

Neighborhoods Rising Fund 2018 Funders Report



Look What We Did!

Thank you to the 2018 Neighborhoods Rising Fund Contributors:



The Neighborhoods Rising Fund is managed by:



Every community desires to improve the quality of life of its residents, but many also face adversity on the road to creating change. Kansas City's neighborhoods are creative and skilled in solving problems, mobilizing volunteers, and building strong networks, yet too often a lack of access to funding sources prevents them from bringing their ideas to fruition. The Neighborhoods Rising Fund (NRF) provides critical funding support to help neighborhoods leverage their residents' talents and energy to realize their collective dreams and make a positive impact.

By providing small grants to neighborhood associations and community organizations, the NRF empowers residents to improve their lives and the lives of those around them. The NRF is made possible through the generous contributions of the foundations, banks, CDFIs, and corporations that support this one-of-a-kind grant program. Their participation in this unique funding collaborative is critical to helping Kansas City neighborhoods achieve their goals and play their part in making Kansas City a great place to live.

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We live in a world in which we need to share responsibility. It's easy to say, 'It's not my child, not my community, not my world, not my problem.' Then there are those who see the need and respond. I consider those people my heroes. "

— Mister Rogers



Mister Rogers invites Officer Clemons to rest for a moment on an especially hot day. Episode 1065

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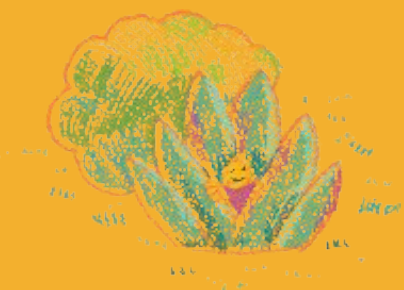


NEIGHBORHOODS RISING FUND

The Neighborhoods Rising Fund (NRF) is a unique funding collaborative that annually provides grants up to \$3,000 for community-driven and neighborhood-led revitalization projects and initiatives in low- to moderate-income areas throughout Kansas City, Missouri and Kansas City, Kansas.

The NRF was created with the simple goal of seeding dreams and aspirations in Kansas City neighborhoods. By supporting neighborhood-led initiatives that demonstrate the ability to have a lasting impact, the NRF has brought together hundreds of residents and helped to build their collective capacity to live more productive, healthy, and interconnected lives.

Since 2015, the NRF has provided over \$300,000 for 120 community projects and neighborhood revitalization initiatives in Kansas City, Missouri and Kansas. This report highlights projects supported in 2018, the fourth year of the NRF. The stories and data you will see in this report demonstrate the critical role this grant program plays in helping neighborhoods throughout Kansas City to build lasting change.



NRF projects must meet the following criteria:



1 The project provides a **direct service or benefit to the community**

2 The organization uses an **inclusive process** to identify the community's need for the project

3 The project is **feasible**, the budget is **realistic**, and the goals and objectives can be met with available resources and time

4 The project supports long-range plans for **neighborhood improvement**



5 The project leverages NRF grant funds through **community resources, strong partnerships, volunteers** and other sources of funding and in-kind contributions

Neighborhoods Rising Fund Fact Sheet

In 2018...

The NRF Awarded
\$82,219
in grants

Which helped fund
33
projects across the Kansas
City Metro

Projects were organized by
238
community leaders

And reached
41,640
residents

1,163 volunteers contributed a total of **5,039** hours

NRF projects leveraged **\$71,494** in additional funding and **\$41,510** worth of in-kind donations. For every **\$100** of NRF grant dollars disbursed, an additional **\$86.19** was spent by these organizations. Additionally, for every **\$100** of NRF grants, volunteers gave **6.13** hours of their own time, valued at **\$151.32**, to assist with projects.

Project Categories



10

Neighborhood
Cleanup



8

Public Spaces,
Parks and Gardens



14

Membership
Development and
Social Cohesion



3

Celebration of Arts
and Culture



1

Homes and Property
Improvement



8

Neighborhood Safety
and Security

Missouri Projects

Neighborhood/Organization	Project name	Category	Page
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Missouri

16 projects +
7 Cameras for Good projects
\$54,919 awarded

Community Carnival

Chaumiere Neighborhood Association hosted the Chaumiere Community Carnival to engage residents of the neighborhood, particularly families with kids. The carnival included food, a clown, two face painters, a petting zoo, an antique firetruck, fishing instruction, a cake walk, and a display showing the history of the area. Additionally, the event helped the neighborhood association form strong partnerships with some local businesses, a Boy Scout troop, a church, and a non-profit organization within their community.



NRF Grant Amount

\$2,585

In-Kind Donations

\$687

Volunteer Hours

142

Number of Participants

149

There has been a large increase in involvement in our organization or project



Organization and residents have gained a lot of skills or knowledge



There has been great deal of increase in sense of community



Party with a Purpose

The Chestnut Avenue Resource Center’s Neighbors Group organized “Party with a Purpose,” a block party for the residents in the section of Oak Park Neighborhood around 38th and Chestnut. The Neighbors Group also created a resource booklet that included a variety of city services that residents can access to address needs. The booklet was handed out for free to everyone who attended the block party. Planning the event required developing organizational and event planning and hosting skills.



“The project served as a great team-building activity for the Neighbors Group and we learned more about the skills and abilities of one another. We operate as a more cohesive unit now.”

NRF Grant Amount

\$2,703

In-Kind Donations

—

Volunteer Hours

144

Number of Participants

42

There has been some increase in involvement in our organization or project



Organization and residents have gained a lot of skills or knowledge



There has been some increase in sense of community



Citadel Center Rededication Project

The Citadel Homeowners Association hosted two summer events, a community-wide picnic and an outdoor neighborhood movie night. The events created an opportunity to reconnect longtime residents and to introduce new residents to their community. The goal was to impart to Citadel residents that they are part of something special—that this is not just a neighborhood, but a community in the central city.



“Several residents commented on what a good job our cultural committee did putting the two events on. They enjoyed the food at the picnic which was excellent. We invested in a Polaroid camera in order to give pictures to our attendees and that was also a big hit.”

NRF Grant Amount

\$3,000

In-Kind Donations

\$70

Volunteer Hours

55

Number of Participants

164

There has been some increase in involvement in our organization or project



Organization and residents have gained some skills or knowledge



There has been some increase in sense of community



The 15th Annual Family Day in the Park Against Violence

East 23rd Street Pac enjoyed their 15th Annual Family Day in the Park. The event brought the community together from all races, nationalities, and ages. The community came together to enjoy a day of collaboration, getting to know one another, and to participate in a range activities, all to take a stand against violence. This event has become anticipated and honored each year by the neighborhood, residents, community leaders, clergy, and businesses.

“Each year our community is elated to come together to care for one another in making our community a livable and safe community.”



NRF Grant Amount **\$3,000**

In-Kind Donations **\$6,000**

Volunteer Hours **200**

Number of Participants **500**

There has been a large increase in involvement in our organization or project



Organization and residents have gained a great deal of skills or knowledge



There has been a great deal of increase in sense of community



Leaf Bag Distribution

East Meyer Cluster Organization distributed leaf bags to residents to assist neighbors with fall cleanup. Distributing the bags at their monthly meetings in September and October increased turnout and created an opportunity for neighbors to connect with each other and learn about their neighborhood organization. By helping neighbors meet their immediate needs of cleaning up leaves from all of the old trees in the neighborhood, the appearance of the neighborhood improved and the sense of community among residents increased.

“We had a very good turnout on both the September and October meetings and now have five more people regularly attending our monthly meetings. We will definitely continue to provide bags for those in need in our community.”



NRF Grant Amount

\$750

In-Kind Donations

—

Volunteer Hours

30

Number of Participants

34

There has been some increase in involvement in our organization or project



Organization and residents have gained some skills or knowledge



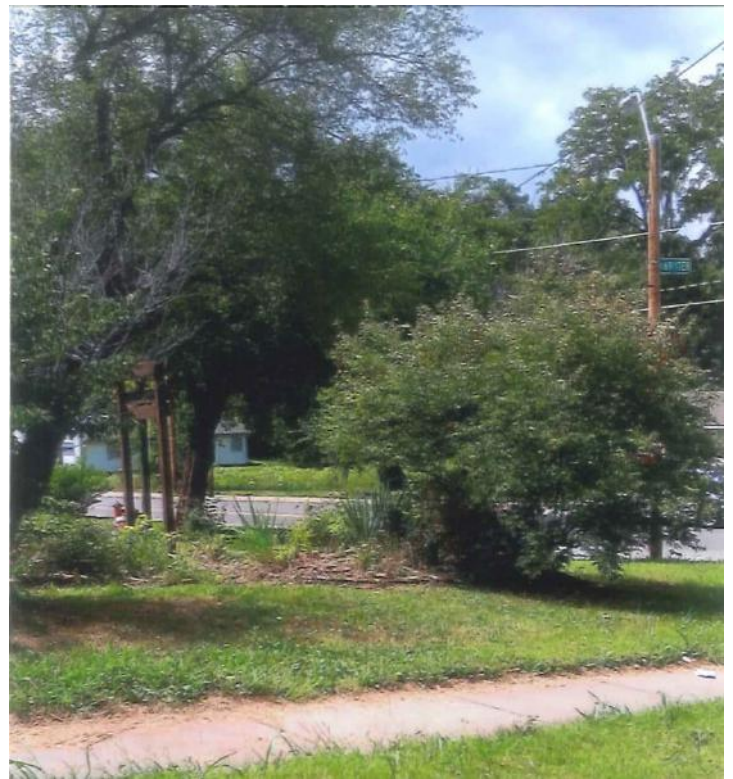
There has been some increase in sense of community



Keep the Neighborhood Beautiful

Foxtown East Neighborhood Association is working to take control of illegal dumping to help make the neighborhood safer and cleaner. By hosting neighborhood cleanups with dumpsters, the Foxtown East increased neighborhood participation and created awareness about the environmental issues that affect the neighborhood. It also gave neighbors an opportunity to introduce themselves to each other and get to know the names of the neighborhood kids and their friends.

“When neighbors come to the dumpster they talk to each other and are willing to help each other put trash in the dumpster.”



NRF Grant Amount

\$840

In-Kind Donations

—

Volunteer Hours

30

Number of Participants

300

There has been some increase in involvement in our organization or project



Organization and residents have gained some skills or knowledge

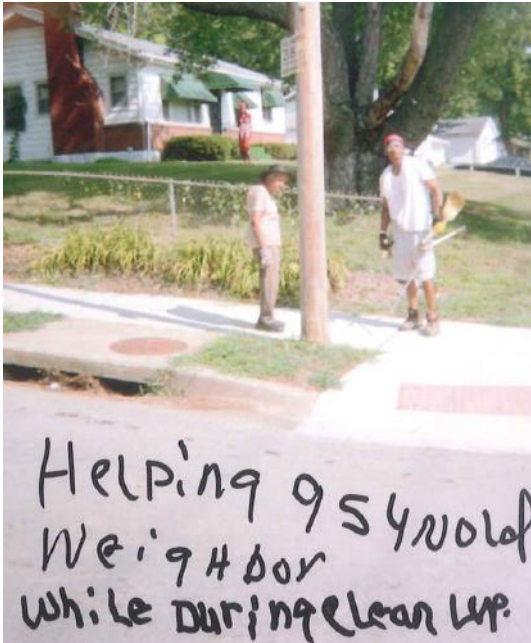


There has been some increase in sense of community



Neighborhood Cleanup and Events

Foxtown West Neighborhood Association hosted four neighborhood cleanup events, each with two dumpsters. Neighbors volunteered to help clean up dump sites and help each other move items to the dumpsters. By working together to keep the neighborhood clean, Foxtown West neighbors hope to reduce crime and build a culture of maintaining a clean neighborhood. Foxtown West also hosted a block party that was attended by 300 people as a way for neighbors to get to know each other.



“We put flyers on every house in Foxtown West so everyone knew about the block party and cleanup events.”



NRF Grant Amount

\$2,200

In-Kind Donations

\$500

Volunteer Hours

90

Number of Participants

500

There has been a large increase in involvement in our organization or project



Organization and residents have gained a little skills or knowledge



There has been some increase in sense of community



Exercise 4 Life “Every Step Counts”

Gregory Ridge Homeowner Association began a three year project to improve the health and well-being of residents in Gregory Ridge through education. They designed and implemented three programs — Exercise 4 Life, Exercise Your Brain, and Eat Healthy for a Better Body and Brain. Through education, early detection and prevention, these programs seek to reduce the number of disabilities and emergency room visits based on common health maladies in the community such as diabetes, obesity, Alzheimer’s, dementia, and cardiovascular disease.

“I really feel I am part of a neighborhood where people genuinely care about each other.”



NRF Grant Amount **\$1,900**

In-Kind Donations **\$245**

Volunteer Hours **621**

Number of Participants **32**

There has been a large increase in involvement in our organization or project



Organization and residents have gained a great deal of skills or knowledge



There has been a great deal of increase in sense of community



National Night Out Block Party and Neighbor Kits

Indian Mound Neighborhood Association built on last year’s momentum by hosting a second National Night Out (NNO) event, followed by three smaller, satellite block events. NNO raises the profile of the neighborhood association and connects residents with resources from community partners. The smaller block events encourage neighbors to meet and exchange knowledge, which is fundamental to a good block watch. The association also created informational kits to pass out to residents regarding code abatement resources, trash disposal information, and crime fighting tips.



“National Night Out has been a resounding success. This is the second year we have done it and we doubled attendance to 500 people. We asked residents to fill out a survey in exchange for raffle tickets. We collected 54 surveys. The survey indicated that most people who attended know who the Neighborhood Association is and what we do.”



NRF Grant Amount

\$2,480

In-Kind Donations

\$1,415

Volunteer Hours

225

Number of Participants

650

There has been a large increase in involvement in our organization or project



Organization and residents have gained a lot of skills or knowledge



There has been a large increase in sense of community



From Strangers to Neighbors: Blossoming the Community

Lykins Neighborhood Association hosted and collaborated on a number of activities and events to bring neighbors together to build a sense of community. Lykins led three neighborhood cleanups, assisted Eleos Ministries with their back to school project and Thanksgiving food drive, and hosted two neighborhood events, one in partnership with the Indian Mound Neighborhood. Lykins also received an additional grant to hire liaisons for outreach, particularly to their Hispanic neighbors and has formed a Housing Committee to work on affordable housing issues.



“Residents who wouldn’t have participated in neighborhood events before are now showing interest in the neighborhood, showing up to events, and willing to volunteer. We want to continue to build capacity, and increase volunteer opportunities.”

NRF Grant Amount

\$3,000

In-Kind Donations

\$40

Volunteer Hours

383

Number of Participants

360

There has been a great deal of involvement in our organization or project



Organization and residents have gained a great deal of skills or knowledge



There has been a large increase in sense of community



McCoy Park Cares 2018

McCoy Park Neighbors hosted three cleanup days with dumpsters and a Back to School Resource Fair, both annual events for the neighborhood. These events are excellent touch points for outreach to residents—working together and celebrating together. The dumpster day events help keep the neighborhood clean, as well as create opportunities to identify new block leaders. The Back to School event brings people together and creates community spirit, while also showing families that the neighborhood cares about youth.



NRF Grant Amount

\$2,485

In-Kind Donations

\$480

Volunteer Hours

332

Number of Participants

230

There has been a little increase in involvement in our organization or project



Organization and residents have gained a little skills or knowledge



There has been a great deal of increase in sense of community



Boxes and Brush

“Every project we complete has brought us closer as a community. Neighbors met other neighbors and worked side by side. Replacing the mailboxes and trimming the trees has helped the disabled and elderly residents in our neighborhood who are not able to do this work on their own.”

Patterson Highlands Neighborhood worked together to replace all of the mailboxes and mail stands in the neighborhood with the goal to make them look uniform. Many of the mailboxes and mail stands were in desperate need of replacement and repair, and are the first thing you see when entering the neighborhood. Now the mailboxes have a unified look and blend in to the neighborhood. The neighborhood also worked to trim the trees in backyards of residents’ homes that were a hazard to electrical lines, roofs, sheds, and residents and hosted a neighborhood cleanup day with two dumpsters.



NRF Grant Amount

\$2,623

In-Kind Donations

—

Volunteer Hours

29

Number of Participants

76

There has been some increase in involvement in our organization or project



Organization and residents have gained a lot of skills or knowledge



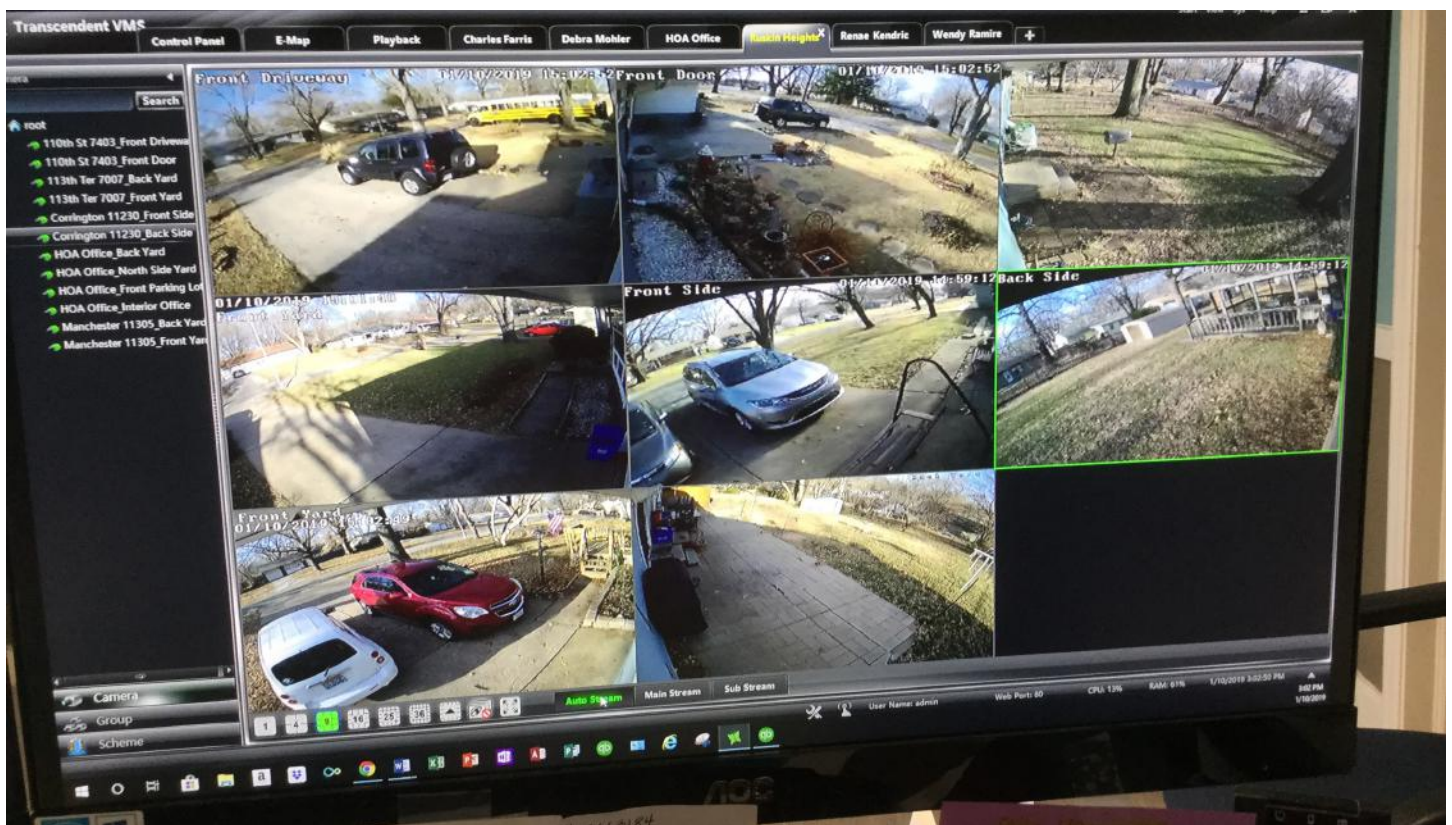
There has been a large increase in sense of community



Ruskin Security and Safety Neighborhood Watch Project

Ruskin Heights Homes Association implemented a pilot program for installing cameras in their neighborhood for a digital block watch. Four locations have been initiated successfully and the association hopes to offer cameras to residents in different locations through Ruskin Heights and Ruskin Village subdivisions. This program is all about providing security for their residents. The video will be used to assist KCPD and the Prosecuting Attorney is fighting crime and illegal dumping.

“This is just the beginning and we already have some residents reaching out to others to get involved.”



NRF Grant Amount

\$2,000

In-Kind Donations

\$2,824

Volunteer Hours

120

Number of Participants

10

There has been some increase in involvement in our organization or project



Organization and residents have gained some skills or knowledge



There has been some increase in sense of community



Spring and Fall Neighborhood Cleanups

Every year Sunset Dixon Neighborhood Association hosts two neighborhood dumpsters days in both the spring and fall. The neighborhood association recruits neighbors to volunteer to help residents unload their items at the dumpsters and to help them bring their items if unable. The volunteers also canvas the neighborhood to pickup trash and branches on the side of the roads so the neighborhood has a cleaned and picked up look to it. Helping other neighbors creates a connection to the community where you live and builds a sense of pride in knowing that where you live cares about you and your home.



“We will continue to have cleanups, they are a really good way to connect with your neighbors and meet new neighbors that have moved into the neighborhood. We had one person say, ‘this is the best welcome to the neighborhood present ever.’”



NRF Grant Amount

\$310

In-Kind Donations

—

Volunteer Hours

95

Number of Participants

69

There has been a great deal of increase in involvement in our organization or project



Organization and residents have gained a great deal of skills or knowledge



There has been a great deal of increase in sense of community



Neighborhood Cleanups

The Swope Parkway-Elmwood Neighborhood Association (SPENA) hosted three community cleanups, a community picnic, and a Christmas party. The neighborhood has people that dump in their community and throw trash out of their car windows daily, so the cleanups are to show the residents they don't have to live with this trash. During the three cleanups, the community filled twelve dumpsters and 200 neighbors attended the community picnic. SPENA plans to continue these community building cleanup activities and continue to make their events larger.



“We increased our connection to our neighbors to let them know it is okay to pick up trash so we can feel good about where we live.”

NRF Grant Amount

\$3,000

In-Kind Donations

\$325

Volunteer Hours

60

Number of Participants

500

There has been some increase in involvement in our organization or project



Organization and residents have gained some skills or knowledge



There has been a great deal of increase in sense of community



Town Fork Creek Community Garden Projects

Town Fork Creek Neighborhood Association has turned unused lots into a productive gardens that provide gardening opportunities with physical and social benefits. The gardens provided opportunities for both recreational gardening and food production. The gardens brought people together, increased visibility, and engaged residents in positive initiatives. The project increased the sense of ownership and stewardship of the community.

“We grew corn, tomatoes, sweet potatoes, bell peppers, hot peppers, herbs, and flowers to donate to the residents of Town Fork Creek.”



NRF Grant Amount

\$2,543

In-Kind Donations

—

Volunteer Hours

500

Number of Participants

24

There has been some increase in involvement in our organization or project



Organization and residents have gained some skills or knowledge



There has been some increase in sense of community



Cameras for Good

Seven neighborhoods participated in the 2018 Cameras For Good Pilot Program, receiving a combined \$19,500 in funding through Neighborhoods Rising Fund to purchase surveillance cameras and support additional safety measures in each neighborhood. Cameras For Good was funded with a grant from Jackson County COMBAT with additional support from Greater Kansas City LISC.

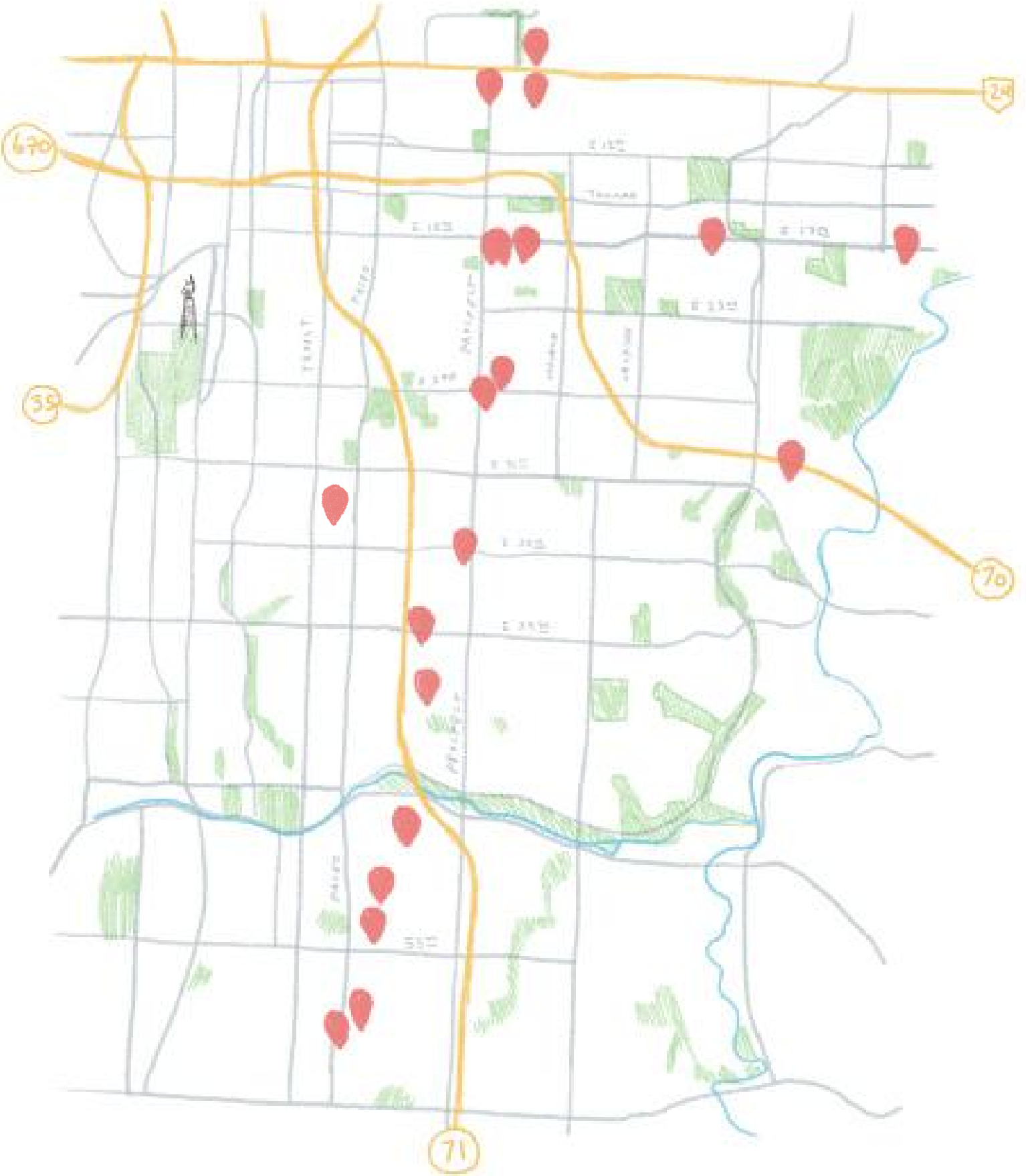
“We are excited about this innovative approach to addressing crime in our neighborhood and we can’t wait to see the impact.”

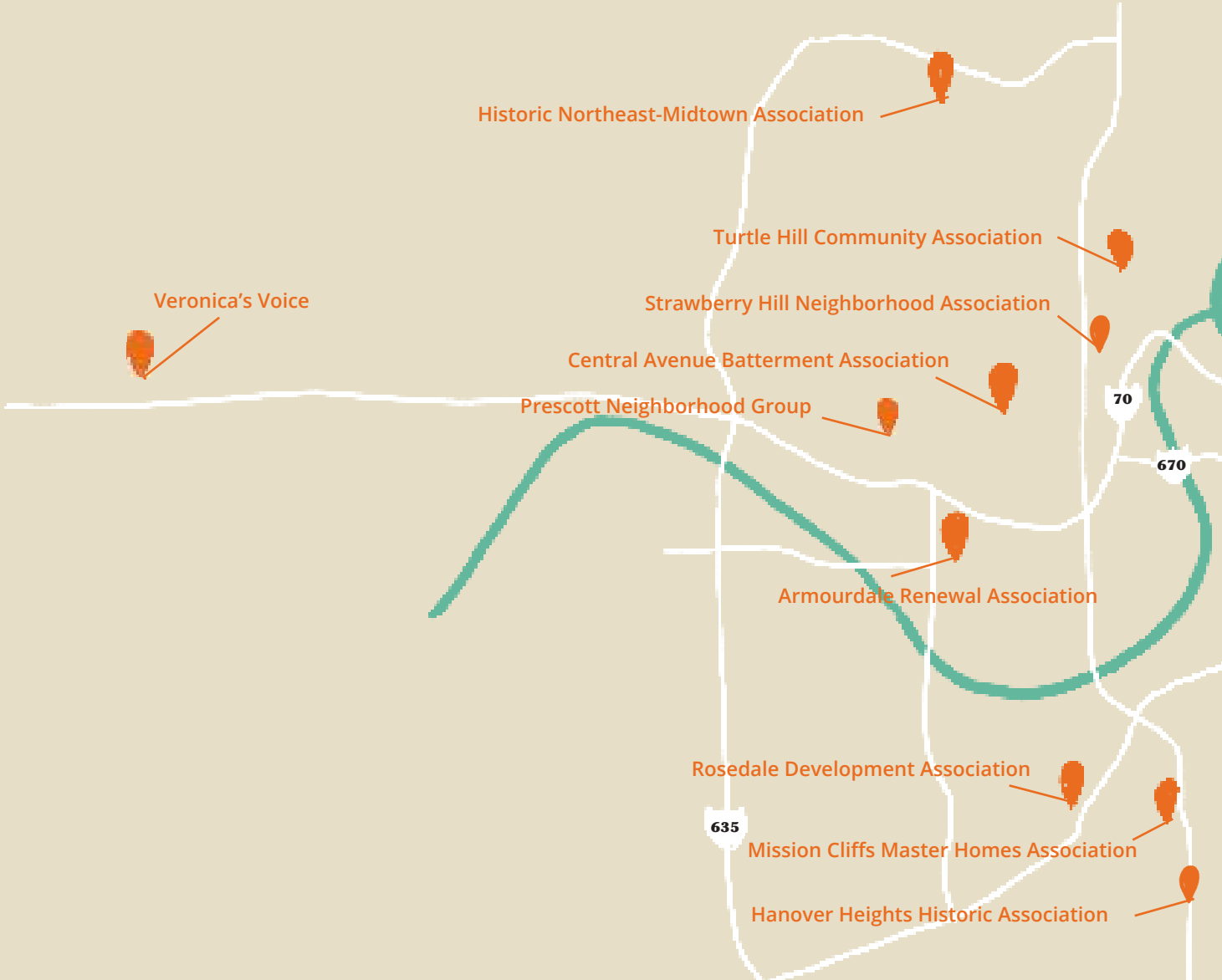
— neighborhood participant

	NRF Grant Amount	Number of Camera Locations
Blue Hills Neighborhood Association	\$2,500	5
Blue Valley Neighborhood Association	\$2,500	3
Center City Neighborhood Council	\$3,000	5
Independence Plaza Neighborhood Council, Inc.	\$3,000	3
Ivanhoe Neighborhood Council	\$3,000	3
Santa Fe Area Council	\$3,000	3
Washington Wheatley	\$2,500	3

The Cameras For Good pilot program seeks to build a safer community by providing the programming and infrastructure for a neighborhood-based safety program—building a network of block watches that utilize neighborhood-owned surveillance cameras in violent crime hotspots and problem areas. Together, the block watches and camera network will be used to prevent crime, identify perpetrators, and build a case for prosecution. With Connecting For Good acting as the lead coordinating organization, AdHoc leading block watch training and periodic cohort convenings, Smart Pro KC leading camera sourcing and installation, the County Prosecutor’s Office leading training on chain of custody for camera footage evidence, the KC Police Department working with each neighborhood on their hotspots, and LISC providing general support and technical assistance, this program blends community leadership and technology for the intended goal of reducing violent crime.

Cameras for Good Locations





Kansas

10 projects
\$27,300 awarded

ARA Banner Project

Armourdale Renewal Association (ARA) is working to bring awareness to the diverse opportunities that exist in the neighborhood. They installed banners on light poles to help promote small businesses as assets in the community to residents and others passing through Armourdale.

"This project has given us a great beginning to unite the area businesses and community. We will continue to educate our community to the various jobs and businesses available and wellness and educational programs."



NRF Grant Amount

\$3,000

In-Kind Donations

\$6,665

Volunteer Hours

60

Number of Participants

14

There has been some increase in involvement in our organization or project



Organization and residents have gained a lot of skills or knowledge



There has been a large increase in sense of community



2018 Central Avenue Dotteversity Parade

Central Avenue Betterment Association produced the 43rd Annual Dotteversity Parade, the largest generator of community pride on Kansas City, Kansas' Central Area in Wyandotte County. The Dotteversity Parade brings the community together in large numbers due to the organizing of many residents, businesses, and neighborhood groups. This year's parade featured performances by school bands, horse clubs, and DJs along the parade route, as well as a new wave Irish band at Bethany Park.

“Our community engagement was really positive and strong, volunteering was at an all-time high.”



NRF Grant Amount

\$3,000

In-Kind Donations

\$4,200

Volunteer Hours

360

Number of Participants

7000

There has been a great deal of increase in involvement in our organization or project



Organization and residents have gained a lot of skills or knowledge



There has been great deal of increase in sense of community



Neighborhood Pocket Park Bench Replacement

Twenty years ago Hanover Heights Historic Association worked to create pocket park on a vacant lot owned by a long-time resident. This year, Hanover Heights replaced two twelve-year-old wooden benches with modern, more durable metal benches. The benches were ordered in the fall and will be installed in the spring of 2019, due to challenging weather over the fall and winter. The new bench project will benefit the community for many years to come. This pocket park has a long community history and has become an outward sign and reflection of

“At our fall picnic we talked with several new neighborhood residents with families who mentioned they loved our little oasis of a neighborhood south of the KU Med center and that they were using our two open green spaces with their families and that was one reason they moved into the neighborhood. We have established an outward appearance of a neighborhood that cares.”



NRF Grant Amount

\$3,000

In-Kind Donations

—

Volunteer Hours

20

Number of Participants

30

There has been a great deal of increase in involvement in our organization or project



Organization and residents have gained a great deal of skills or knowledge



There has been great deal of increase in sense of community



Healthy Foods for the NE Catalyst Project

The Historic Northeast-Midtown Association is spearheading The Healthy Food for the Northeast Catalyst Project (aka Northeast Grocers), a resident-driven initiative to bring a grocery store to the Northeast area of Kansas City, Kansas. In 2017, when the Unified Government began the Northeast Area Master Plan (NEAMP), a cooperative grocer concept was identified as a top priority of the plan. To date over 50 volunteers have participated in five community clean-ups to prepare the store for use and have hauled away over ten tons of trash and debris from the project site.

“This effort has begun to restore a sense of hope back to the community as they see community organizations and other residents supporting the revitalization of Quindaro Boulevard and Northeast Kansas City, Kansas.”



Before



After

NRF Grant Amount

\$3,000

In-Kind Donations

\$447

Volunteer Hours

292

Number of Participants

88

There has been some increase in involvement in our organization or project



Organization and residents have gained some skills or knowledge



There has been some increase in sense of community



Fisher Park Playground

Through the work of numerous community members, volunteers, and Parks Department staff, Fisher park received a new playground. Neighbors chose the playground design from options presented by three different vendors during a community input session at the park, an online survey and a focus groups with a children’s summer program. The final playground reflects the love of nature and active play that characterize the Mission Cliffs and Hilltop neighborhoods that use the playground.

Neighborhood kids showed up with their parents on the Community Build day so that they can tell their friends, ‘I built this!’



NRF Grant Amount

\$3,000

In-Kind Donations

\$63,250

Volunteer Hours

158

Number of Participants

41

There has been a large increase in involvement in our organization or project



Organization and residents have gained some skills or knowledge



There has been some increase in sense of community



Planning for “Prescott’s Progressive Porch Party”

The Prescott Neighborhood Group (PNG) worked to build on listening sessions from 2016 in which neighbors identified “The Next Big Thing” as a need to increase social interaction among neighbors. Prescott Neighborhood Group engaged culturally diverse voices from throughout the neighborhood. In September 2018, the entire neighborhood was invited to a dinner intended to create fellowship and begin the planning process for the Prescott Progressive Porch Party.

“We had a far more culturally diverse crowd at the fall event than we’ve had at any event in the last several years and we put together a solid list of new voices willing to help in planning 2019’s Prescott Progressive Porch Party.”



NRF Grant Amount

\$800

In-Kind Donations

—

Volunteer Hours

25

Number of Participants

35

There has been some increase in involvement in our organization or project



Organization and residents have gained some of skills or knowledge



There has been a large increase in sense of community



42nd Street Mural Project

The 42nd Street Mural Project was a creative community collaboration that revitalized four mural panels in the Rosedale neighborhood. The panels were originally painted ten years ago and were redesigned this year. Original designs were created by three local Kansas City, Kansas artists with help from the community and Rosedale Development Association. The new panels celebrate the history of Rosedale and the evolution of the neighborhood today. At every step of this project, organizers enlisted the community—neighbors lent a hand in painting the mural, so local people took ownership in creating in public space.

“Over 80 people helped us in the actual execution of this project, but what amazed the artists is just how many neighbors, park-goers, or people driving by stopped to congratulate us, and tell us how happy they were that we were doing this in their neighborhood.”



NRF Grant Amount

\$2,500

In-Kind Donations

\$800

Volunteer Hours

52

Number of Participants

94

There has been some increase in involvement in our organization or project



Organization and residents have gained a great deal of skills or knowledge



There has been a large increase in sense of community



Senior Friendly Garden Beds

Strawberry Hill Neighborhood Association used horse troughs to create a courtyard of raised garden beds that are accessible for neighbors with limited mobility. This project enables a wider range of gardeners to make use of their community garden. The beds will be made available for seniors, disabled persons, and pregnant gardeners. The garden is an area wherein seniors, refugees, and immigrant residents are able to come together and learn from one another and forge friendships that might not have otherwise occurred.

“It was encouraging to see passers by express interest in getting involved and to receive help from people we previously did not know, simply because they saw us working and wanted to pitch in. One of the individuals who helped the most expressed that he wanted to “give back” because he had experienced homelessness before and received help. He asked for nothing in return and came back several times, providing a major chunk of assistance to us as we wrapped up the project before cold weather began.”



NRF Grant Amount **\$3,000**


In-Kind Donations **\$348**

Volunteer Hours **334**

Number of Participants **10**

There has been a large increase in involvement in our organization or project 

Organization and residents have gained a great deal of skills or knowledge 

There has been a great deal of increase in sense of community 

Kids Art in Douglass Park

The Turtle Hill Community Association held a Summer Youth Art Camp (SYAC) for Kansas City, Kansas youth in visual art, dance, drama, and music. Specifically, the NRF grant was used to create an exterior play area in the Turtle Hill Community Orchard. The youth designed, created, and installed a giant chess board, a giant checker board, two large hopscotch boards, and an outline of a softball field. This project culminated with a community picnic where the play structures were officially unveiled by the youth.

“The youth thoroughly enjoyed playing on their created play structure, the picnic, and the community support.”



NRF Grant Amount

\$3,000

In-Kind Donations

\$11,700

Volunteer Hours

100

Number of Participants

100

There has been some increase in involvement in our organization or project



Organization and residents have gained a lot of skills or knowledge



There has been great deal of increase in sense of community



Kansas City Coalition Against Sexual Exploitation

Neighborhood leaders and residents have shared a growing concern regarding acts of commercial sexual exploitation in their neighborhoods. Veronica's Voice was invited by the East Patrol Community Response Team to provide training and consultation for the development of a plan to address this issue. With Mayor James serving as the Honorary Chairperson for the two day Leadership Summit, the event pulled together decision makers from service providers and neighborhood leaders for two days of training, relationship building and development of the strategic plan at a high level.

“Participants were surveyed regarding their commitment to moving forward in agreement for implementation of an asymmetrical approach that involves decriminalizing and providing services to victims of commercial sexual exploitation and criminalization and restorative justice for purchasers of commercial sex - 100% were in agreement with this approach. This was a change from the original goal of the neighborhood association which was focused on getting prostituted persons out of the neighborhood through arrest and relocation.”



NRF Grant Amount

\$3,000

In-Kind Donations

\$15,639

Volunteer Hours

158

Number of Participants

28

There has been a great deal of increase in involvement in our organization or project



Organization and residents have gained a great deal of skills or knowledge



There has been great deal of increase in sense of community





NEIGHBORHOODS RISING FUND



COMMUNITY
CAPITAL FUND

LISC
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