

Strong Communities

# CONNECTOR

news  from

## MACC

Alliance of Connected Communities

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formerly the Metropolitan Alliance of Community Centers

**JANUARY 2007**



The MACC Evaluation Team presented its plan to the MACC Board on January 16. Team members present, from right: Sharon Haas, MACC; Sarah Larson, PCYC MSW intern; Jaime Kambiri, The Link; Jean King, University of MN; Eric Nyberg, Keystone Community Services; Susan McCauley, East Side Neighborhood Services; Karen Goodenough, PCYC; Steve Gustafson, Phyllis Wheatley Community Center; and Melinda Coffee, PCYC MSW intern. Team members not pictured include: Delroy Calhoun, LNB Community Centers; Marni Harper, The City, Inc.; Megan McLaughlin, Way To Grow; Barbara Merrill, Neighborhood House; Renae Oswald Anderson, Neighborhood House; Marianne Reich, Arc Greater Twin Cities; Art Serotoff, Sabathani Community Center; Jim Smith, Merrick Community Services; John Till, Family & Children's Service; and Claudia Waring, Pillsbury United Communities.

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## MACC NEWS

### MACC Commonwealth officially launched!

On Jan. 1, 2007, **MACC Commonwealth** began operations as an independent, member-owned corporation. We are operating with formal agreements between MACC Commonwealth and its members that control services, pricing, and leasing of staff from members to the Commonwealth. We are also in active discussion with a number of MACC members to explore their interest in becoming part of MACC Commonwealth.



The work to integrate operations has escalated in intensity. Commonwealth staff have succeeded in building and launching common platforms for our core financial, human resource and information technology systems. All members are now operating on the Microsoft Dynamics (formerly Great Plains) financial system, ADP's newest payroll system, and a shared technology network. Significant work building on this base is scheduled for the next six months.

The capital campaign continues to go well, with proceeds to date in excess of \$1,100,000. We are deeply appreciative of the foundation community's confidence in and support for this project. (See our funder list below.) We also appreciate the role that **Crowley White** has played in the campaign in 2006. The MACC Board continues to work towards our \$1.7 million campaign goal.

### MACC Welcomes new leadership...

MACC welcomes a new leadership team to our Executive Committee in 2007. With Jim Cook's retirement at the end of last year, Anne Long is now at the helm, serving as MACC Chair. Other officers include Dan Hoxworth, Vice Chair; Molly Greenman, Secretary; Fran Ivory, Treasurer; and At Large Officers, Barbara Milon and Fred Easter.

In addition to new officers, the MACC board welcomes new board members Ernest Johnson, who replaces Jim Cook as Executive Director of MACC member **Sabathani Community Center**; and Jeff Martinko, Director of member agency **West 7th Community Center**. Thanks to all for your contributions to the work of MACC in 2007!

### MACC Members Attend Leaders Lunch at the Science Museum

Several MACC leaders, including Dan Hoxworth, **Neighborhood House**; Barbara Milon, **Phyllis Wheatley Community Center**, Art Serotoff, **Sabathani Community Center**, and others got an introduction to the **Science Museum of Minnesota's** current exhibit at a leaders lunch on January 12. **Race: Are We So Different?** will be at the Science Museum until May 6. This highly engaging and thought provoking exhibit explores the scientific understanding of human variation, the history of the idea of race, and the issues of race and racism in our cultural landscape. Please consider taking advantage of this opportunity by organizing a group from your agency or your community to attend this highly recommended exhibit.



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VALUE TO MEMBERS



Above, Karen Goodenough, PCYC, of the MACC Evaluation Team, presented its plan to a full meeting of the board at Keystone Community Services in January.

### [MACC Evaluation Plan 2010](#)

The MACC Evaluation Team presented an evaluation plan to the MACC Board on January 16. This plan is designed to improve both our aggregate capacity and the quality of evaluation at our member agencies. Following questions and discussion, the board gave the go-ahead for this Team's work to move forward. A dedicated group of staff from 15 MACC agencies will continue their efforts with help and evaluation expertise from **Hennepin County Department of Human Services & Public Health** and the **University of Minnesota**.

### [MACC Benefits package saves members \\$70,000 over next three years](#)

At the end of 2006, the MACC HR Team and MACC benefits broker, Polly Franchot of **Acordia** negotiated a new contract with Aetna for life and long-term disability coverage that together will save participating members nearly \$70,000 over the next three years. Thanks and congratulations!

### [MACC All Staff Summit a Big Success](#)

MACC's All Staff Summit drew 260 participants from MACC's 21 member agencies for a lively exchange of ideas and information in November at **Neighborhood House**. Input from the 13 work groups that met at the summit will be used in MACC's planning for 2007 and beyond. Many thanks to the team of 26 facilitators from MACC agencies, and to the tireless planning and coordination carried out by the MACC Staff Development Team. Thanks too, to all who participated in the day!

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## PARTNERSHIPS

### [MACC and Citizens League to release Immigrant Study results](#)

MACC and our partner, **The Citizens League**, are pleased to announce the upcoming release of an Immigration and Higher Education Study, which brings together what we've learned from discussions and interviews with a broad group of stakeholders, including representatives from business, education and nonprofits sectors, as well as MACC and



Citizens League members. These discussions were held over the last year and coordinated by Victoria Ford, of Citizens League. Sherrie Simpson, of **Hennepin County**, contributed her time and skills to MACC to carry out this effort. Four questions addressed in this report reflect four challenges that many students face as they make their way toward higher education: information, culture, cost and preparation. Please consult our

website [www.maccalliance.org](http://www.maccalliance.org) about how to obtain a copy of this soon-to-be-released resource.

### [UNCA Roundtable and Other UNCA News](#)

February 22-24, the **United Neighborhood Centers of America (UNCA)** will host its 2007 Roundtable: Embracing the Future – Recommitting to the Movement, in New Orleans. The focus of this gathering will be on Scenario Planning. In addition to workshops, the UNCA membership will welcome new board members and officers. MACC is well-represented in UNCA leadership, with MACC President, Jan Berry, as UNCA's President-elect and MACC Vice Chair, Dan Hoxworth serving as an UNCA board member. The UNCA board says good-bye to Tony Wagner, who has served in a leadership role for more than a decade.

**The International Federation of Settlements (IFS)** will meet during the UNCA gathering in New Orleans for a Strategic Planning process with its board of directors. MACC is a member of the IFS.

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## MEMBER NEWS

■ **Family & Children's Service** and **Neighborhood House** received the national "Family Strengthening" Award at the **United Neighborhood Centers of America (UNCA)** gathering in November. Funded by The Annie E. Casey Foundation, this award honors the nation's most innovative and creative programs that connect families and children to community resources to improve their economic success. Another MACC member, the **Minnesota Indian Women's Resource Center**, received this award in 2005. Congratulations to all!

■ **East Side Neighborhood Services** hosts the Twin Cities Snow Shoe Shuffle at Long Lake Regional Park in New Brighton on Saturday, February 24, 10am. An entry fee of \$35 includes registration, a long sleeved knit shirt and a post event warm-up chili lunch. The top three men and women finishers in each of seven age categories will receive awards. Proceed from a silent auction, held at lunchtime, will assist children attending camp at East Side's summer Camp Bovey. For more information, visit [www.esns.org](http://www.esns.org); call 612-787-4030, or email [campbovey@esns.org](mailto:campbovey@esns.org).

■ **Pillsbury House Theater** presents, Underneath the Lintel: An Impressive Presentation of Lovely Evidences, Glen Berger's one-man Off Broadway hit comedy, from Feb. 23 – Mar. 24. In this production, directed by PHT's Co-Artistic Director, Noel Raymond, a Dutch librarian comes across a book that is 113 years overdue. An obsession to find the miscreant borrower sets the librarian on a world-wide quest. As he gathers more clues about the mysterious library patron, his collection of "lovely evidences" leads him to the belief that he is on the heels of a myth. Underneath the Lintel is a funny and profound play that explores the nature of time, the substance of life and the possibility of miracles. For more information, go to [www.pillsburyhousetheatre.org](http://www.pillsburyhousetheatre.org).

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The **MACC Alliance of Connected Communities** is the alliance 21 Twin Cities-based human service organizations. MACC's mission is "Unleashing the connective power of communities to build their own futures."

## MACC MEMBER AGENCIES

**Arc Greater Twin Cities** [www.arcgreatertwincities.org](http://www.arcgreatertwincities.org)

**City, Inc.** [www.thecityinc.org](http://www.thecityinc.org)

**Confederation of Somali Community in Minnesota** [www.cscmn.org](http://www.cscmn.org)

**East Side Neighborhood Services** [www.esns.org](http://www.esns.org)

**Family & Children's Service** [www.everyfamilymatters.org](http://www.everyfamilymatters.org)

**Hallie Q. Brown/Martin Luther King Center** phone: 651-224-4601

**Hennepin County Department of Human Services and Public Health** [www.co.hennepin.mn.us](http://www.co.hennepin.mn.us)

**Keystone Community Services** [www.keystoneservices.org](http://www.keystoneservices.org)

**LDA of Minnesota** [www.ldaminnesota.org](http://www.ldaminnesota.org)

**The Link** [www.thelinkmn.org](http://www.thelinkmn.org)

**Loring Nicollet-Bethlehem Community Centers** [www.lnbcc.org](http://www.lnbcc.org)

**Merrick Community Services** [www.merrickcs.org](http://www.merrickcs.org)

**Minnesota Indian Women's Resource Center** [www.miwrc.org](http://www.miwrc.org)

**Neighborhood House** [www.neighb.org](http://www.neighb.org)

**Phyllis Wheatley Community Center** [www.phylliswheatley.org](http://www.phylliswheatley.org)

**Pillsbury United Communities** [www.puc-mn.org](http://www.puc-mn.org)

**Plymouth Christian Youth Center** [www.pcy-cmpls.org](http://www.pcy-cmpls.org)

**Sabathani Community Center** [www.sabathani.org](http://www.sabathani.org)  
**Tubman Family Alliance** [www.tubmanfamilyalliance.org](http://www.tubmanfamilyalliance.org)  
**Way To Grow** [www.mplswayatogrow.org](http://www.mplswayatogrow.org)  
**West Seventh Community Center** [www.west7th.org](http://www.west7th.org)

MACC is funded through its member agencies, individual donors, earned income and the following foundation and trusts:

- Otto Bremer Foundation
- Bush Foundation
- RBC Dain Rauscher Foundation
- The McKnight Foundation
- The Jay & Rose Phillips Family Foundation
- The Pohlada Family Foundation
- St. Paul Travelers Foundation
- Southways Foundation.
- 3M Foundation
- Warren F. Weck, Jr., Charitable Trust
- Wells Fargo Foundation, Minnesota

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To submit news items for the monthly MACC email news memo, please send to [shaas@maccalliance.org](mailto:shaas@maccalliance.org)

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