

2022 Annual Report

Located in North Minneapolis, the Robert J. Jones Urban Research and Outreach-Engagement Center (UROC) is a place-based, community-engaged research and outreach center that links the University of Minnesota with urban communities in mutually beneficial partnerships that advance learning, improve quality of life, and seek solutions to critical issues.

2022 University-Community Research

In 2022, University-sponsored, UROC-affiliated research projects involved more than 500 University researchers and students from the following University colleges and academic units:

Carlson School of Management
Center for Early Education and Development
Center for Urban and Regional Affairs
College of Design
College of Education and Human Development
College of Food, Agriculture and Natural Resource Sciences
College of Liberal Arts
College of Science and Engineering
Humphrey School of Public Affairs
Institute for Advanced Study
Institute of Child Development
Institute on the Environment

Law School
Medical School
Minnesota Landscape Arboretum
North Memorial Residency Program
School of Journalism
School of Kinesiology
School of Nursing
School of Public Health
School of Social Work
STEM Education Center
University of Minnesota Extension
University Libraries

2022 Community Connections and Highlights

- ▶ **UROC emerged from the pandemic** with record-breaking registration numbers for its two 2022 Critical Conversations and a more than 40 percent increase in the number of its University-community research projects and outreach programs.
- ▶ **UROC's leadership team was invited to present** at the Coalition of Urban and Metropolitan University's annual meeting in San Diego. UROC's executive director, assistant executive director, and director of marketing and communications spoke on *The UROC Research Agenda: A Framework for Addressing Urban Challenges*.
- ▶ **UROC celebrated the promise of partnership and honored its past leaders** at an attendance breaking UROC Community Day on September 15. More than 40 UROC affiliated and community partners presented at the open house-style celebration, which featured a program with guest speaker University Executive Vice President and Provost Rachel Croson.

- ▶ **UROC Gallery showcased the art of Minneapolis artist Donald Walker**, as well as works by University School of Architecture students in *Investing in North Minneapolis*, and youth participants in Creativity Camp's *The World Inside You*.



The World Inside You graphic designed by Suyao Tian and Peng Wu.



2022 Community Connections and Highlights

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- ▶ UROC participated in the 2022 FLOW Northside Arts Crawl with free activities centered on UROC's art exhibits and a special event with Twin Cities artist Donald Walker. Activities included self-guided tours, a pop-up exhibit, a poetry workshop, children's craft programs, and African American storytelling.
- ▶ UROC collaborated with youth-serving organizations and agencies to host its annual Summer Resource Fair, a family-focused event showcasing educational, recreational, and creative summer opportunities for urban youth.
- ▶ UROC joined with Minneapolis-based Collective Action Lab and the Minnesota Indian Women's Resource Center, the Native American Community Clinic, and Liberty Northside Healing Space to launch an initiative aimed at improving maternal health outcomes and advancing birth justice related issues in Hennepin County.
- ▶ UROC staff served as volunteer board members and advisors to such non-profit and community-based organizations as the Black Storytellers Alliance, Parents in Community Action, Northside Achievement Zone, Northside Job Creation Team, and Women Winning, as well as University of Minnesota/community advisory boards with the College of Art's Liberal Arts Engagement Hub and Office of Academic Affairs' Clinical and Translational Science, and Arizona State University's Edson College of Nursing and Health Innovation.
- ▶ Three University faculty were awarded 2022 UROC Research Agenda grants. The winning projects include the Cultural Adaptions Trauma System Therapy for Elementary School Aged Latine Immigrant Youth project, the Investing in North Minneapolis urban design project, and the St. Paul Public Schools-based RIDGS Ethnic Studies Initiative.
- ▶ UROC Graduate Research Assistant and School of Public Health master's degree student Nicollette Moore undertook a survey of UROC resident researchers and North Minneapolis community members that included numerous focus groups over six months.



Speakers and guests at 2022 UROC Community Day.

Projects and Programs by the Numbers



62

UROC-based affiliated projects and programs



23

Community-engaged projects/ programs added in 2022



146

Engaged University faculty researchers



371

Engaged University students



2,669

Engaged Community Organizations and Residents

2022 Community Partner Organizations

African American Leadership Forum
Appetite for Change
Ascension Church
Asian Media Access
Association for Black Economic Power
Aurora St. Anthony Neighborhood Development Corporation
Better Futures, Minnesota
Black Lives Matter at School
Black Storytellers Alliance*
Black Women's Wealth Alliance
Boston University Department of Family Medicine
Breck School
Brooklyn Center Community Schools
Build Wealth
Carleton College
Center for Economic Inclusion
City of Minneapolis Community Planning and Economic Development
Cleveland Neighborhood Association
Coalition to Increase Teachers of Color
Collective Action Lab
Columbia Heights Public Schools
Community Action Partnership of Hennepin County
Comunidades Latinas Unidas En Servicio
Cultivated Industries
Cultural Wellness Center
Culture is Caring
Cut Fruit Express
Edible Boulevards
Education for Liberation Network
Education Minnesota
Embrace
EMERGE
Envision Communities
Folwell Neighborhood Association
Frogtown Neighborhood Association
Garden of Hope
George Innovative Modular Solutions
Global Peace Farms
Governor's Urban Initiative Board, State of Minnesota
Greater MSP
Guardian Systems - Virutech
Hennepin County Department of Community Corrections and Rehabilitation
Hennepin Healthcare
Hue-Man Partnership
In Black Ink
Indian Health Board of Minneapolis
Liberty Community Church/Northside Healing Space*
Lutheran Social Service
Manucan Consulting
Mending the Sacred Hoop
Metropolitan Transportation Network
Minneapolis Community Education
Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board
Minneapolis Public Schools
Minnesota Black Chamber of Commerce
Minnesota Coalition Against Sexual Assault
Minnesota Community Action Partnership
Minnesota Community Care
Minnesota Department of Commerce
Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development
Minnesota Department of Health
Minnesota Ethnic Studies Coalition
Minnesota Indian Women's Resource Center*
Minnesota Indian Women's Sexual Assault Coalition
National Alliance on Mental Health
Native American Community Clinic*
NoMi Roots
North Hennepin Community College
North Market
North Minneapolis Workforce Center
NorthPoint Health and Wellness Center
Northside Achievement Zone*
Northside Economic Development Network
Northside Economic Opportunity Network
Northside Safety Net
Old Highland Neighborhood Association
OneMN.org
Parents in Community Action*
Perspectives
Phumulani
Pillsbury United Communities
Project Sweetie Pie
Red Lake Tribal Nation
Renewable Energy Partners
Richfield Recreation Department
Rights of the Mississippi
Roots Community Birthing Center
Ryan Companies
Sabathani Community Center
Safe Avenues
Saint Paul Parks Department
Samuel Simmons Consulting
Seeds to Harvest
Sisters Camelot
SLAP Financial Consulting
Social Justice Education Movement
Somali American Parents Association
Southeast Como Improvement Association
St Paul Public Schools
St. Paul Department of Parks and Recreation
Summit Academy OIC
Tate Topa Consulting
The Asha Project
TRI- Construction
Twin Cities RISE
U.S. Bancorp
Urban Homeworks
Urban League of the Twin Cities
Urban Roots
V3 Sports
Violence Free Minnesota
Volunteer Lawyers Network
Walker Art Center
Watercourse Counseling Center
West Broadway Business and Area Coalition
Women Venture
Womens' Resource Center
YMCA of the North
Youth Farm

**Direct UROC project partners*

2022 Funders and Grantors

Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund
Barry Dunn McNeil and Linde Praxair
Childhood USA, Minnesota Coalition
City of Minneapolis
Collective Action Lab/Hennepin County
Institute of Education Sciences

Minnesota State Arts Board
National Institute of Justice
National Institutes of Health
National Science Foundation
Robert Wood Johnson Foundation
SWIM ON Foundation

Sawkins Public Engagement Fund
Schultz Family Foundation
Wells Fargo Foundation
Youthprise

Facility Upgrades and Investments

AV upgrades	\$18,306
Exterior grounds	
Sidewalk repairs	\$9,600
Irrigation system upgrade	\$5,500
Landscaping materials	\$4,500
Carpet replacement	\$45,417
Security and safety	
Camera upgrades	\$3,200
Workstations	\$3,100

UROC Staff

Makeda Zulu, Executive Director
James De Sota, Assistant Executive Director
Kai Ecker, Graduate Research Assistant
Sam Lee, Principal Office and Administrative Specialist
Johneva McCoy, Office Manager
Terryann Nash, Executive Administrative Assistant
Lea Scott, Principal Office and Administrative Specialist
Nina Shepherd, Marketing and Communications Director

To learn more about UROC, or to take a personalized tour of the building, please call 612-626-UROC or email urocinfo@umn.edu with "TOUR" in the subject line.