

Annual Report 2014-15

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“Looking Back”

Change was the operative word as fiscal year (f/y) 2014-15 saw the election of a new County Chair in Deborah Kafoury, the retirement of Office of Citizen Involvement (OCI) Executive Director Kathleen Todd after 19 years with Multnomah County, and the hiring of long time Citizen Involvement Committee (CIC) member Gary Marschke as the new Executive Director.

While it seemed at times that the entire fiscal year was consumed by transition, much was accomplished. Our f/y 2014-15 highlights include:

Support for the 78 community members who volunteer for both the CIC and the nine Budget Advisory Committees (BAC).



Planned and coordinated the 28th annual Volunteer Recognition Awards Ceremony where 58 volunteers from 11 county programs were feted for their outstanding contributions.

Completed a Department Review of the Local Public Safety Coordinating Council methods for public engagement.

Partnered with the Budget and the Chair’s offices to host two “Age Friendly” budget forums focused on community perceptions and priorities.



Joined with the internal Communications Office to produce our first full color, glossy program and web page for the Awards Ceremony.



Participated with the Chair’s office in five “Listening Sessions” with organizations serving several different cultural communities and began conversations about planning ongoing outreach and input activities.

Developed the OCI/CIC Outreach Guide, a comprehensive compilation of tips and best practices shared by 23 community organizations through seven years of Diversity Outreach workshops.

It was a challenging and productive year that has effectively positioned the committee and the office to take our collective efforts to the next level.

And now...













“Moving Forward”

Our goals for f/y 2015-16 are ambitious as we endeavor to continue and enhance our work by bringing many more disparate voices into the Multnomah County policy making process.



In order to reach those goals, our plans include:

-  Build relationships with culturally specific community and organizational leadership in order to develop strategies for providing platforms for sustainable input.
-  The hiring of long time community activist and former Development Director at both Elders in Action and Sisters of the Road, Brenda Morgan, to help lead our new outreach initiative.
-  Stage a series of cultural exchange events to familiarize current volunteers and staff with the variety of communities that make up the increasingly diverse Multnomah county family.
-  Develop materials and methods for better integration of those community voices into the process of policy making in county government.
-  Review and revise the operating by-laws of the office and the committee to remove any obstacles to disparate participation.
-  Partner with internal departments and offices to coordinate and collaborate on continuing community outreach.
-  Publish and promote the OCI/CIC Outreach Guide compiling best practices from 23 community organizations that participated in our Diversity Outreach Workshops.
-  Continued use of social media to engage more diverse populations.
-  Present the Diversity Outreach program at the 22nd Annual NW Public Employees Diversity Conference.
-  Enhanced support to the Budget Advisory Committee members and staff.



BE HEARD!

Office
of Citizen
Involvement