



ANNUAL REPORT

The Alliance

2019

Celebrating 25 Years

LETTER FROM THE Executive Director

Dear Friend of the Alliance,

2019 marked a number of milestones for the Alliance. Throughout the year, we celebrated our 25th anniversary by looking back at 25 of our key victories for regional equity (see page 4). We joined many of you at our celebration in the fall, where we also recognized the contributions of Russ Adams, the Alliance's longtime executive director. During his tenure at the Alliance, Russ and the team he helped put in place began to actualize the bold vision of the Alliance's founders, uniting across traditional boundaries to build power for the change we wanted to see in the region and in our communities.

In the fall, Russ handed leadership of the Alliance over to me, marking another milestone: I am the first woman and the first person of color to serve as executive director at the Alliance. As I look forward to the future of the Alliance, how we do the work will be just as important as what we do.

The new challenges we face do not have straightforward solutions. The Alliance and our partners will need adaptive leadership, approaching our work with humility, curiosity, and creativity. I am lucky that I get to work with a team at the Alliance that already possesses many of these skills because they were hired for their ability to unite people across differences, to take measured risks, to view complexity as an asset rather than a barrier, and above all to ensure communities most impacted by the ongoing public health crisis of institutional racism are valued for their expertise and leadership.

While I can't predict what the next 25 years will bring, I do know that the Alliance will remain committed to working for community-defined equity, vitality and prosperity across the Twin Cities region. And I know we will need you—our partners, allies and friends—with us every step of the way. The heart of our work is collaboration, and we are very grateful to walk alongside you in this work for another year.

In gratitude,
Joo Hee Pomplun
Executive Director



THANK YOU, RUSS!

After 24 years at the Alliance, Russ Adams left his position as Executive Director in October 2019. Over the years, Russ worked with the staff, board and membership to identify and shape the values that guide the Alliance's commitment to coalition organizing and to cultivate the power to change the conversation around urban growth and regional development issues.

With Russ at the helm, the Alliance centered a race equity lens in its work, shifting development processes and projects to center the voices, values and needs of local community members. All of this work required deep relationships and partnerships, but none of it would have been possible without Russ' constant drive and vision for what our organization and region could be. We are so grateful for Russ's leadership and wish him the best in what comes next.





Staff and partners celebrate 25 years of the Alliance



We provide leadership in

Actualizing Equity Event Series

Affordable Housing Coalition Advocacy

Equitable Development Principles & Scorecard

Equity in Place

HIRE Minnesota

Our AREA: Alliance Regional Equity Agenda

Transit / Transportation Equity Advocacy

Together, we're working to actualize equity across the Twin Cities region.

The Alliance is a coalition of community-based organizations and advocacy groups building shared power to advance strategic campaigns around the intersections of racial justice, economic justice, environmental justice, and health equity.

We believe that:

People are experts in their own lives and have the best ideas to make positive changes in their communities.

Building power and expanding leadership through organizing is one of the most effective ways to create lasting change.

We are committed to:

Ensuring that people of all races, income levels, and geographic areas benefit from public decisions and investments; share in decision-making; and have access to opportunities like housing, transportation, jobs, good schools, parks, health care, and more.

Sharing leadership, ideas, and resources among many groups and individuals.

Being accountable to our members and allies while working for public accountability to the diverse communities represented in the Twin Cities region

We do our work through:



Coalition Building



Community Engagement



Field Building



Strategic System Navigation

25TH ANNIVERSARY HIGHLIGHTS

In 2019, we honored the work the Alliance and partners have accomplished together, reflecting on our collective progress and shared successes — and beginning the next 25 years of progress.

Over the past 25 years, the Alliance has evolved as an organization to center a race equity analysis in its work and cultivated deep relationships with community-based organizations across issues and geographies in the Twin Cities region. With our partners, we have co-created campaigns and coalitions that have made significant progress in addressing structural racism and in centering historically marginalized communities in housing, transportation, land use, economic and workforce development, and other critical regional issues.

In 1995, the Alliance and partners successfully advocated for the Livable Communities Act, which has resulted in more than \$400 million for affordable housing, transit-oriented development and environmental clean up.

In 1998, the Alliance and the Transportation Reform Working Group secured \$67 million in state funding for transit stations, new buses and a dedicated busway for St Paul.

2019 Program Highlights

Making the Most of Mega Developments

2019 was an eventful year organizing for community benefits at megadevelopments across the region. At the Twin Cities Army Ammunition Plant development (TCAAP), the Alliance worked with partners to hold the city of Arden Hills and Ramsey County accountable to their commitment to affordable housing. We also worked for affordable housing commitments and other community benefits at the Towerside, Hillcrest, and Upper Harbor Terminal sites in St. Paul and Minneapolis.

Fighting Racial Disparities in Employment

Last year, after nearly a decade of HIRE Minnesota's advocacy, the Minnesota Department of Transportation achieved its best performance ever in hiring BIPOC to construct Minnesota's roads and bridges. With the help of HIRE Minnesota, MnDOT has been able to increase the state's hiring goals over the past decade, pushing for more representation on all new major MnDOT projects. MnDOT is now achieving workforce participation of 21 percent for BIPOC in the metro area. This progress is fueled by our focused efforts on the 35W rebuild project, resulting in BIPOC being hired for 29 percent of the work.

Winning Victories for Housing Justice in Minneapolis

Guided by our commitment to housing justice, we worked with the Make Homes Happen coalition to secure \$40 million for affordable housing programs in Minneapolis, a record amount for the city. The Alliance and partners then successfully advocated for a new inclusionary zoning policy for Minneapolis aimed at increasing affordable housing units in new housing developments. In addition to this victory, we were also able to help secure a package of tenant protections in Minneapolis late in 2019, which included significant improvements to tenant screening practices, decreasing the likelihood that screening practices keep families homeless in perpetuity.



"People of color often have other people speaking for them, but through the Alliance we were able to forge a relationship to speak for ourselves and build power."

- Louis King, Founder of HIRE Minnesota

25TH ANNIVERSARY HIGHLIGHTS CONTINUED

In 2004, the Alliance and partners in Brooklyn Park defeated an effort to demolish more than \$84 million in affordable housing.

Since 2009, the Alliance has staffed the HIRE Minnesota campaign, resulting in millions of dollars of new construction wages for BIPOC communities.

In 2010, we worked with the Stops for Us coalition to secure additional stops serving BIPOC communities on the Green Line LRT.

From 2011-2015, the Alliance and partners led the Community Engagement Team, awarding \$720,000 to ensure organizations representing BIPOC communities along emerging transitways have a strong role in planning for the future of their neighborhoods.

In 2017, the Alliance convened a campaign table that ultimately persuaded the city of Saint Paul to include substantial affordable housing requirements in the historic Ford auto plant redevelopment site.

For more victories, visit <http://thealliancetc.org/25-anniversary/>



“Being at the Alliance I had the opportunity to use what I knew on paper and develop skills in community engagement, specifically around housing and displacement. That’s something I only could have learned being in the room and in the work.”

- Jabri Whirl, a HECUA intern at the Alliance

Leading the Anti-Displacement Policy Network

We led work to engage community members, elected officials, and public sector staff in a local cohort participating in the national All-In Cities initiative. The group worked with representatives from nine other regions to discuss shifts needed to address displacement across the country. Back in the Twin Cities region, this network of leaders is continuing its work to advance bold new ideas while building the power, voice, and capacity of communities directly impacted by displacement in defining challenges and advancing solutions. This strategic relationship and power building laid the groundwork for tenant protection policies in Minneapolis and St. Paul.

Convening the Blue Line Coalition

After going through several leadership transitions, the Blue Line Coalition (BLC) found its new home at the Alliance in 2019. We are excited to continue the coalition’s work together on our shared priority to get the Blue Line built in ways that benefit existing residents of the corridor. The BLC is composed of nine community-based organizations representing BIPOC, low-wealth, and other underrepresented populations along the Blue Line LRT extension through Minneapolis and the Northwest suburbs. Together, the Alliance and BLC are striving for more community representation in the decision making process regarding the Blue Line development.

Leveraging the Equitable Development Principles and Scorecard

The Alliance convened a table, now with 120 members, to share successes and learnings about how to use the Equitable Development Principles & Scorecard to help communities ensure that the principles and practices of equitable development, environmental justice, and affordability are available to all residents. In 2019, we worked with West Side Community Organization, Cycles for Change, Metro Blooms and others to showcase how their communities and organizations are adapting and leveraging the scorecard for their issues and geographies.



2019 Alliance Members

2019 Staff

Joo Hee Pomplun - Executive Director and Director of Research & Organizing

Russ Adams - Outgoing Executive Director

Maura Brown - Associate Director

Owen Duckworth - Director of Policy and Organizing

Carolyn Szczepanski - Communications and Programming Coordinator

Tram Hoang - Policy Advocate

Ricardo Perez - Coalition Organizer

Sebastian Rivera - Coalition Organizer

2019 Board of Directors

Asad Aliweyd, New American Development Center

Monica Bravo, West Side Community Organization

Sunny Chanthanouvong, Lao Assistance Center of Minnesota

Jim Erkel, Minnesota Center for Environmental Advocacy

Joshua Houdek, Sierra Club Northstar Chapter

Suyapa Miranda, at large

Malik (Christopher) Holt-Shabazz, at large

Nelima Sitati, African Career Education & Resource, Inc.

African Career, Education and Resource, Inc. (ACER)

All Parks Alliance for Change

Asian Economic Development Association

Aurora/St. Anthony Neighborhood Development Corporation

CAPI USA

Catholic Charities Office for Social Justice

Community Stabilization Project

Environmental Justice Advocates of MN

The Family Partnership

Fresh Energy

Frogtown Neighborhood Association

Harrison Neighborhood Association

HOME Line

Hope Community

Housing Justice Center

Jewish Community Action

Lao Assistance Center of Minnesota

Major Taylor Bicycling Club of MN

Metropolitan Interfaith Council on Affordable Housing (MICAHA)

Minneapolis Urban League

Minnesota Center for Environmental Advocacy

Minnesota Unitarian Universalist Social Justice Alliance

Move Minnesota

Native American Community Development Institute

New American Development Center

Northside Residents Redevelopment Council

Our Streets MPLS

Saint Anthony Park Community Council

Sierra Club, North Star Chapter

Summit Academy OIC

Twin Cities Local Initiative Support Corporation (LISC)

West Side Community Organization



"The arc of [the work] is really long, so we need to think about what's the next big issue, the next big idea that we need to start planting the seeds of today to come to fruition in the future."

-Margaret Kaplan, President of the Housing Justice Center



2019 Donors and Funders

Individual Donors

Russ Adams
 Scott Adams
 Jay Adams
 Ebony Adedayo
 Bob & Audrey Aderhold
 Tracy & Luke Babler
 Robert Barduson
 Shay Berkowitz & Phyllis Wiener
 Tim Brausen
 Maura Brown
 Peter & Louise Brown
 Amy Brugh
 Jill Chamberlain
 Jay Cowles
 Dan & Cassie Cramer
 John DeWitt
 Bill Droessler

Diane Dube
 Steve Elkins
 Ethan Fawley
 Lorraine Fischer
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 Michelle Fure
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 Eric Hauge
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 Sheryl Scott
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 Lyndel Sorenson
 Margaret Tenda
 Mary Ann Van Cura
 Ann Wiesner
 Ralph Wyman
 Mariia Zimmerman

Institutional Funders

Blue Cross Blue Shield Foundation of Minnesota
 Blue Cross Blue Shield Center for Prevention
 Bush Foundation
 F. R. Bigelow Foundation
 First Universalist Foundation

Graves Foundation
 Greater Cincinnati Foundation
 Heading Home Minnesota Funders Collaborative
 McKnight Foundation
 The Minneapolis Foundation
 Minnesota Housing

Otto Bremer Foundation
 The Saint Paul Foundation
 Still Ain't Satisfied Foundation
 Surly Ultimate Clubs LLC

2019 Financials

Statement of Financial Position - 12/31/19

Assets

Current Assets	
Cash and cash equivalents	\$1,127,634
Prepaid expenses	\$14,261
Accounts receivable	\$27,935
Grants receivable	\$200,000
Total Assets	\$1,369,830

Liabilities & Equity

Liabilities	
Accounts payable	\$74,809
Deferred revenue	\$24,000
Total Liabilities	\$98,809
Equity	
Restricted Net Assets	\$555,621
Unrestricted Net Assets	\$715,400
Total Assets	\$1,271,021
Total Liabilities & Equity	\$1,369,830

Statement of Activities - 12/31/19

Revenues

Contracts	\$91,435
Grants	\$1,045,648
Investment income	\$10,808
Individual donations, membership and other	\$13,454
Total Revenues	\$1,161,345

Expenses

Management	\$53,914
Fundraising	\$24,301
Program	\$658,940
Total Expenses	\$737,155
NET INCOME	\$424,189

