Celebrating the Past

The 22nd Annual SLACO Regional Neighborhood Conference

Envisioning the Future

April 14, 2018

Presented by
St. Louis Association of Community Organizations

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<td><strong>BREAKOUT SESSIONS</strong> (All in Student Center)</td>
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<td><strong>Session 1 – 1 hr/15</strong> (9:25-10:40 am)</td>
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<td>LUNCH AND LEARN (Multipurpose Room)</td>
<td>12:15 p.m. – 1:00 p.m. – 45 minutes - Lunch</td>
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<td>CLOSING PANEL (Multipurpose Room)</td>
<td>3:40p.m. – 4:55p.m. 1 hr/15 – Pathway to a New St. Louis, Building on our Strengths</td>
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<td>MIX AND MINGLE – 5:15p.m. - 6:45p.m. Pat Connelly Tavern, 6400 Oakland Ave. St. Louis, MO</td>
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THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT
Proud to support
SLACO’s annual Neighborhoods Conference.

Because we're better when we're in it together.
Congratulates
SLACO
On Its Continued Commitment to Empowering Neighborhoods
CONFERENCE OPENING

8:15-9:15 a.m., Multipurpose Room, Student Center Building

SLACO Membership Meeting

Call to order: SLACO Board President Elect Sundy Whiteside

Invocation: Fr. Gerald Kleba, Retired, St. Cronan Parish, a Founder of SLACO

Welcome: Larry D. Johnson, Jr, DA, and Provost of the Forest Park Campus
Dr. Johnson is extremely active in the higher education learning community as evidenced by his involvement with national conferences such as The National Association of Staff and Organizational Development, The League for Innovations and The Teaching Professor. He has served as a Board Member for the Florida Developmental Education Association and is the past Vice President of the Georgia Association of Developmental Education. In addition, he is an accreditation peer evaluator for the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges.

Welcome: Mark Abbott, PhD, Former SLACO Board President

Welcome: Tamar Brown, East-West Gateway Council of Governments
St. Louis native Tamar Brown earned a BA in Business Marketing at Webster University and an MPPA in Public Policy, Nonprofit Management at the University of Missouri-St. Louis. She is a Community Engagement professional at EWG where she helps design and implements public engagement programs that reflect regional awareness for the metro St. Louis region. Throughout her professional journey, she has had the opportunity to work with local nonprofit organizations like Beyond Housing, the Community Builders Network, and SLACO.

Program:

Eric Friedman is a cofounder of the Missouri Economic Development & Historic Tax Credit Coalition, the St. Louis Transit Alliance, the Missouri PACE (Property Assessed Clean Energy) Coalition, People’s Free Clinic, Lift for Life Academy, Central Reform Congregation, the Broadband Collaborative, and Connect Home STL.org. He supports: # Never Again.

Washington University I HEAL STL: This Health Impact Assessment (HIA) includes opinions of residents near the proposed routes gathered through community meetings and focus groups, and existing census data and health surveys to make projections on how the Northside Southside Metrolink Expansion may impact your health, quality of life, and daily living through access to public transit. We plan to inform regional policy-making and planning for better health outcomes across metropolitan St. Louis.

Research Team: Principal Investigator: Rodrigo Reis, PhD; Investigators: Ross Brownson, PhD; Sarah Moreland-Russell, PhD; Research Assistants: Shannon Cohall; August Mense; William Walser

Comments: Kevin B. McKinney, Executive Director, SLACO
Composting and recycling assistance for today’s Conference is provided by St. Louis Earth Day, Recycling on the Go. Please compost food and the trash from your lunch. Recycle metal cans, napkins, plastic cups, and unwanted paper. If you leave during the day and do not want your program book, please leave it at the registration desk.
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Student Center, (9:25 a.m.-3:30 p.m.)

BREAKOUT SESSION 1, Choose from 1A-1G below (9:25-10:40 a.m.)

1A. Town and Gown Relations: What Colleges and Universities Can Do for Your Organization and Neighborhood? - Classroom H215

Presenters: Patricia Zahn is Community Outreach & Engagement Director at the University of Missouri-St. Louis. In this capacity, she supports civic and community engagement activities on campus and serves as the Director of the Des Lee Collaborative Vision, a community of 35 endowed professors who embody community engagement through the work that they do in partnership with community organizations and in connecting their area of expertise with the broader public. Patricia is also an elected school board member for the Affton School District. Leah Sweetman, PhD, Assistant Director, Center for Service and Community Engagement at St. Louis University. Elizabeth Glenn will graduate from Dominican University in the spring 2018 where she majored in Biology with a concentration in Natural Science. She has served as the greenhouse manager for Dominican University, a hydroponic startup, after researching a successful model of Plant Chicago. Elizabeth was the founder of City Greens for the Baden neighborhood, which grew fresh vegetables for distribution to low-income families and seniors. In 2010 Elizabeth was inducted into the Academy of Science in St. Louis, a prestigious group of area scientists and businesspersons involved in using its resources to expand scientific outreach, education, resource sharing, and the recognition of scientific accomplishment.

Moderator: Mark Abbott, PhD: Emeritus Professor of History/Former Director of the Center for Neighborhood Affairs, Harris-Stowe State University—abbottm@hssu.edu

Description: Most people know that universities and colleges are involved in teaching and research. Community service is also an important element of the mission of academic institutions. Learn what universities can do for your neighborhood and/or your organization.

1B. Building a Culture of Community Engagement - Café East SC032

Presenters: Claire Wolff is the community development specialist for the St. Louis Urban Region at the University of Missouri Extension and Director, Neighborhood Leadership Academy. She develops community partnership initiatives that link university resources with the needs and priorities of communities by working on a variety of topics including capacity building, leadership development, and asset-based community development. Amanda Colon-Smith is the Executive Director of Dutchtown South Community. The organization focuses on housing development and stabilization as well as community planning and facilitation and seeks to advance neighborhood vitality through resident-led activities. Liz Pund manages the Community Arts Training (CAT) Institute and related programs at the Regional Arts Commission of St. Louis.

Moderator: Kathleen Redmon, in her second year of the MSW program at Washington University, is specializing in domestic social and economic development, policy, and system dynamics. At the Community Builders Network of Metro St. Louis (CBN), Kathleen is managing the Community Engagement Action Group, a peer learning group for community development organizations focusing on community engagement.

Description: A strong region requires engaged citizens and a community-driven vision. What does it take to build a culture of civic engagement? How can we foster the capacity and the commitment of residents, community organizations, and businesses to collectively address common problems? What strategies can we employ to ensure equity? Join a conversation with practitioners and peers about how we can build on existing efforts to make a more vibrant and engaged St. Louis.
1C. Filling the Neighborhood Mobility Gap: The Role of Bike Share and Calm Streets - Transportation Reimagined - Classroom SC015

Presenters: Jacque Lumsden, MUP, is a transportation planner and the marketing coordinator for CBB Transportation Engineers + Planners. She works to support a better quality of life through projects that enhance active transportation and increase access to opportunity. Most recently she served as the project manager on the Louisiana Avenue Calm Streets Plan and led the public engagement process for the Downtown St. Louis Multimodal Study. Liza Farr works at Bi-State Development to make transit more useful to the St. Louis region through transit-oriented development as well as new transit technologies and bike and pedestrian connections. She spearheaded the effort to bring bike share to the region through leading the Bike Share Working Group.

Moderator: Barbara Levin is Program Manager: Community Capacity Building and Field Experience, Brown School of Social Work, Washington University--blevin@wustl.edu. Ms. Levin is a skilled and dynamic nonprofit professional with over 30 years of experience leading and managing professional staff and volunteers, creating and executing programs, teaching, consulting, training, facilitating, mentoring, and building coalitions among diverse community partners.

Description: Successful neighborhoods don’t happen by chance. They are the result of efforts by residents who care enough to be involved. Not sure if you fit the description? This session will inspire you to act.

1D. Office of Financial Empowerment – Classroom Café West SC031

Presenter: Abigail Buckhouse, MSW, is Operation HOPE Financial Wellbeing Coach, Treasurer Office, City of St. Louis.

Description: Learn everything you need to know at this comprehensive session on credit. Join Operation HOPE financial well-being coach to learn why you need to have good credit, how to improve your credit, and what resources are available to help you achieve good credit. Join a discussion on budgeting and saving and how they impact credit.

1E. Innovative Neighborhoods: Creative Workspace and Entrepreneurship Resources in St. Louis – Classroom H215

Presenters: Joe Scariot, Research and Development Coordinator/Data Initiative Director at T-REX. Jason Deem, Owner of Nebula, South Side Spaces and NextSTL. Rikki Henry, Program Manager at CET, a Cortex affiliate.

Moderator: Jenny Ryan, Project Manager at PGAV Planners and co-founder of Tower Grove Farmers Market.

Description: Creative co working spaces and innovation centers are revitalizing economic and social development in neighborhoods. Learn how neighborhoods have transformed historic or vacant buildings into innovative workspaces for creating, building, and collaborating. Hear how T-REX, Nebula, and Center for Emerging Technology have provided small businesses, nonprofits, sole proprietors, and creative workers with infrastructure, resources, and networking opportunities.

1F. Opioids/Mental Health: Getting to the Root of Our Community Health Problems Classroom H219

Presenters: Phil Horn, MSW, MPH, is the Project Manager for the Opioids State Targeted Response (STR) grant at the University of Missouri St. Louis – Missouri Institute of Mental Health. The STR team administers the $20 million federal STR grant in collaboration with the Missouri Department of Mental Health (DMH). Cheryl Gardine, LCSW, who has been active in drug recovery work since 1985, is the Executive Director and co-founder of Center for Life Solutions, which is a medication assisted treatment program focusing on opiate dependence. She is the president of MATOD (Missouri Association for the Treatment of Opioids Dependence) and the Missouri delegate for AATOD (American Association for the Treatment of Opioids Dependence), which represents 35 states. She serves on the Advisory Board for Employment Connections, participates in the BHN (Behavioral Health Network) Advisory Board, and is active with the CRUSH (Community Resources United to Stop Heroin) Coalition.
Moderator: Craig Schmid, JD, a Government Services Analyst for the City of St. Louis Department of Health, is involved in youth violence prevention (Youth Violence Prevention Partnership); HEAL (Healthy Eating, Active Living) Partnership; heroin/opioids and substance use disorders; racial equity and disparities; internal and external partnerships; and policy and legislation. He served as Alderman for the 10th and 20th wards in the City of St. Louis for 20 years.

Description: Getting to the Root of our Community Health Problems – Why Zip Code Matters More Than Genetic Code

1G. Supporting our Youth – Classroom AB Dining Room

Presenters: Halbert Sullivan, MSW, is the Founding President/CEO of the Fathers’ Support Center, whose mission is to foster healthy relationships by strengthening families and communities. Its goal is to break the cycle of poverty, child neglect and abuse, and welfare dependence by educating and preparing fathers to become responsible parents with the financial stability and the parenting skills necessary to support their children emotionally and developmentally; Charles Shelton is an ordained minister who has an extensive background supporting youth to empower themselves. The motto which he lives by is “Right Follows Right”. For more than a decade, he has championed mentoring a service-oriented life skills program for high-risk and at-risk youth. In 2011, recognizing his passion and the power teens have to bring about a more just world, Charles became the Executive Director of Teens of Tomorrow, a 501c3 not-for-profit, which provides community members educational assistance, life skills, mentoring and economic development opportunities

Moderator: Sal Martinez is Executive Director of the North Newstead Association “NNA,” a community development corporation that has developed over 130 units of mixed income housing, in addition to promoting a multitude of human development initiatives for families residing in North St. Louis City. Martinez, former long-time Chairman of the St. Louis Housing Authorities (SLHA) board of commissioners, was instrumental in the successful implementation of three HOPE VI redevelopment initiatives. Sal has a Bachelor Degree in Urban Education.

Description: This session will highlight examples of opportunities for individuals and neighborhoods to support youth through internship and employment opportunities. This session will focus on two St. Louis organizations that connect youth to job skills training and employment opportunities and ways for you, your neighborhood, or employer to support youth in our community.

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BREAKOUT SESSION 2, Choose from 2A-2G (10:50 a.m.-12:05 p.m.)

2A. The Nuts and Bolts of Running a Neighborhood Organization – Classroom H215

Presenters: Cathy Beck, owner of Total Finance Solutions, LLC, has over 25 years of business, real estate, and banking experience. She provides basic accounting services, as well as review of accounting practices and financial information. Jen Kubiszewski is President-Elect of the Tower Grove East Neighborhood Association and a board member of the South Grand Cultural Alliance. She works in Communications at Wells Fargo and is the Regional Chair of their LGBT business resource group. You can often find her on her phone using social media to share all the amazing places in the neighborhood. She is your first stop for any bar/restaurant recommendations and your last resort for cooking tips. She has yet to meet a happy hour that she doesn’t like. You can follow her on Twitter @uffdajen or Instagram @jenkubiszewski. Vicky Dean currently serves as the president of Tower Grove Heights Neighborhood Association (TGHNA). Vicky's career is in higher education administration, spending more than a decade working in university housing. In this role Vicky helps college students develop academic, career, and leadership skills within student housing community organizations. She prides herself on prioritizing inclusion and social justice into her efforts at the organizational and individual level. Patrick Weber, has volunteered with the Tower Grove Heights Neighborhood Association (TGHNA) since moving to the neighborhood, and is currently serving as the Social Committee Chair. A licensed architect and St. Louis native, Patrick returned to his hometown in 2015 to co-found his architecture, design and fabrication business Aesh Design, also based in Tower Grove Heights.

Moderator: Maggie Lalor became the Tower Grove East Neighborhood Association representative to SLACO not long after joining the TGENA board as Safety Chair in 2015. In addition to volunteer work at SLACO and in her neighborhood, Maggie enjoys sharing her enthusiasm for native plants through St Louis Audubon’s Bring Conservation Home program, gardening, and advocating for sustainable local food systems, as well as working to get progressives elected as the Vice President of the St Louis Young Democrats. A Minnesota native she has learned to enjoy St Louis summers, except when it's too hot to take her greyhounds for a walk.

Description: Building Neighborhood Organizational Capacity: "Okay, so you formed your neighborhood association and you know what you need to do. The question now is, ‘How do you do it?’ Learn how strong neighborhood associations make decisions, implement programming, raise money, coordinate volunteers, and more. Learn “best practices” of running a successful neighborhood organization including financial management, social media tools and strategies, and effective event planning.

2B. St. Louis Promise Zone and ReCast – Café East SC032

Presenters: Ella Jones, a Missouri resident for over 40 years, lives in Ferguson’s Ward 1 and is the first African American women to be elected to the Ferguson City Council. Ella pastored for 22 years in the African Methodist Episcopal Church and holds a degree in Chemistry from UMSL. George J. Jones Jr., a retired City of St Louis Refuse Supervisor, is the recipient of many awards including St. Louis City volunteer of the year for his work with youth. With over 35 years of community outreach and engagement, he is a community organizer and facilitator, a ReCAST (Resiliency in Communities after Stress and Trauma) community delegate, and University of Missouri St. Louis Neighborhood Leadership Alum. Michelle Mitchell, MHA, works for the Saint Louis County Department of Public Health and serves as the Community Engagement Coordinator for the St. Louis ReCAST initiative. She recruits and supervises community members and facilitates public health discussions around youth engagement, mental health, peer support, and violence prevention.

Moderator: Paula Hughes, MTPM, is the Saint Louis County Department of Public Health Program Manager for St. Louis ReCAST, focusing on planning, implementation, evaluation, communications, and coordination of the stakeholders and partners. Prior to joining the health department, Paula worked with
the community and stakeholders on the Affordable Care Act, transit initiatives, environmental studies, and infrastructure projects. Paula has more than 20 years of public engagement and communication experience, and 10 years of project management experience.

**Description:** St. Louis ReCAST is a 5-year, $4.7 million grant awarded to the Saint Louis County Department of Public Health by SAMHSA (Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration). St. Louis ReCAST will fund projects in five specific areas: 1) violence prevention; 2) youth engagement; 3) peer support; 4) mental health; and 5) trauma-informed care. All community projects will be decided and awarded through a participatory budgeting process – meaning that communities themselves will be involved in making the decisions.

St. Louis ReCAST targets all residents that live within the Promise Zone, a federally designated area in North Saint Louis City and North St. Louis County. With a population of about 200,000, it covers 11 wards in North St. Louis city and 27 municipalities in St. Louis County.

**2C. Chouteau Greenway Show and Tell – Great Rivers Greenway**

*Classroom SC015*

**Presenter:** Elizabeth Simons is the Community Program Manager at Great Rivers Greenway, the regional public agency connecting people to their rivers, parks, businesses, and each other through a network of greenways. She manages community engagement as greenways are going through various phases of planning, design, engineering, and construction. Elizabeth collaborates with partners to host programs and events on greenways once they are built for all to explore and enjoy.

**Moderator:** Gary Newcomer, community development specialist at the Community Builders Network of Metro St. Louis, manages the nonprofit administration, facilitates numerous community development coalitions, and is a project lead on several initiatives to support St. Louis communities. His background in urban planning and historic real estate development has informed his approach to community development and made him a strong believer in place-based solutions for promoting vibrant and inclusive neighborhoods.

**Description:** The Chouteau Greenway plan calls for a unique greenway through the heart of St. Louis – from Washington University and Forest Park all the way to Downtown and the Gateway Arch with connections to neighborhoods north and south. Community members, partners and designers are envisioning the Chouteau Greenway through a design competition. Many partners have come together to create this opportunity to collaborate, setting Design Goals for design teams to guide the competition.

**2D. St. Louis Vacancy Issues: A Never-Ending Problem? Not if We Can Help It! “Finest 15”and SLACO Vacancy LRA Sub Committee – SLACO Vacancy Best Practice Report to the Community and Home Health and Energy Efficiency and We Finance**

*Café West SC031*

**Presenters:** Peter Hoffman, JD/MPA, began his career with Legal Aid of Western Missouri’s Economic Development Unit in 2010. In that capacity he represented dozens of urban nonprofits, community organizations, and residents towards the equitable redevelopment of blighted and abandoned properties. In 2015, he became the project director of that organization’s “Adopt-a-Neighborhood Project,” a Legal Services Corporation “Pro Bono Innovation Fund” recipient where urban neighborhoods were paired with local volunteer law firms. In April of 2018, Peter relocated to his hometown of St. Louis to spearhead Legal Services of Eastern Missouri’s Neighborhood Vacancy Initiative. Dana Malkus, JD, is an associate clinical professor at Saint Louis University School of Law supervising students in the Entrepreneurship and Community Development Clinic, which represents both nonprofit organizations and small business entrepreneurs on a range of transactional matters. She has worked on a variety of vacancy initiatives in St. Louis. Richard Reilly, LEED AP, BPI BA, EP & HHE, HES Assessor, BOC & DET, has been Energy Programs Manager of the Missouri Botanical Garden’s EarthWays Center since 2011. He spent over 30 years in custom residential construction, rising from carpenter to Chief Operating Officer. He has served on the Board of Directors of Habitat for Humanity St. Louis and the St. Louis Artists’ Guild and has numerous professional certifications concerning residential energy efficiency. Angela Drake serves as the secretary of the SLACO Board of Directors and is a practicing licensed real estate agent. Annette Parker landed in Saint Louis homeless as a SURVIVOR of Hurricane Katrina. Prior to the Hurricane, she was pursuing a Social Studies Certification at Dillard University. She is currently employed with Saint Louis
Public School District. She resides in the 4th Ward and is a proud city resident and constituent of the Ville. She serves as a Co-Chair of the SLACO Vacancy Best Practice Sub Committee. Pamela McLucas is Broker-Associate with Inhabit Properties, LLC. In this role, Pamela leads a real estate brokerage overseeing Real Estate Agents, including all aspects of selling and buying for St. Louis clientele. Passionate about city living and its possibilities, Pamela specializes in community volunteerism such as neighborhood beautification and clean ups. This includes school support at Washington Montessori St. Louis Public School and Mathews-Dickey Boys and Girls Club. She currently serves on the Board of Directors for Hamilton Heights Neighborhood Association, Metro St. Louis Coalition for Inclusion and Equity (M-Slice), and is a SLACO Vacancy Best Practices Sub Committee Co-Chair.

**Moderator:** Sarah Giampietro is a third-year law student at Saint Louis University School of Law where she is a student in the Entrepreneurship and Community Development Clinic.

**Description:** City residents own nearly 20,000 vacant properties – there are thousands more in private hands – and they’re costing us a bundle. We pay for police and fire calls, mowing and board up, and our property values take a hit. In addition to these quantifiable costs, thousands of people see these eyesores up close and personally every single day, which takes a psychological toll. Reducing the negative impact of vacancy is a complex puzzle, requiring coordination and collaboration among the public sector, private stakeholders, and neighborhood leaders to achieve a shared vision. By strategically using certain legal tools, neighborhood leaders can help address this challenge.


**Presenter:** Jasmin Aber is an urbanist and co-founder of the Center for Art, Architecture & Design St. Louis – The Creative Exchange Lab (CEL), a unique non-profit organization that serves St. Louis’ design and architecture community. Jasmin got her professional German license in architecture in 1998. She has a RIBA I & II certification from Royal Institute of British Architects, UK, where she was trained as an architect at Portsmouth University from 1986 to 1991. Lauren A. Parks is President of House of Miles East St. Louis, a 501c3 on a mission to renovate the East St. Louis childhood home of Miles Davis and sustain his memory through history and music education. Lauren’s background is in educational organizational skills, daily operations, event planning, program development and implementation. After receiving her Bachelor’s degree from Fisk University and Master’s degree from Southern Illinois University- Edwardsville, Lauren has had over 20 successful years in education in East St. Louis, Edwardsville, and Madison Illinois as well as Honolulu, Hawai’i.
**Description:** Our Town envisions East St. Louis, Illinois, as a cultural arts destination by 2025 where residents and visitors not only see, hear, learn, and celebrate the city’s rich, multilayered history and culture, but where the residents participate, contribute, and economically benefit from the cultural assets within the community. This session explores the cultural-led economic strategy that takes the long view of developing a unique plan for the East St. Louis City community that uses its landmarks to boost economic development. Learn about what has worked in East St. Louis and what arts-driven strategies you can take to celebrate the history of and promote a resilient future for your neighborhood.

**2F Police/Civilian Engagement Project “Revealing Our Humanity” - Classroom H219**

**Presenters:** Captain Perri Johnson is Deputy Commander of the St. Louis City Police Community Engagement and Affairs Division. His role is to secure police officers that are willing to discuss police/civilian interaction and to facilitate the discussion to ensure that continued learning occurs; Tiffany Robertson works full time alongside her husband as owner of Heavenly Hands Help Property Maintenance and is the 1st VP of Shaw Neighborhood Improvement Association and Kingdom House Board Member. She volunteers at Metropolitan Congregations United (MCU) on policing reform and is the Faithful Steward of Touchy Topics Tuesday. Gerry Rauch, RN, is involved in several racial equity groups through her parish, neighborhood, the Sisters of St. Joseph, and MCU.

**Moderator:** Dewitt Campbell III, MSW, is a professional Diversity, Equity and Inclusion trainer and facilitator with NCCJ-STL which is a local not-for-profit organization founded in 1930 to promote understanding and respect among all races, religions, and cultures through advocacy and educational programs.

**Description:** Revealing Our Humanity sessions are an original model envisioned by Tiffany Robertson during her efforts on the Break the Pipeline Policing Reform Campaign through MCU. The essence of the concept is for community members and police officers to have ongoing dialogue across their perceived differences as a catalyst to creating fundamental relationships, developing trust, and inspiring mutual support. The initial Revealing Our Humanity efforts were sponsored by MCU and SLACO.

**2G. Engagement of Youth to Facilitate Youth led Community Development**

**Classroom AB Dining Room**

**Presenters:** Elizabeth Williams-Johnson, who leads LinkSTL, is a social worker with a background in youth development, program implementation and evaluation, and social and economic wellness in under-resourced communities. LaVonda Henderson is a current resident of the Hyde Park Neighborhood and an active community member. In June of 2017 LaVonda joined LinkSTL as an AmeriCorps VISTA. Her work is primarily focused around youth engagement. Upon completion of her service term, LaVonda plans to attend Lutheran School of Nursing as a first step towards a career as a Nurse Practitioner. Her areas of interest include Mental Health and HIV/AIDS awareness. Vincent S. Boyd serves as a Program manager for the Community Health-in-Partnership Services (CHIPS) Health and Wellness Center.

**Moderator:** Marty “Joe” Murray is the elected State Committeeman representing the 5th Senatorial District and the 7th Ward. His focus is engaging voters and making sure people understand the importance of having access to voting. Marty Joe also has a special appreciation for building the community. In 2016 he founded a non-profit called Gloves4Grades. The organization has a mission to encourage academic success with youth and promote financial literacy.

**Description:** LinkSTL, a community-based organization, serves residents of the Hyde Park neighborhood by connecting neighbors to their neighborhood and coordinating access to resources and services. The Hyde Park Youth Council is designed to engage youth by bringing them together and ultimately bridging the gap between community and youth development efforts in Hyde Park. This presentation will focus on the importance of youth voice in community development through the lens of LinkSTL’s work to-date and future plans. Community Health-in-Partnership Services (CHIPS), Our Peer Support Workshops are
designed to help students who are at risk for gang activity or have been involved in the criminal justice system. The goals of the workshops are to help the students 1) understand and manage emotions, 2) set and achieve positive goals, 3) understand and share the feelings of others, 4) create and keep positive relationships, and 5) make responsible decisions. Our approach uses a combination of health and wellness educators and professional artists to deliver the workshops that allow students to better themselves through artistic expression. Typically, the workshops run for eight weeks.

**LUNCH DISCUSSION (12:30-1:15 p.m.)**

*Please pick up your lunch, eat and assemble in the Multipurpose Room at 1:15pm.*

**Chancellor Jeff Pittman, Ph.D., will bring greetings on behalf of St. Louis Community College**

Jeff Pittman, Ph.D., began his role as STLCC Chancellor in July 2015 after serving as the statewide Vice President of Corporate College Services and Online Education at Ivy Tech Community College of Indiana. He held a variety of academic leadership roles for Ivy Tech for 27 years and most recently was instrumental in the reorganization and development of a lean organization for the delivery of Corporate College customized workforce training and services to business, industry, and individuals throughout Indiana. Pittman served as Chancellor of Ivy Tech’s Wabash Valley Region for 11 years, and simultaneously worked as the statewide Vice Provost of Distance Education for three of the years. Under Pittman’s leadership, the college’s enrollment in online education doubled from more than 32,000 students per year in 2008 to 69,000 students in 2010.

**Key Note Address 1:15 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.**

**Judge Jimmie Edwards, Public Safety Director, City of St. Louis, MO**

Presenter: Judge Jimmie M. Edwards, known for his commitment to troubled youths, was appointed Director of Public Safety for the City of St. Louis in November 2017. The public safety department is the largest department in the City of St. Louis and includes the police and fire departments. Edwards served as a Circuit Judge for the State of Missouri for over 26 years. From 2007 to 2012 he served as Administrative Judge of the Family Court. Frustrated by the rising number of high school dropouts with no job skills and no legitimate means to earn a living, Edwards conceived an idea for an innovative type of school that could educate and supervise the court’s juvenile delinquents. With help from the St. Louis Public School District, MERS Goodwill Industries, St. Louis Family Court and numerous supporters, the Innovative Concept Academy opened in the fall of 2009. This first-of-its-kind school has received national acclaim from multiple media outlets, such as PEOPLE and Ebony magazines, the Wall Street Journal, the CBS Early Show, and the Today Show. He received the William Rehnquist Award for Judicial Excellence – one of our nation’s highest judicial awards – and was inducted into the Missouri Public Service Hall of Fame and the Order of Fleur De Lis, Saint Louis University School of Law Hall of Fame.
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BREAKOUT SESSION 3, Choose from 3A-3G below (2:15 - 3:30 p.m.)

3A. Come One, Come All – Does This Describe Your Neighborhood Association?
Board Development and Strategic Planning – Classroom H215

Presenters: Alicia Hernandez, Marie Oberkirsch, Delores Smith and Brenda Nelson Community representatives

Moderators: Barbara Levin is Program Manager: Community Capacity Building and Field Experience, Brown School of Social Work, Washington University: blevin@wustl.edu. She has over 30 years of experience leading and managing professional staff and volunteers, creating and executing programs, teaching, consulting, training, facilitating, mentoring, and building coalitions among diverse community partners. She serves as Member of Board of Advisors at The Mission Center, L3C and is a certified consultant in Sustayne, a nationally recognized curriculum for social enterprise development. Claire Wolff is a Community Development Specialist, University of Missouri Extension: clairewolff@gmail.com

Description: Explore ideas for recruiting new members for your events, committees, and board using strategies that are low-tech, personal, and high energy to reach diverse members of your community who have diverse reasons to join, get involved, and attend. The session will be interactive – so come with your ideas and questions for a panel of community members who are tackling the recruitment challenge in their neighborhoods and leave with tips, ideas, and connections.
3B. Moving Forward through ‘Ferguson’ Café East SC032

Presenter: Emily Davis is a long-time Ferguson resident, mother of 3, and community activist. Michelle Higgins is a Bail Disruptor with The Bail Out Campaign and Co-Chair of St. Louis Action Counsel, a Black liberation and empowerment organization that focuses on political education and holistic public safety, through which she has learned a great deal about collaboration and solidarity. Shellie Boaz is the Regional Diversity and Inclusion Chairperson for the Central Region for Nextgen QSI. She is a Khaos Koach (Keep, Healing and Overcoming Struggles), executive board member of 28 to Life, a Reconciliation and Coping Facilitator certified by University of Missouri St. Louis, First Awardees of the "I define me" Award by The Nia Group and Sistah Keepers, Sole Creator of Operation Help STL Facebook page with over 3000 members, a Community Delegate with ReCast delegating $600,000 to organizations in the community, a Mentor through Zakata Madrassa working in the Juvenile Detention Center and the Justice Center for the St. Louis family courts, Ferguson Front Line Protestor, and Community Activist. Richard Reilly is an artist and photographer who has dedicated much of his practice since August 2014 to addressing issues of oppression and racism in the St. Louis area. He is the principal photographer for All the Art, local arts quarterly. Michael Hassle is an activist in St. Louis Missouri. He works for the Chosen for Change Foundation. He is an organizer and a member of International Black Freedom Alliance. He has led and participated in movements that protested the verdicts of James Stockley, Michael Brown, Kajieme Powell, and Cary Ball.

Moderator: Rebeccah Bennett, MPP, is Founder and Principal of Emerging Wisdom LLC – a forward thinking social enterprise that helps individuals live empowered lives, leaders build impactful organizations, and communities advance brighter futures. In addition to her professional activities, Rebeccah currently serves as Co-Chair of the board of Forward through Ferguson (the successor organization to the Ferguson Commission).

Description: Moving Forward through ‘Ferguson’ Why Organize? Change Gonna Come! Join Us!

3C. Trailnet - Taking a Step Toward a Connected St. Louis – Classroom SC015

Presenters: Alex Devlin is a planner with three years of experience working with land use, economic development, and transportation. As Bicycle and Pedestrian Planner for Trailnet, Alex recently completed a Pedestrian and Bicycle Master Plan for the City of Florissant, Missouri.

Description: Trailnet is looking to break down barriers to traditional planning practices by creating a plan that reflects St. Louis residents and how they want to see their community built for the long-term. To accomplish this goal, Trailnet is creating a plan for a network of on-street protected bike lanes and sidewalk improvements. Through working with over 70 partners, Trailnet will share its recommendations on best practices for community engagement, exploring land use and affordability policies, designing inclusive spaces, selecting destinations people love, and determining funding and maintenance strategies.

Moderator: Gary Newcomer is the community development specialist at the Community Builders Network of Metro St. Louis. As part of his role, he manages the nonprofit administration, facilitates numerous community development coalitions, and is a project lead on several initiatives to support St. Louis communities. Before starting at CBN, Gary worked on historic redevelopment projects in St. Louis and Davenport, Iowa and specialized in the historic tax credit program. His background in urban planning and historic real estate development have informed his approach to community development and made him a strong believer in place-based solutions for promoting vibrant and inclusive neighborhoods.

3D. St. Louis Regional Unbanked Task Force – Café West SC031

Presenter: Lisa Potts coordinates financial services programs for the People’s Community Action Corporation. In this role, she provides leadership to St. Louis Regional Unbanked Task Force and major initiatives Bank-On Save-Up St. Louis and On the Money Magazine - St. Louis. She coordinates STRUT
access for women and children, supporting maternal me
and mobilizing the St. Louis region. Much of her work has focused on creating greater equity in health
which improves birth outcomes, promotes healthy families, and builds healthy communities by uniting
the executive director of Generate Health (previously the Maternal, Child and Family Health Coalition),
focused on improving the health of vulnerable women and children for more than 23 years. She serves as
behavioral health and substance abuse, building an age

Education, Health Communication and Assessment, Policy and Evaluation

3

Louis County Department of Public Health

Presenters

Jenny spent over five years working in distribution, buying, and pricing at Save
fundrais
Community Development and worked with Northside Community Housing on their marketing,
graduate certificate in Policy and Program Evaluation. In 2016, Jenny served as an intern for Rise
transitioned to a Community Development Specialist role in 2017. She has a master's degree from UMSL

Moderator: Jenny Connelly-Bowen joined CBN as a Graduate Research Assistant in 2016 and
transitioned to a Community Development Specialist role in 2017. She has a master’s degree from UMSL
in Public Policy Administration with a focus on Nonprofit Management and is currently pursuing a
graduate certificate in Policy and Program Evaluation. In 2016, Jenny served as an intern for Rise
Community Development and worked with Northside Community Housing on their marketing,
fundraising, and community engagement initiatives. Prior to entering the community development field,
Jenny spent over five years working in distribution, buying, and pricing at Save-A-Lot Food Stores.

Description: This session explores the resources available for small business owners including everything
from the development of a business plan and registering the business with the Secretary of State, to
assisting Missouri businesses in obtaining and performing government contracts, to effectively preparing
for requesting a loan from a bank or other financial institution.

3E. Entrepreneurship Resources – Don’t Go It Alone: Four Indispensable Resources Every Neighborhood Business Owner Should Know. Classroom H215

Presenters: Bill Forsythe, Enterprise Bank & Trust Vice President Business Banking Team Lead, seeks
opportunities with businesses with annual revenues of up to $10MM that value a relationship with their
banker. With 16 years of experience in the financial services industry and an extensive background in
revenue cycle and working capital management disciplines, Bill has provided hundreds of small business
owners with customized solutions for enhancing the profitability and efficiency of their working capital
management programs.

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assisting Missouri businesses in obtaining and performing government contracts, to effectively preparing
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3F. Social Determinants of Health – Classroom H219

Presenters: Spring Schmidt, Director for Health Promotion and Public Health Research for the Saint
Louis County Department of Public Health, is responsible for the Chronic Disease Epidemiology, Health
Education, Health Communication and Assessment, Policy and Evaluation, and Accreditation
programs. She oversees health department activities on strategic public health topics including chronic
disease, healthy eating and active living, sexually transmitted infections, asthma, access to care, behavioral health and substance abuse, building an age-friendly community, and advancing health equity for all St. Louis County residents. Kendra Copanas has overseen health-related nonprofit organizations focused on improving the health of vulnerable women and children for more than 23 years. She serves as the executive director of Generate Health (previously the Maternal, Child and Family Health Coalition), which improves birth outcomes, promotes healthy families, and builds healthy communities by uniting and mobilizing the St. Louis region. Much of her work has focused on creating greater equity in health access for women and children, supporting maternal mental health services for expectant and new
mothers, and reducing the region’s alarming infant mortality rate. **Vetta Sanders Thompson**, PhD, a Professor at Brown School Washington University, focuses her research on the psychosocial implications of race and culture for health and well-being. Dr. Thompson has completed funded research examining cultural competence in the provision of services and communication about health and well-being in the African American community, as well as experiences of discrimination. Her current work focuses on community engaged practices to support health equity.

**Moderator: Craig Schmid**, JD, a Government Services Analyst for the City of St. Louis Department of Health, is involved in youth violence prevention (Youth Violence Prevention Partnership); HEAL (Healthy Eating, Active Living) Partnership; heroin/opioids and substance use disorders; racial equity and disparities; internal and external partnerships; policy and legislation. He served as alderman for the 10th and 20th wards in the City of St. Louis for 20 years.

**Description:** Why does the U.S. spend more on medical care than any other industrialized nation, yet the U.S. is 26th out of 49 in terms of life expectancy -- and falling? Come discover how public health departments in the City of St. Louis and St. Louis County, private hospital systems, and numerous partners are coming together in an unprecedented way to proactively address the root causes of health, or lack of health, to prevent chronic diseases. This session not only discusses the role of social determinants in the production of health and well-being but provides practical examples to assist participants in understanding its link to racial equity. Practices, interventions, and policies that use a racial equity lens to address social determinants are presented and discussed.

**3G. Prison to Prosperity and RE-LINK – Classroom AB Dining Room**

**Presenters: Alice Prince**, EdD, recently named Executive Director of the St. Louis Agency on Training and Employment (SLATE) American Job Center, believes access to employment, training, and education is a social justice matter. Previously, she served as the Young Adult Division Manager where she oversaw approximately 30 contracts that focused on youth employment, empowerment, mentoring, financial literacy, and legal services. **Mikel Whittier** has been with the IHN since October 2016 and currently serves as the Re-Entry Community Linkages (RE-LINK) Program Manager. Prior to joining IHN, he served in various roles at Mercy Hospital St. Louis including as a Patient Benefit Advisor. In that role, he worked to educate and assist patients with strategies to alleviate financial burdens resulting from emergent and traumatic hospitalizations. Additionally, he represents IHN on the Regional Health Commission’s Advisory Board. He received his MA of Healthcare Administration from the University of Missouri and is currently a doctoral candidate in healthcare administration at A.T. Still University. **Linda Wolfe**, Librarian and Branch Manager can be found at the Divoll Branch of the St. Louis Public Library in the Fairground Neighborhood. She has been at the branch since 2013, returning to the organization after two positions at a community college, including Director. A native St. Louisan, she earned her Master of Arts in library science and information technology at the University of Missouri-Columbia. She works in collaborations with the Division of Corrections at the Medium Security Institution at Agency FWD, with St. Louis University Department of Occupational Science and Occupational Therapy for Returning Citizens (within the City of St. Louis Department of Corrections) Transformative Justice Initiative, and with the Division of Probation & Parole.

**Moderator: Missouri District 78 State Representative Bruce Franks**

**Description:** Prison to Prosperity began in 2015 as a response to community voices overwhelmingly in agreement that jobs were the biggest need for young people coming out of the criminal justice system. At inception under Mayor Slay, the program served young adults in the Medium Security Institution so that a firm relationship was formed, and the inmates learned basic skills for seeking employment once released from the institution. Under Mayor Krewson the mission of the program continues to be to connect real people to real jobs, mentor young adults through life situations to remove barriers preventing success, and foster completion of secondary education or connection to post-secondary education and training programs. The Re-Entry Community Linkages (RE-LINK) funding opportunity is a Department of Health and Human Services – Office of Minority Health grant program aimed at demonstrating the
effectiveness of multiple stakeholders within the public health system and community support system working together to implement a model transition process for minority and/or economically or environmentally disadvantaged re-entrants discharged from the jail to the community. The RE-LINK model will link community reentrants to community-based organizations that can provide support and access to health care, health care coverage, behavioral health, and social service supports. RE-LINK aims to develop comprehensive system coordination and navigation efforts that are culturally, linguistically and trauma-informed.

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CLOSING PANEL 3:40 p.m. – 4:45 p.m.

“Pathway to a New St. Louis – Building on our Strengths” (Multipurpose Room)

Presenters: Amy Hunter is the Manager of Diversity and Inclusion for St. Louis Children’s Hospital. She recently joined the organization after being the Director of Racial Justice for the St. Louis YWCA. Currently, she is charged with leading diversity and inclusion strategies, implementation, and measurement for the hospital. Hunter has over 20 years of experience in the corporate, education and nonprofit community. She is known for “The Talk,” which was incorporated in her TEDx Talk “Lucky Zip Codes.” She has published several times in journals, a book, Huffington Post and Essence Magazine to name a few and has been seen on ABC, CNN, NBC, and a host of other networks and heard on NPR and other media outlet. Colonel John W. Hayden, Jr. was appointed as St. Louis City’s 35th Chief of Police in 2017. As such, he manages the second largest police department in Missouri with an authorized strength of more than 1,300 sworn officers and over 400 civilian employees. Colonel Hayden’s 30-year career includes 15 years of investigative experience and 15 years of administrative assignments. He served as a Commander in the North Patrol Division from 2013 through 2017, during which time his crime strategies resulted in significant crime reduction in several neighborhoods. Prior to 2013, he served as the Commander of the Internal Affairs Division and oversaw more than 1200 investigations of employee misconduct. He has extensive teaching experience from his time in the Police Academy, where he served as both an Instructor and Training Coordinator. While in the Police Academy, Colonel Hayden was responsible for teaching and developing training on ethics. Sylvester Brown Jr. is Director and Founder of the Sweet Potato project initiative, a journalist, and a community activist. Brown was the visionary behind the Sweet Potato project that was founded to address two significant needs: Young men and women in North St. Louis need an opportunity to earn money and gain job training through legal work and neighborhoods in North St. Louis need to become a more self-sustainable community.

Moderator: Bruce Franks 80th District State Representative

Description: Hear from community leaders about their visions of a new St. Louis.
Mix and Mingle STARTING at 5:15 p.m. to 6:45 p.m.

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THANKS TO THE CONFERENCE PLANNING COMMITTEE:

Mark Abbott, PhD, Harris-Stowe State University/Center for Neighborhood Affairs, Tower Grove Heights Neighborhood Assn.; Jasmin Aber, CEL (Creative Exchange Lab) Center for Architecture + Design Stl.; Rick Bonasch, RISE; Beverly Bremer, Princeton Heights Neighborhood Assn.; Tamar Brown, East-West Gateway Council of Governments; Amanda Davis, Kingsway East Neighborhood Improvement Assn.; Loura Gilbert, Commerce Bank; Karl Guenther, UMSL-CBN; Linda Hennigh, Benton Park West Neighborhood Assn.; George Jones, Jr., Clifton Heights Neighborhood Assn.; Carole Johnson, Lewis Place/Visitation; Maggie Lalor, Tower Grove East Neighborhood Assn.; Barbara Levin, Washington University; Gary Newcomer, UMSL-CBN; Jenny Ryan, PGAV Planners; Craig Schmid, Government Services Analyst, City of St. Louis Health Department; Kristy Unruh, Benton Park Neighborhood Assn.; Theresa “Terry” Van Schaik, West Pine/ Laclede Neighborhood Assn.; Aaron Young, East-West Gateway Council of Governments; Kelly Tribot, Consultant; Matt Schmidt, Consultant; Kevin B. McKinney, Judith Arnold, Kimberly Roberson, SLACO; Keith Fuller and the Staff at St. Louis Community College, Forest Park Campus

PLEASE VISIT OUR EXHIBITORS

Brightside St. Louis, City of St. Louis Recycles; Carrollton Bank; CEL/Center for Neighborhood Affairs, Harris-Stowe State University; City of St. Louis Civil Rights Enforcement Agency; City of St. Louis Treasurer Tishaura Jones and Operation Hope; Dana Kelly-Franks; Enterprise Bank and Trust; Great Rivers Greenway; Hoby Youth Awards; Money Smart Month; Recycling on the Go; RISE; SLACO; St. Louis Equity Fund; St. Louis Public Library; St. Louis Association of REALTORS; St. Louis Safety Group; The Metropolitan St. Louis Sewer District; Trailnet; Twenty-Second Judicial Circuit Court-Juvenile Division; Washington University St. Louis I - HEAL STL

SLACO BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND OFFICERS:

Sundy Whiteside, Board President; Maggie Lalor, Vice President; Secretary, Angela Drake; Treasurer, Loura Gilbert; Cluster 1: Lillie Clay, Jared Opsal; Cluster 2: Linda Henighn, Kristy Unruh; Cluster 3: Sundy Whiteside; Cluster 4: Catherine Knights, Theresa Van Schaik; Cluster 5: Maggie Lalor, Shontaia Riley; Cluster 6: Mark Dowdy, Al Willis; Cluster 7: George Jones, Greg Meyer; Metro East: Marie Franklin; At Large: Rick Bonasch, Angela Drake, Loura Gilbert

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THANKS TO THE CONFERENCE PLANNING COMMITTEE:
SLACO has members in these neighborhoods:
Academy/Sherman Park, Benton Park, Benton Park West, Chain of Rocks, Clifton Heights, Community Mediation Services, Concerned Citizens of Precinct #12, Down Town, Fairfax/West Belle, Fairground, Franz Park, Heart of O’Fallon Block 976, Holly Hills, Hyde Park, Kingsway East, Lafayette Square, Lewis Place/Visitation, Lindenwood Park, Marine Villa, Revitalization of Baden, Shaw, Southampton, Southwest Garden, SPUD(Skinker Page Union Delmar), Tandy, The Hill, Tilles Park, Tower Grove East, Tower Grove Heights, Tower Grove South, Union Communion Ministry, Walnut Park East, Walnut Park West, West End Neighbors, West Pine/ Laclede

Our Support:  SLACO relies on contributions, grants, and small membership dues paid by its member neighborhood associations for operating support. We are a 501(c) 3 non-profit corporation. Contributions and Supporter dues are tax deductible and welcomed at any time of year.

SLACO Membership:  The “members” of SLACO are neighborhood associations or community organizations. Other non-profit organizations, congregations, businesses, business districts, and individuals that wish to become involved in SLACO projects and support SLACO financially are called Supporters.

If your neighborhood association would like to join SLACO, it’s as simple as paying the dues and naming your SLACO member. Currently annual dues are $100.00.

Our objective is representing all neighborhoods in the City of St. Louis and the suburbs and Metro East that would like to affiliate with us. Our programming is member-driven, and we strive to offer benefits to each member organization.

Member Benefits:

1. Appointment of one representative from your organization as a member, with one alternate allowed.
2. Opportunity to vote for a Cluster Representative to the Board of Directors.
3. Opportunity to vote as a member on SLACO Initiatives and Action Items.
4. Opportunity to serve on SLACO Committees.
5. Four hours of free consulting services annually on a topic of the neighborhood’s choosing, to be provided by the SLACO Executive Director or other appropriate community expert.
6. Invitation to participate in at least six members-only neighborhood roundtables per year, in which a resource person or panel presents a relevant program, as well as open table discussions facilitated by the Executive Director or other appropriate community expert at least four times per year.
7. Early registration for SLACO All-Neighborhoods Forums and any other Special Events.
8. Connecting to neighborhoods and community leaders.
9. Staying current on issues and resources that are relevant to your community.
10. Increased knowledge of how other neighborhood organizations function.
11. Being part of a larger organization that serves as an advocate for your community.
12. Opportunity to participate in Neighborhoods United for Change. #NU4Change
13. A link from the SLACO website to the organization’s site and ability to post events on the SLACO website.
14. Ability to request SLACO Action Alerts that allow members to share information on upcoming neighborhood events, advocacy efforts, and fundraisers.

For complete information, call 314-361-9406 or visit our website at www.slaco-mo.org.
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**Tilles Park Neighborhood Association Congratulates SLACO on 40 Years of Service to the St. Louis Community**

The mission of the Tilles Park Neighborhood Association is to create and maintain a strong, cohesive and viable neighborhood around the area generally known as Tilles Park.
THANKS FOR YOUR SUPPORT
WHAT CAN I DONATE OR BUY?

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St. Louis Association of Community Organizations (SLACO) Mission

To improve the quality of life for the residents and stakeholders of neighborhoods of the St. Louis region through community-based initiatives, citizen empowerment, and neighborhood organizing.

SLACO Historical Highlights

- Celebrating 40 years as an advocate for Neighborhoods and the City Louis Community
- Received 2018 CDA funding and CREA Funding to continue the Neighborhoods United for Change #NU4Change
- Participated in the education of our neighborhood members in the Prop NS vacancy stabilization bond issue.
- Board of Directors vote to support a ballot initiative to allow the Citizens of St. Louis to vote for a bond issue to improve and make ready for sale Land Reutilization Authority (LRA) properties.
- Successful implementation of the SLACO Vacancy LRA Sub Committee “Finest 15” Program
- Successful implementation of Neighborhoods United for Change via an $11,000 grant from the St. Louis Civil Rights Enforcement Agency to promote dialog regarding race, cultural, and housing issues with 10 SLACO member neighborhoods and four non SLACO member neighborhoods. #NU4Change 2016
- Summer Camp, Neighborhood Houses@SLACO with Horizon Housing Foundation, begins, 2016
- SLACO receives a Community Based Development Organization (CBDO) certification from Community Development Association (CDA).
- Administered a $25,000 grant from the CDA for a Sustainable Neighborhood Academy and Inspiration Lab to train St. Louis residents. Received funding in 2016 and 2017 from CDA!
- Vacancy Committee worked with Board of Alderman to increase funding for board ups, mowing and stabilization of LRA properties.
- After-school program, Neighborhood Houses@SLACO began in 2015.
- Two AmeriCorps VISTA neighborhood organizers, three Summer Associate VISTAs, and a fundraising and marketing VISTA began serving SLACO in 2015.
- Partnered with C.F. Vatterott in Etzel Place V Apartments in the West End neighborhood, 2014.
- Full-time Executive Director Position reinstated in 2014.
- Neighborhood Roundtables and All-Neighborhood Forums initiated in 2013.
- Support for establishment of Neighborhood Ownership Model-based police sub-station in Etzel Community Center in 2012.
- Collaboration with Computer Village to offer computer classes, successful after-school program and summer youth camp, Etzel Make a Difference Center in 2012-2014.
- Partner in Boulevard Heights Homes in 2008.
- Partner in McKinley Heights and Fox Park Homes – five homes in 2006.
- Partner in Maffitt Garden Homes, 10 Lease Purchase homes, Wells-Goodfellow in 2005.
- Walk with Your Neighbors, 2005-2010.
- Received Bank of America Community Builders Award in 2005-2006.
- Operation of Make a Difference Center in the West End neighborhood, 1998-2012.
- 40-ounce bottles banned– saving almost 9 million bottles per year since 1995.
- St. Louis Neighborhoods Conference, established in 1995.
- Buder Place Homes – 100 new homes, Gate District, 1989-1998.
- Partner in Etzel Place Apartments, 175 family apartments, West End, from 1989-2010.
- SLACO founded in 1978.