UNP Community Affairs Committee Brief
November 18, 2009

cac@unpmn.org - www.unpmn.org

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

UROC

Future Direction of UNP Community Affairs Committee
The Governance workgroup group has met twice and will meet again Wednesday, December 2, 2 p.m. – 4 p.m. at UROC to conclude its work on recommendations to be discussed and approved or rejected by the CAC. Committee members include Dorothy Robinson, Joel Hetler, Erik Hansen, Kathy Doty, and CAC co-chairs Raymond Dehn and Makeda Zulu-Gillespie. Dr. McClaurin dropped in to answer the workgroup’s questions on oversight. To date the workgroup has discussed roles of partners, a potential name change, and a framework for meetings as they continue. Their time on this is appreciated.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND EVENTS

Announcements

SEACHIP Children’s Insurance program has come to Minnesota

From 2009 to 2011, the Lao Assistance Center will be part of a coalition to implement the Southwest Asian Children's Health Insurance Program (SEACHIP), to enroll low-income, uninsured Southeast Asian children in Medical Assistance and MinnesotaCare insurance plans. The United Cambodian Association of Minnesota, Association for the Advancement of Hmong Women in Minnesota, and Vietnamese Social Services will be partners on this initiative with the Lao Assistance Center. If you are interested in getting health insurance for your children, contact:

Chongchith Saengsudham at chongchith@laocenter.org or call 612-375-4967

Out of School Time

The Northside Out of School Time (NOST) group is continuing to refine its involvement and relationship with the Northside Achievement Zone. NOST and NAZ are working to better align goals, priorities, and anticipated outcomes that focus both on student achievement and coordination of youth service programs and organizations.

Nov. 18 1:40 p.m. pjrader edits
NOST/NAZ group participants and others are beginning a dialogue with representatives of Minneapolis Public Schools to explore potential opportunities to enhance the North Minneapolis summer school program in 2010.

**Health and nutrition**

At the beginning of the 2009-2010 school year, the Hmong International Academy moved from the former Northstar School building to a newer building that previously housed the Jordan Park Academy. Efforts are underway to re-establish the schoolyard garden program at the new location.

Training is underway for middle school instructors to assist science teachers in providing lessons in inquiry and basic science, including plant growth and nutrition. Science classes during regular school hours, as well as during after-school programs, will provide learning and skill development that will incorporate hands-on garden activities during spring and summer 2010.

**Youth entrepreneurship**

FIPSE staff are working with community and university partners to assess outcomes of four pilot efforts in preparation for developing evaluation strategies for each project. Emerge/NEON has done summer pilot entrepreneurship programs for the past two years. Most recently, high school-aged participants researched and created two ventures: a car wash and a snack foods vendor. An emerging effort between North High School and the Federal Reserve Bank, started at the beginning of this school year, is offering an introductory entrepreneurship curriculum through an economics class for students in the 11th and 12th grades.

**Asian American & Pacific Islander Leadership Summit a success**

The Lao Assistance Center hosted the Asian American and Pacific Islander Initiative Leadership Summit 2009 on Oct. 23 with the Council on Asian Pacific Minnesotans at the Lao Assistance Center and the Harrison neighborhood Association. This year’s theme was: "Are We Relevant? Making a case for our community." With more than 50 participants throughout the day, it was a great opportunity for the community to connect and learn how to be effective leaders. “We're really happy at the turnout,” said Lao Assistance Center executive director, Sunny Chanthanouvong. “It’s a sign that our community member want to be active and engaged in the democratic process and to connect with others committed to positive change." For more information about the Lao Assistance Center and other community leadership development projects, contact:

sunny@laocenter.org or call 612-375-4967 or visit http://laoassistance.blogspot.com

**North Area Youth and Family Resource Fair**

**Wednesday, March 24, 2010: 3 – 6 p.m.**

Location: North Commons Park

1801 James Ave. N

Minneapolis, MN 55411

For more information contact: Lynne Crockett, Area A – Community Liaison, Minneapolis Public Schools – 612-280-6024

**Meetings, Workshops, and Trainings**

Nov. 18 1:40 p.m. pjrader edits
Trent Tucker University Scholars

With its second year in progress, the Trent Tucker University Scholars program has more than doubled the number of participants and extended its length for this after-school program that brings sixth-, seventh-, and (newly added) eighth-grade students from the W.I.S.E. Charter School to the University of Minnesota campus once a week for 21 weeks. With collaboration from the university’s Institute of Technology, the theme this year is “Go Green” and the program goals include:

- early college awareness
- knowledge of core subject areas (particularly in science, technology, engineering, and math - STEM areas) by exposing youth to the University of Minnesota campus and to university staff, faculty, and students
- assisting students with homework through help of university student mentors

Students selected came from a large pool of applicants who provided impressive letters of recommendations and heart-filled essays. All costs are supported by the Tucker Non-Profit Organization.

For more information, visit www.trenttucker.org and www.academic.umn.edu/system/community_youth_development/index.html

Trent Tucker University Scholars is a partnership among the Trent Tucker Non-Profit Organization, the Office of the Senior Vice President for System Academic Administration, CLA Connections (College of Liberal Arts K-12 Outreach Program), McNamara Academic Center for Student Athletes, and the W.I.S.E. Charter School.

2nd Northside stakeholders meeting on the Bottineau Light Rail Transit
Thursday, Nov. 19, 3:30 – 5 p.m.

You are invited to hear about and discuss the Bottineau Light Rail proposal and share what you think the transit needs are in North Minneapolis.

- Learn about the Bottineau Light Rail Transit, the status of it, its implications, the livability, and environmental justice principles used in guiding transportation policy, and the “pluses” from guests, Owen Duckworth of Transit for Livable Communities, Joan Vanhala of Alliance for Metropolitan Stability, and Brent Rusco of Hennepin County
- An opportunity to come together with other Northside stakeholders

For more information and to please RSVP contact: Trisha Anderson, NRRC – 612-277-1122 or panderson@nrcc.org, or Malik Holt Shabazz, HNA – 612-374-4849 or malik@hnampls.org

Location: University of Minnesota Urban Research and Outreach/Engagement Center (UROC)

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