

Dear Friends,

My involvement with Hope Community began 20 years ago. I was impressed then by the “heart” of the organization—its founders and staff. As my involvement with the organization grew, so did my understanding and appreciation for the scope and impact of Hope’s work.

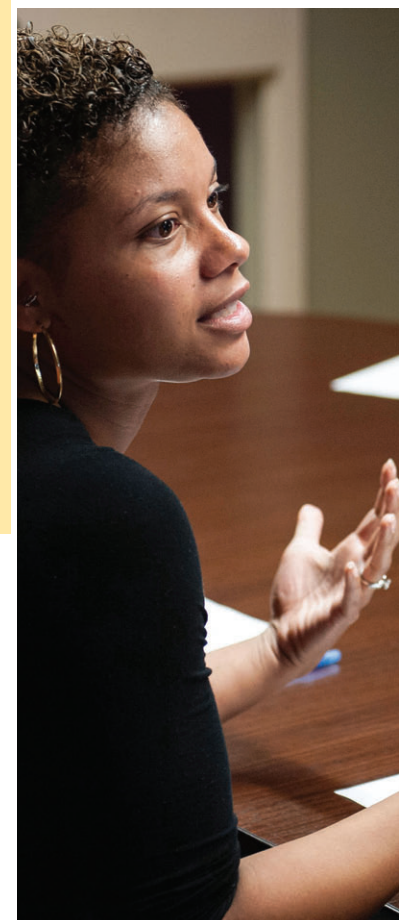
The thing that strikes me today is how so many diverse people come together and apply their skills and passions to strengthen this community. When I visit Hope I see staff, partners and community members sharing, planning and taking action on things that matter to them. That is how we create lasting change.

So much has evolved here because of Hope’s work with community leaders. This year we opened the Rose, in partnership with Aeon, which now provides quality, affordable housing to 90 families. We raised enough funds to create an urban teaching garden outside of the Rose that adds 5,000 sq. ft. of growing, teaching and gathering space for our food justice leaders. We started a series of Community Circles that have created stronger connections between 80 neighbors who have shared meals and planned for future action together.

As we enter our 40th year in 2017, I remain impressed by the “heart” of this organization and of supporters like you who have helped to make all of this work possible. We have accomplished so much together.

Sincerely,
Paul Leighton

THERE ARE SO MANY REASONS
FOR HOPE.





“You should come and visit the garden because it’s awesome. You get to learn more stuff about gardens, flowers and some vegetables. You also get to harvest food, eat vegetables and take them home.”
—Bernardo, youth community member

“My sister was about to leave for college and I wanted her to make her mark on her home before she started a new chapter of her life. I told her, ‘You can be a part of something that is long-lasting.’ They worked on the Hope mural on 18th and Lake Street—it says IMPACT. That is significant to the community.”
—Jibra’il, community member



HOPE COMMUNITY

CONNECT

Hope’s unique model connects people and places. We know that buildings alone don’t improve a community—people do.

- 169 adults learned, led and took action with Hope last year
- 80 people strengthened relationships through Community Circles
- 170 youth built relationships, as well as advocacy and leadership skills

BUILD

Our high-quality housing, commercial and community spaces have transformed the neighborhood and provide spaces for people to gather, build relationships and take action together.

- 263 new or renovated apartment homes (70 percent are affordable to low income households) at Portland and Franklin Avenues
- 20,000 square feet of commercial and community gathering spaces, including Hope’s headquarters, a daycare and a neighborhood market
- 7,500 sq. ft. of community gardens

CHALLENGE

At Hope, people challenge themselves and lead their own development as they work for a strong community.

- 150 people joined in year-round food justice work
- 16 young adults graduated from our eight-month SPEAC Civic Action Training
- 139 community members worked for park equity
- 15 African American girls completed a civic leadership training
- 415 people participated in listening sessions about food justice last year

CELEBRATE

We celebrate the people and partners that add to our voice and power each year.

- 30 organizational partnerships amplify our work
- 1,500 people engage in opportunities to learn, lead and act with Hope
- 650 residents live in our healthy, affordable homes
- 90 new families joined our community in new housing at the Rose



“I love that Hope is willing to go into the streets and talk to people. Hope brings in people who are part of the community and who are leaders in the community—let’s bring them in and get their opinions on what’s happening in Minneapolis!”
—Ashley, community member

“I like being part of the community; I want to get my neighbors involved. If everyone gets involved and gets to know each other, we become part of a stronger community. And then we move on, and do other things, and grow. That’s important for the future for me and my neighbors.”
—Bonita, Hope resident



WE MAKE ALL OF THIS POSSIBLE TOGETHER.