
Opportunity Neighborhood 2019 Annual Report

ACCESSIBILITY = OPPORTUNITIES

For the past 12 years, Faduma Mohamed, a mother of five children, has called Ames Lake Neighborhood her home. Situated on St. Paul's Eastside, Ames Lake Neighborhood is a 356-unit affordable housing complex rich in resources and support thanks to the onsite programs and services provided by Opportunity Neighborhood.

Years ago when Faduma's children were young, she attended the weekly childhood program called Birth to 5 in the onsite community center. Held in collaboration with the Montessori Center of Minnesota, young children have an opportunity to engage in developmental and literacy activities individually, with their peers and with their parents. Parents were also able to meet with one another to provide support and build relationships....one of Faduma's favorite parts of the program.

Faduma's youngest daughter, Noel, is actively involved in Ames After Hours, the onsite out-of-school time program where she participates life skills and recreational programming, but also receives homework help and is enrolled in the literacy program.



Faduma (on right) with a fellow resident enjoying Ames Lake's annual National Night Out celebration.

"Noel is a bright, helpful and sweet student. She is a pleasure to have in the program." beams Ames After Hours Program Coordinator, Chan Chamrong.



Noel is thriving in school thanks to the onsite homework help and literacy program.

The homework help and literacy program have been very important to Noel's education. Faduma doesn't have a driver's license or vehicle. This creates a barrier to access services for herself and her family. With both a homework help and literacy program available onsite at Ames Lake, Faduma doesn't have to worry about how she will get Noel to the program. "I walk Noel to the program, go home and do a few chores, then walk back to pick her up. I have friends who don't live at Ames Lake and they have to take their child somewhere else and pay for homework help. The programs here don't cost anything and are easy to get to." says Faduma.

Accessibility is important in other ways too. When Faduma needs assistance understanding important forms and documents, Resident Services Coordinator, Chan Chamrong, is willing to help. It's the same with

the need to have information copies, printed or faxed. The Resident Services Coordinator is available to make this tasks achievable. This may seem like an insignificant task, but it is a real barrier for people who are not native English speakers or have limited transportation.

When asked what she would tell others about the services and programs at Ames Lake Neighborhood, Faduma responded, "It's a great opportunity for residents. The programs are free, easy to access and are run by good people who I trust." When asked what she would tell donors, Faduma responded, "The low-income people that live here need help and money spent on these program does not go to waste. They are doing something good in the community!"

WHAT WE ARE ALL ABOUT...

Our Mission

To support people and strengthen neighborhoods within affordable housing communities through cooperative partnerships.

Strategy

To develop a service-enriched environment that addresses residents' fundamental needs and builds community.

Our Goals

- Increase community safety
- Increase housing stability
- Increase opportunities for family success

Values

- All people live in a safe environment.
- All people have access to food, shelter, clothing and health care.
- All people have their education, employment, recreation and transportation needs met.
- All people are connected to their community, feel a sense a belonging and ownership.

2019 Significant Accomplishments

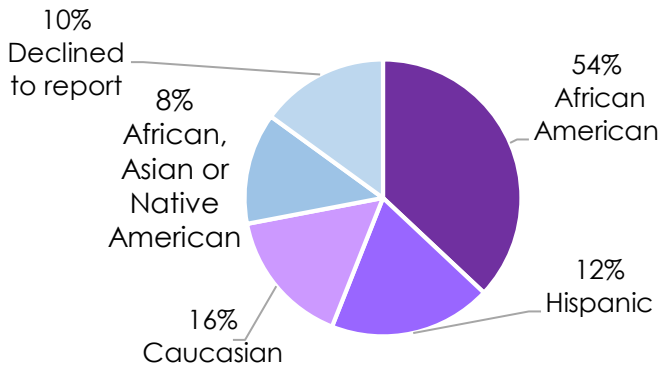
- Ames Lake Neighborhood was recognized by the St. Paul Police Department for hosting National Night Out at the property for ten consecutive years. In 2019, over 400 residents and community service providers attended.
- For the third year in a row, Opportunity Neighborhood has collaborated with Christ the King Lutheran Church in New Brighton to provide National Night Out at Garden View Apartments. This year's celebration brought together over 300 residents and community service providers.
- The agency now provides the Courtesy Program at Broadway Flats in North Minneapolis and Eastside Apartments and Wilson Apartments in St. Paul. This brings the total number of properties the program is provided at to seven representing four different property owners and three management companies.
- 92% of youth participating in the literacy program at Ames Lake Neighborhood increased or achieve their grade level reading skills.
- Decreased the number of police calls to Garden View Apartments to only 73. That's an 86% decrease since we began providing Courtesy services at the property in 2000.
- The average resident turnover at all service sites is 32% compared to the national average of 54% (National Apartment Association, 2014).

RESIDENT SERVICES COMPONENTS

RESIDENT SERVICES COMPONENT	DESCRIPTION	2019 ACCOMPLISHMENT
Out-Of-School Time Programs/Youth Intervention	Free year-round out-of-school time activities for youth in K-8th grade.	55 K-8th grade youth served through 168 out-of-school time activities.
Early Childhood Education	Early childhood family education classes	63 early childhood education classes serving 27 children from 19 unique families.
Safety Initiatives	Courtesy staff patrols the property building relationships and addressing nuisances.	<p>4,108 hours of Courtesy services provided at 7 affordable housing communities.</p> <p>At Ames Lake Neighborhood, there were 152 crime calls or .42 per unit. Compared to 619 crime calls or 1.74 per unit when Courtesy began.</p> <p>At Garden View Apartments, there were 73 crime calls or .2 per unit. Compared to 537 or 1.48 per unit when Courtesy began.</p>
Community Events	Free weekly events promoting social connectedness and building community.	127 community-building events.
Information & Referral	Residents can call, email or drop in at the Resident Services office to obtain information about community resources.	178 referrals made to community organizations.
Special Initiatives	Programs or services created to meet a specific community need or short-term enrichment program provided through a community partnership.	<p>Ames Lake Literacy Program</p> <p>Over 700 residents attended our annual National Night Out celebration in August.</p>

SERVICE POPULATION DEMOGRAPHICS

RESIDENT ETHNICITIES



4,360

Number of residents served

1,587

Number of apartments served

68%

Percentage of households earning an annual income of \$30,000 or less

SERVICE LOCATIONS

- Ames Lake Neighborhood, St. Paul
- Broadway Flats, Minneapolis
- Eastside Apartments, St. Paul
- Garden View Apartments, New Brighton
- Hazelwood Apartments, Maplewood
- Hyde Park Apartments, New Brighton
- Wilson Ridge Apartments, St. Paul

STAFF & BOARD MEMBERS

Administration

Perry Lofquist, Executive Director
Kris Ziegler, Development Officer

Service Coordinators

Chantrea Chamrong
Anna Harding

Youth Workers

Samuka Bility
Caleb Dimler
Somatra Doth
Rheatrai Doth
Trona Grant
Hailey Hollenbeck
Beth Lorentz
Nermina Rahic
Sue Yang
Jaiab Yang

Courtesy Staff

Marshawn Grant
Tonia Johnson
Ryan Kruse
Joseph Lee
Philip Nketia
Robert Renfroe
Gerald Smith
Tim Smith
Eric Wasson

Board

Tom Schirber, Chair
Keith Bluford, Treasurer
Sue Willman, Secretary
Bradley Krebsbach
Karl Spilseth

SUPPORTERS & PARTNERS

Individuals

Dave & Joan Allen
Keith & Robin Bluford
John & Patti Burnett
Merrill Fischbein
Michael Florey
Raghu Grandhgie

Allinson Henkel
Jerry Hromatka
Bradley Krebsbach
Matt Mefford
Tom Schriber
Karl Spilseth

Peter Stenberg
Sue Willman

Businesses, Corporations, Foundations & Service Contracts

Christ The King Lutheran
Church

Midwest Attainable
Housing

Richard M. Schulze Family
Foundation

Joseph A. & Lillian C.
Duke Foundation

Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe
Indians

Sierra

Hardenbergh Foundation

MN Department of Public
Safety

Smith Foundation

Jerstad Family
Foundation

Pinnacle Management
Services

Twins Care Tickets for Kids

KJ Management

PLC Towing

Warren Foundation

McNeely Foundation

Real Estate Equities

SUPPORTERS & PARTNERS (continued)

Community Partners

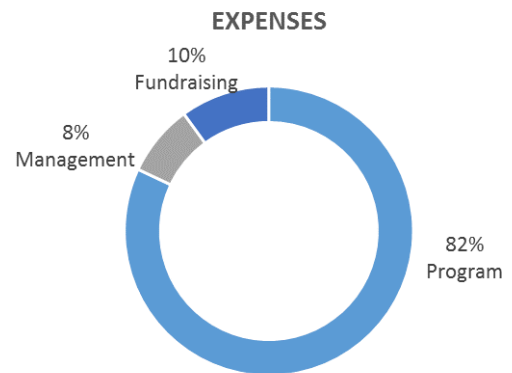
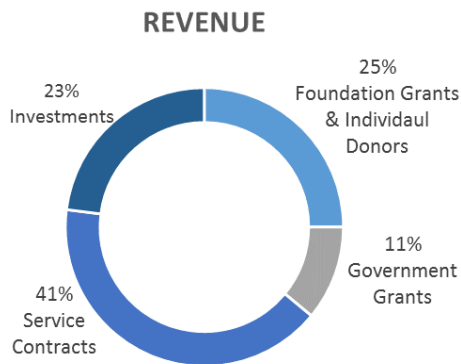
ACES	East Side Network Café	Rondo Community Outreach Library
Animal Humane Society	East Side YMCA	Sprockets
Boy Scouts of America	Girl Scouts River Valleys	St. Paul Police Department – Police Activities League
Bureau of Criminal Apprehension	KJ Management	St. Paul Public Libraries
Century College – Upward Bound	MN Coalition of Battered Women	St. Paul Public Library Bookmobile
Century College Service Learning	Minnesota Literacy Council	St. Paul Public Schools Community Education
Christ The King Lutheran Church	New Brighton Police Department	SUNNY Lunches
Community Partners with Youth	Ralph Reeder Food Shelf	Youth Intervention Program Association
Cornerstone Montessori School	Ramsey County Public Health	Youthrise Nutrition Program
East Side Arts Council	Real Estate Equities	

FINANCIALS

Revenue: \$478,233

Expenses: \$405,555

Balance Sheet	Beginning of year	End of year
Cash	351,339	426,427
Pledges and grants receivable	0	0
Accounts receivable	27,628	25,000
Prepaid expenses and deferred charges	3,106	3,106
Investments – program related	10,000	10,000
Other assets	0	0
TOTAL ASSETS	392,073	465,333
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	4,483	5,065
Unrestricted net assets	387,590	460,268
Total net assets or fund balances	387,590	460,268
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	392,073	465,333



CONTACT INFORMATION

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