

Strong Communities

CONNECTOR

news  from

MACC

Alliance of Connected Communities

formerly the Metropolitan Alliance of Community Centers

APRIL 2007



Representatives of UNCA's western region. From left to right, Tony Wagner, **Pillsbury United Communities** President; Tony Hargrove, Ella Austin Community Center Director in San Antonio TX; Jan Berry, MACC President & UNCA Board Chair; Fred Easter, **The City, Inc.** Director; Fran Ivory, **Merrick Community Services** Director; Sharon Haas MACC Operations Director; Shawna Coleman, Casa de Amigos in Midland, TX; and Dan Hoxworth, **Neighborhood House** President.

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MACC NEWS

MACC Commonwealth Teaching Case – Trust as an Asset – Now Available

Please visit our website for a copy of “Trust as an Asset” teaching case documents that can be found on our homepage (www.maccalliance.org). This case was developed by Professor Jodi Sandfort and Timothy Dykstal at the **Humphrey Institute at the University of Minnesota** to document some of the innovation occurring among the MACC Alliance of Connected Communities members, in particular, the **MACC Commonwealth**. Teachers and trainers use these types of cases when working with under-grad and graduate students, mid-career nonprofit managers, and senior public and nonprofit executives. Such cases illustrate key issues which must be navigated in developing collaborative organizations and new types of systems. We look forward to promoting this case nationally.



MACC Board members meet with Sen. Linda Higgins, Rep. Phyllis Kahn, & Sen. Scott Dibble

MACC Board of Directors Visits the Capitol in March

For their **March Learning Conversation**, the MACC Board of Directors held their meeting at the Capitol. The purpose of this meeting was to hear from metro area legislators about their positions on issues affecting MACC member communities, and to introduce policy makers to MACC. During this 90 minute session, MACC directors had the opportunity to hear from and discuss policy issues with Sen. Linda Berglund, Sen. Scott Dibble, Rep. Willie Dominguez, Sen. Linda Higgins, Rep. Melissa Hortman, Rep. Phyllis Kahn, Rep. Shelly Madore, Rep. Carlos Mariani, and Sen. Patricia Torres Ray. MACC will continue to build relationships with legislators around issues that concern our communities.

MACC Working with HHH Students on Capstone Project

The Capstone Team from the **Humphrey Institute**, consisting of student consultants Mandy Bai, Stephanie Jacobs, Christopher Klisch, Valerie LeGrand, and Gulnara Minnigaleeva began work on a research project for MACC in late January. MACC is interested in the feasibility of introducing legislation during 2008 to create state funding for capital improvement to community centers/community-based organizations available to all such facilities in Minnesota. The project includes research on the viability of drafting a bonding bill for MACC and a plan for success in that effort, including marketing strategies, relationship building and training the MACC Board members in the process. Humphrey Institute professor, Jodi Sandfort supervises the project. The students will present their findings at the MACC Board Learning Conversation in May.

VALUE TO MEMBERS

Youth Affinity Group Partners on a “Spring Break Super Challenge”

MACC member **East Side Neighborhood Services’** “Mulberry Junction” youth program hosted a Spring Break Super Challenge for other MACC agency youth on Wednesday, April 4. From 12 – 4pm, young people and staff from **The Link** and **LNB Community Centers** joined youth from **East Side** for face painting, relay games and a Dance Off during Spring Break week. “We thought it might be a challenge with such a broad range of ages coming

together (6 to 18 year olds) but we planned for this and were pleased at how everyone joined in with the games and had a great time. We look forward to doing this again,” declared **East Side** youth program coordinator Emily Newman Kelley. Thanks to Emily & Kate Tobin from **The Link** & others for your great work on this!

The CFO Affinity Group discussed “The Looking Glass World of Nonprofit Finance”

MACC Chief Financial Officers meet every other month on a variety of financial management topics. In April, the group discussed an article written by the Nonprofit Finance Fund, Clara Miller. For a checklist of the ways that nonprofit finance resembles an “Alice in Wonderland” world, go to www.nonprofitfinancefund.org for “The Looking Glass World of Nonprofit Finance.” For June, the group will read and discuss Jim Collins’ monograph “Good to Great and the Social Sectors.”

MACC Staff Development Team Ethics Seminar Coming Up

MACC member, **Plymouth Christian Youth Center**, in collaboration with the MACC Staff Development Team, will host a Scenario-based Ethics training “Ethical Issues and Social Work Practice” on Monday, May 14th, 2 -4pm. Presenters include Lois Bosch, Ph.D; and Laura Boisen, Ph.D. From Augsburg College School of Social Work. For more information, contact Sarah at slarson@pcyc-mpls.org.

Twenty-six MACC Agency Emerging Leaders participating in MACC Leadership Seminar

When MACC announced a monthly leadership development opportunity to member agency emerging leaders, the



response was so great that we needed to schedule two courses to accommodate the number of participants. Course facilitator, MACC President Jan Berry, is using a leadership framework developed with MACC Executives. Each of the two groups will meet monthly for the remainder of 2007.

PARTNERSHIPS

MACC Well Represented at UNCA Roundtable

MACC was well represented at this year’s Roundtable of the United Neighborhood Centers of America (UNCA), held in New Orleans, February 22-24, 2007. At UNCA’s board meeting, **Neighborhood House** President Dan Hoxworth & former **Pillsbury United Communities** board member, Jim Hartman were elected to the UNCA board and MACC President, Jan Berry was sworn in as UNCA’s new Board Chair.

During this visit, Roundtable participants had the opportunity to hear from, give support to and visit the sites of our colleagues in New Orleans who are rebuilding their communities since Hurricane Katrina struck in 2005. The group made visits to Kingsley House, Central City EOC, the Ninth Ward, and other communities that suffered severe damage from the storm.

Former UNCA Board Chair, Sam Watkins completed his duties and welcomed in new board chair, Jan Berry.

In addition, Senior Vice President for the **Alliance for Children & Families**, Susan Dreyfus facilitated sessions on Scenario

Planning. Described as a “powerful process for organizations to plan for the future in an uncertain world,” Scenario Planning is a discipline that encourages creative and entrepreneurial thinking as agency leadership looks at what is influencing their current context and anticipates what lies ahead.

IFS to host International Conference in Oradea Romania, October 10-13, 2007

October 10 – 13, 2007, the **International Federation of Settlements**’ (IFS) conference participants will be hosted in the Oradea, Romania by the Women’s Organization Bihor of Oradea. The theme for this year’s conference is “Living Together in a Multi-Cultural Society.” If you would like more information about this conference & how to register, please contact Sharon Haas at haass@puc-mn.org or 612-302-3432.

MEMBER NEWS

- The Eleventh Annual East Side Wine Tasting to benefit programs of **East Side Neighborhood Services** will be held Thursday, May 10, 2007, from 5 to 8pm at the Nicollet Island Pavilion. Wine, Food, Entertainment, Silent Auction, Free Parking ... all for \$40 in advance or \$50 at the door! For more information, visit www.esns.org.



IFS board members & guests (from left to right): Paul Vlaar, MOVISIE, Netherlands; Michael Zisser, University Settlement Society of New York; Sharon Haas, IFS; Marko Iljic, Wiener Hilfswerk, Austria; Veronica Guruceaga, Camuri Grande, Venezuela; Tony Hargrove, Ella Austin Community Center, Texas; Roberta Nassar, IFS United Nations Representative; Brian Smith, Woodgreen Community Services, Toronto; Frank Modica, Hamilton-Madison House, New York; Renate Wilkening, Ufabrik, Germany; Tony Wagner, **Pillsbury United Communities**, Minneapolis.

- **LDA** now offers personalized transition coaching for young adults ages 14-21 with ADHD and/or Learning Disabilities as they move to work or post-secondary education. A transition specialist will guide and assist students in identifying their specific needs and developing goals in areas such as career planning, job search and retention, post-secondary academic success, independent living, and self-advocacy. Explore employment, education, and special program options and learn how to choose the best alternatives for you. Go to www.ldaminnesota.org for more information or to register.
- On June 6, 3-6pm **The Link** will host a Community Networking Fair at Lindquist Apartments, 1931 West Broadway, in North Minneapolis. For youth activity providers on the north side who would like to reserve a booth, contact Jason Isaacson at 612-871-0748 or jisaacson@thelinkmn.org, before May 4, 2007.
- On May 11 & 12, **Pillsbury House Theatre's Breaking Ice** will perform an originally created production. For over ten years, Breaking Ice has brought artists from the Twin Cities community together to collaboratively create theatre for a vast array of audiences. In 2006, Breaking Ice performed across the country, inspiring dialogue around social issues in hospitals, universities, government agencies, conferences and corporations. Breaking Ice will bring its provocative performance style to the mainstage using poetry, music, movement and scenes to follow a host of characters as they navigate their way through social norms and biases in search of a sense of belonging.
- **Plymouth Christian Youth Center** hosts free movies & popcorn for kids and families every Saturday in May at 3pm at their Capri Theater, 2027 West Broadway in North Minneapolis. For more information on showings, visit www.pcy-cmpls.org or call 612-522-6501.
- On Thursday, May 31, 6 – 9pm, **Tubman Family Alliance** will host their annual Wing Ding benefit at Nicollet Island Pavilion to support the services of Tubman Family Alliance. Tickets are \$28 in advance and \$35 at the door. Group tickets are available for a discounted price! The Wing Ding is an all-you-can-eat event that features interactive activities and reggae music by Tropical Breeze. Sponsored by Clear Channel Communications. For more information, go to www.stopfamilyviolence.com or call 612-767-6688.
- On Wednesday, June 20, 5:30 – 8:30pm, **Way To Grow** will host its 3rd Annual Celebration event at Nicollet Island Inn, with featured speaker Donna Brazile. For more information, contact Rebecca Haddad at 612-874-4740 x101 or rhaddad@mplswaytogrow.org.
- To celebrate Mother's Day, **West 7th Community Center** will hold a Women's Health Fair on Saturday, May 12, 10:30 – 2:30pm. This free event provides a forum for women to learn about health and wellness across generations and cultures, share experiences, visit with friends and meet neighbors. More than 200 women attended last year's event! For more information, contact Julie Murphy at 651-298-5493 x 214 or jmurphy@west7th.org or visit www.west7th.org.

[west7th.org](http://www.west7th.org).

- On Thursday, May 24th at 1pm, **West 7th Community Center** will hold a Veteran's Roundtable in honor of Memorial Day. Contact 651-298-5493 or visit www.west7th.org for more information.

PLEASE FORWARD THIS MEMO TO A FRIEND OR COLLEAGUE

To directly receive the monthly MACC email news memo, e-mail your request to shaas@maccalliance.org. To be removed from the list, use the same contact address. Joining or leaving the Memo distribution list is the individual responsibility of people requesting the Memo.

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. Contact MACC director of operations, at (612) 302-3432 or shaas@maccalliance.org.

MACC MEMBER AGENCIES

Arc Greater Twin Cities www.arcgreatertwincities.org

City, Inc. www.thecityinc.org

Confederation of Somali Community in Minnesota www.cscmn.org

East Side Neighborhood Services www.esns.org

Family & Children's Service 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

Keystone Community Services www.keystoneservices.org

LDA of Minnesota www.ldaminnesota.org

The Link www.thelinkmn.org

Loring Nicollet-Bethlehem Community Centers www.lnbcc.org

Merrick Community Services www.merrickcs.org

Minnesota Indian Women's Resource Center www.miwrc.org

Neighborhood House www.neighb.org

Phyllis Wheatley Community Center www.phylliswheatley.org

Pillsbury United Communities www.puc-mn.org

Plymouth Christian Youth Center www.pcy-c-mpls.org

Sabathani Community Center www.sabathani.org

Tubman Family Alliance www.tubmanfamilyalliance.org

Way To Grow www.mplswayatogrow.org

West Seventh Community Center www.west7th.org

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To submit news items for the monthly MACC email news memo, please send to shaas@maccalliance.org

This e-mail was sent by:

MACC Alliance of Connected Communities

414 South Eighth Street, Minneapolis, MN 55404-1081

President, Jan Berry, (612) 791-2635 or jberry@maccalliance.org

General information, Sharon Haas, Operations Director, (612) 302-3432 or shaas@maccalliance.org