

# dayton's bluff

COMMUNITY COUNCIL

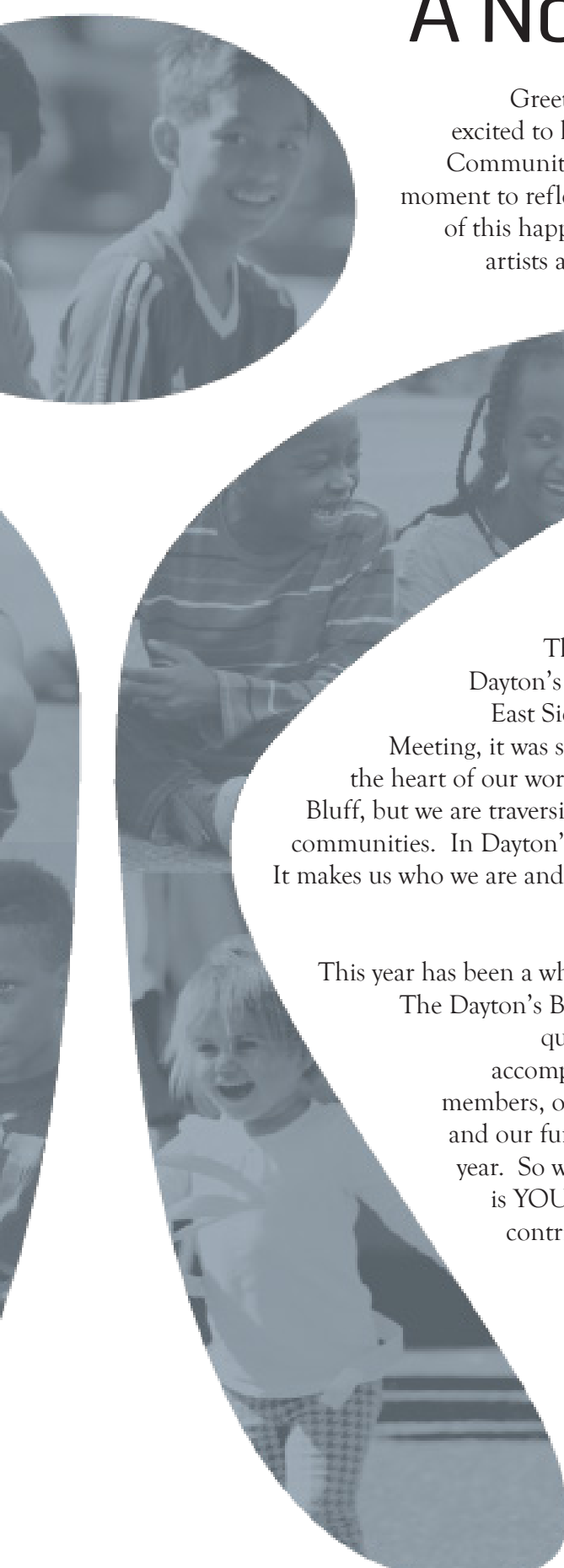
## Annual Report 2015



**BREAKING BOUNDARIES  
CONNECTING COMMUNITIES**



# A Note from DBCC Staff



Greetings and welcome to our 2015 Annual Report. We couldn't be more excited to highlight the transformative work that is happening at Dayton's Bluff Community Council. Preparing this report gave us time to step back and take a moment to reflect on this year's journey. Our immediate reaction was, "How did all of this happen?!" We launched a community radio station that will feature local artists and provocative programming. We opened the doors of the East Side Enterprise Center, an institution that has garnered the attention of the MN legislature for paving the way for culturally inclusive economic development and business growth. We helped rebuild the Urban Root's garden and hosted a Hiring Kickoff to employ local residents. Dayton's Bluff is on the map and people are taking notice. We have a new co-op, a new coffee shop, vacant homes are being filled, and streets and parks are receiving improvements.

This was a big year for us. However, these successes are not confined to Dayton's Bluff. Our work and accomplishments have impacts throughout the East Side. So when we began thinking about a theme for this year's Annual Meeting, it was simple: "Breaking Boundaries, Connecting Communities." That is at the heart of our work. Not only has that work reached across the boundaries of Dayton's Bluff, but we are traversing ethnic, racial, and socio-economic boundaries to build and bridge communities. In Dayton's Bluff, our diversity is our strength. It challenges us. It surprises us. It makes us who we are and pushes us closer to who we want to be; a whole, healthy, and vibrant community for everyone.

This year has been a whirlwind. And with a staff of four, we could hardly take all the credit. The Dayton's Bluff Community Council mission is to "Advance equity and enhance quality of life through partnerships and community engagement." The accomplishments of this year, are SHARED accomplishments. Community members, our board, business owners, our East Side Enterprise Center partners, and our funders have all carried this mission forward to make this an incredible year. So when we asked "how did all of this happen?" we know that the answer is YOU. Without your help, dedication, investment, support, and generous contributions, this council would not be where it is today. So, we'd like to extend a huge thank you and an even bigger congratulations!

Sincerely,

Your Dayton's Bluff Community Council  
Deanna Abbott-Foster  
Brenda Reid  
Nicole Pressley  
Dezmond Juan

# Collaboration for Communities that Work: DBCC & Mississippi Market Hiring Kickoff

Since Mississippi Market Co-op announced E. 7th Street would be the site of its new store, Dayton's Bluff Community Council challenged Mississippi Market management to support the diverse community needs and interests on the East Side. Living wage, local hiring, and culturally representative product lines all became key discussion points in determining if and how the Market would fit into the Dayton's Bluff community.

So when Mississippi Market Co-op announced over 75 new jobs needed to staff the E. 7th Street location, we committed ourselves to connecting local residents to these opportunities. With unemployment rates in Dayton's Bluff lagging behind the St. Paul average (a disparity that widens for communities of color), we understand that diversity is not just our strength, but is central to a thriving economic future in our community. In a neighborhood that is federally designated as an area of concentrated poverty, the existing networks that are important to finding employment are not reaching many people of color living on the East Side. Many can only connect to jobs that pay poverty wages and have no chance for advancement.

We created a new network; one designed to connect local residents to real job opportunities and equip them with immediate and individualized support to be successfully hired. We organized two hiring events that preceded a Mississippi Market Hiring Fair. By canvassing and leafletting over 700 homes and talking directly to over 100 residents, DBCC organizers brought 55 people to the first meeting and 64 to the second. Mississippi Market representatives gave an overview of the co-op, and Merrick Social Services and Goodwill-Easter Seals supported candidates through the application and interview processes. Hosted at the East Side Enterprise Center, residents created professional email addresses, got help translating parts of the application, and participated in mock interviews. Everything was tailored to the needs of the people and the jobs they were seeking.

This community centered approach proved to be effective for all parties. Merrick and Goodwill-Easter Seals were able to make a meaningful impact through their services. Mississippi Market was able to hire people from the local community. And 24 of 43 hires were Dayton's Bluff residents who left the Hiring Fair at the East Side Enterprise Center with new jobs. The success of this initiative has spurred a critical dialogue about the relationship between job creation and job access. In the coming year, we will be working with the East Side Employment and Workforce Collaborative, a group of organizations on the East Side working together for more equitable employment for all East Side residents.

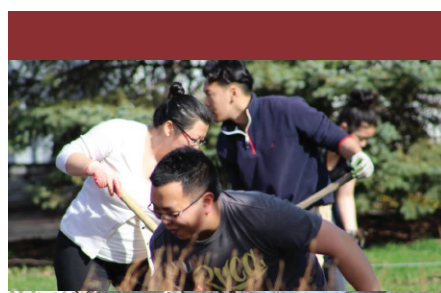


### **February 11**

Our Community Engagement Committee hosted a movie screening of "Hands Up, Don't Shoot Our Youth Movement" a documentary by filmmaker Ralph L. Crowder III . A panel discussion followed the film, where attendees talked about the impact of race and racism in our community.

### **March 20**

DBCC met with the organizers of the "One State, One License" and "Driver's Licenses for All" campaigns to join in the fight for equal access to drivers licenses. Following this meeting DBCC passed a resolution and participated in march to the capital supporting these efforts.



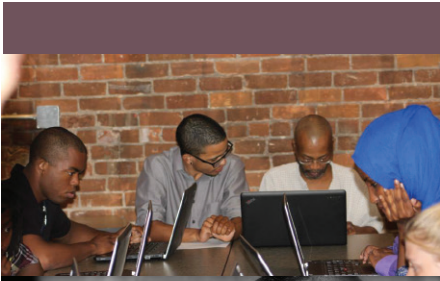
### **April 18**

DBCC pitched in to host the Community Garden Build with Urban Roots. The garden on 3rd and Maria has become a beautiful Dayton's Bluff landmark that supports the food and youth programs at Urban Roots.

### **May 30**

We were proud to host the Community Open House. Attendees toured the new broadcast equipment at 790 E. 7th Street and had a chance record to u





**July 16**

**Dayton's Bluff Hiring Kickoff**

Thanks to Goodwill-Easter Seals, Merrick Social Services, Mississippi Market, and the community for making this a successful and meaningful initiative

**August 21**

Born out of the Night Out on E. 7th Street event, **7th Street LIVE** is a celebration of East Side community, cultures, and entrepreneurship. Nearly 2000 residents turned out for a night filled with great music and dancers hosted by 104.7 fm WEQY.

**Sept 14**

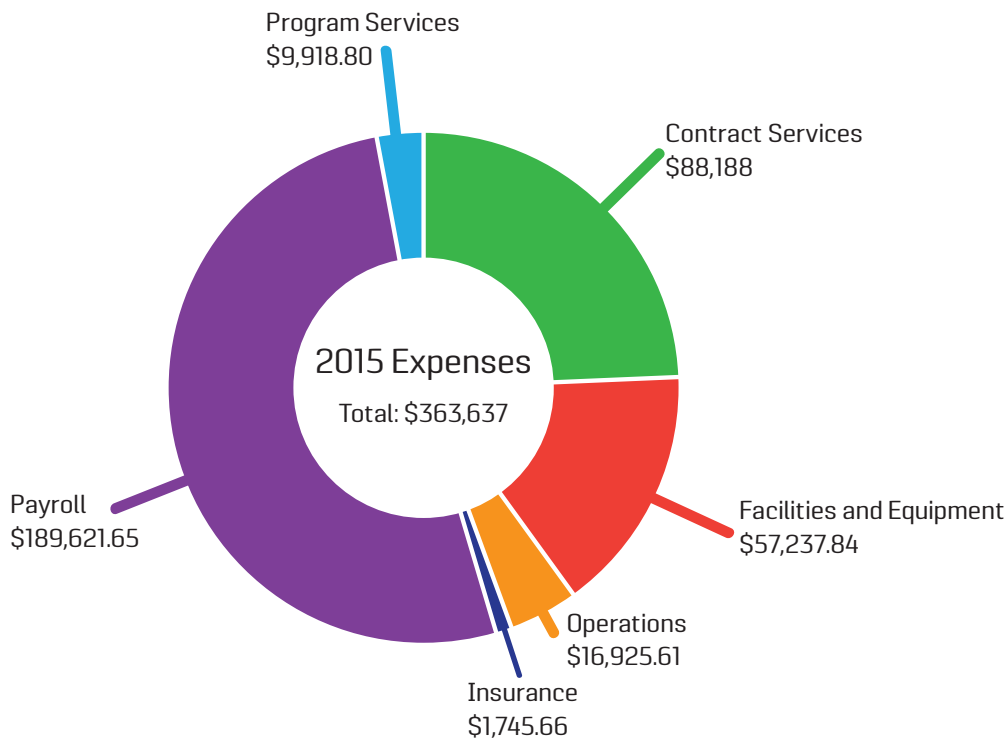
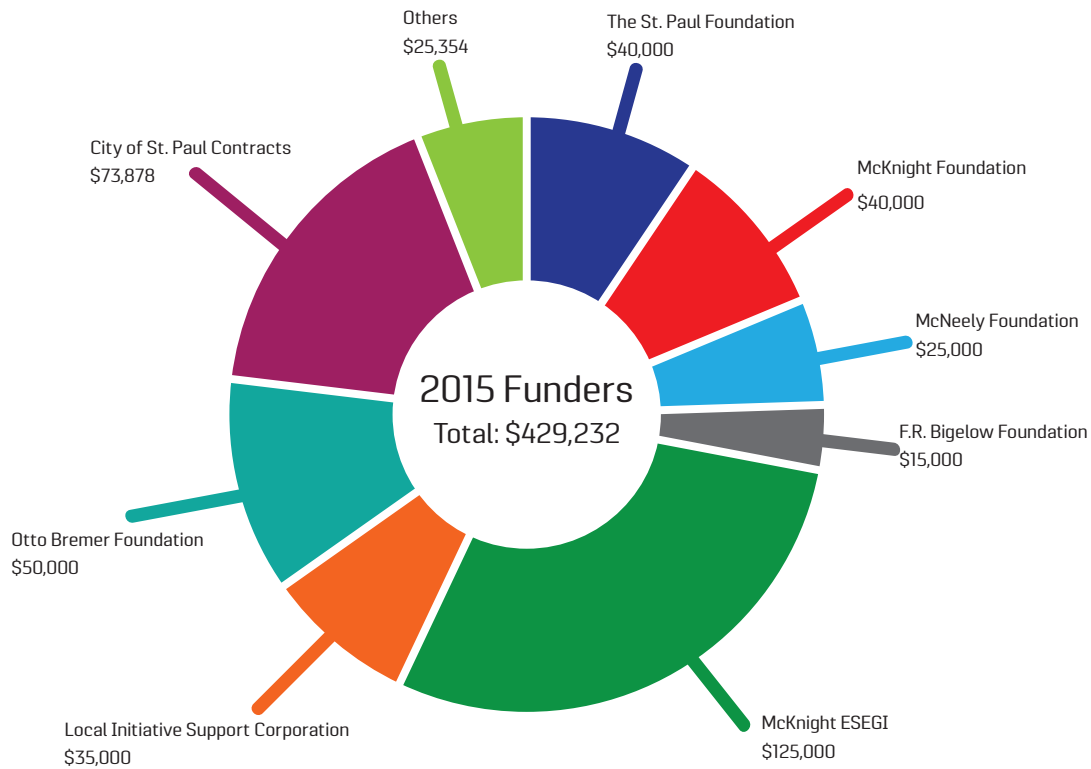
DBCC in collaboration with 5 other District Councils (lead by District 1), participated in the **Dialogue to Action**, a series of dialogues between St. Paul Police and Youth and their families. Following a series of 5 dialogues the group will work together to create solutions to improve community relationships with law enforcement.



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# 2015 Financial Summary



## Preliminary Estimates

2015 Expenses	
Repairs and maintenance	\$196
Awards and Grants	\$69.96
Business expenses	\$135.53
Accounting Fees	\$1,650
Program Contracts	\$28,452.41
Facilitation, Communications	\$8,411.73
ESEGI Payments to other Non-prof	\$49,272.00
<b>Contract Services Total</b>	<b>\$88,188</b>

Installation - One time expenses	\$19,885.08
Equipment rental and maintenance	\$3,036.38
Rent, parking, utilities	\$34,316.38
<b>Facilities and Equipment Total</b>	<b>\$57,237.84</b>

Books, memberships, software	\$1,849.44
Postage, mailing service	\$5,620.61
Printing, supplies	\$6,307
Telephone, telecommunications	\$3,148.56
<b>Operations Total</b>	<b>\$16,925.61</b>

Insurance: Liability and D&O	\$1,745.66
<b>Payroll</b>	<b>\$189,621.65</b>
<b>Program Services</b>	<b>\$9,918.80</b>
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$363,637.19</b>

# A Million Will Make it Happen on E. 7th Street STAR Fund

A program to promote business growth and to support minority ownership of buildings on 7th Street. As of this date, most funds are earmarked for specific projects, however all projects are not yet fully underway.

The projects completed to date are:

1. 776 E. 7th Street (old McCarty building) rehabbed for residences and 4 first floor businesses
2. Mixed-use building on Hope at 7th, purchased a new heating and cooling system for the building
3. Urban Roots remodeled a new, larger location in the First Lutheran Services building on Maria.
4. East Side Enterprise Center, LLC completed rehabilitation of 804 Margaret Street.
5. CentroMex Super Mercado business owner purchased the building (NENDC CDBG funding)
6. Swede Hollow Café completed expansion to second floor, to increase customer capacity by 35%.
7. Rogers Printing Building façade rehab and configuration of 3 new retail storefronts.

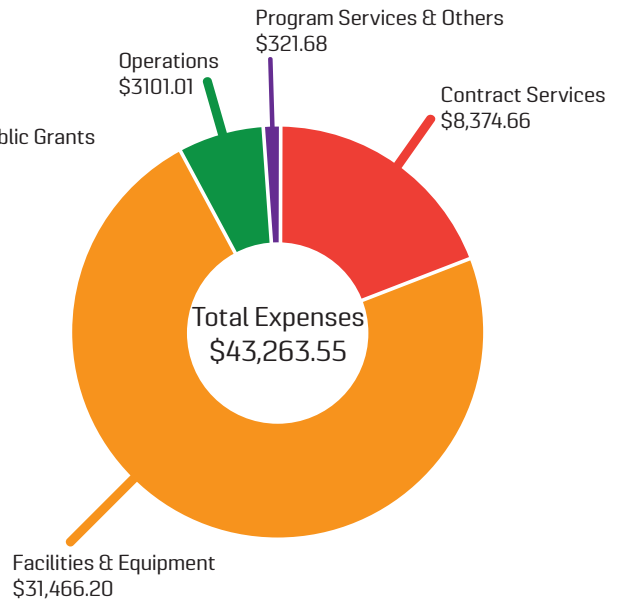
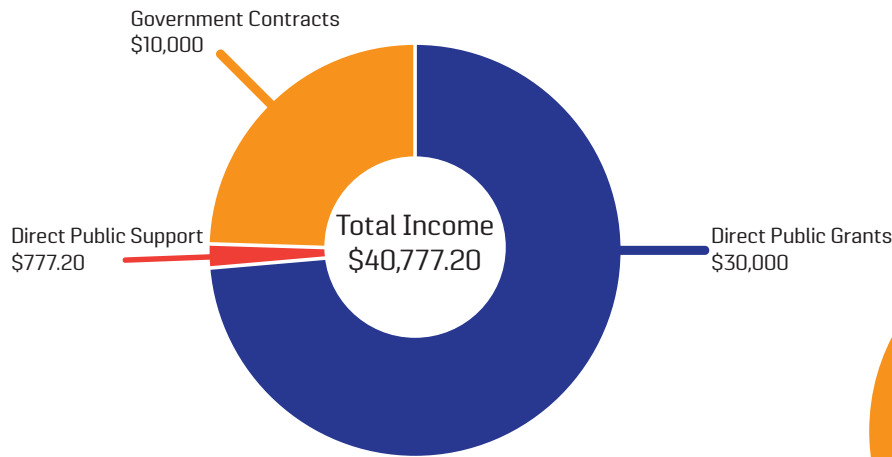
Projects with preliminary approval, but not yet disbursed:

1. Roger's Phase 2 Building leasehold improvements for 3 new businesses, new heating system.
2. First Choice Medical rehabilitation of vacant clinic building located at Arcade and Margaret.
3. CLUES support for pre-development work on new building planned for old NAPA Auto site.
4. La Mañana Restaurant relocation - including acquisition, rehabilitation of 798 E. 7th Street.
5. Swift Mart façade, interior and kitchen rehabilitation in a plan to rebrand store to feature African Delights Catering and African Grocery and Spice.
6. SPPA 2+ acre site at Minnehaha and 7th Street will feature new locally owned and operated restaurants recruited by DBCC and the East Side Enterprise Center partners.

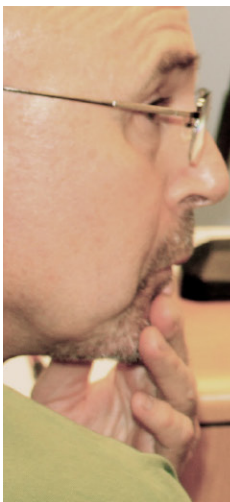
Total disbursed to date by City of St. Paul:	\$271,867
Total remaining in DBCC STAR Fund held by City of St. Paul:	\$228,133
Total STAR Funding (50% loan / 50% grant)	\$500,000



# 104.7 WEQY Financial Report



WEQY Profit & Loss	
<b>Income</b>	
Direct Public Grants	\$30,000
Direct Public Support	\$777.20
Government Contracts	\$10,000
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$40,777</b>
<b>Expense</b>	
Business Expenses	\$9.17
Contract Services	\$8,374.66
Facilities & Equipment	\$31,466.20
Operations	\$3,101.01
Program Services	\$312.51
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>\$43,263.55</b>
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>-\$2,486.35</b>





# A BIG step forward: Amplifying community voices on 104.7 fm **WEQY**

The creation of a low-power FM radio station was a huge project. From its inception, the Community Council, community members and partner organizations, such as 180 Degrees, have worked together to make East Side Community Radio a reality. After a year of planning and a lot of learning, we now have a fully equipped broadcast studio located in a newly renovated storefront at 790 East 7th Street.



**7TH STREET  
LIVE  
FESTIVAL  
AUGUST 21 5-9PM  
MUSIC/FOOD/ART/DANCE**

On August 21st, 104.7 fm was proud to celebrate its first broadcast during the 7th Street LIVE festival. We were happy to host an event with entertainment, vendors, and attendees that truly represented the rich diversity of the East Side. This radio station is committed not just to celebrating that richness, but providing a space for authentic engagement highlighting the diverse, cross-cultural community that is the East Side.

***“This radio station is committed, not just to celebrating that richness, but providing a space for authentic engagement with our diverse community.”***

We are embarking on an amazing journey. With a group of talented and dedicated volunteers and staff, we are ready for the road ahead. Still testing and building a strong programming base, the station will be gaining content and a listener base in the coming year. Together we can build 104.7 WEQY into a strong and valuable community asset.



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