



SEEKING NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATIONS INTERESTED IN DOING A NEIGHBORHOOD HISTORY PROJECT

A neighborhood history is an important tool for any community association to guide its decision-making process, by providing a clear sense of its identity, assets and challenges.

The St. Louis Association of Community Organizations (SLACO) is partnering with the Missouri Humanities Council to offer assistance to two neighborhood associations to develop a neighborhood history project. Neighborhood associations are invited to apply to receive one-on-one coaching through the process of developing their history projects, which could involve research, planning, writing and design assistance as well as a \$500 budget.

The goal is to empower selected neighborhoods through a collaborative process to develop a specific neighborhood history project. Selected neighborhoods will then work one-on-one with a neighborhood history coach to develop a clear vision for the project and to guide the neighborhood through research, analysis, synthesis and production. The end-product will be a history in the form that the community chooses (booklet, podcast, walking tour, website, community lecture series, etc.)

Priority will be given to communities that demonstrate the capacity, desire and need to undertake the neighborhood history with a specific project in mind. Applicants are encouraged to review the materials from the Neighborhood Workshop Series via the SLACO website [here](#).

Proposals must be submitted to Maeve Elder by May 10th, 2019. For additional information and to submit, please email Maeve at maevevirginia@gmail.com. Submitting organizations will be notified of the award by May 20th, 2019.

Project Objective

This project aims to:

- Help neighborhoods understand the multitude of forces, policies, institutions and people who have shaped their history.
- Enable associations to strategize ways in which historical analysis might propel resiliency in their neighborhood.
- Give the associations the tools to develop an impactful neighborhood history.

Submission Guidelines

If interested in applying to receive assistance for a neighborhood history project, your neighborhood association should submit a 1-2 page proposal that contains the following:

1. Name of the neighborhood association or group (including contact information),
2. A brief description of your neighborhood and its boundaries (it may or may not conform to official City of St. Louis neighborhood boundaries).
3. A description of how program assistance could support the neighborhood in activating their history as a way to stimulate neighborhood resilience, revitalization or stability.
 - a. **What is the specific neighborhood history project you would like to pursue?**
We learned through the neighborhood workshop series that a good history is one that has a specific focus rather than one that tries to cover everything. Your project might focus on buildings, places, events, time period, culture, people or communities.
 - b. **Who will be working on this project?**
We would like a minimum of two people from the community to be included to ensure the project can move forward in case conflicts arise. The more people that you have on board to assist, the better!
 - c. **What do you hope to achieve through this project? How can this neighborhood history help your neighborhood become more resilient?**
 - d. **Are there existing history sources about your neighborhood or the topic you are interested in looking at? Or is information very limited and that is why you are interested in pursuing this project?**
 - e. **Please elaborate on how assistance could fill an existing funding or capacity gap for this type of project in your neighborhood.**
The project aims to extend assistance to neighborhoods that may not have existing resources to devote to a neighborhood history project. Although this won't be the only factor in neighborhood selection, it will be taken into consideration.
 - f. **Please include a brief budget narrative of how you plan to use the \$500 stipend.**
The neighborhood stipend is designed to cover research and production costs associated with developing a neighborhood history project and publicizing it. For example, research expenses might include travel (at a rate of twenty-nine and a half cents per mile), scanning, printing, resource access. Production expenses might involve printing, binding, recording, building a website and/or event promotion depending on the format chosen by the neighborhood.