

St. Paul and South Metro Minneapolis

Norwest Bank Minnesota, N.A.

Roger L. Hale

Chairman & CEO

Tennant Company

Jean L. Harris, M.D.

Mayor

Eden Prairie

Josie R. Johnson

Senior Fellow

College of Education

University of Minnesota

Steven D. Ladwig

President

Data Storage Products & Technologies

Innovation Corporation

Sheila Leatherman

Executive Vice President

United HealthCare

Peggy Lucas

Partner

Brighton Development Corp.

Laura McCarten

Director of Community Services

Northern States Power Company

Vivian Jenkins Nelsen

President and CEO

International Institute for

Interracial Interactions:

INTER-RACE

James A. Roberts

Vice President, Corporate Relations

Minnesota Power

G. Edward Schuh

Professor

Hubert H. Humphrey

Institute of Public Affairs

University of Minnesota

Laura Waterman Wittstock

President

MIGIZI Communications, Inc.

G. Yudof

President

University of Minnesota

October 26, 1999

Jo Cattryse  
806 Center Street  
Mankato, MN 56001

Dear Ms. Cattryse,

Thank you for submitting a request for proposal for *Changing Faces, Changing Communities* - a community circle project. We would like to congratulate the Mankato League for making a significant contribution to your community.

You have requested \$2,700 for 2 community circle project(s). We have funded you at the level requested. We ask that you turn in all receipts or copies of checks to verify that the money requested was spent on the appropriate budget items. We also must reiterate that the project is not yet fully funded and therefore please continue to seek inkind donations wherever possible and return unused funds.

On January 15 you will receive the first ½ of the grant. The next 45% will be distributed when the community circles convene in mid February and the final 5% will be awarded upon submission of the final report.

On November 9 a training will be held for the southeastern communities in Rochester at the Government Center - 151 4<sup>th</sup> St. SE from 12 to 2pm. There is a cafeteria in the building and a sub shop across the street. Participants are responsible for picking up their own lunch. Matt Leighninger from the Study Circle Resource Center will talk about the history and the purpose of the study circle concept as well as provide information on how to start a community circle. Janet, Susan and Matt will then be available to answer questions. Please email Susan (susan331@aol.com) with the number of people from Mankato that can attend. Anyone who is interested is welcome. (There will also be a training session held in Mankato at 8 a.m. on the 9<sup>th</sup>, location to be announced.)

In early February a facilitator training workshop will be held (time and places to be announced). The target date for beginning the Community Circles is February 17. We hope that communities can use a similar time frame. The Saint Paul Pioneer Press will run a corresponding story on the preceding Sunday. Plans are under way for a statewide Kickoff and a state wide action forum is being considered.

If you have not already done so, we suggest that you identify a project coordinator and then begin to form a coalition of interested persons and organizations who will act as sponsors or partners in this process. Janet Gendler and I will be eager to answer questions and help communities begin the process of organizing their community circles. We will have a large packet of information available for each community at the November training sessions.

Sincerely,

*Janet Gendler*

Janet Gendler, Project Chair  
612- 920-3567

*Susan Anderson*

Susan Anderson, Project Director  
612-331-1117





# THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

MINNESOTA EDUCATION FUND

550 RICE STREET ST. PAUL, MN 55103 PHONE (651) 224-5445 FAX (651) 290-2145

## PRESIDENT

Judy Duffy

## ADVISORY BOARD

Ralph Burnet  
CEO  
Coldwell Banker Burnet

Ned Crosby  
Chair  
Jefferson Center

Isabel Gomez  
Judge  
Hennepin County District Court

Joan Anderson Growe

Joan A. Grzywinski  
President/District Manager  
St. Paul and South Metro Minneapolis  
Norwest Bank Minnesota, N.A.

Roger L. Hale  
Chairman & CEO  
Tennant Company

Jean L. Harris, M.D.  
Mayor  
Eden Prairie

Josie R. Johnson  
Senior Fellow  
College of Education  
University of Minnesota

Steven D. Ladwig  
President  
Data Storage Products & Technologies  
Imation Corporation

Sheila Leatherman  
Executive Vice President  
United HealthCare

Peggy Lucas  
Partner  
Brighton Development Corp.

Laura McCarten  
Director of Community Services  
Northern States Power Company

Vivian Jenkins Nelsen  
President and CEO  
International Institute for  
Interracial Interactions:  
INTER-RACE

James A. Roberts  
Vice President, Corporate Relations  
Minnesota Power

G. Edward Schuh  
Professor  
Hubert H. Humphrey  
Institute of Public Affairs  
University of Minnesota

Laura Waterman Wittstock  
President  
MIGIZI Communications, Inc.

Mark G. Yudof  
President  
University of Minnesota

October 26, 1999

Vera Dougher  
633 Woodhaven Ct NE  
Rochester, MN 55906

Dear Ms. Dougher,

Thank you for submitting a request for proposal for *Changing Faces, Changing Communities* - a community circle project. We would like to congratulate the Rochester League for making a significant contribution to your community.

You have requested \$2,700 for 8 community circle project(s). We have funded you at the level requested. We ask that you turn in all receipts or copies of checks to verify that the money requested was spent on the appropriate budget items. We also must reiterate that the project is not yet fully funded and therefore please continue to seek inkind donations wherever possible and return unused funds.

On January 15 you will receive the first ½ of the grant. The next 45% will be distributed when the community circles convene in mid February and the final 5% will be awarded upon submission of the final report.

On November 9 a training will be held for the southeastern communities in Rochester at the Government Center - 151 4<sup>th</sup> St. SE from 12 to 2pm. There is a cafeteria in the building and a sub shop across the street. Participants are responsible for picking up their own lunch. Matt Leighninger from the Study Circle Resource Center will talk about the history and the purpose of the study circle concept as well as provide information on how to start a community circle. Janet, Susan and Matt will then be available to answer questions. Please email Susan (susan331@aol.com) with the number of people from Rochester that can attend. Anyone who is interested is welcome.

In early February a facilitator training workshop will be held (time and places to be announced). The target date for beginning the Community Circles is February 17. We hope that communities can use a similar time frame. The Saint Paul Pioneer Press will run a corresponding story on the preceding Sunday. Plans are under way for a statewide Kickoff and a state wide action forum is being considered.

If you have not already done so, we suggest that you identify a project coordinator and then begin to form a coalition of interested persons and organizations who will act as sponsors or partners in this process. Janet Gendler and I will be eager to answer questions and help communities begin the process of organizing their community circles. We will have a large packet of information available for each community at the November training sessions.

Sincerely,

*Janet Gendler*  
Janet Gendler, Project Chair  
612- 920-3567

*Susan Anderson*  
Susan Anderson, Project Director  
612-331-1117



THE LEAGUE  
OF WOMEN VOTERS  
MINNESOTA EDUCATION FUND

100 RICE STREET ST. PAUL, MN 55103 PHONE (651) 224-5445 FAX (651) 290-2145

**PRESIDENT**

Judy Duffy

**ADVISORY BOARD**

Ralph Burnet  
CEO  
Coldwell Banker Burnet

Ned Crosby  
Chair  
Jefferson Center

Isabel Gomez  
Judge  
Hennepin County District Court

Joan Anderson Growe

Joan A. Grzywinski  
President/District Manager  
St. Paul and South Metro Minneapolis  
Norwest Bank Minnesota, N.A.

Roger L. Hale  
Chairman & CEO  
Tennant Company

Jean L. Harris, M.D.  
Mayor  
Eden Prairie

Josie R. Johnson  
Senior Fellow  
College of Education  
University of Minnesota

Steven D. Ladwig  
President  
Data Storage Products & Technologies  
Imation Corporation

Sheila Leatherman  
Executive Vice President  
United HealthCare

Peggy Lucas  
Partner  
Brighton Development Corp.

Laura McCarten  
Director of Community Services  
Northern States Power Company

Vivian Jenkins Nelsen  
President and CEO  
International Institute for  
Interracial Interactions:  
INTER-RACE

James A. Roberts  
Vice President, Corporate Relations  
Minnesota Power

G. Edward Schuh  
Professor  
Hubert H. Humphrey  
Institute of Public Affairs  
University of Minnesota

Laura Waterman Wittstock  
President  
MiGIZI Communications, Inc.

G. Yudof  
President  
University of Minnesota

October 26, 1999

Jeanne Poppe  
301 SW 4th Avenue  
Austin, MN 55912

Dear Ms. Poppe,

Thank you for submitting a request for proposal for *Changing Faces, Changing Communities* - a community circle project. We would like to congratulate the Austin League for making a significant contribution to your community.

You have requested \$1,100 for 1 community circle project(s). We have funded you at the level requested. We ask that you turn in all receipts or copies of checks to verify that the money requested was spent on the appropriate budget items. We also must reiterate that the project is not yet fully funded and therefore please continue to seek inkind donations wherever possible and return unused funds.

On January 15 you will receive the first ½ of the grant. The next 45% will be distributed when the community circles convene in mid February and the final 5% will be awarded upon submission of the final report.

On November 9 a training will be held for the southeastern communities in Rochester at the Government Center - 151 4<sup>th</sup> St. SE from 12 to 2pm. There is a cafeteria in the building and a sub shop across the street. Participants are responsible for picking up their own lunch. Matt Leighninger from the Study Circle Resource Center will talk about the history and the purpose of the study circle concept as well as provide information on how to start a community circle. Janet, Susan and Matt will then be available to answer questions. Please email Susan (susan331@aol.com) with the number of people from Austin that can attend. Anyone who is interested is welcome.

In early February a facilitator training workshop will be held (time and places to be announced). The target date for beginning the Community Circles is February 17. We hope that communities can use a similar time frame. The Saint Paul Pioneer Press will run a corresponding story on the preceding Sunday. Plans are under way for a statewide Kickoff and a state wide action forum is being considered.

If you have not already done so, we suggest that you identify a project coordinator and then begin to form a coalition of interested persons and organizations who will act as sponsors or partners in this process. Janet Gendler and I will be eager to answer questions and help communities begin the process of organizing their community circles. We will have a large packet of information available for each community at the November training sessions.

Sincerely,

Janet Gendler, Project Chair  
612- 920-3567

Susan Anderson, Project Director  
612-331-1117



**THE LEAGUE  
OF WOMEN VOTERS**  
MINNESOTA EDUCATION FUND

550 RICE STREET ST. PAUL, MN 55103 PHONE (651) 224-5445 FAX (651) 290-2145

**PRESIDENT**

Judy Duffy

**ADVISORY BOARD**

Ralph Burnet  
CEO  
Coldwell Banker Burnet

Ned Crosby  
Chair  
Jefferson Center

Isabel Gomez  
Judge  
Hennepin County District Court

Joan Anderson Growe

Joan A. Grzywinski  
President/District Manager  
St. Paul and South Metro Minneapolis  
Norwest Bank Minnesota, N.A.

Roger L. Hale  
Chairman & CEO  
Tennant Company

Jean L. Harris, M.D.  
Mayor  
Eden Prairie

Josie R. Johnson  
Senior Fellow  
College of Education  
University of Minnesota

Steven D. Ladwig  
President  
Data Storage Products & Technologies  
Imation Corporation

Sheila Leatherman  
Executive Vice President  
United HealthCare

Peggy Lucas  
Partner  
Brighton Development Corp.

Laura McCarten  
Director of Community Services  
Northern States Power Company

Vivian Jenkins Nelsen  
President and CEO  
International Institute for  
Interracial Interactions:  
INTER-RACE

James A. Roberts  
Vice President, Corporate Relations  
Minnesota Power

G. Edward Schuh  
Professor  
Hubert H. Humphrey  
Institute of Public Affairs  
University of Minnesota

Laura Waterman Wittstock  
President  
MIGIZI Communications, Inc.

Mark G. Yudof  
President  
University of Minnesota

October 26, 1999

Lynn Theurer  
498 Kerry Court  
Winona, MN 55987-2156

Dear Ms. Theurer,

Thank you for submitting a request for proposal for *Changing Faces, Changing Communities* - a community circle project. We would like to congratulate the Winona League for making a significant contribution to your community.

You have requested \$2,500 for 1 community circle project(s). We have funded you at the level requested. We ask that you turn in all receipts or copies of checks to verify that the money requested was spent on the appropriate budget items. We also must reiterate that the project is not yet fully funded and therefore please continue to seek inkind donations wherever possible and return unused funds.

On January 15 you will receive the first ½ of the grant. The next 45% will be distributed when the community circles convene in mid February and the final 5% will be awarded upon submission of the final report.

On November 9 a training will be held for the southeastern communities in Rochester at the Government Center - 151 4<sup>th</sup> St. SE from 12 to 2pm. There is a cafeteria in the building and a sub shop across the street. Participants are responsible for picking up their own lunch. Matt Leighninger from the Study Circle Resource Center will talk about the history and the purpose of the study circle concept as well as provide information on how to start a community circle. Janet, Susan and Matt will then be available to answer questions. Please email Susan (susan331@aol.com) with the number of people from Winona that can attend. Anyone who is interested is welcome.

In early February a facilitator training workshop will be held (time and places to be announced). The target date for beginning the Community Circles is February 17. We hope that communities can use a similar time frame. The Saint Paul Pioneer Press will run a corresponding story on the preceding Sunday. Plans are under way for a statewide Kickoff and a state wide action forum is being considered.

If you have not already done so, we suggest that you identify a project coordinator and then begin to form a coalition of interested persons and organizations who will act as sponsors or partners in this process. Janet Gendler and I will be eager to answer questions and help communities begin the process of organizing their community circles. We will have a large packet of information available for each community at the November training sessions.

Sincerely,

Janet Gendler, Project Chair  
612- 920-3567

Susan Anderson, Project Director  
612-331-1117



**THE LEAGUE  
OF WOMEN VOTERS**  
MINNESOTA EDUCATION FUND

500 RICE STREET ST. PAUL, MN 55103 PHONE (651) 224-5445 FAX (651) 290-2145

**PRESIDENT**

Judy Duffy

**ADVISORY BOARD**

Ralph Burnet

CEO

Coldwell Banker Burnet

Ned Crosby

Chair

Jefferson Center

Isabel Gomez

Judge

Hennepin County District Court

Joan Anderson Growe

Joan A. Grzywinski

President/District Manager

St. Paul and South Metro Minneapolis

Norwest Bank Minnesota, N.A.

Roger L. Hale

Chairman & CEO

Tennant Company

Jean L. Harris, M.D.

Mayor

Eden Prairie

Josie R. Johnson

Senior Fellow

College of Education

University of Minnesota

Steven D. Ladwig

President

Data Storage Products & Technologies

Imation Corporation

Sheila Leatherman

Executive Vice President

United HealthCare

Peggy Lucas

Partner

Brighton Development Corp.

Laura McCarten

Director of Community Services

Northern States Power Company

Vivian Jenkins Nelsen

President and CEO

International Institute for

Interracial Interactions:

INTER-RACE

James A. Roberts

Vice President, Corporate Relations

Minnesota Power

G. Edward Schuh

Professor

Hubert H. Humphrey

Institute of Public Affairs

University of Minnesota

Laura Waterman Wittstock

President

MIGIZI Communications, Inc.

G. Yudof

President

University of Minnesota

October 26, 1999

Ellen Mork

1013 Borgent Ave

St. Cloud, MN 56303

Dear Ms. Mork

Thank you for submitting a request for proposal for *Changing Faces, Changing Communities* - a community circle project. We would like to congratulate the St. Cloud League for making a significant contribution to your community.

You have requested \$2,700 for 5 community circle projects. We have funded you at the level requested. We ask that you turn in all receipts or copies of checks to verify that the money requested was spent on the appropriate budget items. We also must reiterate that the project is not yet fully funded and therefore please continue to seek inkind donations wherever possible and return unused funds.

On January 15 you will receive the first 1/2 of the grant. The next 45% will be distributed when the community circles convene in mid February and the final 5% will be awarded upon submission of the final report.

On November 10 a training will be held for the central communities in Alexandria at the Bremer bank (720 Broadway Street which is in the center of downtown Alexandria) from 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM. (The parking lot is small, so please park on 8<sup>th</sup> Street. The entrance to the bank is also on 8<sup>th</sup>.) Lunch will be available (approx. \$5.00 each). Matt Leighninger from the Study Circle Resource Center will talk about the history and the purpose of the study circle concept as well as provide information on how to start a community circle. Janet, Susan and Matt will then be available to answer questions. Please email Susan (susan331@aol.com) with the number of people from St. Cloud that can attend. Anyone who is interested is welcome.

In early February a facilitator training workshop will be held (time and places to be announced). The target date for beginning the Community Circles is February 17. We hope that communities can use a similar time frame. The Saint Paul Pioneer Press will run a corresponding story on the preceding Sunday. Plans are under way for a statewide Kickoff and a state wide action forum is being considered.

If you have not already done so, we suggest that you identify a project coordinator and then begin to form a coalition of interested persons and organizations who will act as sponsors or partners in this process. Janet Gendler and I will be eager to answer questions and help communities begin the process of organizing their community circles. We will have a large packet of information available for each community at the November training sessions.

Sincerely,

Janet Gendler, Project Chair

612- 920-3567

Susan Anderson, Project Director

612-331-1117





**THE LEAGUE  
OF WOMEN VOTERS**  
MINNESOTA EDUCATION FUND

550 RICE STREET ST. PAUL, MN 55103 PHONE (651) 224-5445 FAX (651) 290-2145

**PRESIDENT**  
Judy Duffy

**ADVISORY BOARD**

Ralph Burnet  
CEO  
Coldwell Banker Burnet

Ned Crosby  
Chair  
Jefferson Center

Isabel Gomez  
Judge  
Hennepin County District Court

Joan Anderson Growe

Joan A. Grzywinski  
President/District Manager  
St. Paul and South Metro Minneapolis  
Norwest Bank Minnesota, N.A.

Roger L. Hale  
Chairman & CEO  
Tennant Company

Jean L. Harris, M.D.  
Mayor  
Eden Prairie

Josie R. Johnson  
Senior Fellow  
College of Education  
University of Minnesota

Steven D. Ladwig  
President  
Data Storage Products & Technologies  
Imation Corporation

Sheila Leatherman  
Executive Vice President  
United HealthCare

Peggy Lucas  
Partner  
Brighton Development Corp.

Laura McCarten  
Director of Community Services  
Northern States Power Company

Vivian Jenkins Nelsen  
President and CEO  
International Institute for  
Interracial Interactions:  
INTER-RACE

James A. Roberts  
Vice President, Corporate Relations  
Minnesota Power

G. Edward Schuh  
Professor  
Hubert H. Humphrey  
Institute of Public Affairs  
University of Minnesota

Laura Waterman Wittstock  
President  
MIGIZI Communications, Inc.

Mark G. Yudof  
President  
University of Minnesota

October 26, 1999

Gail Hanson  
LWV Minneapolis  
81 S 9<sup>th</sup> St, Suite 335  
Minneapolis, MN 55413

Dear Ms. Hanson,

Thank you for submitting a request for proposal for *Changing Faces, Changing Communities* - a community circle project. We would like to congratulate the Minneapolis League for making a significant contribution to your community.

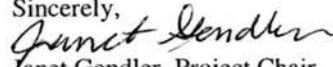
Unfortunately the project is as yet not fully funded. You have requested \$2950 for 3 community circle projects. We will be able to grant the Minneapolis League of Women Voters \$2,500. We ask that you turn in all receipts or copies of checks to verify that the money requested was spent on the appropriate budget items. Because the project is not fully funded, we must ask that you continue to seek inkind donations wherever possible and return unused funds. If we receive additional funding by January 1 we may be able to reconsider our grant amounts.

On January 15 you will receive the first ½ of the grant. The next 45% will be distributed when the community circles convene in mid February and the final 5% will be awarded upon submission of the final report.

On November 9 At 6 p.m. a training will be held for the metro area communities at the State LWV office at 550 Rice St. in Saint Paul. We will be ordering pizza (aprox. \$5.00 per person). Matt Leighninger from the Study Circle Resource Center will talk about the history and the purpose of the study circle concept as well as provide information on how to start a community circle. Janet, Susan and Matt will then be available to answer questions. Please email Susan (susan331@aol.com) with the number of people from Minneapolis that can attend. Anyone who is interested is welcome.

In early February a facilitator training workshop will be held (time and places to be announced). The target date for beginning the Community Circles is February 17. We hope that communities can use a similar time frame. The Saint Paul Pioneer Press will run a corresponding story on the preceding Sunday. Plans are under way for a statewide Kickoff and a state wide Action Forum is being considered.

If you have not already done so, we suggest that you identify a project coordinator and then begin to form a coalition of interested persons and organizations who will act as sponsors or partners in this process. Janet Gendler and I will be eager to answer questions and help communities begin the process of organizing their community circles. We will have a large packet of information available for each community at the November training sessions.

Sincerely,  
  
Janet Gendler, Project Chair  
612- 920-3567

  
Susan Anderson, Project Director  
612-331-1117

**From:** Susan331@aol.com <Susan331@aol.com>  
**To:** lwvmn@mtn.org <lwvmn@mtn.org>  
**Date:** Friday, October 08, 1999 12:00 PM  
**Subject:** Jessica - add to Com. circ data base

---

Jessica - Please add to data base and to St. committee mailing list  
[bar@wilder.org](mailto:bar@wilder.org)  
and Zoe Nagell 11825 45th Ave. N.Plymoth, Mn. 55442 - phone 553-2701 and  
[zswift7@aol.com](mailto:zswift7@aol.com)

Please include in Mondays Steering Committee mailing: The following  
updated Site list; the funding update from Andrea; and the Kickoff  
information we talked about. I will attach the 1.announcement, the 2.  
September summary, 3.and the site list.

Thanks - Susan



TO: Steering Committee and Coalition members,  
Changing Faces, Changing Communities

FROM: Janet Gendler, Chair and Susan Anderson, Project Manager

Date: October 11, 1999

RE: October 18 Steering Committee Meeting

The next steering committee meeting will be held on **Monday, October 18** from 12:00 noon to 2:00 p.m. at the League of Women Voters of Minnesota. The League office is located in the Minnesota Women's Building, 550 Rice Street in St. Paul, just two blocks north of the State Capitol. The meeting will take place in the large conference room on the lower level of the building. If you need more detailed instructions, please call the League office at 651-224-5445.

Since the meeting falls during the lunch hour, you can either bring a lunch or buy a box lunch provided by Café Capitol for \$5.00. To confirm your attendance and to order a box lunch, call Susan Anderson (612-331-1117) or send an e-mail ([susan331@aol.com](mailto:susan331@aol.com)) by Friday October 15.

Enclosed you will find notes from the steering committee meeting on September 13. These notes are not minutes but a summary of major discussion topics and outcomes from this meeting. Please also find the agenda for next Monday's meeting.

**Agenda**  
***Changing Faces, Changing Communities***  
**Steering Committee**

Monday, October 18, 1999  
12:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Minnesota Women's Building  
550 Rice Street, St. Paul

- 1) Funding Update
- 2) Communities Selected
- 3) Report on pilots in Willmar and Austin
- 4) Dates
  - Pilots: Willmar ( begins October 21)
  - Austin (begins shortly after October 25)
  - Kickoff – to be decided
  - Facilitator training – late January or early February
  - Community Circles – February 17 through March 16
  - Action Forum – to be decided
- 5) Kickoff (brainstorming)

**Steering Committee Summary**  
**Changing Faces, Changing Communities**  
**League of Women Voters Education Fund**  
**Monday, September 13, 1999 -- Noon to 2pm**

Attendance: Susan Anderson, Harry Boyte, Gilbert De la O, Judy Duffy, Therese Gales, Janet Gendler, Phill Jeni, Andrea Lex, Maire Mc Mahon, Myrna Nelson, Julie Plaut, Sally Sawyer, Sara Taylor, Seng Yang and Steve Young.

Introductions: Phil Jeni joins us from the Citizens' League and Julie Plaut joins us from Minnesota Campus Compact.

Announcements: Seng Yang passed out information about Neighborhood House and asked for support for the Hmong Veterans' Naturalization Act of 1999 (H.R. 371.IH & S.890.IS). This bill waives the English language requirement with respect to the naturalization of certain aliens (or their spouses or widows) who served with special guerrilla units in Laos.

**Discussion Guide:**

Bob Hulteen of the Minnesota Council of Churches suggested that we delete the phrase "new age" from the subtitle. This phrase would be offensive to some sectors of the religious community

The Discussion guide subtitle will be changed to:

*What does it Mean to be an American in this age of Immigration?*

*Building a new Minnesota with Citizen Involvement*

**Fall Pilot:** Janet Gendler

The communities of Willmar and Austin are now 99% sure that they are ready to participate in a Pilot project in October and November. Austin is looking for a Project Director and Willmar is waiting for final approval from their League chapter. Both communities will start their search for facilitators from their local Extension office. LWVMN will work closely with these communities as they form coalition partners, invite participants and develop the logistics of forming a community circle pilot project.

**Site Selection:** Janet Gendler

Twelve Leagues have either returned their RFP forms or have given verbal assent. There are several additional communities that the Otto Bremer Foundation has suggested as possible Community Circle sites. Mary Ann Gwost Hennen has contacted these communities to see if we might work with their Extension Service.

Site selection is limited by the fact that the project is as yet not fully funded. In order to issue pass through grants to communities we need to have funds in hand.

Site selection Criteria: (items in bold are additions or changes)

1. Demographics – profile of the community
2. Coalition partners

3. Purpose ( **What are their hopes, their largest aspirations for the project? What else is going on in the community – how will this fit in?**)
4. Timeline
5. Organizational plan – (**How are they going to find coalition partners, participants, etc.**)
6. Number of study circles planned
7. Media connections? (**How do you see yourself working with the media**)
8. Facilitators identified?
9. Project manager – experience?
10. Other funding sources
11. Perceived problems

**Evaluation Committee:** Susan Anderson

The steering committee was presented with a draft of the evaluation tool to be used in the fall pilots.

Harry Boyte suggested the facilitators stress the importance of the group summary or evaluation at the end of each session. "Public evaluation is an important community building skill that we want to develop as part of the Community Circles Project"

Janet Gendler suggested that we ask project managers to include a sentence or two about their experiences with finding and using effective translators, child care and transportation.

Gilbert DeLaO suggested that we ask participants for additional comments after the questions about attitude change. It would be helpful to allow people to elaborate on how they might have changed their mind. Julie Plaut seconded the idea.

**Facilitation Committee-** Sara Taylor

At this time the facilitation committee is concerned about recruitment of quality facilitators and the method of training to be used. Finding facilitators that are neutral may involve recruiting from neighboring communities.

Besides the Facilitators Network, Center for Dispute Resolution, Wilder Foundation and the Minnesota Extension Service it was suggested that we call the Jefferson Center, Retired Seniors Volunteer Program, local k-12 schools and the Minnesota Humanities Commission .

We hope to be able to train facilitators for the pilot projects when Wilder trains their facilitators for their fall study circle projects (October 1 and 2)

The job description for facilitators includes:

- Participate in Facilitators training and practice sessions
- Work with co-facilitator
- Be familiar with entire discussion guide
- Moderate the discussion
- Moderate the group before and after each session
- Participate in the evaluation process
- Remain completely neutral during the sessions

Facilitators are not responsible for:

- Location
- Food
- Translators
- Child Care
- Participant recruitment
- Budget

Gilbert DeLayO reported that there are three ways to do translation; 1. Earphones, 2. Individual translators and 3. Group translators. He suggested we check with school systems for earphones

### **Action Committee : Susan Anderson**

Action committee members are needed to:

1. Be responsible for creating the conditions that help participants take action.
2. Be aware of action ideas that surface at community circle meetings.
3. Identify and reach out to organizations already working on similar issues. Ask if they would welcome volunteers and how they would like to receive citizen input.
4. Hold an action forum and support task forces as they move forward
5. Therese Gales, Myrna Nelson and Julie Plaut agreed to be on the Action Committee.

Steve Young and Moire McMahan both felt strongly that it is important to recognize that one of the main outcomes of the project is the discussion or the dialogue. Action items should come from the groups, not be imposed on them.

Sara Taylor suggested that the action committee seek to educate themselves about action initiatives already in place and be a virtual encyclopedia of same.

Next Meeting – Monday, October 18, 1999 – 12 noon to 2pm

---

### **Update**

Both Willmar and Austin will have fall pilots. Willmar will start on October 21 and Austin after their Town Meeting on October 25. Janet and Susan will make site visits in October to help these communities prepare. A facilitator from Willmar and Susan Anderson attended Wilder's facilitator training on October 1&2.

Zoe Nagle from Armstrong High School (Robbinsdale School District) will use our study guide and our assistance to put together a Community Circle program in her school.

Matt Leighninger from SCRC will join us in November for a barnstorming tour of Minnesota communities that want to participate in community circles. Input and resources are being compiled from other Study Circles to assist communities in planning their projects.

The Discussion guide and Evaluation tool are in a final draft form to be used in the Fall Pilots. Discussion Guide and Evaluation Committees should expect to meet after the pilots to discuss revisions to both.

Action Committee will meet in the next few weeks.



***Changing Faces Changing Communities***  
*What It Means to Be an American in This Age of Immigration*  
*And Creating a Better Minnesota with Citizen Involvement*

Development Update  
October 18, 1999

*Funds Received:*

Beim Foundation	\$ 2,000
Elmer L. & Eleanor J. Andersen Foundation	\$ 1,000
Medtronic Foundation	10,000
Otto Bremer Foundation	35,000
Siegel, Brill, Greupner, Duffy & Foster	5,000
ReliaStar	Printing In-kind

*Funds Pending:*

Berglund Foundation	\$ 3,000
Cargill Foundation	10,000
George Hormel Testamentary Trust	5,000
International Dairy Queen	2,500
John S. & James. L. Knight Foundation	10,000
Jostens Foundation	5,000
Margaret H. & James E. Kelly Foundation	5,000
Minneapolis Foundation	7,500
National Car Rental	500
Study Circles Fund	50,000
Wallin Foundation	2,500

## SITE SELECTION ( SITE RECRUITMENT POSSIBILTIES AND PRIORITIES)

Bremer is interested in community circles in Willmar\*, St. Cloud\*, Marshall\*\* , Pelican Rapids\*\*, Detroit lakes\*\*, Moorhead, and Cottonwood

Honeywell is interested in community circles in Minneapolis.

Cargill is interested in community circles in Duluth\*, Mankato\*, St. Peter\*, Wayzata\*, Minnetonka\*, ST. Paul\*, Minneapolis\*, and Monticello (St. Cloud\*)

Local LWV'S are present in those communities marked with an asterisk (\*).  
Communities with individual League members are marked with a double asterisk. ( \*\* ).

## LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS INTEREST IN COMMUNITY CIRCLES

### Committed\*

Edina /Bloomington  
Minneapolis\*  
Austin\*  
St. Paul  
  
Rochester\*  
  
St. Cloud\*  
Minnetonka,\*  
Hopkins,Eden Prarie  
Winona\*  
Mankato\*  
Willmar  
Armstrong High School

### Cosidering

Wayzata  
Moorhead/Fargo  
Marshall  
North Branch  
Detroit lakes/Pelican Rapids  
Freeborn County  
  
Northfield

Asterisk indicates proposal has been sent in.



THE LEAGUE  
OF WOMEN VOTERS  
MINNESOTA EDUCATION FUND

550 RICE STREET ST. PAUL, MN 55103 PHONE (651) 224-5445 FAX (651) 290-2145

**PRESIDENT**

Judy Duffy

**ADVISORY BOARD**

Ralph Burnet  
CEO  
Coldwell Banker Burnet

Ned Crosby  
Chair  
Jefferson Center

Isabel Gomez  
Judge  
Hennepin County District Court

Joan Anderson Growe

Joan A. Grzywinski  
President/District Manager  
St. Paul and South Metro Minneapolis  
Norwest Bank Minnesota, N.A.

Roger L. Hale  
Chairman & CEO  
Tennant Company

Jean L. Harris, M.D.  
Mayor  
Eden Prairie

Josie R. Johnson  
Senior Fellow  
College of Education  
University of Minnesota

Steven D. Ladwig  
President  
Data Storage Products & Technologies  
Imation Corporation

Sheila Leatherman  
Executive Vice President  
United HealthCare

Peggy Lucas  
Partner  
Brighton Development Corp.

Laura McCarten  
Director of Community Services  
Northern States Power Company

Vivian Jenkins Nelsen  
President and CEO  
International Institute for  
Interracial Interactions:  
INTER-RACE

James A. Roberts  
Vice President, Corporate Relations  
Minnesota Power

G. Edward Schuh  
Professor  
Hubert H. Humphrey  
Institute of Public Affairs  
University of Minnesota

Laura Waterman Wittstock  
President  
MIGIZI Communications, Inc.

Mark G. Yudof  
President  
University of Minnesota

TO: Steering Committee and Coalition members,  
Changing Faces, Changing Communities

FROM: Janet Gendler, Chair and Susan Anderson, Project Manager

Date: October 11, 1999

RE: October 18 Steering Committee Meeting

The next steering committee meeting will be held on **Monday, October 18** from 12:00 noon to 2:00 p.m. at the League of Women Voters of Minnesota. The League office is located in the Minnesota Women's Building, 550 Rice Street in St. Paul, just two blocks north of the State Capitol. The meeting will take place in the large conference room on the lower level of the building. If you need more detailed instructions, please call the League office at 651-224-5445.

Since the meeting falls during the lunch hour, you can either bring a lunch or buy a box lunch provided by Café Capitol for \$5.00. To confirm your attendance and to order a box lunch, call Susan Anderson (612-331-1117) or send an e-mail (susan331@aol.com) by Friday October 15.

Enclosed you will find notes from the steering committee meeting on September 13. These notes are not minutes but a summary of major discussion topics and outcomes from this meeting. Please also find the agenda for next Monday's meeting.

**Agenda**  
***Changing Faces, Changing Communities***  
**Steering Committee**

Monday, October 18, 1999  
12:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Minnesota Women's Building  
550 Rice Street, St. Paul

- 1) Funding Update
- 2) Communities Selected
- 3) Report on pilots in Willmar and Austin
- 4) Dates
  - Pilots: Willmar ( begins October 21)
  - Austin (begins shortly after October 25)
  - Kickoff – to be decided
  - Facilitator training – late January or early February
  - Community Circles – February 17 through March 16
  - Action Forum – to be decided
- 5) Kickoff (brainstorming)

**Steering Committee Summary**  
**Changing Faces, Changing Communities**  
**League of Women Voters Education Fund**  
**Monday, September 13, 1999 -- Noon to 2pm**

Attendance: Susan Anderson, Harry Boyte, Gilbert De la O, Judy Duffy, Therese Gales, Janet Gendler, Phill Jeni, Andrea Lex, Maire Mc Mahon, Myrna Nelson, Julie Plaut, Sally Sawyer, Sara Taylor, Seng Yang and Steve Young.

Introductions: Phil Jeni joins us from the Citizens' League and Julie Plaut joins us from Minnesota Campus Compact .

Announcements: Seng Yang passed out information about Neighborhood House and asked for support for the Hmong Veterans' Naturalization Act of 1999 (H.R. 371.IH & S.890.IS). This bill waives the English language requirement with respect to the naturalization of certain aliens (or their spouses or widows) who served with special guerrilla units in Laos.

**Discussion Guide:**

Bob Hulteen of the Minnesota Council of Churches suggested that we delete the phrase "new age" from the subtitle. This phrase would be offensive to some sectors of the religious community

The Discussion guide subtitle will be changed to:

*What does it Mean to be an American in this age of Immigration?*

*Building a new Minnesota with Citizen Involvement*

**Fall Pilot: Janet Gendler**

The communities of Willmar and Austin are now 99% sure that they are ready to participate in a Pilot project in October and November. Austin is looking for a Project Director and Willmar is waiting for final approval from their League chapter. Both communities will start their search for facilitators from their local Extension office. LWVMN will work closely with these communities as they form coalition partners, invite participants and develop the logistics of forming a community circle pilot project.

**Site Selection: Janet Gendler**

Twelve Leagues have either returned their RFP forms or have given verbal assent. There are several additional communities that the Otto Bremer Foundation has suggested as possible Community Circle sites. Mary Ann Gwost Hennen has contacted these communities to see if we might work with their Extension Service.

Site selection is limited by the fact that the project is as yet not fully funded. In order to issue pass through grants to communities we need to have funds in hand.

Site selection Criteria: (items in bold are additions or changes)

1. Demographics – profile of the community
2. Coalition partners

3. Purpose ( What are their hopes, their largest aspirations for the project? What else is going on in the community – how will this fit in?)
4. Timeline
5. Organizational plan – (How are they going to find coalition partners, participants, etc.)
6. Number of study circles planned
7. Media connections? (How do you see yourself working with the media)
8. Facilitators identified?
9. Project manager – experience?
10. Other funding sources
11. Perceived problems

**Evaluation Committee:** Susan Anderson

The steering committee was presented with a draft of the evaluation tool to be used in the fall pilots.

Harry Boyte suggested the facilitators stress the importance of the group summary or evaluation at the end of each session. "Public evaluation is an important community building skill that we want to develop as part of the Community Circles Project"

Janet Gendler suggested that we ask project managers to include a sentence or two about their experiences with finding and using effective translators, child care and transportation.

Gilbert DeLaO suggested that we ask participants for additional comments after the questions about attitude change. It would be helpful to allow people to elaborate on how they might have changed their mind. Julie Plaut seconded the idea.

**Facilitation Committee-** Sara Taylor

At this time the facilitation committee is concerned about recruitment of quality facilitators and the method of training to be used. Finding facilitators that are neutral may involve recruiting from neighboring communities.

Besides the Facilitators Network, Center for Dispute Resolution, Wilder Foundation and the Minnesota Extension Service it was suggested that we call the Jefferson Center, Retired Seniors Volunteer Program, local k-12 schools and the Minnesota Humanities Commission .

We hope to be able to train facilitators for the pilot projects when Wilder trains their facilitators for their fall study circle projects (October 1 and 2)

The job description for facilitators includes:

- Participate in Facilitators training and practice sessions
- Work with co-facilitator
- Be familiar with entire discussion guide
- Moderate the discussion
- Moderate the group before and after each session
- Participate in the evaluation process
- Remain completely neutral during the sessions



Facilitators are not responsible for:

- Location
- Food
- Translators
- Child Care
- Participant recruitment
- Budget

Gilbert DeLayO reported that there are three ways to do translation; 1. Earphones, 2. Individual translators and 3. Group translators. He suggested we check with school systems for earphones

### **Action Committee : Susan Anderson**

Action committee members are needed to:

1. Be responsible for creating the conditions that help participants take action.
2. Be aware of action ideas that surface at community circle meetings.
3. Identify and reach out to organizations already working on similar issues. Ask if they would welcome volunteers and how they would like to receive citizen input.
4. Hold an action forum and support task forces as they move forward
5. Therese Gales, Myrna Nelson and Julie Plaut agreed to be on the Action Committee.

Steve Young and Moire McMahan both felt strongly that it is important to recognize that one of the main outcomes of the project is the discussion or the dialogue. Action items should come from the groups, not be imposed on them.

Sara Taylor suggested that the action committee seek to educate themselves about action initiatives already in place and be a virtual encyclopedia of same.

Next Meeting – Monday, October 18, 1999 – 12 noon to 2pm

---

### **Update**

Both Willmar and Austin will have fall pilots. Willmar will start on October 21 and Austin after their Town Meeting on October 25. Janet and Susan will make site visits in October to help these communities prepare. A facilitator from Willmar and Susan Anderson attended Wilder's facilitator training on October 1&2.

Zoe Nagle from Armstrong High School (Robbinsdale School District) will use our study guide and our assistance to put together a Community Circle program in her school.

Matt Leighninger from SCRC will join us in November for a barnstorming tour of Minnesota communities that want to participate in community circles. Input and resources are being compiled from other Study Circles to assist communities in planning their projects.

The Discussion guide and Evaluation tool are in a final draft form to be used in the Fall Pilots. Discussion Guide and Evaluation Committees should expect to meet after the pilots to discuss revisions to both.

Action Committee will meet in the next few weeks.

## SITE SELECTION ( SITE RECRUITMENT POSSIBILTIES AND PRIORITIES)

Bremer is interested in community circles in Willmar\*, St. Cloud\*, Marshall\*\*, Pelican Rapids\*\*, Detroit lakes\*\*, Moorhead, and Cottonwood

Honeywell is interested in community circles in Minneapolis.

Cargill is interested in community circles in Duluth\*, Mankato\*, St. Peter\*, Wayzata\*, Minnetonka\*, ST. Paul\*, Minneapolis\*, and Monticello (St. Cloud\*)

Local LWV'S are present in those communities marked with an asterisk (\*).  
Communities with individual League members are marked with a double asterisk. ( \*\* ).

## LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS INTEREST IN COMMUNITY CIRCLES

### Committed\*

Edina /Bloomington  
Minneapolis\*  
Austin\*  
St. Paul  
  
Rochester\*  
  
St. Cloud\*  
Minnetonka,\*  
Hopkins,Eden Prarie  
Winona\*  
Mankato\*  
Willmar  
Armstrong High School

### Cosidering

Wayzata  
Moorhead/Fargo  
Marshall  
North Branch  
Detroit lakes/Pelican Rapids  
Freeborn County  
  
Northfield

Asterisk indicates proposal has been sent in.

***Changing Faces Changing Communities***  
*What It Means to Be an American in This Age of Immigration*  
*And Creating a Better Minnesota with Citizen Involvement*

Development Update  
October 18, 1999

*Funds Received:*

Beim Foundation	\$ 2,000
Elmer L. & Eleanor J. Andersen Foundation	\$ 1,000
Medtronic Foundation	10,000
Otto Bremer Foundation	35,000
Siegel, Brill, Greupner, Duffy & Foster	5,000
ReliaStar	Printing In-kind

*Funds Pending:*

Berglund Foundation	\$ 3,000
Cargill Foundation	10,000
George Hormel Testamentary Trust	5,000
International Dairy Queen	2,500
John S. & James L. Knight Foundation	10,000
Jostens Foundation	5,000
Margaret H. & James E. Kelly Foundation	5,000
Minneapolis Foundation	7,500
National Car Rental	500
Study Circles Fund	50,000
Wallin Foundation	2,500

# The Big Bang

## Creating a successful kickoff for your study circle program

The kickoff is one of the periodic large meetings that help to focus and define a community-wide study circle program. It allows you to demonstrate that many different organizations are involved, that high-profile people have 'bought in' to the idea, and that taking part in a study circle will give citizens a real opportunity to effect change on an issue they care about. In short, it gives people the sense that they are part of something larger than themselves.

The kickoff meeting is your first chance to show potential participants that your study circle program is a truly community-wide effort. Study circle organizers sometimes make the mistake of thinking that a study circle is like an amoeba: the first group will automatically create two other study circles, which will create four more, and on and on. It usually doesn't work that way. People come out for study circles in large numbers because they think the program will help the community make meaningful progress on an issue; the kickoff presents the idea that action is possible, that the whole community must be involved, and that a study circle program is the way to do it.

It is important to think of your kickoff as the beginning of something larger, rather than as an end in itself. There are several elements that will make it clear to the community that the effects of the day will be lasting:

1. **High-profile speakers** – Call on people who have high visibility either in the community or nationally. They can speak knowledgeably about the issue, give legitimacy to the idea, and provide inspiration to the community. It is important that these people are able to speak *specifically* about the value of study circles.

2. **An explanation of what study circles are, and how the program works** – Sometimes your featured speaker can do this, but it is also wise to have a member of your steering committee explain the need for study circles, the specifics of how people can participate, and the ways in which the ideas and recommendations that arise in individual groups will be presented to the community. They should also describe how a concluding forum will channel the citizen energy generated by the program.

3. **Testimonials from people who have been involved in study circles** – Invite someone who took part in a pilot study circle to talk about the value of the process. You can also invite a representative from a large-scale study circle program in another community to talk about the impact of the program.

4. **Breakout study circle sessions** – You can give people a feel for study circles by dividing them into groups for a first session. Give Busy Citizen's Guides to the participants so they will be able to see what the subsequent sessions will be like.

5. **Specific ways for people to sign on** – Give people the opportunity to sign up, right there on the spot, to be participants or facilitators.

Always provide food, and always leave some free time for socializing. Contact SCRC for agendas from successful kickoffs.

Be sure to invite the media. Consider radio, television, and print journalists. Send out a press release ahead of time that mentions your speakers, and follow up to see if you can arrange interviews.

Some study circle kickoffs have been ineffective because they didn't establish enough of a connection to the study circles that were to follow. The opening speaker did not mention study circles, there was no explanation of the nuts and bolts of the program, there were no reports from pilots or any other study circles, and the breakout sessions were presented as complete dialogues in themselves rather than demonstrations of what a study circle is like. These kickoffs generated some emotion, but also a fair amount of skepticism, since people know that a problem like crime or racism cannot be solved or even meaningfully addressed in a day.

If you make it clear that your one-day event is the launching of a sustained community dialogue, your kickoff will strike a chord that resounds throughout the duration of the program. By emphasizing the strength and variety of the sponsoring coalition, the support of community leaders, and the potential for action, your kickoff will begin to persuade people that they are part of a community capable of solving its problems.



Date: September 27, 1999  
To: Minnesota Extension Community Leaders  
From: Janet Gendler, Chair  
Re: "Changing Faces, Changing Communities," community circles on immigration sponsored by the League of Women Voters of Minnesota Education Fund

The application deadline for the Community Circles Project has been extended to October 15, 1999. We encourage you to submit your proposals and to also look for money from community sources.

The following memo was sent to League presidents in June:

Are you looking for increased visibility in your community? Do you want to learn about a new tool for addressing an important public policy issue? Are you interested in a new way to add to community life and perhaps to recruit new members in the process? Are you interested in cooperating with other Leagues in your area on an interesting local issue with regional as well as statewide implications?

If so, you're invited to participate in "Changing Faces, Changing Communities," a community circles project on immigration sponsored by the League of Women Voters of Minnesota Education Fund.

Community Circles are a means of small-group deliberation developed in 1990 as a project of the Topsfield Foundation, a nonprofit nonpartisan foundation whose goal is to improve the quality of public life in the United States.

For the Minnesota project, groups of 8 - 12 people representing a cross-section of their communities will meet to discuss immigration and how it affects their community, to get to know one another, to consider different points of view, and suggest solutions for problems. They will use a discussion guide which was developed in cooperation with the SCRC by a committee led by the LWVMN to help focus serious and broad public conversation among a range of voices: conservative and liberal; young, middle-aged, old; new and not-so-new immigrants as well as Native Americans; leaders as well as followers; skeptics and believers.

The LWVMNEF is the lead sponsor of this project in Minnesota. Local government, community organizations, church groups, ethnic groups, and media



organizations serve as members of the steering committee and as coalition partners.

What will the LWVMN provide participating communities? All participating Leagues will receive organizer and facilitator training; assistance in connecting with diverse populations; easy-to-use, tested discussion guides for facilitators and participants; and general on-going support.

In addition, communities may apply for a grant which would help cover the cost of a project coordinator, child care, refreshments, transportation, room rental, translators (if needed), publicity and advertising; office costs; costs for rental of audio/video equipment, or other miscellaneous costs incurred by communities..

If you are interested in participating in this Community Circles project, please return the enclosed application by October 15, 1999. If you have questions, please call project chair Janet Gendler (tel:612-920-3567 ) or project director Susan Anderson (tel:612-331-1117).

Grant Application and Agreement

APPLICATION

Name of community \_\_\_\_\_

Person responsible for this application

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Community/Communities which will be involved in the project \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Amount requested as grant stipend \$ \_\_\_\_\_

(Attach a separate page with a description of the grant request and budget line items.)

If awarded a grant, I, \_\_\_\_\_, fully understand and agree that this money may in no way be used to further any League activities that advance or promote membership programs or advocacy programs or issues.

One half of the grant will be distributed upon approval of the grant application in January 2000. The next 45% will be distributed when the community circles convene in mid-February/early March and the final 5% will be awarded upon submission of the financial report.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Please submit this application no later than October 15, 1999 to: Janet Gendler, Project Chair, "Changing Faces, Changing Communities," LWVMNEF, 550 Rice Street, St. Paul, MN 55103

Please call Janet Gendler, project chair (tel: 612-920-3567) or Susan Anderson, project director (tel: 612-331-1117) with questions or requests for assistance.

## AGREEMENT

### **The local League/grant recipient will:**

designate at least one individual to participate in a training workshop sponsored by the League of Women Voters of Minnesota Education Fund.

organize at least one community circle\* consisting of eight to twelve individuals representing a broad range of people from the community who will meet once a week for five weeks from mid-February to late March 2000. (Community circles must be held by April 2000.)

devote special attention to bringing together as diverse a group as possible, i.e., old immigrants and new, Native Americans (if appropriate in the given community), a variety of religious and political views, old and young, business people, local government officials, unemployed etc.

assist in identifying a facilitator for each community circle organized.

arrange for room rental, refreshments, and childcare, transportation, translators as needed for each community circle.

contact local print and broadcast media to arrange for coverage of the community circles and/or to encourage other news articles or editorials related to the topics to be addressed by the community circle(s)

communicate regularly with the "Changing Faces, Changing Communities" project chair and/or project director.

at the end of the project, submit receipts and invoices and prepare a final report documenting the expenditures included in the grant request.

### **The League of Women Voters of Minnesota Education Fund will provide:**

organizer and facilitator training for each participating community (at a location and time to be determined)

discussion guides for community circle facilitators and participants

assistance in connecting with diverse populations in participating communities

general on-going support and counsel

timely payment of all grant requests

\* Each local organizer is committed to establishing at least one community circle but may form as many as ten circles (or more) depending on the level of interest in the respective community.