SOCIAL COHESION AND CLIMATE ADAPTATION PLANNING

ROOPALI PHADKE, MACALESTER COLLEGE
35% of Minnesotans think that global warming will impact them personally  (38% in MSP metro)
PROJECT STAGES

Resources 2013

Community Conferences 2014

Action Fund 2015
WHERE IS CLIMATE CHANGE HAPPENING?
Based on local interviews

What are the chief concerns of your community members?

Where does your knowledge about weather or climate come from?

How familiar are people in your community with climate change?

How do you think climate change will impact your community?

Anne Hunt, Mayor’s Office
Robert Garfinkle, SMM
Derek Johnson, Jane Addams House
Rick Larkin, Emergency Response
Gunnar Liden, Youth Farm
Father McDonough, St. Peter Claver
Diane Raff, Living At Home Block Nurse
Mark Seeley, State Climatologist
Brendan Slotterbeck, Minneapolis
Fadumo Shirelle, Skyline Towers
RECRUITING COMMUNITY PARTNERS
SAMPLE AGENDA

Introductions

Mapping Activity

Background Information on Climate Change Impacts

Video and Discussion about Heat Waves

Dinner

Creating an Action Plan

Closing Remarks
By the end of the meeting...

Our goal is to generate a list of shared concerns and actions that provide guidance to the district council and city officials about how we prepare and plan for the impacts of climate change.

While we know preventing climate change is important, our focus today is how we can be both READY & RESILIENT in the face of the changes that are coming.
CONVERGENCE

- Who is vulnerable
- Need to reinvigorate social networks
- More education, communication and training
- Emergency preparedness/ knowing what to do
Summit-University Action Priorities

- Designing a comprehensive emergency plan with alert system using community liaisons
- Revive block associations & create "block stash" of supplies
- Solar energy investing & educating
- Talking to "big dogs" (corporations, Wells Fargo) to get fans during heat waves
- Less concrete, plant more trees
- Phone bank (emergency communication, elderly, communication calls)
- Community education campaign
- Work with Xcel Energy to build a stronger grid
- Affordability programs for changes

Scope of Action:
- Orange: Individual / Family
- Green: Neighborhood
- Navy: City
VALUE OF THE EXPERIENCE

- “We live in neighborhoods not communities. We’re isolated from each other so this has been cathartic for me just to see what other people think”

- “We developed a sense of community”

- “At some point, we are going to really need each other in a big way, and [I] want to get to know [my] neighbors”
2015 CLIMATE PREPAREDNESS TRAINING

- Participants from 17 districts
- Presentations
- Community Partner Panel
- Modern Disaster Kit
- Community Innovations
- Launched an Action Fund
COMMUNITY CLIMATE RESILIENCY FUND GRANTS 2015
WITH $15,000....

**Greening Frogtown (District 7)**
Community newspaper highlights sustainability and climate resiliency in Frogtown

**Peace Celebration Summit-Univ (District 8)**
Distribution of emergency kits to children

**Save Our Sons (District 8)**
Incorporating climate change and resilience education into curriculum at Boy’s Totem Town

**Cooling Centers in Payne Phalen (District 5)**
Identifying and communicating with potential cooling centers to designate safe areas

**Chimney Swift Towers in North End (District 6)**
Erecting chimney swift towers with community members to reduce local mosquito populations

**Arts on the Avenue West Side (District 3)**
Interactive event to increase awareness about how climate change will affect community members

**Hamline-Midway Elders (District 11)**
Strengthening community bonds by reviving Block Club programs and bringing together elders to teach about resiliency

**Vermicompost in Summit-University (District 8)**
Creating indoor and outdoor composting at Dunning Recreation to educate youth on sustainable food production.

**NE Neighborhoods Living at Home East Side (District 2)**
Workshop and distribution of emergency kits to homebound seniors
Simone Harris (right) poses with daughter Brittany (below) and Macalester student Ivy (left) at the Peace Celebration on June 19th, 2015.

Simone and Brittany used their Ready & Resilient grant to create a trivia contest and distribute emergency kits to children at the event.
A cohesive society works towards the well-being of all its members, fights exclusion and marginalization, creates a sense of belonging, promotes trust, and offers its members the opportunity of upward social mobility.
THANKS TO OUR PARTNERS

- Saint Paul
- GLISA
- Summit-University Planning Council
- The Most Livable City in America
- Science Museum of Minnesota
- West Side Community Organization
- Macalester Groveland Community Council
- Payne Phalen District Five Planning Council