rganizationTimelinE

Evolution from a prototype to a credible resource center engaging with neighborhood volunteers.

Advisory Council

Mayor Chuck Canfield formed a Mayors Advisory Council On Neighborhoods to determine what best practices would be for helping neighborhoods to organize and providing them with resources.

RNeighborWoods

A ReLeaf grant was written partnering RPU and RNeighbors for volunteers to plant boulevard trees in Rochester neighborhoods. Through the teamwork of RNeighborWoods since 2004, we have utilized 7,000 volunteers to plant 7,752 boulevard trees.

O Council on Neighborhoods

Facilitated the Mayor's Council on Neighborhoods, consisting of representatives from 15 neighborhood associations (NAs). This group has now met 20 times with often a City staff speaking. The mission is to strengthen connections between neighborhood leaders and give neighborhoods a collective voice.

Increased interaction with city departments. Example: partnered with the Planning Department to change requirements and annual registration for registered NAs, which greatly changed the neighborhood map from 46 to now 27 active NAs. This was necessary because of new guidelines the City Council passed about required neighborhood meetings. NA surveys taken by RNeighbors keep this map current.

Present

After a staff health leave of absence in 2021 RNeighbors is excited for the future to provide neighborhood resources. Our work is focused on 5 **\rightarrow** goals including developing a strategic plan with metrics focused and plantings, additional staff, and continued work on neighborhood initiatives with the City.

Rochester Neighborhood Resource Center (RNRC) incorporated as a 501C3 with a mission to promote community and improve quality of life in Rochester neighborhoods. The organization originally was housed under the Police Department.

501C3 Status

Partnered with the City, Chamber of Commerce, and Mayor Brede to start Litter Bit Better, a city-wide litter pick up program. To date volunteers have worked together to remove over 152 tons of litter from the community.

Litter Bit Better

Partnered with Public Health and the City to offer \$8,000 in funding to 8 improvement projects in 7 different neighborhoods. In 2019 over 861 volunteer hours were involved in 13 projects. Value of these volunteer hours (\$25.43 per hour): \$21,895.23. This is an ongoing program.

Neighborhood Project Grants

RNeighbors was able to be agile and flex to combat neighborhood isolation with community efforts including distribution of CARES funds through 16 murals, 10 performance grants, and the Chalk the Walk City-wide Festival, RNeighbors spearheaded the Front Door Project, a collection of 83 portraits, taken in over 20 neighborhoods paired with narration of the household's COVID lock-down experience. During this time period RNeighbors signed on to a Commit to Action Towards Racial Justice which work continues on.

O COVID-19 Pandemic

