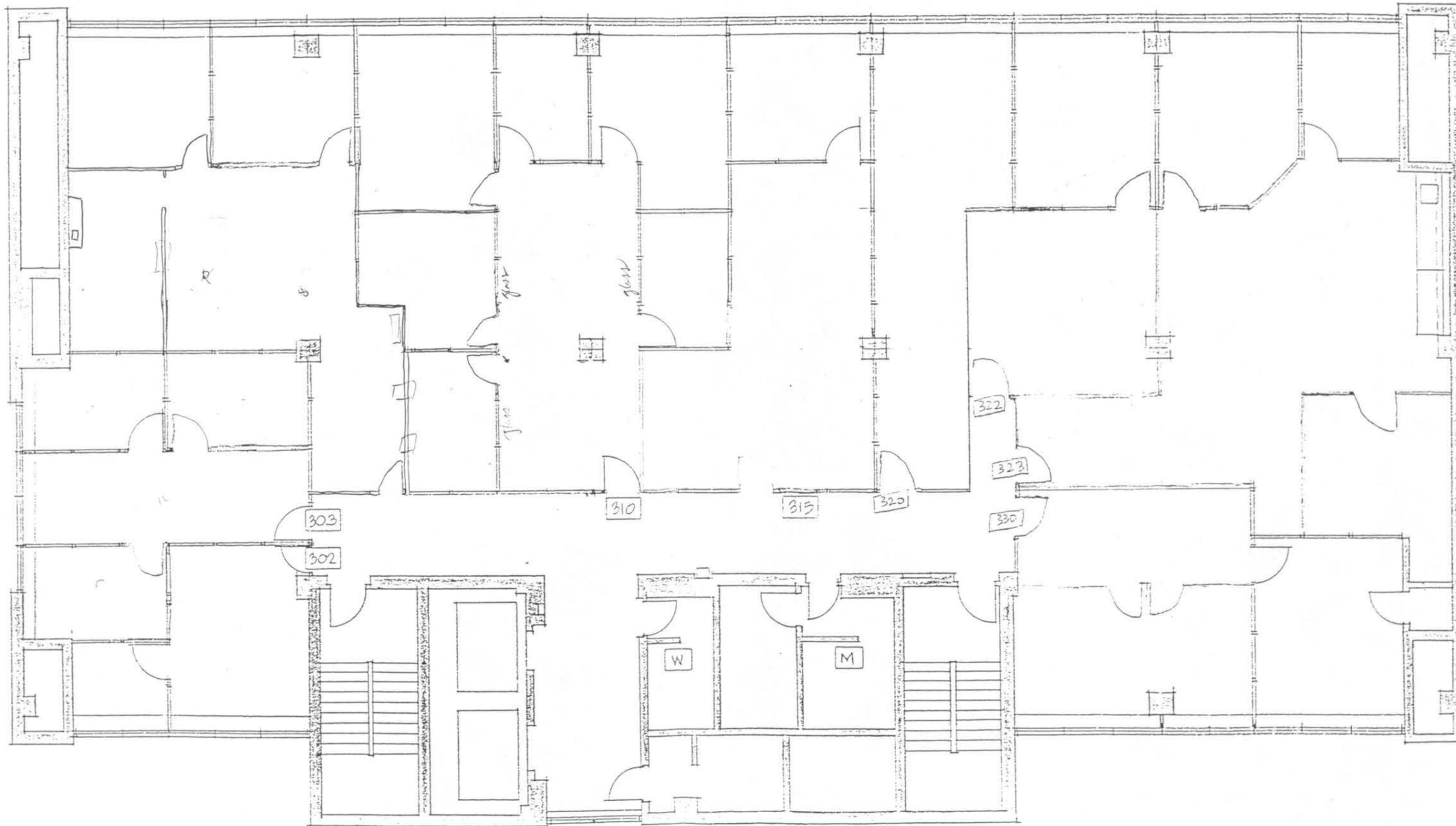




Education and Housing Equity Project Records.

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OFFICE PLAN

PRRAC

Poverty & Race Research Action Council

1711 Connecticut Avenue NW • Suite 207 • Washington, DC 20009 • 202/387-9887 • Fax 202/387-0764 • email: info@prrac.org

May 13, 1999

Dick Little, Exec. Dir.
Educ. & Housing Equity Proj.
Augsburg College
2211 Riverside Ave., CB 185
Minneapolis, MN 55454

Dear Mr. Little:

I enjoyed your Brookings presentation last week and thought I'd let you know about some of our work, via the enclosures. We've recently received a Joyce Foundation grant to do some work on education: giving out some new research-cum-advocacy grants (of the type listed in the green enclosure) relating to education reform, targeted to community- and school-based groups; and beginning our Poverty & Race Information Service, to identify potentially important social science research on education that appears in academic journals and bringing it into the policy and advocacy arena. We also plan to do work around high student turnover and its relationship to housing instability.

If you think there are ways we might collaborate, I would be pleased to hear back from you.

Cordially,


Chester Hartman
Executive Director

President/Executive Director
CHESTER HARTMAN

Chair
JOHN CHARLES BOGER
Univ. of North Carolina Law School
Chapel Hill, NC

Vice Chairs
KATI HAYCOCK
The Education Trust
Washington, DC
JOSÉ PADILLA
California Rural Legal Assistance
San Francisco, CA

Secretary
john powell
University of Minnesota Law School
Minneapolis, MN
Treasurer
PHYLLIS HOLMEN
Georgia Legal Services
Atlanta, GA



April 9, 1997

Mr. Todd Howe
 Director of Scheduling
 The Office of Secretary Cuomo
 U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development
 451 Seventh Street SW
 Washington, DC 20410
 Via facsimile: 202.708.4087

Dear Mr. Howe:

730 SECOND AVE. S.
 SUITE 281
 MINNEAPOLIS, MN
 55402
 PHONE
 612-371-0991

FAX
 612-371-9189

WEB
 www.mnmeeting.com

EMAIL
 info@mnmeeting.com

Attached is a formal letter of invitation for Mr. Cuomo from Vance Opperman to address Minnesota Meeting in May, as well as a seconding letter from Minneapolis Mayor Sharon Sayles Belton. (The original letter was sent to the attention of Jackie Lawing; we now understand you are the best person to have received the letter.) Since issuing the invitation, we and our partners have found it necessary to postpone the Minnesota Meeting a few weeks, until June. Postponing the meeting will allow our partners, the Community Circle Collaborative, to complete hundreds of citizen roundtable discussions around the Twin Cities leading up to the major event with Mr. Cuomo.

We have a new date: **Monday, June 16, 1997**. The format of the program remains the same: Mr. Cuomo will speak to a luncheon attended by 400 to 500 business, government and community leaders, with a two-hour "Citizens Summit" held just before or after the luncheon, which ever works best for the Secretary. George Latimer will facilitate the Summit. The attached letters have all the details.

We truly hope the Secretary will be able to join us for this important discussion. We will follow-up with you by phone to see if our new proposed date works for the Secretary's schedule. In the meantime, don't hesitate to call me with any questions, at 612.371-0991. Thank you.

Cordially,

Jayne Marecek
 Executive Director

cc: Mr. Vance Opperman
 Mr. George Latimer
 Mayor Sharon Sayles Belton
 Mr. Dick Little

Attachments (four pages)



March 17, 1997

The Honorable Andrew Cuomo
 Secretary
 U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development
 451 Seventh Street SW
 Washington, DC 20410
 Attn: Jackie Lawing

Dear Secretary Cuomo:

It is with great pleasure that I write to invite you to address the Minnesota Meeting, the premier public affairs forum in the Upper Midwest, on May 20, 21 or 22, 1997.

730 SECOND AVE. S.

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Our distinguished roster of speakers includes Secretary of Labor Robert Reich, Federal Reserve Chairman Alan Greenspan, Secretary of Treasury Robert Rubin, General Colin Powell, NEA Chairman Jane Alexander, Ambassador Walter Mondale and Senator Bill Bradley.

We are particularly pleased to co-host this program with "The Community Circle Collaborative," a partnership of 20 Twin Cities-based community organizations working on important metropolitan housing and education issues. The Collaborative, under the leadership of Mayor Sharon Sayles Belton and dozens of other public and private sector leaders, is convening a series of conversations among a very diverse pool of citizens from both our central cities and the surrounding suburbs. Those citizens are focusing on the dual challenges of education and housing segregation. The Collaborative will convene a "Citizens Summit" just before or after the Minnesota Meeting luncheon to present action steps for promoting a more integrated housing and education environment metrowide.

Our hope is that you will join many local leaders in participating in that summit. It will give you an excellent opportunity to hear directly from citizens who are working to promote more effective housing and education strategies. The Citizens Summit and the Minnesota Meeting could be held on May 20, 21 or 22, 1997. (The Summit, I understand, could be held in the morning or the afternoon, just before or after the Minnesota Meeting, depending on your schedule.)

The Honorable Andrew Cuomo
March 17, 1997
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On behalf of the Minnesota Meeting Board of Directors and our many members, I hope you will accept our invitation to address the Minnesota Meeting and participate in the Citizens Summit. We will be in contact with your office very soon to discuss this invitation. In the meantime, don't hesitate to call me or Jayne Marecek, Executive Director of the Minnesota Meeting, with any questions. Ms. Marecek's office can also answer any questions about the Citizens Summit. My very best wishes.

Sincerely,



Vance Opperman
President, Key Investment
1996-97 Chair, Minnesota Meeting

cc: Mayor Sharon Sayles Belton
Mr. George Latimer
Ms. Wendy Gruehl, Office of Mr. Cuomo

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
350 South Fifth Street - Room 331
Minneapolis MN 55415-1393

Office (612) 673-2100
Fax (612) 673-2305
TDD (612) 673-2157

Sharon Shyles Belton
Mayor



March 17, 1997

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451 7th St. SW
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ATTN: Jackie Lawing

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Letter to Honorable Andrew Cuomo

March 17, 1997

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Mayor**

SSB:JAIw

**cc: Wendy Gruchl
George Latimer
Vance Opperman**

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cc: Wendy Gruehl
George Latimer
Vance Opperman



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cc: Mr. Vance Opperman
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 Mr. Dick Little

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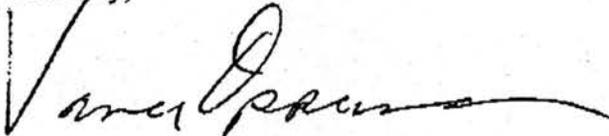
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cc: Mayor Sharon Sayles Belton
Mr. George Latimer
Ms. Wendy Gruehl, Office of Mr. Cuomo

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Sharon Snyles Belton
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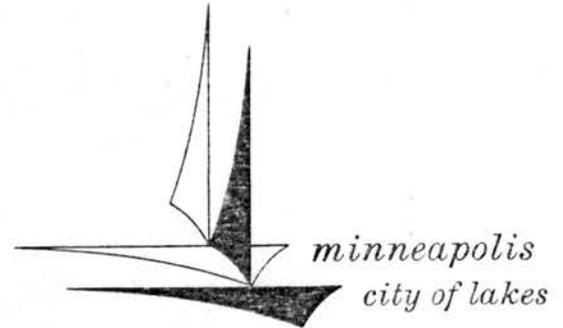
SSB:JA1w

cc: **Wendy Gruchl**
George Latimer
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Sharon Sayles Belton

Mayor

SSB:JAIw

cc: Wendy Gruehl
George Latimer
Vance Opperman

EDUCATION AND HOUSING EQUITY PROJECT

122 West Franklin Avenue, Suite 320

Minneapolis, MN 55404

PH 871-8980

FX 871-8980

Date: March 24, 1997

To: EHEP Board

From: Dick Little, Coordinator

Subject: Draft Discussion Guide

I have just received the draft discussion guide from Syl Jones and am enclosing it for your review. I am not satisfied that this is what we were looking for, however there may be elements of it that could be used in a good discussion guide. Please read it with that possibility in mind. Also, please note the memo from Syl. We need to decide what our next step is. Let's discuss this at Friday's board meeting. In the meantime, please feel free to call or fax me your reactions or suggestions – I am not sitting still on this and would like to take some action even before Friday's meeting.

**COMMUNITY CIRCLE COLLABORATIVE
EDUCATION AND HOUSING EQUITY PROJECT**

122 West Franklin Avenue, Suite 320

Minneapolis, Minnesota 55404

Phone: (612) 871-8980

Fax: (612) 871-8984

February 28, 1997

Mr. George A. Garnett

Vice President, Programs

The Minneapolis Foundation

A200 Foshay Tower

821 Marquette Avenue

Minneapolis, MN 55402

Dear George:

Thanks for the very productive meeting earlier this month. It is a great pleasure to work with funders who are not only supportive of our work but also eager to offer new ideas and to actively help shape projects. You and Paul Williams are both great assets to our work and we thank you.

This letter is to outline the elements of a "Citizens Summit" on creating better schools and affordable housing for every resident of the Twin Cities. The project is designed to bring some closure to the "Community Circles" meetings now, or about to be, underway: to honor the work these dedicated citizens have undertaken, to provide a forum for further exchange of ideas (now in the form of more concrete solutions and next steps) among these diverse citizens, to further build connections among citizens metro-wide to *act*, and, finally to generate attention for those ideas among local and national policy leaders, the media and the public.

As we discussed, our plan is to hold a major public forum featuring a speaker of national stature. The program will be co-hosted by the Community Circle partners and the Minnesota Meeting. I've had a long conversation with George Latimer and he agrees that Andrew Cuomo, the new Secretary of HUD, would be an ideal speaker. Mr. Cuomo has expressed a keen interest in what we are doing – and George thinks we have a good chance at getting Cuomo within our May timeline.

The Citizens Summit with Mr. Cuomo will have two parts:

1) A Citizens Forum with the participants from the Community Circle project. At the forum, participants will present their best ideas for moving from ideas to action on better integrating the metropolitan area. The session will be fully interactive, with the participants having the ability to electronically vote on or rate the various ideas presented. The forum will be moderated by Mr. Latimer and co-facilitated by Jayne Marecek, president of EXPRESS.

In addition to Mr. Cuomo, the forum will be attended by a number of local policy makers/elected officials, from suburban, urban, metropolitan, school, county and state government – all the key officials working on or influencing these issues. The goal of the meeting will be to have these policy makers present to listen to citizens, and to understand the depth of support for their ideas. Our plan is to have 150-200 citizen participants from the study circles join us for the sessions, as well as several dozen policy makers.

2) A Minnesota Meeting address. In conjunction with the forum, the Minnesota Meeting will also host an address by Mr. Cuomo. The larger group of community leaders – largely from business and the professions – will join the 200 or so participants from the morning forum for the Minnesota Meeting, which will likely be held just after the forum. It will be very easy for the forum participants – and the elected officials – to stay on for the luncheon, which will be broadcast live on the stations of Minnesota Public Radio. The Minnesota Meeting will also give Mr. Cuomo an excellent opportunity to relate to this larger audience his understanding of the work that happened that morning. Our target date remains late May.

The cost of the above is \$8,000. That cost will cover complete use of the EXPRESS Communications interactive meeting technology at the forum, and provision of the firm's expertise on meeting design, agenda-setting, media relations, and planning of such events. That amount includes \$1,000 to cover all miscellaneous costs associated with the forum (mailing, copying, etc.) and to purchase lunches for some participants. The Minnesota Meeting will cover all travel and lodging costs for Mr. Cuomo, will provide its staff for making all logistical arrangements and coordinating the large-scale meeting itself, will allow all participants to attend the Minnesota Meeting at the membership rate of \$18 and will provide luncheon scholarships for lunches of some non-profit and low income participants (with the project picking up some, too, on a needs basis).

The Community Circles project will handle all communications with the participants and the elected officials (with professional communications advice and support from EXPRESS, which has handled many similar public policy programs) and will actively recruit diverse participants.

As we stated at the meeting our goal is to bring together a group of diverse people who are all committed to moving ahead on these important issues, to "change how we do business" on these issues (schools, housing and segregation), to quote George Garnett. The group will include diversity by race, gender, income, geographic location and political perspective – and profession. We want new people in this discussion – including business owners and a very good mix of suburban and urban people.

We also desire to provide an evening forum for Community Circle participants, especially for those participants who will not be able to attend the daytime forum coupled with the Minnesota Meeting.

This forum will be moderated by Mr. George Latimer and Ms. Vivian Jenkins Nelsen and will use an interactive process modeled after the public deliberations of the Kettering Foundation's National Issues Forums and the Study Circles Resource Center. It will be held prior to the Minnesota Meeting forum, to enable the fullest possible input into the Citizens Summit. The cost of doing that forum is \$2,000. Accordingly our total request from the Minneapolis Foundation (and its partnering funders) is for \$10,000.

We think it would be ideal to have the project jointly funded by the Minneapolis Foundation and the Saint Paul Foundation (or another major St. Paul-based funder). Please do not hesitate to call me – or any of us – with questions. Thanks, again.

Sincerely,

Dick Little, Coordinator

cc: Paul D. Williams, Project Manager, *Building Better Futures*, The Minneapolis Foundation
 Mike Anderson, Board Member, Education and Housing Equity Project
 Jayne Maracek and Ken Darling, EXPRESS Communications/Minnesota Meeting
 Leonard Witt, Minnesota Public Radio Civic Journalism Project
 George Latimer, Professor of Urban Studies, Macalester College

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The Citizens Summit with Mr. Cuomo will have two parts:

1) A Citizens Forum with the participants from the Community Circle project. At the forum, participants will present their best ideas for moving from ideas to action on better integrating the metropolitan area. The session will be fully interactive, with the participants having the ability to electronically vote on or rate the various ideas presented. The forum will be moderated by Mr. Latimer and co-facilitated by Jayne Marecek, president of EXPRESS.

In addition to Mr. Cuomo, the forum will be attended by a number of local policy makers/elected officials, from suburban, urban, metropolitan, school, county and state government – all the key officials working on or influencing these issues. The goal of the meeting will be to have these policy makers present to listen to citizens, and to understand the depth of support for their ideas. Our plan is to have 150-200 citizen participants from the study circles join us for the sessions, as well as several dozen policy makers.

2) A Minnesota Meeting address. In conjunction with the forum, the Minnesota Meeting will also host an address by Mr. Cuomo. The larger group of community leaders – largely from business and the professions – will join the 200 or so participants from the morning forum for the Minnesota Meeting, which will likely be held just after the forum. It will be very easy for the forum participants – and the elected officials – to stay on for the luncheon, which will be broadcast live on the stations of Minnesota Public Radio. The Minnesota Meeting will also give Mr. Cuomo an excellent opportunity to relate to this larger audience his understanding of the work that happened that morning. Our target date remains late May.

The cost of the above is \$8,000. That cost will cover complete use of the EXPRESS Communications interactive meeting technology at the forum, and provision of the firm's expertise on meeting design, agenda-setting, media relations, and planning of such events. That amount includes \$1,000 to cover all miscellaneous costs associated with the forum (mailing, copying, etc.) and to purchase lunches for some participants. The Minnesota Meeting will cover all travel and lodging costs for Mr. Cuomo, will provide its staff for making all logistical arrangements and coordinating the large-scale meeting itself, will allow all participants to attend the Minnesota Meeting at the membership rate of \$18 and will provide luncheon scholarships for lunches of some non-profit and low income participants (with the project picking up some, too, on a needs basis).

The Community Circles project will handle all communications with the participants and the elected officials (with professional communications advice and support from EXPRESS, which has handled many similar public policy programs) and will actively recruit diverse participants.

As we stated at the meeting our goal is to bring together a group of diverse people who are all committed to moving ahead on these important issues, to "change how we do business" on these issues (schools, housing and segregation), to quote George Garnett. The group will include diversity by race, gender, income, geographic location and political perspective – and profession. We want new people in this discussion – including business owners and a very good mix of suburban and urban people.

We also desire to provide an evening forum for Community Circle participants, especially for those participants who will not be able to attend the daytime forum coupled with the Minnesota Meeting.

This forum will be moderated by Mr. George Latimer and Ms. Vivian Jenkins Nelsen and will use an interactive process modeled after the public deliberations of the Kettering Foundation's National Issues Forums and the Study Circles Resource Center. It will be held prior to the Minnesota Meeting forum, to enable the fullest possible input into the Citizens Summit. The cost of doing that forum is \$2,000. Accordingly our total request from the Minneapolis Foundation (and its partnering funders) is for \$10,000.

We think it would be ideal to have the project jointly funded by the Minneapolis Foundation and the Saint Paul Foundation (or another major St. Paul-based funder). Please do not hesitate to call me – or any of us – with questions. Thanks, again.

Sincerely,

Dick Little, Coordinator

cc: Paul D. Williams, Project Manager, *Building Better Futures*, The Minneapolis Foundation
 Mike Anderson, Board Member, Education and Housing Equity Project
 Jayne Maracek and Ken Darling, EXPRESS Communications/Minnesota Meeting
 Leonard Witt, Minnesota Public Radio Civic Journalism Project
 George Latimer, Professor of Urban Studies, Macalester College

Memorandum

To: Linda Hoskins
CC: Barbara Rose, Dick Little
From: Bob Walz
Date: 08/10/99
Re: Community Circle on Race, Education and Housing (Spring of 1999)

Attached is the list of participants. We began the group with 15. Two never made it to any of the meetings. Average attendance was 7.6 and one session we did not have a facilitator.

It would have been better had we started with 20-25 and ended with 12-15 participants.

We received only 4 evaluations out of 15 sent, even after telephone calls. Of those that responded they rated the experience 5-6, that is, very good to fantastic. During the last session, we asked everyone to evaluate their experience. The number one criticism was that the group was too small and not representative enough of the community. What they liked best were: telling their stories and listening to the stories of others in the group and second, that we had action steps for each session. They like the materials, but felt too much time was used disposing of the alternatives. They also wanted more focus on data from the East Metro.

The group prepared recommendations that were presented to the Public Policy Committee and Board of SPACC. They are attached. All the recommendations were adopted by the Board and have been referred to JRLC.

It was a good experience. Meeting every other week was positive. The group represented was interfaith, but could have used twice as many members. Sara Lagos was an excellent facilitator. The members like to listen to her story, however, I believe should have spent more time facilitating and less talking. All in all, it was a good experience that is worth repeating.

Memorandum

To: Board of Directors
CC: Dick Little, Barb Rose, Rev. Tom Duke
From: Rev. Wade Schemmel
Date: 08/10/99
Re: Recommendations of Public Policy Committee

The recommendations originated as recommendations of the Communities at Work / Education and Housing Equity Project Interfaith Discussion on Race, Schools and Housing

1. Institutional racism is a root cause impacting schools, housing and society. The mission of the Council *is to building life-giving, just and anti-racist community.* It is recommended that Council expand its anti-racism training to member congregations, program affiliates, and the community at-large.
2. To effectively address institutional racism and other systematic issues, communities of faith should exercise its role of moral discernment and leadership. It is recommended that the Council actively support "Renew the Public Church" initiative and strengthen its public policy links to congregations.
3. It is recommended that the Council support public policy initiatives and other efforts that foster inclusive and ethnically diverse communities.
4. Income, technology and education gaps between the rich and the poor are increasing. It is recommended that Saint Paul Area Council of Churches support public policies and tax policies which would narrow those gaps.
5. There is a crisis in affordable housing for low-income households. It is recommended that the Council be an advocate for affordable housing and encourage congregations to become the campaign for affordable housing.

Summary of Discussions:

1. Racism is an underlying cause to metropolitan segregation, in particular, concentration of people of color and poor in the central cities. Action step: attend public hearing on Housing Plan.
2. Few whites under the concept of "white privilege." Action step: attend affordable housing demonstration at State Capitol.

August 10, 1999

3. Increase the supply of affordable housing for low-income households throughout the metropolitan area and provide "mentoring" to low-income households on responsibilities of renting and owning. Action step: attend the Community Dialogue on Facing the Truth in Minnesota, a conversation exploring local issues of race and reconciliation at MSU on April 8 and watch series on KTCA.
4. Strongly opposed to charter schools, school vouchers or creation of metropolitan-wide school district. Support focus on integrated, multi-culturally inclusive schools, if possible "neighborhood" schools, and with greater funding equity between rich and poor school districts. Action Step: Attend the April 22 CIC Conference and April 28 Cities at-work Forum "Stop Talking, Just Do it!" at Arlington High School, 5:00-8:30 PM. Also, attend Rally at City Hall on Affordable Housing on April 28th, Noon.
5. Action Steps. See above. Also, attend next Cities-at-work forum: *Face-to-face, How We Interact, Thursday, May 18, 1999, 5:00 to 8:30 PM at Bandana Square Banquet and Conference Center* (Energy Park Drive and Lexington Avenue). Free and dinner provided. Call 651-642-2088 to register.
6. Attend **Gateways to Justice** forums. Next one: *Immigrant Issues* on Wednesday, June 2, 1999, 5:30 – 7:00 PM at Saint Paul Area Council of Churches, 1671 Summit Avenue. Free and snack provided. Call 651-646-8805x22 to register. Also, in October a joint Gateways to Justice – Cities-at-work forum, Beyond Tolerance, call to action – practical solutions to reducing racism and promoting cultural awareness / diversity.

Community Circle Interfaith Discussion on Housing, Race and Schools

| <i>ID</i> | <i>Last</i> | <i>First</i> | <i>Telephone</i> | <i>E-mail</i> | <i>Work Phone</i> | <i>Fax Phone</i> |
|-----------|-------------|--|------------------------------------|---|-------------------|------------------|
| | | <i>Address</i> | <i>Church or Organization</i> | | | |
| 13 | Barret | Beverly J. 1251 Edgecumbe Road Saint Paul MN | 55105- 55105- 55105- | (651) 698-2526 Holy Spirit Catholic Church | (651) 698-3353 | (651) 698-1605 |
| 5 | Boyle | Marge 2062 Marshall Avenue #32 Saint Paul | 55104- 55104- 55104- | (651) 647-5056 Congregation of Our Lady of Sion | | (651) 647-5056 |
| 2 | Brown-White | Dawn 400 South Robert Street Saint Paul | 55107- 55107- 55107- | dbrownwhite@hotmail.com | (651) 227-8835 | (651) 227-7533 |
| 15 | Fullwood | Carol 2254 William Tell Road Saint Paul MN | 55119- 55119- 55119- | (651) 730-0753 Word of Life Christian Fellowship | (651) 793-8697 | (651) 702-1106 |
| 8 | Fullwood | Nadell 2254 William Tell Road Saint Paul | 55119- 55119- 55119- | (651) 730-0753 Word of Life Christian Fellowship | (651) 793-8697 | (651) 702-1106 |

| <i>ID</i> | <i>Last</i> | <i>First</i> | <i>Telephone</i> | <i>E-mail</i> | <i>Work Phone</i> | <i>Fax Phone</i> |
|----------------|-----------------------|------------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------|-------------------|------------------|
| <i>Address</i> | | | <i>Church or Organization</i> | | | |
| 10 | Goldbarg | Stuart | (651) 290-0799 | | | |
| | 848 Hague Avenue | | Jewish Community Action | | | |
| | Saint Paul | 55104- | | | | |
| 14 | Greenman | Virginia (Ginny) | (651) | | (651) 457-6858 | (651) 646-6866 |
| | 1097 Ivy Hill Drive | | Unity Unitarian | | | |
| | Mendota Heights | 55118- | | | | |
| 1 | Lagos | Sara | (651) 698-5130 | | (612) 342-1500 | |
| | 1889 Lincoln Avenue | | Facilitator | | | |
| | Saint Paul | 55105-1422 | | | | |
| 11 | Lovejoy | Margaret | | | (651) 646-8805 | (651) 646-6866 |
| | 1671 Summit Avenue | | Saint Paul Area Council of Churches | | | |
| | Saint Paul | 55105-1884 | | | | |
| 6 | Murtaugh | Jamie | (651) 265-5713 | | (651) 222-1250 | (651) 265-5730 |
| | 633 University Avenue | | | | | |
| | Saint Paul | 55104- | | jamiem@mtn.org | | |
| 4 | Schemmel | Wade | (651) 227-6481 | | (651) 224-5809 | (651) 224-3244 |
| | 900 Summit Avenue | | Saint Paul United Church of Christ | | | |
| | Saint Paul | 55105- | | wade580@aol.com | | |

| <i>ID</i> | <i>Last</i> | <i>First</i> | <i>Telephone</i> | <i>E-mail</i> | <i>Work Phone</i> | <i>Fax Phone</i> |
|-----------|-------------|---|-------------------------------|--|-------------------|------------------|
| | | <i>Address</i> | <i>Church or Organization</i> | | | |
| 3 | Starling | Libby 227 Montrose Place, Apt 103 Saint Paul MN | 55104- | (651) 644-8895 First Unitarian Societ, MN Dept Economic Security estarring@visi.com | (651) 296-5750 | (651) 282-5429 |
| 12 | Walz | Robert 1671 Summit Avenue St. Paul | 55105-1884 | (651) 674-2587 Saint Paul Area Council of Churches rwalz@pioneerplanet.infi.net | (651) 646-8805 | (651) 646-6866 |
| 7 | West | Warren 1795 Holton Street Falcon Heights | 55113- | (651) 646-2681 Falcon Heights United Church of Christ | (651) 483-3171 | (651) 646-1677 |

**1999 Cities at Work
Community Circle Dialogues**
Evaluation Form

Participant Feedback

This circle dialogue is part of a pilot project. Your thoughtful comments and criticism will be valuable in shaping future community circles. Please take the time to give us your suggestions and ideas.

1. How would you rate your overall experience as a participant in this community circle dialogue:

Terrible Poor O.K. Good Very Good Fantastic
1 2 3 4 5 6

5

2. Please identify one or two things you gained from participating in this community circle.

- ① Personal stories of racism
- ② Opportunities to learn - the connection between racism & urban sprawl & other non-intended consequences

3. What would have made this experience better?

more participants

4. Do you think that your participation in this dialogue will have any effect on your thoughts or actions in the future?

- Yes Please describe: Participate more w anti-racism activities
- No Why not? _____

5. What issues would you suggest community circle dialogues address in the future?

- access to health care
- future of labor unions
- gap between working class & ~~rich~~ median income

1999 Cities at Work
Community Circle Dialogues
Evaluation Form

Participant Feedback

This circle dialogue is part of a pilot project. Your thoughtful comments and criticism will be valuable in shaping future community circles. Please take the time to give us your suggestions and ideas.

1. How would you rate your overall experience as a participant in this community circle dialogue:

Terrible Poor O.K. Good Very Good Fantastic
 1 2 3 4 5 6

2. Please identify one or two things you gained from participating in this community circle.

1990's picture of racism in our community.
Liked personal stories of prejudice.

3. What would have made this experience better?

Hoped more people would have come to add their experiences.

4. Do you think that your participation in this dialogue will have any effect on your thoughts or actions in the future?

Yes Please describe: *Looking more in paper around these issues.*
 No Why not? _____

5. What issues would you suggest community circle dialogues address in the future?

Ecumenical ideas for neighborhood churches.
Continue to discuss some issues we only touched on briefly last time. (Over)

1999 Cities at Work Community Circle Dialogues Evaluation Form

Participant Feedback

This circle dialogue is part of a pilot project. Your thoughtful comments and criticism will be valuable in shaping future community circles. Please take the time to give us your suggestions and ideas.

1. How would you rate your overall experience as a participant in this community circle dialogue:

| | | | | | |
|----------|------|------|------|-----------|-----------|
| Terrible | Poor | O.K. | Good | Very Good | Fantastic |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |

2. Please identify one or two things you gained from participating in this community circle.

Better understanding of St Paul history re racism, poverty, taxes, schools. Understanding of the various school options

3. What would have made this experience better?

A larger & more diverse dialogue group

4. Do you think that your participation in this dialogue will have any effect on your thoughts or actions in the future?

Yes Please describe: Encouragement is important as is support

No Why not? _____

5. What issues would you suggest community circle dialogues address in the future?

Long term items: e.g., urban sprawl, "cure" for segregated residential districts; meet with city, county & state leaders on issues; better understanding of met council

1999 Cities at Work Community Circle Dialogues

Evaluation Form

Participant Feedback

This circle dialogue is part of a pilot project. Your thoughtful comments and criticism will be valuable in shaping future community circles. Please take the time to give us your suggestions and ideas.

1. How would you rate your overall experience as a participant in this community circle dialogue:

Terrible 1 Poor 2 O.K. 3 Good 4 Very Good 5 Fantastic 6

2. Please identify one or two things you gained from participating in this community circle.

better understanding of race

3. What would have made this experience better?

more focused discussion on one of the issues

4. Do you think that your participation in this dialogue will have any effect on your thoughts or actions in the future?

Yes Please describe: I now know what I can do about racism

No Why not? _____

5. What issues would you suggest community circle dialogues address in the future?

Transgender issues

Public support of stadium vs. social services

Community Circle Report Form

Session #1: Getting Started

Sponsoring Organization: SPACC Date: 3/1/99

Meeting Location: 1671 Summit Ave Number of Participants: 10

Facilitator: Sara Lagos Scribe: Boa Walz

Please describe two or three main themes or ideas about experiences with racism or segregation which your group discussed today: (1-2 sentences each)

1. Grew up in St. Paul, but didn't encounter African-Americans until in their 20's.

2. Violence & racism left them very angry. It was when they accepted Christ into their lives, they were able to let go of their anger.

3. African-Americans in group experienced institutional racism, e.g. directing them to vocational programs, rather than college & professional programs

4. Please use this space to note action ideas, if any, that were mentioned in today's discussion:

Attend Public Meeting on Monday, March 8 at Metro State University on housing plan of St Paul.

Community Circle Report Form

Session #2: What are the reasons for segregation in the Twin Cities?

Sponsoring Organization: SPACC Date: 3/15/99

Meeting Location: 1671 Summit Ave Number of Participants: 9

Facilitator: Sara Lager Scribe: Bob Walz

Please describe two or three main themes or ideas about the reasons for segregation in the Twin Cities that your group discussed today: (1-2 sentences each)

Viewpoint 1
1. Racial prejudice and discrimination does cause people to live apart. However, immigrants want to live together to provide mutual support and provide critical mass to provide cultural specific programs and opportunities

Viewpoint 2
2. Some families do move to get away from crime and poor schools. Not universal, some inner-city schools among the best, Central High School. Often the perception of crime and school quality exceeds actual situation

Viewpoint 3
3. Institutional racism very prevalent. Few understand "white privilege." This is the invisible racism that is most difficult to get a handle on

Viewpoint 4
4. Please use this space to note action ideas, if any, that were mentioned in today's discussion: more about urban sprawl; segregation is an unintended by-product

March 25 Demonstration re Affordable Housing at Capitol Rotunde

Community Circle Report Form

Session #3: How can we address the housing challenges in the Twin Cities?

Sponsoring Organization: SPACC Date: 3/29/99

Meeting Location: SPACC Number of Participants: 7

Facilitator: Sarah Lajos Scribe: Bob Walz

Please describe two or three main themes or ideas about the housing challenges we face in the Twin Cities that your group discussed today: (1-2 sentences each)

SLMB
CWB

1. ① enforce anti-discrimination law - problems real often difficult to prove, tight housing market gives landlords unfair power, does help if can't afford housing (income differences create segregation)
 2. ② limit metropolitan growth .. don't subsidize urban sprawl, however, limiting metro growth will reduce vacancy rates even more - encouraging upper income families to move into older houses will force out low-income residents
 3. ③ allow the mother-in-law apartments, accessory apts. property-tax reform, critical to increase supply of affordable housing; rent controls
④ cooperative part of the evolution w/coop. child care ⑤ mentoring
⑥ equalize taxes, change tax system so equal cost of service is spread equally over all housing or on ability to pay
 4. ⑦ key is to eliminate red tape - most impact - #3 is the most effective soln. personal experience limited available
4. Please use this space to note action ideas, if any, that were mentioned in today's discussion:

Community Circle Report Form

Session #4: What can we do about the achievement gap in our public schools?

Sponsoring Organization: SPACC Date: 4/12/99

Meeting Location: 1671 Summit Ave Number of Participants: 5

Facilitator: none Scribe: Bob Waj

Please describe two or three main themes or ideas about the achievement gap in our schools that your group discussed today: (1-2 sentences each)

1. Opt. #1 Concern that magnet schools do not directly address the issue of racism, discrimination & multi-culturalism

2. Opt #2 - opposed - district too remote from city & maybe unresponsive to needs of minority children

3. Opt #3 very opposed - may undermine public schools & used for wrong reasons & indirectly or unintentionally promote racism

Opt #4 like if goals are stated & rewarded. Support integrated, multicultural & inclusive schools, where funding is based on needs is

4. Please use this space to note action ideas, if any, that were mentioned in today's discussion: well as pay for

Opt. 5 agree, but doesn't address racism or integration

Opt 6 oppose - could lead to more cultural & racial isolation

Opt. 7 support but not a regional level and serious funding issues need to be addressed

Opt. 8 Long-term goal - need more immediate action
next City at Work Program

Community Circle Report Form

Session # 5: Making a Difference

Sponsoring Organization: SPACE Date: 3/4/26/99

Meeting Location: 1671 Summit Ave Number of Participants: 7

Facilitator: Sara Logas Scribe: Bob Way

While there may not be consensus within your group about how to best address some of the challenges discussed, there may be ideas or solutions which have emerged over the last few weeks and are supported by most participants.

1. What are two or three of the most powerful steps *individuals* can take to make a difference?

- ① vote
- ② speak out
- ③ apply economic pressure
- ④ join others

2. What are two or three of the most powerful steps *groups or organizations* can take to make a difference?

- ① Educate public
- ② Speak out at hearings
- ③ Hold public officials accountable
- ④ Build/rehab affordable housing, work for more equitable funding & address institutional racism

(over)

(see attached recommendations to Board)

OTTO BREMER FOUNDATION

Suite 2000, 445 Minnesota Street, St. Paul, MN 55101-2107 - (651) 227-8036 - (888) 291-1123 - Fax (651) 312-3550 - email: obf@bremer.com

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July 2, 1999

Mr. Dick Little
Education Housing And Equity Project
Augsburg College, CB 185
2211 Riverside Avenue
Minneapolis, MN 55454

Dear Mr. Little:

At the most recent meeting of the Trustees of the Otto Bremer Foundation, consideration was given to the request from the Education Housing And Equity Project for funding to expand public understanding and informed action on community, residential, economic, and racial segregation. This is to advise that the Trustees have approved a grant in the amount of \$25,000 over two years to be used toward this project. Payments will be made of \$15,000 in 1999 and \$10,000 in 2000.

The Trustees request that the accompanying Donee Agreement be signed by the appropriate administrative officer indicating acceptance of the grant and the conditions stipulated therein. Please retain one copy for your file and return one to our office. The first payment will be scheduled after we have received a copy of the signed donee agreement.

Both Trustees and staff of the Foundation are pleased that the Foundation can participate in the support of this program.

Sincerely,

OTTO BREMER FOUNDATION



Karen Starr
Senior Program Officer
KS/lm
Encl.

Otto Bremer Foundation

Agreement of Donee

- DONEE COPY -

As a condition of a total grant of \$ 25,000 (over 2 years) from the Otto Bremer Foundation

to Education ^{and} Housing ~~And~~ Equity Project

to expand public understanding and informed action on community, residential, economic, and racial
segregation and educational inequality

the grantee agrees:

1. To use the funds only for the designated purposes and not to use the funds to directly influence legislation where prohibited by law.
2. That the total amount of this grant, or any payment thereof, may be discontinued, modified, or withheld at any time when in the sole judgment of the Otto Bremer Foundation, such action is necessary to comply with requirements of the law or if the original conditions of the grant are not being fulfilled.
3. To repay any portion of the grant which is not used for the designated purpose.
4. To comply with the evaluation requirements of the Otto Bremer Foundation by responding to the requests for progress reports.
5. To submit, within 30 days of the end of the grant period, a detailed report describing the activities carried on under the grant. This should include a complete report of expenditures made with grant funds.
6. To permit the Otto Bremer Foundation, at its request to have complete access to the grantee's files and records for the purpose of making such financial audits and verifications as it deems necessary concerning the grant.
7. To take all necessary measures to assure access of any interested party to activities supported by grant funds and to not discriminate on the basis of race, color, creed, gender, religion, age, disability, sexual orientation, marital status, or national origin.

The signature below indicates the acceptance of the conditions stipulated above.

EDUCATION AND Housing EQUITY PROJECT

(Name of Grantee)

By Richard C. Little

Date JULY 8, 1999

Title EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

The St. Paul Companies, Inc. Foundation

385 Washington Street St. Paul, Minnesota 55102 651.310.7875

June 22, 1999

Richard C. Little
Executive Director
The Education and Housing Equity Project
2211 Riverside Avenue, CB185
Minneapolis, MN 55454

Dear Mr. Little:

We recently received your request for \$25,000 to support The Education and Housing Equity Project. We anticipate considering your proposal, with notification of the decision by September 15, 1999.

Although Ron McKinley is your primary contact here at The St. Paul Companies, Inc. Foundation, **Jean Sasevich** will be reviewing your request and will be contacting you shortly to discuss your proposal.

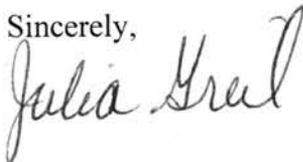
While we are reviewing your proposal, we need some additional information. Listed below are the items we haven't received from you (or your fiscal agent).

- 501(c)(3) tax-exempt status letter from the IRS (sample enclosed)
- Evidence of Registration from the State Attorney General's Office (sample enclosed)
- Organization budget
- CPA audit or financial statement
- List of Board of Directors
- Board of Directors' Approval

Should you receive a grant, the check **cannot be released** until we receive the items listed above.

If our records are incorrect or if you have any questions, please call me at (651) 310-6841.

Sincerely,



Julia Greil
Community Affairs
Program Assistant

cc: Jean Sasevich

TRUSTEES Douglas W. Leatherdale, Chairman ■ Karen L. Himle, Vice Chairman ■ Mary E. Pickard, President and Executive Director

OFFICERS Douglas W. Leatherdale, Chairman ■ Karen L. Himle, Vice Chairman ■ Mary E. Pickard, President and Executive Director ■ Ronald A. McKinley, Vice President
■ Paul J. Liska, Treasurer ■ Debra Luther, Corporate Secretary ■ Ward C. Schendel, Assistant Corporate Secretary ■ Kurt Schwartzkopf, Assistant Corporate Secretary

proposal number: 99-381

August 30, 1999

Richard C. Little
Executive Director
The Education and Housing Equity Project
2211 Riverside Avenue, CB185
Minneapolis, MN 55454

Dear Mr. Little:

This letter is a reminder that a progress report for a grant given to The Education and Housing Equity Project for operating support is due September 8, 1999.

Please provide us with the following information in a format appropriate to your needs:

- Description of how the funds have been used for the grant purpose and results (**two pages or less.**)
- Budget which shows expenditures of the grant (**one page.**)
- If grant was for operating support, an **annual report** will suffice as a progress report.
- Grant number (**located at the bottom of this letter.**)

If you are the recipient of a multi-year grant, or if you expect a decision on a grant this September, checks cannot be released until we receive a progress report from the previous year.

Please address your report to Ronald A. McKinley, Manager, Charitable Contributions.

If our records are incorrect and you have already submitted a progress report, or if you have any questions regarding this request, please give me a call at 651-310-7875.

Beth / 310-4958

Sincerely,



Deb L. Anderson
Community Affairs Administrator

grant number 98-313



Board of Directors

Barbara Bearman
*DFL Education Foundation,
Minneapolis Branch NAACP*

Keith Hardy
SuperValu, Inc.

JoAnn Heryla
Minneapolis Public Schools

Jim Hilbert
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Dr. Josie R. Johnson
*Education and Human Ecology,
University of Minnesota*

Matthew Little
Minneapolis Branch NAACP

Hope Melton
Minneapolis Center for Neighborhoods

Dr. Van Mueller
*Educational Policy and Administration,
University of Minnesota*

Rep. Myron Orfield
Minnesota House of Representatives

Thomas Ross
Minneapolis Urban League

Joy Sorensen Navarre
*Metropolitan Interfaith Council
on Affordable Housing*

Dr. John Powell
Institute on Race and Poverty

Dr. Luz Maria Serrano
St. Paul Public Schools

Jerry Timian
*St. Paul United Way;
St. Louis Park School Board*

Dr. Cris Toffolo
*Political Science,
University of St. Thomas*

Gloria Winans
*Eden Prairie Human Rights
and Diversity Commission*

Dick Little, AICP
Executive Director

Amy Rodquist
Community Circles Coordinator

Augsburg College, CB 185
2211 Riverside Avenue
Minneapolis, MN 55454
P: 612-330-1505
F: 612-330-1507
E: eh@augsborg.edu

January 4, 1998

Dear Mayor:

We are writing to ask you to join with us in an exercise in democracy.

The enclosed brochure explains this activity sponsored by the Education and Housing Equity Project and its partners in the Community Circle Collaborative.

You are being asked to commit a specific amount of time as a participant in a Community Circle as a citizen who happens to be a political leader. We are suggesting that you become an equal partner with other citizens in an urgent conversation about race, segregation, and the intersection of housing and public education. As equal partners, you and other citizens (who may or may not be your immediate constituents) will be struggling with the most difficult issues facing our metropolitan area.

No one person has the answers to issues so emotionally charged and so challenging to our sense of social justice. The Community Circle gives us a chance to face these issues, which are at times, seemingly impossible to talk about.

Each circle will have a facilitator. Conversation will be informed by the discussion guide, "Choices For Community" which is enclosed for your perusal. Participation will be a learning experience for all and a chance to mutually consider recommendations for action.

The fact that you are a political leader has a special significance. Many people are losing faith in elected leaders. The policy decisions you make affect people's lives. The quality of leadership that you bring to your task influences the principles upon which your community operates, and whether your constituents have cause to have faith in the political process. How you inform your responsibilities must be of concern to you.

Participating in a Community Circle will be of benefit to you as you go forward with your civic work.

Please let us know what you think about joining us. Thank you for your consideration.

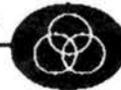
Sincerely,

Richard C. Little
Executive Director

NRP

Building Community by Building Partnerships

MINNEAPOLIS
NEIGHBORHOOD
REVITALIZATION
PROGRAM



October 15, 1998

Dear Friends,

I would like to invite you to lend your voice to historic talks that begin next week throughout Minneapolis. The topic is education, housing and segregation and how these factors impact all of us.

Participants agree to attend 5 two hour meetings of a Community Circle Conversation. The Circles draw participants from as many parts of the community as possible to exchange information face-to-face, share personal stories and experiences, honestly express perspectives, clarify viewpoints, and develop solutions to community concerns.

Unlike debate, Community Circle dialogue emphasizes listening to deepen understanding. It invites discovery. It develops common values and allows participants to express their own interests. It expects that participants will grow in understanding and may decide to act together with common goals. In dialogue, participants can question and reevaluate their assumptions, and learn to work together.

Enclosed is a registration form with locations, dates and times, and contact people. You can register for the Community Circle location that fits your schedule. Also enclosed is a copy of a December 1996 Star Tribune editorial on the Community Circle project.

The program is being cosponsored by a coalition of organizations including the Education and Housing Equity Project, Minneapolis Urban League, Neighborhood Revitalization Program (NRP), Minneapolis Public Schools, and the Minneapolis Library Board.

Please consider lending your voice.

Sincerely,

Robert D. Miller
Director

NRP

Building Community by Building Partnerships

MINNEAPOLIS
NEIGHBORHOOD
REVITALIZATION
PROGRAM



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Please consider lending your voice.

Sincerely,


Robert D. Miller
Director

MINNEAPOLIS
NEIGHBORHOOD
REVITALIZATION
PROGRAM



NRP

Building Community by Building Partnerships

FAX TRANSMISSION

PAGES INCLUDING COVER 2

DATE: 8/25

TO: Pam

FAX: 330-1507

PHONE: CARSTEN

FROM: 673-5150

NOTES:

Found it!
☺



Board of Directors

Barbara Beerman
*DFE Education Foundation,
Minneapolis Branch NAACP*

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JoAnn Heryla
Minneapolis Public Schools

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University of Minnesota*

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Minneapolis Branch NAACP

Hopie Melton
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*Educational Policy and Administration,
University of Minnesota*

Rep. Myron Orfield
Minnesota House of Representatives

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Minneapolis Urban League

Joy Sorensen Nevaris
*Metropolitan Interfaith Council
on Affordable Housing*

Dr. John Powell
Institute on Race and Poverty

Dr. Luz Maria Serrano
St. Paul Public Schools

Jerry Timmon
*St. Paul United Way,
St. Louis Park School Board*

Dr. Cris Taffels
*Political Science,
University of St. Thomas*

Gloria Winans
*Eden Prairie Human Rights
and Diversity Commission*

Dick Utile, AKP
Executive Director

Amy Rodquist
Community Circles Coordinator

Augsburg College, CB 185
2211 Riverside Avenue
Minneapolis, MN 55454
P: 612-330-1505
F: 612-330-1507
E: ehlep@augsb.org

11/12/98

MINNESOTA FAIR HOUSING CENTER

Attn: John R. Ritter
402 West Lake Street
Minneapolis, MN 55404

Dear John,

The Twin Cities metropolitan region is at a crossroads. Issues of affordable housing, community stability, educational achievement and race relations make up the news and affect our lives. The problems facing our communities can continue to present us with historic opportunities to forge a new path in civic cooperation and problem-solving.

To forge a new path requires our coming together, to "struggle" together over what should and should not be done about these issues facing the character and quality of our region. Together we will inform ourselves and talk with one another in community circles, contribute to public policy making for our communities, and hopefully move ourselves and our communities to responsible, positive civic action.

To forge a new path requires our coming together, to "struggle" together over what should and should not be done about these issues facing the character and quality of our region. Together we will inform ourselves and talk with one another in community circles, contribute to public policy making for our communities, and hopefully move ourselves and our communities to responsible, positive civic action.

Sincerely,

Dick Little

NRP

105 Fifth Ave. South #425,

Minneapolis, MN 55401

FAX

Date: 09/22/97

Number of pages including cover sheet: 2

To:

Dick Little

Community Circle Collaborative
/ Education and Housing Equity
Project

Phone:

Fax phone: 871-8984

CC:

From:

John Akre

Phone: 673-5145

Fax phone: 673-5138

REMARKS:

Urgent

For your review

Reply ASAP

Please comment

Dick,
Following is the revised version of the in-kind contribution letter,
John



The SMART Group™

Strategically Managed Audience Response Technology

Meeting Design • Facilitation

*cc: Dick Little, McCAM
Dick - FYI.
Where are we on
SPF? This is
going to happen!
Weis got to miss
Now on
funding!*

MEMORANDUM

DATE: May 9, 1997
TO: Allan Johnson, fax: 381.1587
FROM: Ken Darling
RE: Cuomo
PAGES: Six (with this cover)

Allan, I wanted to talk to Latimer before getting back to you. Lat left a message for Todd Howe, Cuomo's deputy secretary, saying we really needed to hear that our Minnesota Meeting Citizens Summit program was under consideration. Today, Sue Han, a junior person in the scheduling office called to say that yes, indeed, it was. She wanted to know our cut off date for getting a firm answer. I said we need four weeks. Lat has some sway with these folks but they are all new and were not there when he was.

Two key players:

Todd Howe, Cuomo's deputy, not his scheduler. (We got it wrong on the letter; when it was written they hadn't made assignments yet.) Has gotten a voice mail from Latimer and understands importance of the event.

Jackie Dycke, chief scheduler. (Pronounced Dyke, like a butch woman). Has not been contacted yet. Sue Han, who called us, is in her office.

Tel number: 202.708.0417.

I think a call from you to both these people would be useful. Mention that Vance and Latimer and Sharon Sayles Belton are working together to make this happen - and that all three (especially Vance) think the event would be a great opportunity for Cuomo to present the Administrations agenda to some real movers and shakers in the Twin Cities. The sooner we can confirm, the better the audience will be in terms of quality and size. There is some good language on p. 2 of Vance's letter.

The date of the event is Monday, June 16, not May. That is the only day that works for Latimer

*Allan J. 85
Vance's right
hand man.*

Memorandum

DATE: June 6, 1997

TO: Dick Little and the Community Circle Collaborative (CCC)

FROM: Matt Leighninger, Program Director, SCRC

RE: Summary of SCRC services to CCC

Congratulations again on a fine forum – I look forward to working with you further as the program moves toward the conclusion of the first round and you begin helping study circle participants move from discussion to action.

You asked for a summary of SCRC's in-kind assistance to the Collaborative:

| Areas of assistance | Estimated cost |
|---|----------------|
| free materials <i>(organizing materials, sample discussion guides, videos, articles)</i> | \$400 |
| editing assistance <i>(comments on drafts of funding proposal and Choices for Community)</i> | \$450 |
| writing <i>(action session for Choices, flyer for MN study circle contacts)</i> | \$300 |
| organizing consultation <i>(advice given by telephone)</i> | \$300 |
| McCoy visit to the Twin Cities <i>(May 1997 – including airfare and hotel)</i> | \$2,500 |
| Total since June 1996 | \$3,950 |

I used an estimate of \$75/hour for my time, and \$150/hour for Martha's time. I also visited the Twin Cities for a MIAR conference in October of 1995 (estimated cost: \$1,500), but I'm guessing that would be outside the time frame you are looking for.

Minnesota Minority Education Partnership, Inc.
Memorandum

Date: July 10, 1997
To: Dick Little
From: Bruce Vandal, Program Director *BV*
Subject: MMEP contribution to the Study Circle Collaborative

It has been my pleasure to represent MMEP and work with the Education and Housing Equity Project and the many other community organizations that make up the Community Circle Collaborative. MMEP is proud to have played such a significant role in the efforts to build a community wide dialogue about the issues of housing and education segregation.

As you requested, I am including an estimated breakdown of time that has been dedicated to this project over the past year. Please feel free to contact me if there are any questions.

| Dates | Activities | Hours |
|---------------------------------|---|------------------|
| January - March 1996 | Organizing and development of the community circle project. | 30 hours |
| March - April 1996 | Draft of Community Circle Collaborative Proposal | 35 hours |
| May - December 1996 | Organizing and coordinating the project | 60 hours |
| November, 1996 - February, 1997 | Coordinating and implementing facilitator training | 80 hours |
| March - May | Project Support | 15 hours |
| TOTAL HOURS | | 220 hours |

220 hours X \$17.60\hour for staff time = \$3872.00

Thank you for your cooperation.

BV



Memo

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Vice-President
Mary Anderson
Secretary
Jane Vanderpoel
Treasurer
Sally Evert

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Administrative Staff
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Gayle Ruther
Editor
Minnesota Journal
Dana Schroeder

June 17, 1997

To: Dick Little *Ron*
From: Ron Wirtz
Re: Description of work provided for Community Circles

Dick, here is a revised copy. Again, call me if you need any modifications or format revisions of this brief description.

Activity description:

Ron Wirtz is a Research Associate at Citizens League, a non-partisan public policy research organization, who provided free/in-kind service on several occasions regarding the content and topical focus of, and participation in, the Community Circles Collaborative.

Mr. Wirtz was consulted mostly for the drafting and re-drafting of the discussion guide. Specifically, Mr. Wirtz spent approximately 12-15 hours editing and revising rough drafts of the discussion guide, providing additional comments and factual information that would help clarify and bolster issues and arguments in the document.

Mr. Wirtz also wrote an article for the March Matters (Citizens League's monthly newsletter) about Community Circles in order to spread attention of the project to Citizens League members. This effort netted a handful of new participants to Community Circles. Finally, Mr. Wirtz wrote a letter to the leaders of all Community Circle groups encouraging them to attend a Citizens League policy forum on "Closing the Education Gap." This was done to provide circle group members with additional knowledge and information on some of the controversial and complex issues they were dealing with in their study circles.

Visit the League's Web site at <http://freenet.msp.mn.us/ip/pol/citizen>

The Citizens League promotes the public interest in Minnesota by involving citizens in identifying and framing critical public policy choices, forging recommendations and advocating their adoption.



February 26, 1998

Dick Little
Executive Director
Community Circle Collaborative
Education and Housing Equity Project
122 West Franklin Ave. Suite 310
Minneapolis, MN 55404

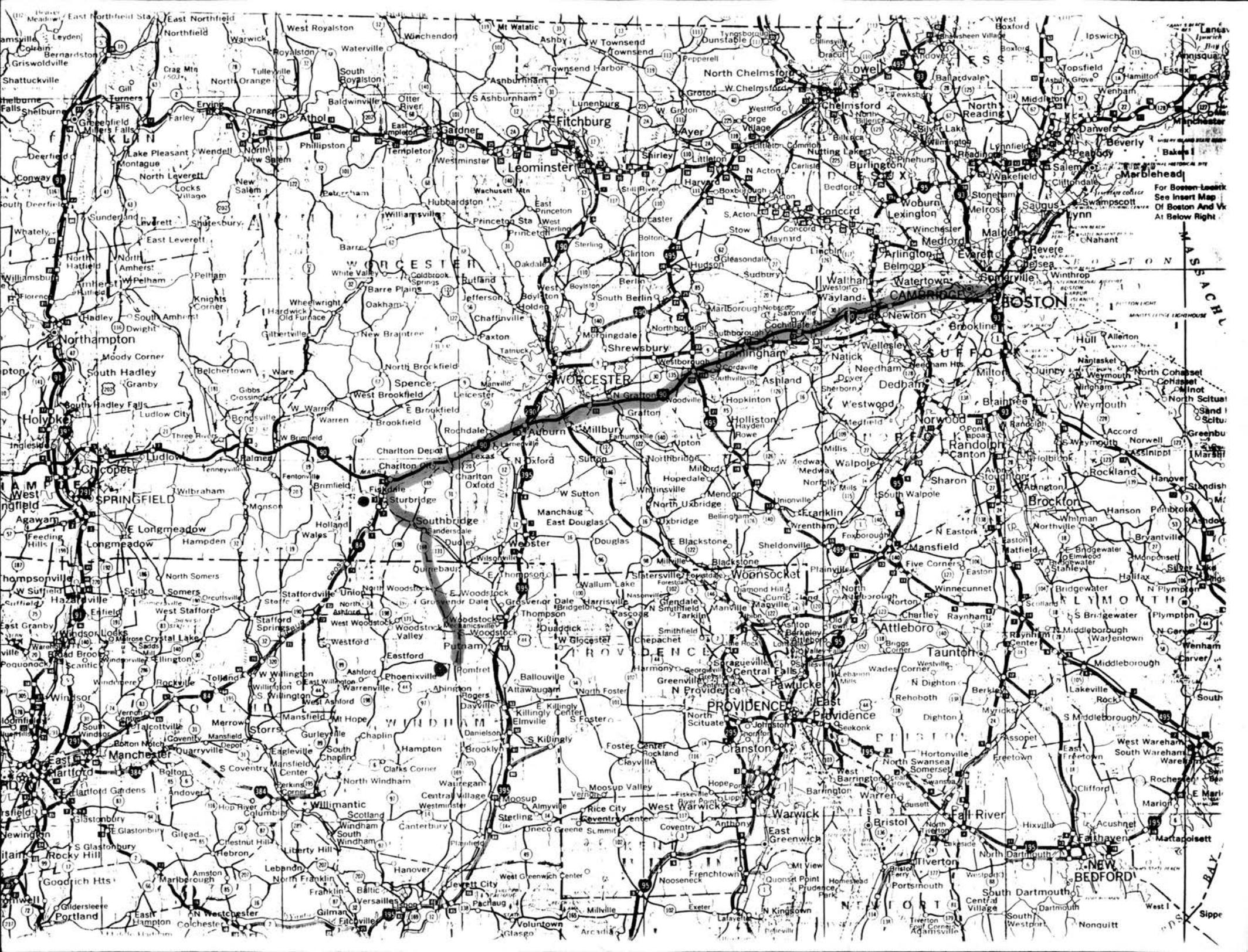
Dear Dick,

The following directions should get you from Boston to SCRC without too much confusion. Driving time from downtown Boston is about an hour and fifteen minutes, if the traffic is reasonable.

- Drive west on the **Massachusetts Turnpike (I-90)** to Exit 10 (Auburn/Worcester).
- Follow signs for **Route 395 South**.
- Drive south on Route 395 to **Exit 97 (Putnam, CT)**
- Turn right at the end of the exit ramp onto **Route 44 West**. Follow Route 44 through the small city of Putnam. (The road is clearly marked.)
- Staying on Route 44 West, you will head out into the country – through farmland, and into Pomfret. When you come to the intersection of Routes 44, 169, and 97 (this is a four-way stop with a blinking light), turn right onto **Route 169 North**.
- Topsfield is exactly 1/2 mile from that intersection, on the right-hand side of the road. Look for the following landmarks: a small, black-and-white garage on the edge of the road, and a white house and gray barn, set back from the road.

We have offices in both the barn and the house, so, when you arrive, just make your presence known. We'll look forward to your visit.

Two handwritten signatures in cursive script. The first signature, on the left, appears to be "Ben" and the second, on the right, appears to be "Molly".



For Boston-Lynn
See Insert Map
Of Boston And Vr
At Below Right

BOSTON
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EHEP BOARD MEMORANDUM

Date: 8/4/98
To: EHEP Board Members
Cc: Kesha Tanabe
From: Dick Little (871-2519 (tel), 813-4501 (fax), or ehpe@michah.org)
RE: **Next Board Meeting**

As we agreed at our last meeting, and consistent with our annual meeting schedule, our next board meeting will be:

Friday, August 21, 1998

7:30 – 9:00 a.m.

Conference Room 2

Minnesota Church Center

Business items will be handled by the executive committee so that we can devote our board meetings to substantive public issues and our agenda and message to the community. I hope board members will find this change in practice appealing.

Please leave a message with us to confirm your attendance or regrets.

From: Syd Devin
SW Area Roundtable
5109 Russell Ave. S.,
Minneapolis, MN 55410
(612)922-3132

To: Dick Little, Director,
Education & Housing Equity, Inc.
Augsburg College
Campus Box 185
2211 Riverside Ave.,
Minneapolis, MN 55454

Sept. 30, 1998

Dear Dick:

Got your phone message. I'll contact Mark Engebretson later today but I'm already in touch with them - they put notices in for us monthly in their issue that comes out before each of our meeting dates. I'll also try to phone you at your office or home.

I'm sending our latest NEWSLETTER & DISCUSSION GUIDE again: it's not for November's meeting - that one will go out about 10 days prior to the Nov.5th roundtable meeting. The one you got is for our October 1st meeting which is tomorrow night but maybe, if it is relevant, you can show it to your 2 P.M. meeting tomorrow.

I'm also sending you a copy of our "POSTER" announcement of the Nov. 5th meeting which, fortunately, we just got yesterday. You will note that the "TOPIC" is worded slightly differently than the way it appeared under "Schedule Ahead" in the enclosed Oct. 1st Newsletter & Discussion Guide. However, please feel at liberty to make and use as many photocopies of this poster - ideally, it can be used by all the groups that are associated with your project; in fact, it can be enclosed along with whatever other direct or indirect mailings that go out -- especially in the Southwest Minneapolis and adjacent suburbs (Edina, St Louis Park, Richfield, Bloomington). We post them in area libraries, neighborhood park buildings, coffee shops, and any other bulletin boards that carry public announcements.

It's good to work with someone who covers all bases as thoroughly as you do.

Yours,

Syd Devin

Education & Housing Equity Project

122 West Franklin Avenue, Suite 310
Minneapolis, MN 55404-2452
Phone: (612) 871-2519
Fax: (612) 813-4501
E-mail: eh@micah.org

July 29, 1998

Mr. Russell Adams, Director
Alliance for Metropolitan Stability
2105 First Avenue South
Minneapolis, MN 55404

Dear Russ:

At its meeting of July 17, 1998, the board of directors of EHEP voted unanimously to become a member of the Alliance for Metropolitan Stability. It also passed a resolution strongly supporting the Goals and Principles of the Alliance, with the following suggestions for additions. We feel strongly about these additions and commend them for the Alliance's consideration as it revises and updates its statement of goals and principles.

The new language that we suggest be added is identified in **bold**:

Under Goals, Public Education: To educate community members in the central cities and suburbs about inter-related regional problems, in particular, concentrated poverty, **racial segregation**, lack of affordable housing, and rapid development of the outer-ring suburbs.

Under Principles, after the 4th bullet about affordable housing, add a new bullet: **Reverse the processes of racial and economic segregation.**

We look forward to a favorable vote accepting us into the Alliance, and to working with other Alliance members on our mutual interests in building a stable, unified metropolitan region.

Sincerely,



Richard C. Little
Executive Director

EDUCATION & HOUSING EQUITY PROJECT

Revised 3-20-98

Mission Statement

The purpose of the Education & Housing Equity Project (EHEP) is to build broad-based partnerships that engage Twin Cities area citizens in public discussion, analysis and action to promote racially and economically inclusive communities that give families and children of all races, incomes and ethnic backgrounds access to quality housing and schools throughout the metropolitan area.

Current Activities:

- (1) Exploring how to build a coalition that can work for racially and economically inclusive communities and respond to the segregation and disparities now developing in the housing and schools of the Twin Cities metro area.
- (2) Working in collaboration with other housing, education, religious, business, community and anti-racism organizations to plan and implement a metro-wide study circle and community forum project for 1997 and 1998 that focuses on the questions:
 1. "How does racial and economic segregation of housing affect educational achievement and life opportunities of Twin Cities' children and families?" and,
 2. "What can and should citizens do individually and collectively to enhance education and life opportunities for all children in the Twin Cities metropolitan area?"

Contact Information:

122 West Franklin Ave, #310
Minneapolis MN 55404-2452
Tel: 871-2519
Fax: 813-4501
E-mail: ehep@micah.org

Principal Staff:
Dick Little, Executive Director

122 WEST FRANKLIN AVENUE, #310 * MINNEAPOLIS, MN * 55404-2452
PHONE: 612-871-2519 * FAX: 612-813-4501 * EMAIL: EHEP@MICAH.ORG

Education & Housing Equity Project
Board of Directors

6-26-98

Barbara Bearman: Small business owner; member, executive committee, Minneapolis Branch NAACP; former member, St. Louis Park Human Rights Commission and Minneapolis Civil Rights Commission; former chair, District 44 DFL Party.

Keith Hardy: Coordinator of Design Services Group, Equipment Services Division, SuperValu Corporation.

JoAnn Heryla: Southwest Area Superintendent, Minneapolis Public Schools.

Jim Hilbert: Attorney, Shulman Walcott & Shulman; former Legal Fellow and Co-director of Programs, Institute on Race and Poverty.

Dr. Josie Johnson: Senior Fellow, College of Education and Human Ecology, University of Minnesota; long-time education and civil rights leader.

Jim Lenfestey: Writer; former member of the editorial board, StarTribune.

Matthew Little: Member of executive committee and former president, Minneapolis Branch NAACP; long-time civil rights leader.

Hope Melton: Prevention Coordinator, Ramsey County; board member, DFL Education Foundation and Minneapolis Center for Neighborhoods.

Dr. Van Mueller: Professor, Department of Educational Policy and Administration, University of Minnesota.

Rep. Myron Orfield: State Representative, District 60B (southwest Minneapolis), Minnesota House of Representatives; author of *Metropolitics: A Regional Agenda for Community and Stability*.

Thomas Ross: Policy Advocate, Minneapolis Urban League.

Joy Sorensen Navarre: Executive Director, Metropolitan Interfaith Council on Affordable Housing (MICAH).

Dr. John Powell: Director, The Institute on Race and Poverty, University of Minnesota.

Jerry Timian: Director, First Call for Help, St. Paul United Way; member, St. Louis Park School Board.

Dr. Cris Toffolo: Assistant Professor of Political Science, University of St. Thomas.

The Education and Housing Equity Project Joins the Alliance

The Alliance for Metropolitan Stability welcomes its newest member, the Education & Housing Equity Project (EHEP). EHEP was founded in 1995 to advance public understanding of and constructive community responses to the growing economic and racial segregation and disparities in the Twin Cities Metropolitan Area. Its ultimate goal is to promote economically and racially inclusive communities and schools that give citizens of all races, incomes and cultural backgrounds access to quality education, housing and jobs throughout the region.

EHEP's fifteen member board strongly believes that metropolitan approaches must be used to address the challenges of school achievement, social equity, racial harmony and affordable housing, and that addressing these problems holistically is critical to building metropolitan stability. EHEP is also committed to deliberative dialogue and informed public conversation as a vehicle for constructive community change.

In the interest of moving the community in a new, more equitable direction, EHEP has partnered with other community-based organizations to form the Community Circle Collaborative, which sponsors community circle conversations focused on these issues and potential solutions. Recently recognized by the President's Initiative on Race as a "promising practice," the community circles project is bringing together people who have never before conversed with one another about the future of their region. It is helping to bring a much needed public voice into the process of shaping an agenda for regional social and economic equity for the Twin Cities region.

This fall and winter, local sponsoring organizations will convene new community circles to build on the conversations held in 1997 and to develop action agendas for 1999. Participating citizens will also be invited to a Citizens Summit co-sponsored with the Minnesota Meeting and Minnesota Public Radio, and will be connected to action opportunities at the end of the conversations. Each community circle will be supplied with a trained facilitator, discussion guide and resource materials. The results of each conversation will become part of the collective findings, conclusions and recommendations of the project to be presented to local, metropolitan and state policy makers. Elected officials will be invited to participate in the circles and to act on their results.

In addition to the community circle conversations, EHEP is co-sponsoring a conference on "Building Inclusive Communities" with the Minnesota Fair Housing Center to be held for suburban planning, housing and human rights officials on September 18, 1998 at the Radisson Hotel South in Bloomington. They are also co-sponsoring the MICAH fair housing theatre event, "Like Waters Rolling Down," which is being performed at various locations in the metropolitan area over the next year.

If you want to help us work toward regional social stability, or if you just want more information on EHEP, community circles, the conference, or theatre events, please contact Dick Little, Executive Director, or Kesha Tanabe, Community Circles Associate, at 871-2519 (phone), 813-4501 (fax) or ehep@micah.org (e-mail). We look forward to contributing toward the Alliance for Metropolitan Stability.

FAX COVER

To: Rep. Carlos Mariani

Company: MN HOUSE OF REPS

Fax Number : 296-1563

From : DARCY SEAVER

Company : MICAH

Fax Number : 000-612-871-8984

Subject : April 2 coalition meeting

Pages including cover page: 2

Date : 3/26/96

Time : 1:37:46 PM

MESSAGE

Dear Rep. Mariani:

As suggested by Mabel, I am faxing another copy of a letter we sent to you and many others last week.

As I explained in my earlier messages, on April 2 we are bringing together a fairly large group of organizations to talk about building a coalition that can begin to advocate for more racially and economically inclusive communities.

We would like to kick off that dialogue by having some brief presentations to the group from various perspectives, and are hoping that you would be willing to brief the group (5-10 minutes) on how these issues look from the state legislature and what issues and opportunities you would suggest we consider focusing on as a coalition. Other presenters include Myron Orfield, Dan Schulman (attorney for the NAACP lawsuit), and John Powell (tentative).

If you could please let us know ASAP if you will be able to assist us, we'd greatly appreciate it.

Thank you so very much, Rep. Mariani.

Darcy Seaver
Co-Coordinator, Housing & Education Equity Project

GEORGINA Y. STEPHENS

Biography

Georgina is the Corporate Treasurer of Cowles Media Company, the parent company of the Star Tribune newspaper. She is responsible for cash management, pension investments, debt financing, corporate tax and corporate real estate. Prior to Cowles Media Company, she held financial executive positions with Dayton Hudson Corporation, AT&T in New Jersey and IBM Corporation in New York.

Georgina earned a bachelor of arts (BA) degree in Economics from Cornell University in Ithaca, New York and a master of business administration (MBA) degree in finance from the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan.

Georgina is a past President of the Minnesota State Board of Education. Appointed by Governor Arne Carlson in 1992 to represent the 4th Congressional district (St. Paul and surrounding areas). The State Board of Education is the policy-making body of the Executive Branch for pre-kindergarten through 12th grade and community education.

She also serves as a member of the Minnesota Urban Initiative Board and was the past vice-chair of the board. This Board investigates and evaluates methods to enhance urban development, particularly methods relating to economic diversification through minority-owned businesses and job creation. In this capacity, the Urban Initiative Board contracts with community based non-profit organizations for the purpose of distributing up to \$6 million as loans to minority-owned businesses.

Georgina is originally from Minneapolis and now reside in St. Paul with her family.

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

Twin Cities Campus

Institute on Race and Poverty

*415 Law Center
229-19th Avenue South
Minneapolis, MN 55455
612-625-8071
Fax: 612-624-8890*

john a. powell is a Professor of Law at the University of Minnesota Law School and Executive Director of the Institute on Race and Poverty. Professor powell earned a B.A. from Stanford University and a J.D. from the University of California at Berkeley. After law school, Professor powell became an attorney with the Seattle Public Defender. Professor powell practiced law with the United Inner City Friends Service Committee for Peace Education in Seattle and founded the Food Education for Action Program. He received a Human Rights Fellowship from the University of Minnesota to work in Southern Africa on human rights issues from 1977 to 1979, where he was a consultant to the government of Mozambique. Professor powell has taught at Columbia University School of Law, Harvard School of Law, the University of Miami School of Law, and the University of San Francisco School of Law. In 1987, he became the National Legal Director for the American Civil Liberties Union. In 1993, Professor powell joined the University of Minnesota Law School faculty, where he teaches civil rights, property law, and legal theory. He is a nationally recognized expert on issues relating to race, poverty, and the law.

METROPOLITAN INTERFAITH COUNCIL on AFFORDABLE HOUSING

"Do justice, love mercy, walk humbly with your God."

Micah 6:8



March 19, 1996

Carlos Mariani
MN House of Representatives
403 State Office Bldg
St Paul MN 55155

Dear Carlos:

Greetings! As you may know, we are the Coordinators of the Housing & Education Equity Project, a new organization here in the Twin Cities. Part of our mission is to act as a catalyst for the building of broad-based coalitions that can advocate for racially and economically inclusive communities that give families of all incomes, races, and ethnicities access to schools and housing throughout the metropolitan area. We are happy to report that after three months of meeting with numerous organizations and individuals (thank you!), we are now turning our attention to helping such a coalition become active.

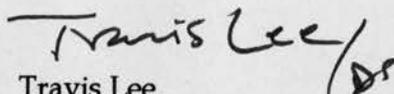
As we all know, these issues are as complex and daunting as they are immediate. There is a critical need for us to come together to devise a grassroots response: a new voice and strategies for dealing with the increasing disparities and segregation developing in the schools and housing of the Twin Cities area. We have an obligation to our communities and children to figure out how best to do that - and we need to do it together.

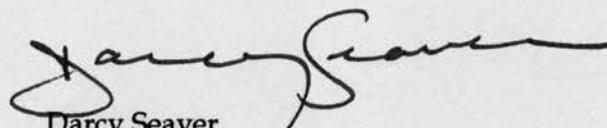
Please join us as we begin this dialogue. We will kick off the discussion with brief informational presentations on these issues from various perspectives (the state legislature, current academic research, the courts, and nonprofit advocacy and service). From there we will open up the discussion to begin exploring where and how we might work together. Join us on:

Tuesday, April 2
2:00-4:00 p.m.
Minnesota Church Center
122 West Franklin Avenue (at Franklin & Pillsbury)
Minneapolis MN 55404

We look forward to seeing you there. If you have any questions, suggestions for additional individuals or organizations we should invite, or if you will be unable to attend this first meeting, please contact us at 871-8980.

Sincerely,


Travis Lee
Co-Coordinator


Darcy Seaver
Co-Coordinator

Christine Ganzlin, Grants Manager
The McKnight Foundation
600 TCF Tower
121 South Eighth Street
Minneapolis, MN 55402

August 12, 1999

Subject: Letter of Inquiry

Dear Ms. Ganzlin,

I strongly commend the new focus of The McKnight Foundation. The Education and Housing Equity Project (EHEP) was organized in 1995 sharing the vision you've articulated. We aim to promote racially and economically inclusive communities, and schools that work for all children in the Twin Cities Metropolitan Area. Creating a supportive environment for children, youth and their families is our central purpose, and encouraging regional thinking and planning to accomplish this is a major strategic goal.

Building and maintaining vital, attractive communities where children and families can thrive requires that the region make significant progress in addressing the very difficult, interrelated issues of racial and economic segregation, inequities in education, and access to affordable housing and jobs. Our strategy is to work in collaboration with other groups to facilitate education and deliberative discussion that raises community awareness and understanding of these issues, and that leads to community-building and informed public action. Our project not only enables but motivates citizen interaction and reflection. These in turn help individuals and groups internalize their commitment to act, and direct their agendas and energy into partnerships with other organizations that support their work.

In cooperation with the Wilder Foundation, the Saint Paul "Cities at Work" forums and 20 other regional and community organizations, we have developed a Community Circles Collaborative which has engaged nearly 2,000 people in discussion and action on these issues since 1996.

The Study Circles Resource Center of Pomfret, CT, provided an initial model which we have augmented with attention to the work of the National Issues Forums of the Kettering Foundation, the Communities of Color Empowerment Model of the Minnesota Minority Education Partnership (MMEP), and the Objective-Reflective-Interpretative-Decisional model developed by the Minnesota Facilitators Network and the Society of Professionals in Dispute Resolution. The latter two groups are primary sources of facilitators for community circle dialogues and action forums, which together comprise EHEP's most visible public strategy. The Minnesota Churches' Anti-Racism Initiative has provided the facilitators introductory training on community and institutional racism. Resource guides for local discussions drew, as a primary resource, upon a paper (now a publication) by John Powell of the Institute on Race and Poverty at the University of Minnesota School of Law, *Examining the Relationship Between Housing, Education and Persistent Segregation*. Other resources and perspectives have been added as the community circle conversations have evolved.

Strong collaborative linkages are vital to the results we seek. The community circle discussions draw upon the work of EHEP's project partners. In turn, the circles have been a crucial resource to our partners in building greater public awareness, involvement, support and commitment to sustained changes needed to achieve a more inclusive and equitable future for all the children and families in the Twin Cities metropolitan area.

One major effort in this vein is the growing commitment to fair and affordable housing throughout the metropolitan area. The community circles made important contributions to the idea of mixed income housing and the development of the Inclusionary Housing Act in the 1999 Minnesota Legislature. This effort was spearheaded by the Alliance for Metropolitan Stability, one of EHEP's partners. The community circles also paved the way for the engagement of communities of faith by Interfaith Action, the St. Paul Ecumenical Alliance of Congregations and MICAHA (the Metropolitan Interfaith Council on Affordable Housing) in what evolved into a major citizen push for affordable housing legislation during the 1999 legislative session. Following the legislative victory, a group of partner organizations came together to celebrate and collectively honored EHEP for its 1997 community discussions, which laid the foundation for their later success.

Awareness emerged in many circle discussions of the "NIMBY" (Not in My Back Yard) principle by which many regional residents resist dispersion of affordable housing. Circle participants noted a need to dramatize this issue, through theatre and other media, in order to gain support from and involvement by middle class suburban people and groups. MICAHA, one of our closest partners, took the idea to the Illusion Theatre and, together, they developed a theatrical production to address this need. Entitled *Like Waters Rolling Down*, it was funded by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development for six presentations throughout the metropolitan area. Over 7,000 citizens attended the performances, and many of these citizens subsequently took civic action to support affordable housing initiatives in their respective communities and at the legislature.

Circles have also been credited with breaking down stereotypes and barriers between people who are different from one another. This was illustrated by the community circles sponsored by CommonBond Communities, Inc., which brought together residents of one of their developments with surrounding neighbors, many of whom initially had opposed introduction of affordable housing in their neighborhood. Through face to face conversations, these residents are now coming together to develop a common agenda for making their community more hospitable and supportive for all families and children. EHEP and the community circles project were subsequently invited to be a partner in the "Faces of Affordable Housing Campaign" project (with the lead partner, the Minnesota Housing Partnership) funded by the Minneapolis Foundation.

The community circles also have contributed to expanding awareness that residential desegregation is a primary step in the struggle for educational quality and equity. The NAACP, the Minnesota Minority Education Partnership, and the Minneapolis Public Schools have been close collaborators with EHEP on issues of race and education. Other city and suburban districts have shown growing interest in including housing in their discussions with city and regional officials. Community Circles are also being planned that will address systemic issues within schools and school districts. Discussions are under way with the West Metro Educational Program (a consortium of west metro school districts) and the East Metro Office of Interdistrict Initiatives concerning what a successful inclusionary school and integrated education should look like. The Minnesota Public Radio Civic Journalism Project, an early partner in the Community Circle Collaborative, has expressed particular interest in these city-suburban and inter-district discussions.

Other vital partners in the effort to build schools and institutions that *work for all kids* include the Higher Education Consortium for Urban Affairs, the Urban Coalition, the League of Human Rights Commissions and Metro Area Council of League of Women Voters. EHEP was invited by mediating groups to join in efforts to mediate legal action involving school desegregation (e.g., Educational Adequacy and Equity Lawsuits). The results of circle discussions have been used to help inform the mediation efforts, and many circle participants were identified as candidates for participation in early discussions to frame the mediation and potential settlement.

A new component is being developed for the community circle discussion guides that will focus on the linkage between economic development and job access, on the one hand, and equity in housing and education on the other. The Saint Paul "Cities at Work" Community Forums series on "Race, Connections and Commitment" this fall will build on this theme through a forum with business leaders. The discussion guides are also being augmented with a Faith Compendium developed by the Metropolitan Interfaith Council on Affordable Housing for use in paired congregational and inter-faith discussions.

The community circle project is designed to lead participants to consider follow-up action. At the conclusion of this letter is a list of the groups that have been highlighted in discussions as opportunity contexts for this work. We relate them to the three broad areas of concern addressed in the Collaborative. Many are active partners in sponsoring or providing resources to community circles, as well. The list also is growing through nurturance of informal relationships. Interfaith Action and the Saint Paul Ecumenical Alliance of Congregations (SPEAC), for example, have utilized the new ideas, focus and energy generated in community circles as a framework for organizing community action among their member congregations.

EHEP and the Wilder Foundation are coordinating planning for a "Call to Action" Forum in November to help motivate new discussions and further focus energy of past participants. A Metropolitan Citizens Summit is planned for next December, in collaboration with the Minnesota Meeting and Minnesota Public Radio, supported by grants from the Minneapolis Foundation and the Saint Paul Foundation. These events will serve to bring the larger public into the dialogue and move the dialogue from discussion toward informed public action and civic commitment.

As we look toward the future, EHEP identifies the following areas needing concentrated development in support of our vision:

- Expanded community circle discussions, with special emphasis on:
 - Increased participation in suburban communities.
 - Increased racial diversity of study circles, with strategies to include pairings between secular or faith community groups connecting predominantly low-income neighborhoods with those of privilege, and inner city with suburb.
 - Increased participation by youth in the study circles.
 - Potential development of "play and talk circles" for younger children, to augment the project's involvement of families.
 - Improved action formation to motivate participants to identify the groups that are doing the work that best addresses the community's needs ('promising or best practices') and that offer them hope and growth.
 - Building of stronger media, public official and business partnerships

- Expanded community collaborations, both to support community circle expansion and to increase the base for future public action - providing the organizing "glue" to reinforce collaborative visions for community change.

To accomplish these aims, EHEP needs to fulfill its plan to extend its staff by two positions. The first will be a full-time Community Circle Coordinator whose immediate priority will be to focus on expanding racial diversity and broadening community outreach. The second will be a civic engagement youth coordinator whose role will be to strengthen youth participation and to explore effective ways to involve children in community circles and partnerships that address their immediate as well as long-term needs and growth potential.

To pursue these goals, EHEP envisions an annual budget of approximately \$125,000. Funding by The McKnight Foundation of a major share of this budget (e.g., \$50,000 per year) for a period of three to five years would enable expansion of community circle discussions to engage the public and private sectors throughout the Twin Cities metropolitan area, to fully inform the agendas of partnering communities and institutions, and to create the 'common ground' essential to building a metropolitan consensus on needed public actions. This effort would establish a framework for systemic change of major benefit to *all* children and families in our communities.

We look forward to continuing a conversation with the McKnight Foundation about what we are doing, and hopefully receiving an invitation to submit a full proposal. My staff and I, and some of our board members and key partners, are available to answer your questions and clarify or expand on what is presented in this letter. We look forward to hearing from you. Please call me at (612) 330-1505 or (612) 724-5662.

Sincerely,

Dick Little, Executive Director

Attachments: List
 Recent article in *Community Matters*
 Recognition by the President's Initiative on Race

Local anti-racism effort recognized

President Clinton's Initiative on Race recently selected the Minneapolis-based Education & Housing Equity Project (EHEP) and its Community Circle Dialogues on Education, Housing and Race in the Twin Cities as a national model of a "Promising Practice for Racial Reconciliation."

The Community Circle Dialogues project is a partnership of regional and community organizations and is directed by Dick Little. In May, Little was one of four people from throughout the nation invited to Washington, D.C. to discuss innovative approaches to our nation's racial problems at a National Issues Forum entitled "Race in America: New Approaches to Bridging the Divide," sponsored by the Brookings Institution.

Little is a member of the Minneapolis Planning Commission appointed by Mayor Sayles Belton and serves as its secretary. A resident of the Nokomis East neighborhood, he also sits on Minneapolis' Affordable Housing Task Force.

Mayor Sayles Belton has been a strong supporter of the Community Circle dialogues and has encouraged their use by cities in other metropolitan areas through her leadership in the National League of Cities and US Conference of Mayors. Matthew Little, longtime civil rights leader in Minnesota, is the President and cofounder of EHEP.

Currently, over 50 dialogues are underway in Minneapolis, Saint Paul and suburbs. In Saint Paul, Community Circles are being convened by neighborhood groups, schools and congregations as part of "Cities at Work," an initiative cosponsored by the Wilder Foundation. A citizens summit focusing on the results of the conversations will be held at the end of the year. It will be cosponsored by the Minnesota Meeting, Minnesota Public Radio, KMOJ/Insight News and other media partners.

Two outcomes of Community Circles held in 1997 are the inclusionary housing legislation promoted by the Alliance for Metropolitan Stability and passed by the Minnesota Legislature this spring; and the award-winning fair housing play, *Like Waters Rolling Down*, produced by the Metropolitan Interfaith Council on Affordable Housing (MICAHA) and Illusion Theatre.

For more information about Community Circles, contact Dick Little at 612-330-1505 or by e-mail at ehp@augsborg.edu

On The Agenda – June 3, 1999

City of Minneapolis

Office of Public Affairs

301M City Hall, 350 South 5th Street

Minneapolis, MN 55415

**PARTIAL AND GROWING LIST OF ORGANIZATIONS PROVIDING
OPPORTUNITY CONTEXTS FOR CIVIC ACTION,
RECOMMENDATIONS AND INVOLVEMENT GROWING OUT OF
THE COMMUNITY CIRCLES DIALOGUES**

Achievement Plus Initiative (education)
 Alliance for Metropolitan Stability (housing)
 Center for School Change (education)
 Family Housing Fund of Minneapolis and Saint Paul (housing)
 Frogtown Pluralism Circle (race and cultural diversity)
 Hamline Midway Alliance for a Prejudice Free Community (race & social justice)
 Hate Bias Response Team (race & social justice)
 Institute on Race and Poverty (race & social justice)
 Interfaith Action (housing)
 Jane Addams School for Democracy Learning Exchange Circles (education)
 Jewish Community Action (housing)
 Metropolitan Interfaith Council on Affordable Housing (housing)
 Minnesota Churches' Anti-Racism Initiative (race & social justice)
 Minnesota Fair Housing Center (housing)
 Minnesota Housing Partnership (housing)
 Minnesota Minority Education Partnership (education)
 Minnesota Parenting Association (education)
 National Conference for Community & Justice 'Hope in Cities' (race/social justice)
 Saint Paul Area Council of Churches (race & social justice)
 Saint Paul Ecumenical Alliance of Congregations (housing)
 Saint Paul Housing Campaign (housing)
 Saint Paul Ramsey County Children's Initiative (education)
 Support Our Schools (education)
 Twin Cities Habitat for Humanity (housing)
 Urban Coalition 50/30 Initiative (housing)
 2000 by 2000 Initiative (housing)

* a complete list of the Community Circle Collaborative partners (project organizing partners, resource associates, circle sponsors, facilitators and scribes, and media and funding partners) will be included in the full proposal

INTER-OFFICE MEMORANDUM

To: Cindy Ottinger, Director of Facilities, Minnesota Council of Churches
CC: Joy Sorensen Navarre, Metropolitan Interfaith Council on Affordable Housing

From: Dick Little, Executive Director, Education & Housing Equity Project

Date: 03/20/98

Re: The benefits of the Minnesota Church Center

Some time ago, you asked me to put in writing the many advantages our board saw in being able to stay at the Minnesota Church Center. Here they are:

1. Central location – near downtown but not in it – close to major freeways and freeway exits – but in a safe, pleasant neighborhood setting
2. Free and available parking – ample on most days – secured for tenants and their clients
3. A modern, well designed facility with ample natural lighting and amenities – including:
 - a. Conference and meeting rooms – for our board, committee, staff and partner meetings
 - b. A fully staffed reception and information desk – with meeting notice board, mail box area and office directory
 - c. A quality food service and dining areas – and catered service for special meetings
 - d. Attractive atrium and lounge areas – for informal visits with constituents, clients and consultants
 - e. A covered (protected) entrance – for drop-offs, deliveries, pick-ups and visitors
 - f. Secured access to the building during non-office hours
 - g. Affordable, individually tailored office space and additional storage space
4. Friendly and helpful staff who greet us and know us by name – and who consult us about improvements in building and site services
5. A building that is well maintained and kept immaculately clean
6. Provision within the building of postage metering, mail pick-up and express delivery services
7. Back-up copy and fax services – at the Minnesota Council of Churches office
8. Clustering within the building of non-profit, social justice and church-related organizations with whom we network (e.g., MCARI, MHP, MCH)
9. Ability to be co-housed with our fiscal agent and “parent organization”, MICAH
10. Walking proximity to a financial institution that specializes in serving non-profit organizations (Franklin Bank) and to other services
11. Demonstration of extraordinary initiative and flexibility by Church Center staff to enable us to move to a larger space within the building, and thus stay at the church center while meeting our growing space needs
12. A great view of the of the Minneapolis skyline

METROPOLITAN INTERFAITH COUNCIL on AFFORDABLE HOUSING

"Do justice, love mercy, walk humbly with your God."

Micah 6:8



March 19, 1996

Carlos Mariani
MN House of Representatives
403 State Office Bldg
St Paul MN 55155

Dear Carlos:

Greetings! As you may know, we are the Coordinators of the Housing & Education Equity Project, a new organization here in the Twin Cities. Part of our mission is to act as a catalyst for the building of broad-based coalitions that can advocate for racially and economically inclusive communities that give families of all incomes, races, and ethnicities access to schools and housing throughout the metropolitan area. We are happy to report that after three months of meeting with numerous organizations and individuals (thank you!), we are now turning our attention to helping such a coalition become active.

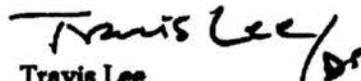
As we all know, these issues are as complex and daunting as they are immediate. There is a critical need for us to come together to devise a grassroots response: a new voice and strategies for dealing with the increasing disparities and segregation developing in the schools and housing of the Twin Cities area. We have an obligation to our communities and children to figure out how best to do that - and we need to do it together.

Please join us as we begin this dialogue. We will kick off the discussion with brief informational presentations on these issues from various perspectives (the state legislature, current academic research, the courts, and nonprofit advocacy and service). From there we will open up the discussion to begin exploring where and how we might work together. Join us on:

**Tuesday, April 2
2:00-4:00 p.m.
Minnesota Church Center
122 West Franklin Avenue (at Franklin & Pillsbury)
Minneapolis MN 55404**

We look forward to seeing you there. If you have any questions, suggestions for additional individuals or organizations we should invite, or if you will be unable to attend this first meeting, please contact us at 871-8980.

Sincerely,


Travis Lee
Co-Coordinator


Darcy Seaver
Co-Coordinator

2211 Riverside Avenue CB 195
Minneapolis, MN 55454
P: 612-330-1505 F: 612-330-1507
E: eh@augsb.org

Education and Housing Equity Project

Memo

To: Committed Sponsors/Community Circles on Education, Housing and Race
From: EHEP-Education and Housing Equity Project
Date: 03/15/99
Subject: Information and forms for Community Circle Sponsor :
Note this memo includes action items that require your immediate attention!

We would like to provide you with some additional information to help make your circle a successful one. Please find enclosed the following:

1. **"What the Research Shows"** - information to help inform the conversations
2. **Community Circle Report Forms** - for use by Scribes to summarize their Community Circle conversations (to be returned to EHEP)
3. **Participant Profile & Evaluation Forms** - to be filled out by each Circle participant, turned into their Scribes no later than at the fifth session returned to EHEP)
4. **Discussion Leaders Evaluation Form** - to be filled out by facilitators & returned to EHEP
5. **Attendance Information Sheet/Roster** - to be filled out by Scribe or Facilitator & returned to EHEP
6. **Directory of Community Circles Meetings 1999** - Check your section and return to us any additional pertinent information that would complete your section.
7. **"Now That We've Talked..."** (Ideas for Community Involvement, etc.)

Each Circle might think about the possibility of presenting their findings to an audience comprised of their sponsors or sponsor governing group. This presentation would help to bring closure to the Circle and provide a catalyst for further action. This may be done after the participants have read & reviewed the scribes summary & have had an opportunity to provide their individual reaction to the summary. Further information & a memo regarding this action step will be sent later.

These forms can be used as your masters to duplicate and distribute in your Circle.

if you have any questions or need further assistance, please feel free to contact either Dick Little or myself at Education and Housing Equity Project (EHEP) 330-1505.

Sincerely,


Pam Jewson
Administrative Assistant

2211 Riverside Avenue, CB 185
Minneapolis, MN 55454
P: 612-330-1505
F: 612-330-1507
E: ehep@augsborg.edu

Education & Housing Equity Project

Memo

To: Community Circle Sponsors
From: Pam Jewson
CC: Dick Little & Barbara Blackstone/Community Circle Facilitators
Date: 04/07/99
Re: *Important Upcoming Events!*

Now that you have successfully completed your Community Circle discussions and are turning in all pertinent data to us, we would like to let you know about some very important upcoming events.

1. The fair housing play "*Like Waters Rolling Down*" created and produced by MICAH and the Illusion Theatre that we are co-sponsoring with about 26 other groups, will take place on April 25, at the Hennepin Avenue United Methodist Church, from 6:00 - 8:00 p.m.
2. *Hate Crimes & Bias Incidents: A Challenge to Inclusive Communities*, sponsored by MICAH and the Minnesota Fair Housing Center will take place Tuesday, April 27, from 8:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m., also at the Hennepin Avenue United Methodist Church.
3. "Citites at Work", which we are co-sponsoring in Saint Paul, will present 2 forums: "*Stop Talking, Just Do It!*", on Wednesday April 28, from 5:00 - 8:30 p.m., at Arlington High School, 1459 Rice Street, St. Paul, MN and "*Face to Face*", on Tuesday May 18, from 5:00 - 8:30 p.m. at Bandana Square.

These three very important events need to be conveyed to the people who have participated in your Community Circles. Please find enclosed more information about each event. We would like you to distribute the fliers and other brochures about these events to your participants.

Please call our office for further information and to let us know how many fliers & brochures you will be needing.

Sincerely,



Pam Jewson
EHEP Administrative Assistant

EDUCATION AND HOUSING EQUITY PROJECT

122 West Franklin Avenue, Suite 310

Minneapolis, MN 55404

(612) 871-2519 (Phone)

871-8984 (Fax)

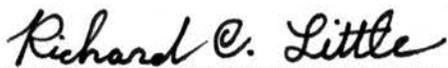
micah@mtn.org

1 October 1997

LETTER OF AGREEMENT by and between **The Education and Housing Equity Project (EHEP)** and **Joyce N. Levine, AICP**.

1. Ms. Levine agrees to prepare a summary report of the first round of discussions organized as part of the Community Circles Collaborative (CCC) project. These discussions include the study circles conducted in the Spring of 1997, the metropolitan citizens' forum held at Macalester College in May 1997 and the town meetings held in Minneapolis and St Paul schools in conjunction with the National Summit on Race Relations and America's Public Schools in September 1997. The report will be submitted in draft form for review by the EHEP Board of Directors and revised and submitted in final form no later than December 31, 1997.
2. In consideration of this work, EHEP agrees to pay Ms. Levine \$2,000 (two thousand dollars). Full payment for work completed according to schedule will be delivered no later than 30 days following delivery of the final product. First half of payment will be made following receipt of draft product.
3. EHEP agrees to furnish Ms. Levine with all source and background materials necessary to complete this work, including study circle reports, audio and video recordings of major events, facilitator/sponsor survey results, project agendas, informational documents, and correspondence, upon request.
4. This agreement may be amended by Ms. Levine's request and the concurrence of the EHEP Board or its Director, acting on behalf of the board, or by EHEP's request and Ms. Levine's concurrence. All amendments will be finalized in written form.

I agree to these terms and conditions.



Richard C. Little
Executive Director, EHEP



Joyce N. Levine, AICP
Consultant

EDUCATION & HOUSING EQUITY PROJECT

122 West Franklin Avenue, Suite 310

Minneapolis, MN 55404-2447

(p) 871-2519 (f) 871-8984

micah@mtn.org

February 20, 1998

George A. Beck, Administrative Law Judge
Office of Administrative Hearings
100 Washington Square, Suite 1700
Minneapolis, MN 55401-2138

COPY TO: Mary Lynne McAlonie, Rulemaking Coordinator
Minnesota Department of Children, Families and Learning

Dear Mr. Beck:

**RE: COMMENTS OF THE EDUCATION & HOUSING EQUITY PROJECT
ON THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION RULES RELATING TO
GRADUATION STANDARDS PROFILE OF LEARNING**

Thank you for the opportunity to offer comments for the public record concerning the proposed state graduation requirements (Proposed Permanent Rules Relating to Graduation Standards, Profile of Learning, Minn. Rule Parts 3501.0300 to 3501.0469).

I am Dick Little, the executive director of the Education and Housing Equity Project, a nonprofit organization focusing on the issues of education and housing segregation and racial/economic disparities in educational achievement and life opportunities in the Twin Cities metropolitan area. Our mission is to build broad-based collaborations that engage Twin Cities area citizens in public discussion, analysis and action to promote racially and economically inclusive communities that give families and children of all races, incomes and ethnic backgrounds access to quality schools and housing throughout the metropolitan area. The comments offered here represent the official position of the EHEP board.

We are limiting our comments on the draft standards to **Learning Area Seven (3501.0447), Subpart 2. Themes of United States History** and **Subparts 3 – 7 as they might relate to Subpart 2.** Subpart 2 spells out the areas of historical knowledge that high school students must demonstrate familiarity with and understanding of before being granted a diploma. The requirement broadly includes the major events, periods, documents, doctrines and institutions that are deemed most important in shaping American history and the kind of America we have today.

We affirm the approach taken in this subsection and the categories that are included; however, we believe that several very critical elements of American history are missing from this list and should be explicitly added to the requirement. These include:

- **The institution of slavery and its aftermath**, which so pervasively define the dilemmas and paradoxes of this country.
- **The civil rights movement of this century**, which is a defining moment in the struggle for the soul of this country and its democratic ideals.
- **The immigrant experience**, which also defines the American experience. America is the sum of its Native American and immigrant parts. This evolving phenomenon, unique to America, must be understood.

Slavery and the policies and practices of segregation and discrimination have enormous economic and moral consequences for the American character.

Race is America's greatest dilemma. As a nation, we don't know how to think or talk about race.

If we are to make sense of our country, we must understand the peculiar institution of white hierarchy that has spread its veil over all our lives, whether we are conscious of it or not.

The Minnesota State Constitution (Article XIII, Section 1, "Uniform System of Public Schools") states "*The stability of a republican form of government depending mainly upon the intelligence of the people, it is the duty of the legislature to establish a general and uniform system of public schools [emphasis added].*" It is apparent, therefore, that the public schools have a duty to prepare students for public life. If we expect today's students to make sound decisions tomorrow, their basis for judgement must be built upon honest information and comprehensive knowledge. It is time to give teachers and students what they need for the task ahead.

In addition to our comments on the standards, *we join the chorus of voices that suggest a delay in implementing the proposed rules.* Enclosed is a copy of the report by Conflict Management, Inc. recommending mediation of the NAACP v. State of Minnesota educational adequacy lawsuit. One of the findings of this report is that parents in general and parents of students of color in particular are extremely alienated from the public school system (see pages 10 – 13). The imposition of the new language and revision of the curriculum in the proposed rules will only exacerbate this situation. What also comes through in the report is that **what parents see as the solution has more to do with ending present segregation and inequality of resources than further tinkering with school standards. The lawsuit and mediation process should be allowed to proceed before adoption and implementation of new graduation standards. Mediation of the lawsuit may raise issues that need to be revisited before the graduation standards could be implemented with the full support of the community.**

Sincerely,

Dick Little,
Executive Director

**EDUCATION AND HOUSING EQUITY PROJECT
COMMUNITY CIRCLE COLLABORATIVE**

122 West Franklin Avenue, Suite 320

Minneapolis, MN 55404

Phone: (612) 871-8980

Fax: (612) 871-8984

e-mail: micah@mtn.org

August 14, 1997

HUD Headquarters

ATTN: Maxine B. Cunningham

Fair Housing Initiatives Program Division

Office of Fair Housing Initiatives and Voluntary Programs

451 7th Street SW, Room 5234

Washington, DC 20410-20000

Dear Ms. Cunningham:

On behalf of the Board of Directors of the Education and Housing Equity Project and the partner organizations of the Community Circle Collaborative, I am writing to convey our strong commitment and support for the Metropolitan Interfaith Council on Affordable Housing's proposal, "Neighbors Building Strong Communities," to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's Fair Housing Initiative Program for 1997.

With a membership base of over 100 congregations located throughout the metropolitan area and a history of proactive leadership on metropolitan housing issues dating back to 1989, MICAHA has developed a substantial track record in increasing public support for fair housing and overcoming opposition to affordable housing in suburban communities. MICAHA's very creative proposal to work with the Illusion Theater (nationally known for its success in confronting stereotypes and provoking rethinking about major social issues) is a logical extension of its work.

This project will occur at a critical time in efforts by Twin Cities area communities to address issues of housing, schools and race that are polarizing our communities. MICAHA's proposal will directly contribute to achieving the objectives of the Minneapolis Housing Principles, the Metropolitan Livability Act, the Regional Housing Opportunity Counseling Program of the Metropolitan Council, the class action settlement of *Hollman v. Cisneros*, and the mediation process for the educational adequacy suit filed by the NAACP against the State of Minnesota. MICAHA has the public respect and trust to be *the agent* that can bring people together on the difficult issues of fair and affordable housing facing our metropolitan area, and can do so in a way that will lead to results.

The Education and Housing Equity Project is a collaborator in this proposal. Over the past year, we have engaged hundreds of citizens throughout the metropolitan area in 'community circle' discussions on the questions of how racial and economic segregation of housing has impacted the educational achievement and life opportunities of Twin Cities' children and families, and what we as a community can do to enhance educational success and housing and economic opportunities for *all* children in the region. MICAH has been a principal partner in this project, and many of its member organizations have sponsored the discussions. Through its leadership in our "Choices for Community" project, MICAH has developed a keen awareness of and commitment to connecting affordable housing to the related issues of education, jobs, transit and race relations with which our metropolitan citizens are struggling.

Through the "Choices for Community" project and Community Circle Collaborative, we have built an immense network of partners (including media organizations) that will serve to amplify the ability of MICAH's proposed "Neighbors Building Strong Communities" project to reach and engage a broad cross-section of Twin Cities citizens. We have also advanced the art of using discussion models and developing discussion guides that can be used to support the public conversations that are an essential part of MICAH's proposal. Using our research and the results of community circle discussions already completed, we will also be able to inform the MICAH project's conversations and ideas for action. In these and other ways, our resources will be leveraged to support and complement the "Neighbors Building Strong Communities" project.

In short, we strongly urge you to fund MICAH's "Neighbors Building Strong Communities" proposal.

Sincerely,



Richard C. Little, AICP
Executive Director

CC: Matt Little, President, Education and Housing Equity Project
Joy Sorensen Navarre, Executive Director, MICAH
Jaime Pedraza, Director, Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity Division,
Minnesota State Office, HUD



July 3, 1996

Darcy Seaver
Community Circle Collaborative
c/o MICAH
122 W. Franklin Ave. #320
Minneapolis, MN 55404

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Center for Foreign Policy Development
Brown University

Joseph V. Julian
The Maxwell School of Citizenship
and Public Affairs
Syracuse University

Jon Rye Kinghorn
National Issues Forums

Frances Moore Lappe
Institute for the Arts
of Democracy

Leonard P. Oliver
Oliver Associates

Neil Parent
National Conference of Disciples
Directors of Religious Education

Dorothy Shields
AFL-CIO Department of Education

David T. Taylor
Connecticut Conference
of the United Church of Christ

Dear Ms. Seaver:

As you know, we are delighted that the Community Circle Collaborative has decided to submit funding proposals for the Community Circles project. We are honored to write this letter of support.

Since we provide free materials and services, we have to apply strict criteria to our participation in a project. We chose to assist the Community Circle Collaborative for several reasons: your articulation of the challenges posed by residential segregation in the Twin Cities; your appreciation of the community-building power of study circles; and the fact that the Collaborative already represents a broad array of Twin Cities organizations. These qualities provide a strong foundation for your study circle efforts.

We are confident that the proposed project can achieve the same successes as community-wide study circle projects in other cities. Beginning in 1992, large-scale study circle programs began to pave a new path to collaborative community action. The first programs, in Lima and Columbus, Ohio, involved thousands of citizens in discussions of race relations. Organizers were often surprised to see the collaborative efforts that resulted from dialogue, since consensus or even an explicit action plan are not the endproducts of a study circle. But the action evolved very naturally, as participants shared personal experiences, analyzed local problems, discovered common ground, and identified community assets. People realized that change could start with them, with their individual behavior and accomplishments, and that as individuals, as members of small action groups, and as members of large institutions they could make a difference.

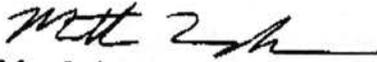
Since 1992, nineteen cities have planned and implemented study circle programs on relations, crime and violence, and education. Some examples of concrete outcomes are: youth mentoring projects, a film festival on ethnic diversity, collaborative school-business efforts, a multiracial "unity choir," improvements to a community policing program, new playgrounds, a new soup kitchen, neighborhood "peace zones," and a city-wide plan for violence prevention. Coalitions in 82 communities, ranging in size from rural counties to large cities, are in various stages of planning and implementing community-wide study circle programs.

697 Pomfret Street P.O. Box 203 Pomfret, Connecticut 06258
(860) 928-2616 FAX (860) 928-3713
e-mail <ecrc@neca.com>

Page 2

The Study Circles Resource Center is committed to assisting the Community Circle Collaborative in this work. We are glad to provide discussion materials, consultation, and other assistance to this project. I look forward to the continuation of this productive working relationship.

Sincerely,



Matt Leighninger
Program Director

Dick -

Wed.
Re: NDOD

After thinking about this, I have decided to decline to mail this out to MICAH member churches.

I think this is a terrific opportunity. However, as our organization is not able to give it the attention it deserves, I hesitate to promote it.

I would rather be able to offer assistance to our congregations & support to create meaningful dialogues with practical action steps • resulting from the dialogue. ... such as ~~to~~ EHEP is planning with the CCC.

Joy.

Education & Housing Equity Project

2211 Riverside Avenue, CB 185

Minneapolis, MN 55454

Memo

To: Ada Sanchez, Program Officer, Study Circle Fund
From: Dick Little, Executive Director, Education and Housing Equity Project
CC:
Date: 06/22/00
Re: **Matching Grant Request Information for Study Circle Grant Award to EHEP**

Ada, thank you for your phone message regarding our request for the matching grant portion (\$10,000) of our Study Circles Fund grant award of \$15,000. Since we received the notification of fund approval from you last November, we have obtained the following financial support and contributions using the Study Circle award as a challenge grant:

| <u>Source of Funds</u> | <u>Fund Amount</u> |
|---|--------------------|
| Metropolitan Council of the Twin Cities Area (government) | \$1,000 |
| Minneapolis Neighborhood Revitalization Program (government) | Printing - \$1,000 |
| University of Minnesota, Center for Urban and Regional Affairs (education) | \$500 |
| Metropolitan Interfaith Council on Affordable Housing (non-profit organization) | \$500 |
| Minnesota Minority Education Partnership (non-profit organization) | Copying - \$250 |
| Higher Education Consortium for Urban Affairs (education) | \$100 |
| Saint Paul Area United Way, Community Investment Fund (community fund) | \$2,000 |
| General Mills Foundation (business, corporation) | \$500 |
| Headwaters Fund (non-profit foundation) | \$500 |
| Otto Bremer Foundation (non-profit foundation) | \$10,000 |
| <hr/> | |
| Total Cash Contributions (excluding in-kind support), 12-99 through 6-99 | \$15,100 |



Augsburg College, CB 185
2211 Riverside Avenue
Minneapolis, MN 55454
P: 612-330-1505
F: 612-330-1507
E: ehpe@augsb.org

FAX
COVER
PAGE

TO ADA SANCHEZ, STUDY CIRCLE FUND

FROM DICK LITTLE, EHEP

DATE JUNE 22, 2000

TIME _____

NUMBER OF PAGES _____ (INCLUDING THIS SHEET) 3

COMMENTS Ada, for the sake of our records

I modified the request memo - see

attached. Consider this the 'official' version.

IF YOU DID NOT RECEIVE THE TOTAL NUMBER OF PAGES IN THIS FAX TRANSMITTAL, PLEASE CALL 330-1505.

THANK YOU.

Funds request from to the Study Circle Fund from the Education and Housing Equity Project, continued:

As you can see, we have exceeded the match requirement of \$10,000 of local support. We have also received substantial in-kind support from the Minnesota Facilitators Network and the Minnesota Chapter of the Society of Professionals in Dispute Resolution, the Saint Paul Neighborhood Network News and Minnesota Public Radio and, of course, partnership support from the Amherst H. Wilder Foundation (*Cities at Work*) in Saint Paul, Minnesota. We would be remiss if we did not also acknowledge the continuing support (and site visit this spring) of the Study Circles Resource Center. We in turn, have been providing significant in-kind support to *Cities at Work* and to the League of Women Voters of Minnesota's statewide study circle project, *Changing Faces, Changing Communities*.

We would like to receive the grant check before the end of this month, if at all possible. I am therefore asking for your expeditious assistance in processing this request. If it is possible to send the check via two-day express, that would be greatly appreciated, as we have learned through experience that regular first class mail service from the New England states to our address in Minnesota (e.g., letters from the Study Circles Resource Center) has typically taken a full week or longer.

If you need to get in touch with me, you have my number (612.330.1505x2). Our fax number is 612.330.1507, and the email address is: ehp@augsborg.edu

Thank you so much for the significant support you have provided to the Twin Cities community circles initiative.

Education & Housing Equity Project

2211 Riverside Avenue, CB 185

Minneapolis, MN 55454

Memo

To: Ada Sanchez, Program Officer, Study Circle Fund
From: Dick Little, Executive Director, Education and Housing Equity Project
CC:
Date: 06/22/00
Re: **Matching Grant Request Information for Study Circle Grant Award to EHEP**

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| Metropolitan Interfaith Council on Affordable Housing (non-profit organization) | \$500 |
| Minnesota Minority Education Partnership (non-profit organization) | Copying - \$250 |
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| General Mills Foundation (business, corporation) | \$500 |
| Headwaters Fund (non-profit foundation) | \$500 |
| Otto Bremer Foundation (non-profit foundation) | \$10,000 |
| <hr/> | |
| Total Cash Contributions (excluding in-kind support), 12-99 through 6-99 | \$15,100 |

Funds request from to the Study Circle Fund from the Education and Housing Equity Project, continued:

As you can see, we have exceeded the match requirement of \$10,000 of local support. We have also received substantial in-kind support from the Minnesota Facilitators Network and the Minnesota Chapter of the Society of Professionals in Dispute Resolution, the Saint Paul Neighborhood Network News and Minnesota Public Radio and, of course, partnership support from the Amherst H. Wilder Foundation (*Cities at Work*) in Saint Paul, Minnesota. We would be remiss if we did not also acknowledge the continuing support (and site visit this spring) of the Study Circles Resource Center. We in turn, have been providing significant in-kind support to *Cities at Work* and to the League of Women Voters of Minnesota's statewide study circle project, *Changing Faces, Changing Communities*.

We would like to receive the grant check before the end of this month, if at all possible. I am therefore asking for your expeditious assistance in processing this request. If it is possible to send the check via two-day express, that would be greatly appreciated, as we have learned through experience that regular first class mail service from the New England states to our address in Minnesota (e.g., letters from the Study Circles Resource Center) has typically taken a full week or longer.

If you need to get in touch with me, you have my number (612.330.1505x2). Our fax number is 612.330.1507, and the email address is: ehep@augsborg.edu

Thank you so much for the significant support you have provided to the Twin Cities community circles initiative.



The Study Circle Fund

A Project of the Topsfield Foundation

July 7, 2000

Dick Little
Education and Housing Equity Project
Augsburg College, CB 185
2211 Riverside Avenue
Minneapolis, MN 55454

Dear Dick:

Enclosed please find check number 12120 in the amount of \$10,000 representing the final installment payment of the grant for your Study Circle Fund project.

Congratulations on having raised the matching funds.

We wish you the best of luck with your work.

Sincerely,

Kimberly Longey
Deputy Director



January 12, 2000

Dick Little
Community Circle Collaborative
2211 Riverside Ave CB 185
Mpls, MN 55454

Dear Dick,

I am happy to inform you that Headwaters has approved a Special Opportunity grant of 500. Only one special opportunity grant will be awarded by Headwaters to any project within each fiscal year (July 1 to June 30).

A grant agreement is enclosed; please read, sign and return it to our office. The grant agreement is not valid and a check will not be issued until we receive the signed agreement. A progress report, as described in the agreement, is to be completed and returned to us in six months. Please call me if you have any questions.

We are pleased that we are able to support this important work. On behalf of Headwaters Board and Grants committee we wish you the best for your project.

Sincerely,

Monica Bryand
Program Officer

Enclosure

HEADWATERS FUND GRANT AGREEMENT

The Headwaters Fund (Grantor) has approved the following SOG/Project grant.

Grantee: Community Circle Collaborative
Metropolitan Citizens Summit

Amount: \$500

Purpose: Support for the Metropolitan Citizens Summit, an interactive event that will serve as the culminating event that will bring community circle participants together with public officials and move the discussions to action. The money will be used to provide scholarships to enable participation by low-income individuals and persons of color.

Grantee agrees and consents to the following conditions of the grant:

- (1) Grantee must expend the grant for charitable or educational purposes within the meaning of Internal Code Section 501(c)3, in accord with the specific grant purpose stated above. Grantee shall hold as restricted funds and repay to Grantor any portion of the amount granted which is not so expended.
- (2) After a period of six months following the grant, or when the grant money is expended, which ever occurs first, the Grantee shall submit a report to Grantor. Such report shall include:
 - (a) A brief narrative (1-2 paragraphs) on your organizations activities since receiving the Headwaters grant. If the grant was made to a specific project, report on the project.
 - (b) Description of the progress your organization has made on the goals and/or objectives you described in your written proposal. If an objective was not achieved or your organization decided not to carry it out, explain why.
 - (c) An expense report and other income report if applicable for your organization or project, compared to the budget you submitted with your proposal.
- (3) Grantee agrees to list Headwaters as a funder in all its publicity regarding the work done with this grant.
- (4) Grantee agrees that no funds shall be expended on propaganda or attempts to influence legislation without the prior permission of the grantor.

Please designate changes, if any, to the following:

Check will be written to: Community Circle Collaborative

Check will be mailed to: Dick Little
Community Circle Collaborative
2211 Riverside Ave CB 185

Mpls, MN 55454

Signed by: _____ **Title:** _____

(print name) _____ **Date:** _____

HEADWATERS FUND GRANT AGREEMENT

The Headwaters Fund (Grantor) has approved the following SOG/Project grant.

Grantee: Community Circle Collaborative
Metropolitan Citizens Summit

Amount: \$500

Purpose: Support for the Metropolitan Citizens Summit, an interactive event that will serve as the culminating event that will bring community circle participants together with public officials and move the discussions to action. The money will be used to provide scholarships to enable participation by low-income individuals and persons of color.

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 - (c) An expense report and other income report if applicable for your organization or project, compared to the budget you submitted with your proposal.
- (3) Grantee agrees to list Headwaters as a funder in all its publicity regarding the work done with this grant.
- (4) Grantee agrees that no funds shall be expended on propaganda or attempts to influence legislation without the prior permission of the grantor.

Please designate changes, if any, to the following:

Check will be written to: Community Circle Collaborative

Check will be mailed to: Dick Little
Community Circle Collaborative
2211 Riverside Ave CB 185

Mpls, MN 55454

Signed by: _____ **Title:** _____

(print name) _____ **Date:** _____

HEADWATERS FUND GRANT AGREEMENT

The Headwaters Fund (Grantor) has approved the following SOG/Project grant.

Grantee: Community Circle Collaborative
Metropolitan Citizens Summit

Amount: \$500

Purpose: Support for the Metropolitan Citizens Summit, an interactive event that will serve as the culminating event that will bring community circle participants together with public officials and move the discussions to action. The money will be used to provide scholarships to enable participation by low-income individuals and persons of color.

Grantee agrees and consents to the following conditions of the grant:

- (1) Grantee must expend the grant for charitable or educational purposes within the meaning of Internal Code Section 501(c)3, in accord with the specific grant purpose stated above. Grantee shall hold as restricted funds and repay to Grantor any portion of the amount granted which is not so expended.
- (2) After a period of six months following the grant, or when the grant money is expended, which ever occurs first, the Grantee shall submit a report to Grantor. Such report shall include:
 - (a) A brief narrative (1-2 paragraphs) on your organizations activities since receiving the Headwaters grant. If the grant was made to a specific project, report on the project.
 - (b) Description of the progress your organization has made on the goals and/or objectives you described in your written proposal. If an objective was not achieved or your organization decided not to carry it out, explain why.
 - (c) An expense report and other income report if applicable for your organization or project, compared to the budget you submitted with your proposal.
- (3) Grantee agrees to list Headwaters as a funder in all its publicity regarding the work done with this grant.
- (4) Grantee agrees that no funds shall be expended on propaganda or attempts to influence legislation without the prior permission of the grantor.

Please designate changes, if any, to the following:

Check will be written to: Community Circle Collaborative

Check will be mailed to: Dick Little
Community Circle Collaborative
2211 Riverside Ave CB 185

Mpls, MN 55454

Signed by: _____ **Title:** _____

(print name) _____ **Date:** _____

HEADWATERS FUND GRANT AGREEMENT

The Headwaters Fund (Grantor) has approved the following SOG/Project grant.

Grantee: Community Circle Collaborative Metropolitan Citizens Summit **PLEASE MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO: "EDUCATION and HOUSING EQUITY PROJECT"**

Amount: \$500

Purpose: Support for the Metropolitan Citizens Summit, an interactive event that will serve as the culminating event that will bring community circle participants together with public officials and move the discussions to action. The money will be used to provide scholarships to enable participation by low-income individuals and persons of color.

Grantee agrees and consents to the following conditions of the grant:

- (1) Grantee must expend the grant for charitable or educational purposes within the meaning of Internal Code Section 501(c)3, in accord with the specific grant purpose stated above. Grantee shall hold as restricted funds and repay to Grantor any portion of the amount granted which is not so expended.
(2) After a period of six months following the grant, or when the grant money is expended, which ever occurs first, the Grantee shall submit a report to Grantor. Such report shall include:
(a) A brief narrative (1-2 paragraphs) on your organizations activities since receiving the Headwaters grant. If the grant was made to a specific project, report on the project.
(b) Description of the progress your organization has made on the goals and/or objectives you described in your written proposal. If an objective was not achieved or your organization decided not to carry it out, explain why.
(c) An expense report and other income report if applicable for your organization or project, compared to the budget you submitted with your proposal.
(3) Grantee agrees to list Headwaters as a funder in all its publicity regarding the work done with this grant.
(4) Grantee agrees that no funds shall be expended on propaganda or attempts to influence legislation without the prior permission of the grantor.

Please designate changes, if any, to the following:

Check will be written to: ~~Community Circle Collaborative~~ **"Education and HOUSING EQUITY Project"**

Check will be mailed to: Dick Little
Community Circle Collaborative
2211 Riverside Ave CB 185

Mpls, MN 55454

Signed by: Richard C. Little

Title: EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
Education & Housing Equity PROJECT

(print name) RICHARD C. LITTLE

Date: JANUARY 18, 2000

HEADWATERS FUND GRANT AGREEMENT

The Headwaters Fund (Grantor) has approved the following SOG/Project grant.

Grantee: Community Circle Collaborative Metropolitan Citizens Summit **PLEASE MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO "EDUCATION and HOUSING EQUITY PROJECT"**

Amount: \$500

Purpose: Support for the Metropolitan Citizens Summit, an interactive event that will serve as the culminating event that will bring community circle participants together with public officials and move the discussions to action. The money will be used to provide scholarships to enable participation by low-income individuals and persons of color.

Grantee agrees and consents to the following conditions of the grant:

- (1) Grantee must expend the grant for charitable or educational purposes within the meaning of Internal Code Section 501(c)3, in accord with the specific grant purpose stated above. Grantee shall hold as restricted funds and repay to Grantor any portion of the amount granted which is not so expended.
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(c) An expense report and other income report if applicable for your organization or project, compared to the budget you submitted with your proposal.
(3) Grantee agrees to list Headwaters as a funder in all its publicity regarding the work done with this grant.
(4) Grantee agrees that no funds shall be expended on propaganda or attempts to influence legislation without the prior permission of the grantor.

Please designate changes, if any, to the following:

Check will be written to: ~~Community Circle Collaborative~~ "Education and HOUSING EQUITY Project"

Check will be mailed to: Dick Little Community Circle Collaborative 2211 Riverside Ave CB 185

Mpls, MN 55454

Signed by: Richard C. Little

Title: EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR Education & Housing Equity PROJECT

(print name) RICHARD C. LITTLE

Date: JANUARY 18, 2000

 **The Study Circle Fund**
A Project of the Topsfield Foundation

December 13, 1999

Dick Little

Education and Housing Equity Project

Augsburg College, CB 185
2211 Riverside Avenue
Minneapolis, MN 55454

Dear Dick,

I am pleased to inform you that the Board of Directors of the Topsfield Foundation has approved a grant of \$15,000 to **Education and Housing Equity Project**. The grant is for the Study Circle Project.

This grant requires \$10,000 to be matched dollar for dollar from sources within the project's region. The grant match must be raised by September 15, 2000. In-kind contributions do not count toward the match requirement.

Upon receipt of a signed copy of this letter, the Topsfield Foundation will release \$5,000. The remainder of the grant will be released upon receipt of documentation that matching funds have been received by the grant recipient (Grantee). If necessary, the matching amount may be released in installments of \$5,000 or 50% of the match amount, whichever is larger.

The grant is subject to the following terms and conditions:

1. Use of grant. The grant recipient (Grantee) will utilize and expend the grant only for charitable, educational, and scientific activities consistent with the Topsfield Foundation's (and, if applicable, Grantee's) tax-exempt status, Grantee's proposal for funding, and the Agreement's terms. Without limiting the preceding sentence's generality, Grantee will comply with §501(c)(3) criteria in all activities funded by the Topsfield Foundation's grant and will not engage in any (i) electoral advocacy (support of or opposition to a candidate for public office) or (ii) act of private inurement or private benefit.

The Grantee will engage in no substantial lobbying or, if IRC sections 501(h) and 4911 are applicable, will not engage in lobbying or grassroots lobbying in excess of the limits permitted by those laws. If Grantee is a private foundation, it will engage in no lobbying or other activity that would constitute a taxable expenditure under the IRC §4945.

2. Compliance with law. The Grantee will comply with all applicable laws in its activities, whether or not funded by this grant, and will notify the Topsfield Foundation promptly of any legal problem, question or violation it learns of regarding its actual or contemplated activities funded in whole or in part by the Topsfield Foundation's grant.

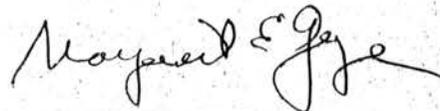
3. Expenditure Responsibility. This grant is not earmarked for transmittal to any other entity or person, whether or not mentioned in Grantee's proposal or in any other communication with the Topsfield Foundation. Rather, the Grantee accepts full responsibility for the grant, its expenditure and disposition, and compliance with the Agreement's terms and conditions, and agrees to return to the Topsfield Foundation any granted funds not so expended or committed as of the grant term's termination.

4. Reporting Requirements: The Grantee must submit a progress report ten months after the receipt of this grant agreement. This report should include a narrative review and financial statements for the Grantee and the funded project. The narrative section should critically assess the activities and programs the organization has undertaken to achieve the program's goal. The report should be no longer than three (3) pages. It may have other, relevant, materials attached to it. Financial statements should include the last audited financial statements of the organization and updated project and organization statements, as appropriate.

5. Violations of Agreement and Grant Monitoring: In case of any violation of these terms and conditions, the Topsfield Foundation reserves the right to withhold payment of the grant. Any grant funds not expended or committed for the purposes of the grant, or within the one-year period covered by this Agreement, will be returned to the Foundation. The Topsfield Foundation may monitor and conduct a review of operations under this grant, which may include a visit from Foundation personnel to observe the Grantee, discuss the program, and review financial or other records and materials connected with the activities financed by this grant.

Please have the Executive Officer of the Grantee sign the enclosed copy of this grant letter as an acceptance to these terms and conditions and return it to me. Please note that if the Grantee acts as a fiscal sponsor, the Executive Officer of the sponsoring organization must sign this Agreement. Keep one copy for your files.

Sincerely,



Margaret E. Gage

Accepted for **Education and Housing Equity Project**:

Signature

Title

Date

THE *Saint Paul* FOUNDATION

September 8, 1999

Mr. Dick Little
Executive Director
Education & Housing Equity Project
122 West Franklin Avenue
Suite 320
Minneapolis, MN 55404

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Yang Dao

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Paul A. Verret

RE: Tracking #: SP-97-0861
To help finance the "Citizens Summit".

Amount: \$5,000

Dear Mr. Little:

A recent review of our files indicates that we have not received a final report for the above referenced grant. The final report is needed to complete documentation of your grant and close the grant file.

A copy of the interim/final report form is enclosed. Complete the front of the form and use it as a cover page for your report. Report narrative guidelines can be found on the back of the form. Please include the information requested in the narrative guidelines when completing your request.

Unfortunately, the Foundation will be unable to consider additional funding requests from your organization until the past due report has been received. Your earliest attention to this matter is appreciated.

Please do not hesitate to call me at (651) 224-5463 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



Jo-Anne E. Stately
Senior Program Officer

JES:rem

THE SAINT PAUL FOUNDATION INTERIM/FINAL REPORT NARRATIVE GUIDELINES

The following information is needed by the Foundation to help it monitor the outcome of your grant.

Project Information:

1. **Activities:** List and briefly describe all grant-supported activities completed to date, and outcomes, if applicable. List and briefly describe any activities that were not completed and indicate why they were not completed.
2. **Concerns/Unintended Outcomes:** List and describe any problems encountered as well as any changes in plans or personnel, and unintended outcomes that have occurred to date.

Financial Information:

3. **Total Project Cost:** Provide total project income and expense information to date, including actual income and expense comparison to the original budget provided in the proposal. Please submit a certified audit including the grant period, if available.
4. **Budget Changes:** Describe budget changes approved by the Foundation or other financial adaptations required by some unanticipated situation.
5. **Grant Funds:** Indicate the grant funds spent to date as well as any unexpended grant funds.
6. **Other Sources of Project Support:** Provide a list of grant requests and amounts approved, denied, or pending for this project.

Appendices:

7. Attach copies of any articles, reports, brochures, etc., related to this project.

**INTERIM/FINAL REPORT FORM
FOR GRANTS MADE BY THE SAINT PAUL FOUNDATION**

To be completed annually by multi-year projects and at the end of the grant period by all projects.

Please complete this Form and provide it as a cover sheet to the Interim or Final Report Narrative. The report narrative should follow the guidelines provided on the back of this form.

This form should be copied and used for multi-year reporting purposes, if applicable. Please address this report to the Program Officer responsible for this grant, noted on your Terms of Grant Agreement.

Grant Number: _____ Date Submitted: _____

Name of Recipient Organization: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: () _____

Project Title: _____

Total Grant Amount: _____

Purpose of Grant: _____

Conditions of Grant, if any: _____

| | |
|-----------------|---------------------|
| Type of Report: | Grant Period: |
| Interim _____ | Starting Date _____ |
| Final _____ | Ending Date _____ |

Grant Funds Expended to Date: _____

Name of Project Director: _____

Telephone: () _____



1999-2000
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- Past Chairperson
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PRESIDENT

- Lauren A. Segal

- Executive Committee

April 10, 2000

Richard Little
 Executive Director
 Education & Housing Equity Project
 Augsburg College
 2211 Riverside Avenue, CB 185
 Minneapolis, MN 55454

Dear Mr. Little:

I'm writing to inquire about the status of your organization's project funded by a 1998 United Way Community Investment Fund grant award. Our records indicate that your group has an account balance of \$2,000.00 remaining. Your original application indicated that your grant funds would be spent within a year of the grant award date.

It's been some time since I've heard from you and would appreciate knowing if you have finished your project. If yes, then the Community Investment Fund Advisory Committee needs to have a final report on your project and an expense statement indicating how you spent the grant award. I'm happy to send you a copy of the CIF final report packet. If you are still working on your project, please let me know when you expect to accomplish your project. It's important that we wrap up outstanding projects in order to help new groups who will be applying for funds in 2000.

I'd appreciate hearing from you by Monday, May 15, 2000. I can be reached at 651-291-8358. Thank you.

Sincerely,



Marlene Fahning
 Manager
 Community Building





January 31, 2000

Dick Little
Community Circle Collaborative
2211 Riverside Ave CB 185
Mpls, MN 55454

Dear Dick,

I am pleased to award your SOG/Project grant with the enclosed check of \$500. A report on your activities and use of this funding is due in our office by July 25, 2000.

This report should include:

- (a) A brief narrative (1-2 paragraphs) on your organizations activities since receiving the Headwaters grant. If the grant was made to a specific project, report on the project.
- (b) Description of the progress your organization has made on the goals and/or objectives you described in your written proposal. If an objective was not achieved or your organization decided not to carry it out, explain why.
- (c) An expense report and other income report if applicable for your organization or project, compared to the budget you submitted with your proposal.

As a reminder, your signed grant agreement stated that you agreed to list Headwaters as a funder in all your publicity regarding the work done with this grant. We would be happy to post any publicity you may produce. Also enclosed is a sample "News Release". We encourage you to submit this to your local media venue.

Please return the enclosed Grantee Update form if you have news to share with us. We would like to use photos or other information you can supply us with for use in our annual report and other print materials. In addition, file your Follow-Up Report on the progress of your project(s) within six months.

On behalf of Headwaters Board and Grants Committee, I wish you success as you work to build a power, progressive movement for social change.

Sincerely,

Monica Bryand
Program Officer
122 West Franklin Avenue, Suite 518
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55404

HEADWATERS FUND

November 30, 2000

Dick Little
Community Circle Collaborative
2211 Riverside Ave. CB 185
Minneapolis, MN 55454

Dear Dick,

I am writing to request a Follow-up Report as agreed to in your latest Grant Agreement with Headwaters Fund. The report was due after a period of six months following the grant, or when the grant money was expended, whichever occurred first. If you are unable to submit the report within the next 30 days, please call the Headwaters office to make other arrangements. In the case that you have already filed the report and we've misplaced it, our apologies.

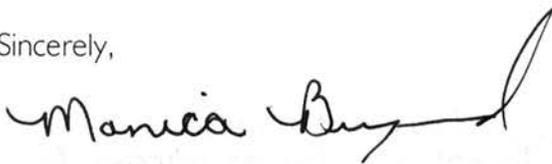
This report should include:

- (a) A brief narrative (1-2 paragraphs) on your organization's activities since receiving the Headwaters grant. If the grant was made to a specific project, report on the project.
- (b) Description of the progress your organization has made on the goals and/or objectives you described in your written proposal. If an objective was not achieved or your organization decided not to carry it out, explain why.
- (c) An expense report and other income report if applicable for your organization or project, compared to the budget you submitted with your proposal.

Enclosed you will find the coversheet and budget you submitted with your proposal. Please refer to your objectives and budget when writing your follow-up report.

On behalf of Headwaters Board and Grants Committee, we wish you success and look forward to receiving your Follow-up Report.

Sincerely,



Monica Bryand
Program Officer

Enclosures

HEADWATERS FUND GRANT AGREEMENT

The Headwaters Fund (Grantor) has approved the following SOG/Project grant.

Grantee: Community Circle Collaborative
Metropolitan Citizens Summit

Amount: \$500

Purpose: Support for the Metropolitan Citizens Summit, an interactive event that will serve as the culminating event that will bring community circle participants together with public officials and move the discussions to action. The money will be used to provide scholarships to enable participation by low-income individuals, persons of color and recent immigrants to attend.

Grantee agrees and consents to the following conditions of the grant:

- (1) Grantee must expend the grant for charitable or educational purposes within the meaning of Internal Code Section 501(c)3, in accord with the specific grant purpose stated above. Grantee shall hold as restricted funds and repay to Grantor any portion of the amount granted which is not so expended.
- (2) After a period of six months following the grant, or when the grant money is expended, which ever occurs first, the Grantee shall submit a report to Grantor. Such report shall include:
 - (a) A brief narrative (1-2 paragraphs) on your organizations activities since receiving the Headwaters grant. If the grant was made to a specific project, report on the project.
 - (b) Description of the progress your organization has made on the goals and/or objectives you described in your written proposal. If an objective was not achieved or your organization decided not to carry it out, explain why.
 - (c) An expense report and other income report if applicable for your organization or project, compared to the budget you submitted with your proposal.
- (3) Grantee agrees to list Headwaters as a funder in all its publicity regarding the work done with this grant.
- (4) Grantee agrees that no funds shall be expended on propaganda or attempts to influence legislation without the prior permission of the grantor.

Please designate changes, if any, to the following:

Check will be written to: Community Circle Collaborative

Check will be mailed to: Dick Little
Community Circle Collaborative
2211 Riverside Ave. CB 185
Minneapolis, MN 55454

Signed by: _____ **Title:** _____

(print name) _____ **Date:** _____

GENERAL MILLS, INC. • EXECUTIVE OFFICES

Number One General Mills Boulevard • Minneapolis, Minnesota

December 20, 1999

Mr. Dick Little
AICP, Executive Director
Augsburg College
CB185
2211 Riverside Avenue
Minneapolis, MN 55454

Dear Mr. Little:

General Mills, Inc. is pleased to enclose its check in the amount of \$500, a corporate contribution to support the Metropolitan Citizens Summit: Addressing the Challenge of Education, Housing and Race in the Twin Cities.

Acknowledgement of this contribution should be sent to my attention at General Mills, Inc., P.O. Box 1113, Minneapolis, MN 55440.

Sincerely,


Reatha C. King

RCK/jrt
Enclosure
00-417

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

Twin Cities Campus

CURA (Center for Urban and Regional Affairs)

*330 HHH Center
301-19th Avenue South
Minneapolis, MN 55455
612-625-1551
Fax: 612-626-0273
E-mail: cura@tc.umn.edu
<http://www.umn.edu/cura>*

November 16, 1999

Dick Little, Executive Director
Education and Housing Equity Project
Augsburg College CB 185
2211 Riverside Ave.
Minneapolis, MN 55454

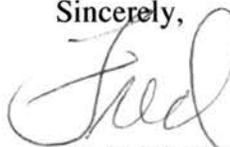
Dear Dick,

The University of Minnesota's Center for Urban and Regional Affairs (CURA) would be pleased to be a co-sponsor of the Citizens Summit. CURA will provide \$500 towards meeting the costs of the Summit. Thank you for the invitation and for the encouraging information about the progress of the community circle conversations project.

Please send an invoice with instructions for payment to Tony Muma at the letterhead address. If you have any questions about CURA's support of the Summit please don't hesitate to contact me at 625-0508.

Again, CURA is pleased to be able to support your important work and we look forward to the Summit.

Sincerely,



Frederick W. Smith, Coordinator
Community Development Programs

cc. Tony Muma



Augsburg College, CB 185
2211 Riverside Avenue
Minneapolis, MN 55454
P: 612-330-1505
F: 612-330-1507
E: eh@augsb.org

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Dick Little, AICP
Executive Director

Amy Rodquist
Community Circles Coordinator

Tony Muma
Center for Urban and Regional Affairs
330 Humphrey Center
301 - 19th Avenue South
Minneapolis, MN 55455

Dear Ms. Muma:

At this time we are submitting our invoice to you for CURA's co-sponsorship and support of the Metropolitan Citizens Summit held on December 17, 1999. As soon as the report on the results of the Summit is completed, we will be transmitting a copy to Fred Smith at your office.

We were very pleased that attendance at the Summit surpassed 300 participants, 100 more than we had anticipated. Nearly 500 citizens and community leaders attended the Minnesota Meeting luncheon with Dr. Lani Guinier. We were also pleased that we achieved a high degree of racial, ethnic and economic diversity among the participants; between one-third and one-half of the participants were persons of color, and fully 25% of the participants requested and were provided scholarships to cover the modest cost of registration (primarily for meals and hand-out materials).

The total cost of the Summit approached the budget originally submitted to CURA, but total support for the Summit fell somewhat short, so your financial assistance is definitely helping to fill the gap.

Please make the check out for \$500.00 to: **Education and Housing Equity Project** to be mailed to: **Augsburg College, CB 185, 2211 Riverside Avenue, Minneapolis, MN 55454.**

We were pleased to have identified CURA as co-sponsor of the Summit, and we deeply appreciate your support of our work.

Sincerely,

Dick Little
Executive Director

cc. Frederick Smith, CURA

Enclosures

For the Life of Our Community.

THE
MINNEAPOLIS

FOUNDATION



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October 22, 1999

Mr. Dick Little

Executive Director

Education & Housing Equity Project

Augsburg College CB 185

2211 Riverside Avenue

Minneapolis, MN 55454

Dear Mr. Little:

We have received the proposal you submitted to The Minneapolis Foundation through the One-Door process. Program staff members have carefully reviewed your request and all others received to determine how well they meet the Foundation's mission, vision, grantmaking interests and preferred strategies, and have selected a limited number of proposals for further review.

In this grant round, proposals were received from 224 organizations. This necessitated a rigorous screening process since the availability of funds allows grants to be awarded to only about a quarter of applicant organizations.

While recognizing the importance of the work that you are doing, we unfortunately are unable to consider your request further during this grant period. You are eligible to reapply in the spring; the next grant deadline is Wednesday, March 15 at 4:30 p.m.

We wish you every success as you go forward in your efforts to raise the necessary funds for your program. If you have questions, please call Patti Marsh Cagle, grants administrator, (612) 672-3837.

Sincerely,

Dianne Lev

Director of Programs

dl:pmc

Request #: 1999-2128

A200 Foshay Tower

821 Marquette Avenue

Minneapolis, MN 55402

Telephone 612.339.7343

Fax 612.672.3846

www.mplsfoundation.org



Bush Foundation

East 900 332 St. Paul, Tel: 651-227-0891
First National Minnesota Minnesota Fax: 651-297-6485
Bank Building Street 55101

December 14, 1999

Mr. Matthew Little, President
Education and Housing Equity Project
122 West Franklin Avenue, Suite 320
Minneapolis, MN 55404

Dear Mr. Little:

A review of our files indicates that we have not received scheduled reports for a Bush Foundation grant to Education and Housing Equity Project.

The grant and any missing reports are described below:

Grant: No: 6663 Amount: \$10,000
Awarded: October 22, 1996
Duration: November 1, 1996 through March 31, 1997
Purpose: For study circles on the relationship between housing segregation and education.

| <u>Report(s) Due</u> | <u>Date(s) Due</u> |
|----------------------|--------------------|
| Final Financial | June 30, 1997 |
| Final Project | June 30, 1997 |

Among the questions which concern us are: What has this grant accomplished? Could this project have been accomplished without Bush funds, or with a smaller grant? In what important respects did the apparent results of this grant differ from those predicted in the original proposal?

Interim and financial reports should show how Bush Foundation funds were spent. If funds were for general operating purposes, a copy of your financial statements will meet our needs. If for a special project, a listing of expenditures of Bush funds should be provided. Any unspent Bush Foundation funds, or funds not used for the purposes of the grant, should be returned with the final financial report unless other arrangements have been made with The Bush Foundation before the end of the grant period.

Will you please send us any past due reports so that we may bring our grant files up to date. **Failure to comply with the reporting requirements under the terms of the Agreement of Donee could delay disbursement of any future grant payments.** Please call or write if you have any questions about our grant reporting requirements.

Sincerely,

Connie Thompson
Connie S. Thompson
Chief Financial Officer

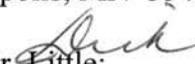
CST:jh

OTTO BREMER FOUNDATION

Suite 2000, 445 Minnesota Street, St. Paul, MN 55101-2107 - (651) 227-8036 - (888) 291-1123 - Fax (651) 312-3550 - email: obf@bremer.com

June 15, 2000

Mr. Dick Little
Education and Housing Equity Project
Augsburg College, CB 185
2211 Riverside Avenue
Minneapolis, MN 55454

Dear Mr.  Little:

Enclosed please find our check in the amount of \$10,000 made payable to the Education and Housing Equity Project. This check represents the Otto Bremer Foundation's support to expand public understanding and informed action on community, residential, economic, and racial segregation.

Our records indicate that you have not submitted a progress report for the previous grant year. We ask that you submit such a report at this time.

Both Trustees and staff of the Foundation are pleased to be of assistance.

Sincerely,

OTTO BREMER FOUNDATION



Karen Starr
Senior Program Officer
KS/lm
Encl.

Ms. Linda Marrone
Grants Manager
Otto Bremer Foundation
445 Minnesota Street, Suite 2000
Saint Paul, MN 55101

Dear Ms. Marrone:

Subject: Report on 1999 Grant to the Education & Housing Equity Project
Community Circles on Education, Housing and Race in the Twin Cities
June 1999 – June 2000

We want to thank the Bremer Foundation for their continuing support of our work on engaging citizens in the metropolitan region on the critical issues of education, housing, race and segregation and what can be done to address these issues. Enclosed is our report on the first year of a two year grant. The report includes a narrative account of activities and accomplishments and financial statements for calendar year 1999 and the first five months of 2000. All of the Bremer funds were spent to support the operation of the Education and Housing Equity Project in implementing the Community Circles Dialogue Project.

If these reports are satisfactory to the Bremer Foundation, we request a release of the second year funding on June 15, 2000 as we discussed on the phone. This will also trigger the release of an equivalent sized grant (\$10,000) from the Study Circles Fund of the Topsfield Foundation in Connecticut.

Sincerely,

Richard C. Little
Executive Director

EDUCATION & HOUSING EQUITY PROJECT BREMER GRANT 1999 REPORT

REPORT ON ACCOMPLISHMENTS

During 1999, EHEP held its third and fourth round of Community Circles, the first two rounds having been held in 1997 and 1998. The 1999 rounds were significantly larger than previous rounds and included so many innovations that resulted from a thorough assessment of previous experiences and collaborations with new project partners, most significantly the Wilder Foundation in Saint Paul.

**Study Circles Best Practices Project
Twin Cities—Minneapolis-St. Paul, Minnesota
Site Visit Notes, August 18-20, 1999
Prepared by Ratnesh Nagda**

This is a summary report for the Study Circles Best Practices Project visit Twin Cities (Minneapolis-St. Paul), Minnesota. This report, prepared by Ratnesh Nagda, will be refined with input from interviewees as well as other Best Practices team members.

Overview of Visit

Dick Little, Executive Director of the Education & Housing Equity Project (EHEP) and Bart Rose of Wilder Foundation coordinated the site visit. The study circles effort in the Twin Cities, Minnesota, is a collaborative partnership between EHEP (based in Minneapolis) and Wilder Foundation (based in St. Paul). Before the visit, I had reviewed the SCRC materials on Twin Cities, Minnesota. I also collected other materials while in the Twin Cities.

I formally interviewed 37 people: 1 African American woman, 4 African American men, 2 Latino men, 1 Native American woman, 1 Asian American (Chinese) woman, 1 Asian American (East Indian) man, 16 White/European American women, and 11 White/European American men. [NEED TO CHECK IF ALL INTERVIEWEES ARE ACCOUNTED FOR] The interviewees were connected to the study circles in a variety of ways: organizers, partners, facilitators, participants, Board members and research staff. Many of interviews were conducted in groups (from a total of 3 people to 20 people). Some were conducted individually. Dick Little sat in on most of the interviews with the exception of two individual interviews and one group interview. Meetings with interviewees were held in a variety of places—offices of the Wilder Foundation, Augsburg College premises, restaurant, interviewees' offices, and at a community center. Part of interviews/conversations with Dick were also conducted in the car as well as the Mall of America! I either audio-recorded the interviews or took hand-written notes. Interviews lasted between 50-150 minutes. I also attended an EHEP Board meeting, a planning meeting for the "Call to Action" forum, and a presentation on study circles by a group in Bloomington, MN. I conducted a short debriefing of the visit before departing. I also had a chance to take a quick tour of the Twin Cities.

Background

The Twin Cities area consists of the metropolitan areas of St. Paul and Minnesota. According to the US Census data from 1990, it had a combined population of 640,618 (with the State population being 4,375,099). In Twin Cities, people of color make up 21.1% of this population (6.1% state-wide)—African American 10.5%, Latino/a 2.8%, Asian American/Pacific Islander 5.4%, and Native American 2.3% (see table below). Population estimates and projections from 1995 to 2025 predict increasing diversity in the state with higher growth rates among the ethnic minority populations compared the White population. Between 1995 and 2025, the growth rates are predicted to be: Whites (8%), African American (113%), Asian American/Pacific Islander 104%, Native American 51%, and Latino/Hispanic origin (248%). Overall, the state ethnic minority population increased by 42% from 1990 to 1995, and will represent almost 17% of the total state population by 2025.¹

¹ Minnesota Planning State Demographic Center (1998). Faces of the future: Minnesota Population Projections 1995-2025.

*SCRC Best Practices Project—Twin Cities, Minnesota
Summary Report/ DRAFT 10-Dec-99*

| US Census Data 1990 | Minneapolis (total: 368,383) | St. Paul (total: 272,235) |
|---------------------------------------|---|--------------------------------------|
| White (non-Hispanic) | 285,656 (77.5%) | 219,890 (80.8%) |
| Black/African American (non-Hispanic) | 47,374 (12.9%) | 19,777 (7.3%) |
| Hispanic American | 7,900 (2.1%) | 10,318 (3.8%) |
| Asian-Pacific Islander (non-Hispanic) | 15,740 (4.3%) | 18,870 (6.9%) |
| Native American (non-Hispanic) | 11,652 (3.2%) | 3,048 (1.1%) |
| Other | 61 (.02%) | 382 (0.14%) |

The Study Circles effort in Twin Cities originated under the auspices of the Education and Housing Equity Project (EHEP). Currently, it is a collaborative project between EHEP and the Wilder Foundation. The partnership was started in 1998. I provide some background on both EHEP and Wilder Foundation in relation to their work on the study circles, or community circles collaborative as they are known in the Twin Cities. The focus has been metro-wide; Dick explains it thus:

I think geographic diversity is important.... That's where we are taking on a metro-wide focus rather than just a community or neighborhood focus. Admittedly each circle tends to focus on those issues as manifested in their own immediate community. But it's important that we have those conversations going on all around the Twin Cities because eventually this leads to a metropolitan conversation about how do we survive and how do we sustain ourselves and how do we grow as a region because one of the things we hope that comes out of this project, this isn't just an understanding of racism or a race or what we need to do with our schools and housing, but also an understanding of ourselves as part of a region where we're interdependent with one another. ... So part of what we're trying to promote is metropolitan citizenship.

Education and Housing Equity Project (EHEP)

EHEP itself was formed in 1995 at the time of a NAACP-initiated lawsuit against the State of Minnesota for inadequate education of children of color. The lawsuit was brought forward because of the State's failure [OR VIOLATION OR REFUSAL?] to implement a 1971 ruling for school desegregation. Prior to the lawsuit, when the violation was brought to the State's attention, there were attempts to reconcile. The State appointed a Round Table comprised of school superintendents from throughout the metropolitan areas, and representatives from Duluth and Rochester (two of the largest cities), school PTAs, teachers' union, Urban League, and the League of Women voters. The Round Table was a form of mediation, but it was not successful. One of the recommendations that came out of this was for metropolitan-wide desegregation. But the then Republican Governor Carlson sabotaged the whole effort. Thus, the forewarned of lawsuit was filed. It was filed as an "adequacy lawsuit" rather than a "desegregation lawsuit"; adequacy referring to the level and quality of education provided and segregated schools (economic and racial isolation) disadvantaging students of color. Upon the filing of

*SCRC Best Practices Project—Twin Cities, Minnesota
Summary Report/ DRAFT 10-Dec-99*

the lawsuit, with the opening of mediation still possible, the Judge indicated that it would be best to work out an agreement with the State. In addition, if this were to go to the courts, it would be necessary for the plaintiffs to have a wide cross section of supporters for their ideas. At that time, Matt Little (as President of NAACP) and Barbara Bearman began to think about ways to get the broadest representation of support. Thus, EHEP was born!

The thinking behind EHEP was that school segregation is a result of the intersection of schools and housing; if neighborhoods were integrated, then schools would be too. One of the founders said that, however, schools can be desegregated even if the neighborhoods are not. Therefore, EHEP was founded as a way to support the lawsuit and with three goals: (1) to encourage and develop conversation circles; (2) collaborate and form coalitions; and (3) assist the community in its integration efforts.

EHEP's current mission statement reads:

The purpose of the Education & Housing Equity Project (EHEP) is to build board-based partnerships that engage Twin Cities area citizens in public discussion, analysis and action that promotes racially and economically inclusive communities which provide families and children of all races, incomes and ethnic backgrounds access to quality housing and schools throughout the metropolitan area.²

The founders both claimed that EHEP has now grown beyond this original conception and taken on a life of its own. Even though the community circles (as study circles are now known) do much more than what is embodied in the lawsuit, the founders see it as still supporting the lawsuit. The issues of housing and education that are still part of the community circles do raise public awareness of issues related to the lawsuit. It seems that activism around housing issues (through MICAH—Metropolitan Interfaith Coalition for Affordable Housing) could support the education issue. In addition to Matt Little and Barbara Bearman, Mike Anderson (the Executive Director of MICAH) was also a founder of EHEP. The founders contended that people need to recognize the connection between stable and affordable housing and success in school. [These issues were interconnected from the beginning; in fact, there were four principles proposed as a remedy for the lawsuit: desegregated schools, transportation, more money for schools and affordable housing—CHECK ON THIS]. At the present, the lawsuit/mediation is still pending, and it is not clear as to where it is headed.

Wilder Foundation

The Wilder Foundation, based in St. Paul, is an endowed non-profit human services organization with over 90 programs. It is not a grant-making institution; it gets its funding from a Wilder subsidy and from external grants or fee-for-services. It was founded in 1906 with a traditional focus on providing services to children and families, but now is involved in multiple programs such as, consulting, planning, civic engagement in neighborhoods in St. Paul, and services to other organizations.

In 1993, Wilder got involved in community forums, more formally known as Cities at Work. This effort had grown out of the Foundation President asking for input from community residents, business leaders and non-profits on what the pressing needs were in the community. One of the clear messages was that the need for people to come together more and address these issues as a community. The Cities at Work developed from this idea, and have involved anywhere from 200-400 people, three or four times a year. Issues such as economic development, housing and community building have been discussed. At one point, Wilder had sent out a team of people to four different cities in the country to see the best ideas

² EHEP Mission Statement and Current Activities (revised 5-1-99)

*SCRC Best Practices Project—Twin Cities, Minnesota
Summary Report/ DRAFT 10-Dec-99*

and best practices in action—Chattanooga, TN (community development); Cleveland, OH (corporate community involvement), Portland, OR (containing urban growth); and, Burlington, VT (affordable housing). The team went to each of these places and also invited people from these places to speak at the forums.

The Wilder staff discovered that they had low participation from communities of color and needed to take a more direct look at how race and racism impacted the challenges they had identified. In 1999, therefore, they took on an effort to have a public dialogue on race, connections and commitments—known as “Unleashing the Power of our Community.” They had two forums in the Spring of 1999 and two more were planned for the Fall. A youth forum was also held. The forums are usually held in local churches, schools or community sties. Keynote speakers start these forums, followed by small group discussion and wrap up. The final forum in the series is devoted to a call to action. It also serves as the final forum to the community circle dialogues. At the forum, different organizations (e.g., those connected with housing, anti-racism, etc.) will send representatives to serve as resource people for those interested in connecting to action. Organizers have also designed to have pledge cards that participants can write down their commitments to taking action. This was planned for November 8, 1999.

While the staff is mainly from Wilder Foundation, the Cities at Work was also a collaborative effort with a multi-sector community development planning group comprised of city economic planning; development department, community groups and local businesses. Such a partnership is fostered to develop community ownership of the project. A publication, Community Matters, also supports the work of the forums and the community circle dialogues.

Throughout these forums, people felt that they needed more time to talk; the lack of time to talk in either the large forum or the small groups was frustrating for people. And, issues of race and racism kept on coming up at the forums but at that point, Wilder didn't have any ways to address that. It was at this point that they connected with EHEP's project on community circle dialogues. The fact that that was already in motion, and “a tool in place,” provided a framework to use. In addition, they had a discussion guide, and access to facilitators.

The next sections of the summary report outline different aspects of the study circles efforts and its impact on the community.

A: Collaboration between EHEP & Wilder Foundation

A major organizing strategy, perhaps unique to the Twin Cities, MN, is the regional partnership. While the already developed program at EHEP was an attraction for Wilder Foundation, EHEP's attraction to the partnership was to work with a St. Paul-based organization. They couldn't see going into St. Paul from Minneapolis and doing community circles by themselves. They needed an organization with some history and commitments to the city. In the interviews, I also gathered that the two cities have different sensibilities, and this is evident in how community-based organizations (CBOs) operate. St. Paul appears to have more friendly and collaborative relations between CBOs and the local government, while that relationship is more conflictual and strained in Minneapolis.

B: Partners/Sponsors Recruitment and Coalition building

It is evident that the community circle dialogues have a broad and diverse network of partners and sponsors. In some ways, it is a decentralized network even though EHEP/Wilder provide a lot of

*SCRC Best Practices Project—Twin Cities, Minnesota
Summary Report/ DRAFT 10-Dec-99*

guidance and support. The sponsors/partners are in charge of providing space, recruiting participants and conducting the circles. There is no particular time frame during which all the circles meet; rather, it is left flexible and open as to the most convenient arrangement for the sponsor/partner.

Dick Little shared a helpful typology of partners:

- (a) Organizing or project partners—those who help organize/ possible partners for steering committee;
- (b) Resource partners—e.g. Institute for Race and Poverty research organization, worked with them early on and they provided resources, and information for discussion guides. Both MFN and SPIDR would be considered resource partners as they provided facilitators.
- (c) Sponsors—preferable organizations (not individuals) that are responsible for setting schedule, recruiting folks and creating comfortable environment;
- (d) Facilitators and scribes—those who are actually involved in running and documenting the proceedings of the circle dialogues;
- (e) Media Partners—[CHECK WITH DICK ON FUNCTION];
- (f) Action partners—may come on board later in the process, at the action forum level, and can absorb new volunteers.

Sponsors and partners are recruited through large orientation meetings, informational sessions, showing Lima video, interest generated from Forums and so on. A lot of time and energy is expended in follow up calls, etc. Organizers have found that the neighborhood press is more responsive than the big press. Some of the current partners include (not exhaustive list): Minnesota Fair Housing Network MICAH, Minnesota Minority Education Program (MMEP), MN League of Human Rights Commissions, Council of Metropolitan Area Leagues of Women Voters, Mn Churches Anti-Racism Initiative (MCARI), MN Facilitators' Network, SPIDR, MN Public Schools, Asian Pacific Endowment for Community Development, Catholic Charities, City Solutions, East Side Neighborhood Development/VISTA, Jane Addams School for Democracy, Leadership Saint Paul, Local Initiatives Support Corporation, MRA Initiatives for Change-Twin Cities, Minnesota Hmong Chamber of Commerce, National Conference for Community and Justice, St. Paul Area Council of Churches, Saint Paul Human Rights Department, St. Paul/Ramsey Children's Initiative, St. Paul Department of Planning and Economic Development, St. Paul Planning Commission, St. Paul Public Schools, 3M Corporation, United Way of the St. Paul Area, University UNITED, The Urban Coalition, YMCA of Greater St. Paul and a diverse group of community volunteers.

There has been a growing interest from the schools to sponsor the circle dialogues. It seemed like the schools at the district level are undergoing change and are looking for new ways to do things. There is a new superintendent in St. Paul and all work processes are being shifted. [NEED TO GET MORE INFORMATION ON THIS].

Organizers remarked that they still need to reach more grassroots groups.

Given that the circle dialogues are organized and scheduled by sponsors, they occur throughout the year. While this is helpful in terms of sponsors having more ownership and flexibility, there were also some drawbacks noted. For example, over the long term, the lack of a "compressed" time frame when all the circles are happening simultaneously detracts from having a critical mass and conversation that would garner some media attention. While this is becoming a regional issue, with circles happening all around the metro area, it is not apparent if all the citizens have embraced it.

*SCRC Best Practices Project—Twin Cities, Minnesota
Summary Report/ DRAFT 10-Dec-99*

C: Facilitator Recruitment & Training

The community circle collaborative has formed a strong partnership with Minnesota Facilitators' Network and the Society for Professionals in Dispute Resolution (SPIDR). Barbara Blackstone, a mediator with Minnesota Office of Dispute Resolution, and a member of SPIDR, has taken the leadership in recruiting and training facilitators. Together with Dick, they made a decision to recruit experienced facilitators to help ensure that the dialogue experience was in fact positive for participants. Feedback from previous groups had reflected some drawbacks. Another factor that helped involve professional/experienced facilitators was that the national SPIDR was encouraging its members to get involved in race dialogues.

Facilitator training currently is spread out over an evening and a full day. In addition, there are special trainings available on institutional racism (full day, put on by Jim and Nadine Addington) and cross-cultural communication (half-day with Karima Bushnell). Facilitator support and back-up during the duration of the circle dialogues was seen as a good idea but not yet implemented.

The facilitators also got more involved in the project in providing revisions to the discussion guide. During a facilitator training workshop with Matt and an SCRC Associate, a group of facilitators raised the issue of needing more specific training for facilitators as well as needing to revise the discussion guide. The questions did not seem to invite participation or involved discussion but made people defend their positions/viewpoints. The guide was seen to be too content-oriented with "leading questions," and short on the process end, i.e. relationship building aspects. Some of the facilitators, therefore, got involved in revising the guide.

I do not yet have an idea of the diversity among facilitators.

D: Participant Recruitment

Apart from sponsors recruiting participants for circle dialogues that they were hosting, and using the media, I did not get a clear sense of how participants were recruited for the dialogues.

E: Connecting dialogue to action

Action forums: The visit came at a time when things had been put in motion but the action forum was to happen in November. Some of the ways in which participants could move from dialogue to action, linking participants and the community circle dialogues with public officials, and others still remained to be seen. [FOLLOW-UP CALL TO SEE HOW THIS TURNED OUT]. The action forum, "Beyond tolerance: A call to action," was planned for November 8, 1999, to bring together all forum and dialogue participants. A coalition of organizations have been working on this, including St. Paul Council of Churches, Education and Housing Equality Project, MN Advocates for Human Rights, Minnesota Minority Education Project, Saint Paul Housing Campaign, Alliance for Metropolitan Stability, Immigration Task Force, Minnesota Churches Anti-Racism Initiative, Metropolitan Interfaith Council on Affordable Housing, St. Paul Ecumenical Alliance of Congregations, Hamline/Midway Alliance for a Prejudice Free Community, and others.

Presentations to governing bodies: Dick Little, in a way to encourage a connection between dialogue and input on public policy, has been encouraging circle participants to make presentations to human rights commissions or city councils. For example, in Bloomington, MN, one group was able to present their learnings and ideas for change to both the city council and the human rights commission. A

*SCRC Best Practices Project—Twin Cities, Minnesota
Summary Report/ DRAFT 10-Dec-99*

factor that facilitated this was that some members of the circle dialogue were on the Human Rights Commission while others were encouraged to become a part of that.

Action with sponsoring organization: One idea mentioned was that even dialogue in itself is powerful, but when such dialogue is tied to a way a sponsoring organization does its work, then participants are able to inform the choices or policies for change, identify what they need to adjust as organizations.

E: Outcomes of study circles

Legislation [NEED TO GET MORE INFORMATION ON THIS FROM DICK]

- Contributions to the idea of mixed housing and the development of the Inclusionary Housing Act in the 1999 Minnesota Legislature
- Citizen push for affordable housing legislation in 1999.

Community

- One of the founders said that the level of community awareness on the issues of education and housing has risen. Many of the housing groups that they had approached to work with had not thought about the issue of education. So, it has been important as a community to identify the interconnections among the issues and move forward on many fronts. Such awareness, she hopes, can lead to the necessary critical mass to bring about policy and legislative changes.
- Another partner talked about community change as being evolutionary.
- EHEP and other partners were invited to the mediation team, workshops and groups in connection with settling the NAACP "adequacy" lawsuit.
- Community education effort through theater—production of Illusion's Theater "Like Waters Rolling Down" – a musical play about justice in housing. Sponsored by the US Department of Housing and Urban Development, six presentations were done throughout the metropolitan area with 7000 citizens attending.

Organizational

- Minnesota SPIDR got an award from their national organization for their work on the circle dialogues. There is also a raised awareness about volunteering in the community, to use their skills and give back to the community.

Individual

- Cultural awareness is seen as a positive outcome of the community circles.
- Greater awareness among neighbors, e.g. relations between residents in an affordable housing situation for elderly and their neighbors improved after the circles.
- For the facilitators, they also became much more aware of some of the issues. "It gave them an opportunity to meet people who come from very different backgrounds than they do, hear their perspectives, see some of the dynamics of trying to keep a dialogue going on some of these issues." There was a heightened interest to do more such facilitation.

*SCRC Best Practices Project—Twin Cities, Minnesota
Summary Report/ DRAFT 10-Dec-99*

- Making it easy for people to talk together about the issues of housing, education and race.

D: Ideas about the future

In the context of the new partnership between EHEP and Wilder Foundation, the community circle collaborative is at a critical juncture in its development. There is widespread interest and high potential for this work to have an impact on the region. At the time of the visit, many aspects of the work were still in a formative stage, and organizers are waiting to assess the 1999 efforts before making future plans. The interest and commitment to continue is obvious; what form it will take remains to be seen. Ideas for the future that emerged in the interviews:

- Solidifying structure, possible organizing a steering committee to help develop a strategic plan and guide the process (this idea came up on the St. Paul side)
- An EHEP board member brought up the issue of extending the circles to six weeks so that the final session can be used to connect up people to issues and actions in the community.
- One of the founders said that the strength of community circles/EHEP will be in its staying power. The civil rights work that it envisions is a life-time's work and has to continue on. Financial resources are the critical need now to keep alive.
- From the perspective of the Wilder foundation, the collaborative round of 1999 was the trial and future decisions will be made after assessing how the round goes. A lot of potential is recognized, but a long term plan has not yet been decided upon. Many new partners are getting interested and/or coming on board.
- Continued grant writing and fund seeking.

Other ideas were listed in a grant proposal to the McNight Foundation:

- Increased participation by suburban communities, increasing racial diversity in circles, and more youth involvement in circles
- Improved action formation
- Building of stronger media, public official and business partnerships

E: Assessment and evaluation

There has been some information collected from participants as well as facilitators about the circle dialogue experience. This information had not yet been systematically compiled or documented, and it is one of the things Dick has on his agenda.

On a more formal level, the Wilder Foundation has a Research Center that is assisting with assessment and evaluation of participants in the community circles. In a meeting with the Research staff, they stressed that there is a mandate from the Foundation Board to have program evaluation attached to Wilder-sponsored programs so that they can say something about its effectiveness and satisfaction. There were plans to do a retrospective follow-up of participants by a phone interview. Since St. Paul participants could participate in community circles and/or

*SCRC Best Practices Project—Twin Cities, Minnesota
Summary Report/ DRAFT 10-Dec-99*

forums, they have designed a methodology to get some comparative data (i.e., only forum participant, only dialogue participant, or both). Depending on the findings and how they fit with Wilder's Strategic Plan, it is foreseeable that more resources and different research methodologies could be employed in the future.

F: Wrap up

As a way of wrapping up, I would like to highlight some noteworthy features of the study circles effort in Twin Cities, Minnesota.

- Non-profit started with specific purpose to use study circles to inform legislative action; change focused, started with focus on housing, race and education issues
- Regional context of work—partnership between two cities
- Organizing partnership between a new non-profit agency and an established foundation (credible presence in the community with partnerships already formed)
- * Broad-based coalition and partners (media, corporate, non-profits, schools, etc.)
- * Partnership with Minnesota Facilitators' Network (MFN) and Society for Professionals in Dispute Resolution (SPIDR)
- Developed own guides
- Professional research group involved in assessment and evaluation
- Unique circle dialogue among mainly Hmong people with an interpreter helping the facilitator.

*SCRC Best Practices Project—Twin Cities, Minnesota
Summary Report/ DRAFT 10-Dec-99*

Timeline for Minnesota Study Circles/ Community Circles Project

1. September 1995: * NAACP filed a lawsuit against the State of Minnesota for inadequate education of children of color, especially African American children
2. X, 1995 * EHEP started
3. November 1996 * Dick Little on as Executive Director
4. X, 1997 * First round of circles—about 26 circles in the spring, 2 in the fall, X in public schools
5. Jan/Feb 1998 * 3 national Days of Dialogue circles (one time)
* Year off in terms of circles—little activity, more about what went on in 1997 and looking to 1999
6. X, 1998 * Wilder Foundation came on board in 1998
7. October 1998 * Community Circle discussion guide is issued.
* Pilot circles in Minneapolis Schools.
8. December 1998 * Sponsor information and planning meeting
9. January 1999 * Jan 21--Community Circles "Kick-off" Event (West Metro)
* Jan 22—Orientation Session for facilitators and scribes
* Jan 23—Workshop on Understanding Institutional and Community Racism (designed especially for facilitators and scribes)
* Sponsor information and planning meeting
10. February 1999 * Feb 4-- Community Circles "Kick-off" Event (East Metro)
11. February-May 1999 * Community Circles in session
12. March 4 & 5, '99 * Facilitator & Scribe training, Cities at Work discussion guide issued.
13. April '99 * "Like Waters Rolling Down" play
14. April/May '99 * "Cities at Work" Spring Forums
15. June '99 * June 22—Community Action Forum
16. September '99 * Sept 18—Sponsor information meeting
* Sept 24—Facilitator training meeting
* Sept 25—Facilitator training workshop on intercultural communication
17. Fall '99 * Second round of 1999 Community Circle conversations
18. November, '99 * Cities at Work "A Call to Action" Forum
19. December, '99 * Metropolitan Citizen Summit with Minnesota Meeting and MN Public Radio