

Government Alliance on Race and Equity (GARE)
By Charlie Yunker, Assistant to the City Manager

The 2017 GARE cohort team continued working with teams from other cities and county and state departments to build their respective racial equity plans. In October the teams met in Shoreview to continue building capacity to have conversations about racial equity and practice strategies for overcoming resistance as the work continues. In November the teams met in Edina and used the session to discuss draft Racial Equity plans with other teams. Staff presented St. Anthony's draft plan to the City Council on November 28th for input. The plan can be found on the City's website at <http://www.savmn.com/282/Government-Alliance-on-Race-Equity-GARE>

On December 6th the 2017 GARE Introductory Cohort completed its year-long work with an event at Silverwood Park. The teams heard from De Nichols who serves as the Director & Principal Designer of Civic Creatives, an impact design studio that partners with communities to develop interactive experiences, tools, and initiatives that confront issues of racial inequity, social division, food insecurity, and civic disengagement. The event included acknowledgement of Introductory Cohort Teams by the Blue Cross / Blue Shield of MN Center for Prevention.

The city has also committed to continuing with the GARE program in 2018 by assembling an Implementation Cohort that will meet throughout the year. The focus of the Implementation Cohort will be to collaborate with other cities also in the implementation phase to share experiences exchange ideas.

St. Anthony's 2018 Racial Equity Cohort:

- Charlie Yunker, Assistant to the City Manager
- Sandy Simon, Office Support Specialist
- Jeremy Gumke, Public Works Superintendent
- Dan Diegnau, Police Lieutenant
- Mattie Jaros, Firefighter
- Chris Morke, Liquor Operations Clerk
- Breanne Rothstein, City Planner, WSB

Our Racial Equity Story and other information on the GARE cohort is available on the City's website.