access | equity | opportunity

African Career, Education & Resource, Inc.

www.acerinc.org
Volunteer-driven, community-based organization

Founded in 2008

**Mission**
To close the resource, health, and information disparities within Minnesota’s communities of African descent, and help those communities achieve societal and economic independence.
Commitments
Access to education, jobs, adequate health, and housing, and the means to build wealth and financial assets

Areas of focus
• Education
• Health & Wellness
• Community Economic Development
• Advocacy

Geographic focus
Northern and Northwest Suburbs of Minneapolis
Making Transit Meaningful Project

Engage with underrepresented communities along the Bottineau Transitway Corridor to become actively involved in the planning and decision-making process.
Making Transit Meaningful

Bottineau Transitway Open House at the Annual ACER Fair
**Making Transit Meaningful**
Walk, Run, Bike Event

Get Moving!!!
Reduce obesity, diabetes, stroke, cardiovascular diseases in the community, while learning how transit can be a catalyst for health and wellness.

Saturday, September 8, 2012
9am–2pm: Walk/Run/Bike starts - Oak Grove Park
11:30am–2pm: Picnic in the Park
Making Transit Meaningful
Collaboration with Ten Thousand Things Theater

Used theater as a vehicle for getting people engaged and involved (a catalyst for access to the arts and entertainment)
Making Transit Meaningful

Northwest Community Collaborative (NWCC)
NWCC aims to seek the interests of the underrepresented and minority communities as they relate to the Target Corporation expansion in Brooklyn Park.

Participating organizations and individuals, include:
• ISAIAH
• CTUL
• Organization of Liberians in MN
• African Immigrant Services
• Angel Eyes Foundation
• ProUSA
• ASSA
Making Transit Meaningful
Small Business Development Training

Through the 12 sessions, subsequent technical assistance, and loan packaging services, aspiring entrepreneurs will be empowered to begin and operate successful small businesses. Participants will be eligible to apply for small business loans from $500 to $10,000.

This program is being offered by ACER, in partnership with:
• Neighborhood Development Center (NDC)
• North Hennepin Community College
• Hennepin County Housing, Community Works & Transit | Public Works
• City of Brooklyn Park
Making Transit Meaningful

Other activities

Media Coverage

• Channel 12 evening news
• KMOJ FM Radio – African Roots Connection
• Newspapers – Mshale, Sun Post, The Liberian Journal

• Health Impact Assessment
• Fair Housing Equity Assessment
• Open houses & community fairs
• Business Development Symposium - Growing Black Businesses in Minnesota
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Wokie C. Freeman
Director of Public Affairs & Engagement, ACER
wfreeman@acerinc.org