educational organizations, and local media.

**Program:** Communiversity

- **Near North Minneapolis Resource Equity Project.** The Lao Assistance Center of Minnesota (LACM) was established by Lao immigrants in 1983 to respond to the urgent resettlement needs of fellow Lao refugees, and now also serves Lao immigrants, naturalized citizens, and American-born Lao. Historically, Asian communities in the Near North neighborhood in Minneapolis have not been engaged in community development efforts, despite the significant growth in the neighborhood’s Asian population in the last 30 years. In addition, national trends suggest significantly decreased investment specifically in Hmong-led organizations. The North Minneapolis Resource Equity Project seeks to understand and support equity in the allocation of resources in the Near North neighborhood. Kristin Cici, a Ph.D. candidate in education policy and administration in the College of Education and Human Development at the University of Minnesota, will research 4–5 case studies of recent resource investments in Near North. LACM will use this information to advocate for greater equity in resource-allocation strategies in the Near North neighborhood and to support development of an Asian community-development blueprint.

  **Program:** Northside Seed Grant

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**Project Assistance Available from CURA**

The Center for Urban and Regional Affairs supports research and technical assistance through a number of individual programs, each with its own deadlines and application procedures. If you represent a community organization or government agency and are unsure which program listed below is most suitable for your project proposal, simply complete a general Community-Based Research Programs Application Form at www.cura.umn.edu/cbr and we will route your request to the appropriate program.

- **The Community Assistantship Program (CAP)** matches community-based nonprofit organizations, citizen groups, and government agencies in greater Minnesota with students who can provide research assistance. Eligible organizations define a research project, submit an application, and if accepted, are matched with a qualified student to carry out the research. The application deadline for fall semester 2012 assistantships (September through mid-January) is June 30, 2012. For more information, contact CAP coordinator Will Craig at 612-625-3321 or wcraig@umn.edu, or visit www.cura.umn.edu/cap.

- **The Kris Nelson Neighborhood Research Program** (formerly Neighborhood Partnerships for Community Research, or NPCR) provides student research assistance to community organizations in Minneapolis, St. Paul, and Twin Cities metropolitan-area suburbs that are involved in community-based revitalization. Projects may include any issue relevant to a neighborhood or community’s needs and interests, including planning, program development, or program evaluation. Priority is given to projects that support and involve residents of color. Applications from organizations collaborating on a project are encouraged. The application deadline for fall semester 2012 assistantships (September through mid-January) is June 30, 2012. For more information, contact CURA community programs assistant Jeff Corn at 612-625-0744 or curacbr@umn.edu, or visit www.cura.umn.edu/Nelson-Program.

- **The Community Geographic Information Systems (CGIS) program** provides technical assistance in mapping, data analysis, and GIS to community-based organizations and nonprofits in the Twin Cities metropolitan area. Staff at the CGIS program specialize in parcel-level mapping, demographic analysis, and Internet-based GIS technologies. The CGIS program has no formal application process or deadline to apply. Project requests generally can be turned around within two weeks. For more information, to discuss potential projects, or for assistance with data needs, contact CGIS program coordinator Jeff Matson at 612-625-0081 or jmatson@umn.edu, or visit www.cura.umn.edu/cgis.

- **The Minnesota Center for Neighborhood Organizing** trains people to work effectively in organizing and staffing neighborhood organizations. It trains new organizers and increases the skills of existing neighborhood staff through internships, workshops, and other programs. For more information about the program and the training opportunities available, contact Jay Clark at 612-625-2513 or clark037@umn.edu, or Margaret Kaplan at 612-624-2300 or mkaplan@umn.edu, or visit www.cura.umn.edu/mcno.