

**Neighborhoods Now!** is an innovative community educational series to strengthen the work of individuals and organizations working in neighborhoods to:

1. Organize to win issues for **people and places**.
2. Build power to change **systems** for racial equity and economic justice.
3. Build **organizations** whose leadership is **reflective** of the community.
4. Build diverse and effective cross cultural **collaborations**.

## Register Today - The deadline for the first course is **JUNE 22**

Potential participants must fill out a Registration Form by the registration deadline (see course descriptions for deadline information) by visiting: <http://z.umn.edu/nnowregister>. Because space is limited, we will contact you shortly after the registration deadline to confirm your enrollment.

### Neighborhoods Now! 2015-2016 Program Calendar

Each course starts with an orientation class, followed by **Tuesday and Thursday classes from 6:00 to 8:30 p.m. for 3 weeks**, and concludes with field work and graduation. **Courses will be held at the Robert J. Jones Urban Research and Outreach-Engagement Center (UROC)** located at 2001 Plymouth Ave N, Minneapolis, MN 55411.

Course Title	Course Dates	Registration Deadline
Neighborhood Issue Organizing	June 30 - August 13	Monday, June 22
Neighborhood Systems Change	September 15 - October 22	TBD
Building Representative Neighborhood Organizations	January 12 - February 23, 2016	TBD
Cross Cultural Collaboration	March 20 - May 10, 2016	TBD

#### Neighborhood Issues Organizing

- Organizing 101
- Life Cycle of an Organizing Campaign
- Leadership Development & Communications
- Field Work

#### Building Representative Neighborhood Organizations

- Racial Justice Block by Block
- Vision, Mission & Narratives: Racial Justice in Organizations
- Representative Base Building & Leadership Development
- Field Work

#### Neighborhood Systems Change

- Systems 101 - Historical Timeline
- Land Use Organizing
- Organizing to Change Systems & Narratives
- Field Work

#### Cross Cultural Collaboration

- Collaborations - The "Big Picture"
- Diverse Community Involvement
- Alliance & Coalition Building
- Field Work



MINNESOTA CENTER FOR  
NEIGHBORHOOD ORGANIZING

Minnesota Center for Neighborhood Organizing (MCNO) is a program of the Center for Urban and Regional Affairs at the University of Minnesota. We envision neighborhoods and communities where people are organized to identify and tackle local issues, building vital communities that value full participation and embody racial equity and economic justice. Our mission is to support place-based organizations to successfully take on local issues by developing the skills of community organizers and leaders.

## Program Principles and Values

1. Place-based community organizing: people coming together to identify and work on local issues in a specific geographic area.
2. Community members understand their own issues like nobody else can, and must be the leading voice in setting their own agenda around decisions that affect them.
3. Leadership of neighborhood organizations should be accountable to and reflective of the diverse communities they represent.
4. Committed partnerships with low-wealth communities and communities of color.
5. Strategic collaboration across communities to create an equitable region.

## Program Goals

- Build skills and knowledge for place-based community organizing through trainings and education programs.
- Provide access to customized experiences including mentoring, coaching, consulting, technical assistance and training.
- Build relationships among community organizers and leaders to share and support each other's work.
- Explore and connect with strategic partnerships between organizations across multiple geographies to influence decision making on a broader scale.
- Create opportunities to link organizing work with other CURA community programs that provide organizing resources, community based-research, mapping and data visualization.

## Who is this for?

We welcome participants who have a passion and interest in learning and practicing neighborhood organizing skills including neighborhood and community organization staff, board and volunteers, as well as neighborhood residents who are not formally connected to an organization. We welcome people at a variety of skill levels, from people who are just getting started to experienced organizers and leaders looking to refresh or gain new skills. For each class we aim to recruit a culturally and geographically diverse group of participants.

## How it Works

**Neighborhoods Now!** offers four different courses, each 6-8 weeks long. Course participants registering for a particular course will be expected to attend evening classes, followed by several weeks of field work to put the tools learned in practice. During field work, participants will have access to 1-2-1 assistance with MCNO staff. Participants will then report back before class completion. Each of the four courses has the following structure (each course may vary slightly):



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# Neighborhoods Now!