

# CURA Community-Based Research Programs: An Overview

## Introduction

Community-Based Research (CBR) Programs at the University of Minnesota's Center for Urban and Regional Affairs (CURA) provide applied research assistance to community-based groups located outside of the Twin Cities area, neighborhood groups within the metro area, and other nonprofit agencies and groups. This research is administered by three separate programs: the Community Assistantship Program (CAP), which works with groups in greater Minnesota; Neighborhood Planning for Community Revitalization (NPCR), which works with neighborhood organizations in Minneapolis, St. Paul, and first-ring suburbs in the Twin Cities metro; and Communiversity, which works with Minnesota nonprofit organizations, particularly those serving communities of color. The goals of these programs are to

- ▶ enhance the capacity of community-based groups in Minnesota to meet their goals by giving them an opportunity to accomplish relevant applied research; and
- ▶ provide students and faculty with useful community-based applied research and learning opportunities.

These community research projects typically place students in part-time research assistantships for one academic semester or over the summer. Students are selected by and report directly to the community organization.

For more information about any of the CURA Community Based Research Programs:

### **Community Assistantship Program (CAP)**

**Focus:** Serves exurban and Greater Minnesota communities

**Website:** [www.cura.umn.edu/cap.php](http://www.cura.umn.edu/cap.php)

**Program Director:** Will Craig, [wcraig@umn.edu](mailto:wcraig@umn.edu), 612-625-3321

**Program Coordinator:** Jeff Corn, [jcorn@umn.edu](mailto:jcorn@umn.edu), 612-625-0744

### **Communiversity**

**Focus:** Serves communities of color

**Website:** [www.cura.umn.edu/communiversity.php](http://www.cura.umn.edu/communiversity.php)

**Program Director:** Tom Scott, [scott001@umn.edu](mailto:scott001@umn.edu), 612-625-7340

**Program Coordinator:** Jeff Corn, [jcorn@umn.edu](mailto:jcorn@umn.edu), 612-625-0744

### **Neighborhood Planning for Community Revitalization (NPCR)**

**Focus:** Serves metro area neighborhoods

**Website:** [www.npcr.org](http://www.npcr.org)

**Program Director:** Kris Nelson, [kns@umn.edu](mailto:kns@umn.edu), 612-625-1020

**Program Coordinator:** Jeff Corn, [jcorn@umn.edu](mailto:jcorn@umn.edu), 612-625-0744