

Individuals



Communities



Systems



Food, Land & Community Food & Photography Project



This year, our Food, Land & Community Team piloted the Food and Photography youth research project, in partnership with our new Best Buy Teen Tech Center. This project allowed our youth to study the craft of photography, discuss the food system and ask questions about their own relationship to food. Over three months, we grew together as a community, shared perspectives on justice/access/culture, and documented our journey and personal story through the art of photography.

The Youth Gardeners and the Power of Vision project expanded how they approach their work by utilizing the new Technology

Center. This opportunity allowed both projects to integrate new tools like Photoshop into their programs. The youth were able to build on ideas, explore themselves and community with a literal new lens—while taking a deeper dive into the neighborhood, gardens and beauty of self.

“Young people are going to be leading us in the future, and it’s essential for us to not only help them build their skills, but to talk to them, listen to them, and learn from their perspective.”

—Ryan Stopera, Food & Photography Co-Facilitator

Community Circles of Hope Iftar Celebration



On June 1st of this year, Community Circle of Hope hosted their third annual Iftar with over 200 participants. Iftar is one of the religious observances of Ramadan—and is often done with community—with people gathering to break their fast together. Iftar is taken just after the evening prayer called Maghrib, which is around sunset. Many Muslims believe that feeding someone on Iftar is a fulfilling form of benevolence.

Our Iftar celebration is an opportunity for all residents and surrounding communities to come together with one another, regardless of religious background. This has made space for neighbors to

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Parks & Power People's Assemblies



connect, build and reflect on the importance and need for community, while exploring cultural and religious connections around the Phillips neighborhood.

Please join us for our next Iftar Celebration in June of 2019!

“Hope’s annual Iftar is a unique and meaningful sharing of spirituality and cultural understanding. The Iftar offers an important bridge for the local community at a time of significant regional change.”

—Eric Angell, Community Circles Leader

During 2018, our Parks & Power project held two People’s Assemblies, engaging a total of 175 leaders in political education and networking for Racial Justice in the Minneapolis Parks system.

Our People’s Assemblies were developed as a space to connect with community members and several work groups. These groups immersed from community concerns, all rooted in pushing for Racial, Economic and Ecological justice in and through the Minneapolis Parks.

In conjunction with our People’s Assemblies, Parks & Power organized “The People’s Budget Rally” in May, mobilizing 30+ leaders to call on the MPRB to increase

investment in Youth Development, specifically highlighting over investment in Park Policing. This rally led to a group of 10 leaders meeting with the Park Board to further advocate our priorities.

Be on the lookout for our next People’s Assembly this upcoming February 2019!

“The answers to the problems that we’re facing are not going to come from Washington, they’re not going to come from anyone but the people who show up, and show up at a local level.”

—Jake Virden, Lead Organizer of the Parks & Power Campaign

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 Website: hope-community.org

All photos taken by Bruce Silcox and Ryan Stopera

