

CULLY-CONCORDIA COMMUNITY ACTION PLAN

IF YOU WISH TO SPEAK TO CITY COUNCIL, PRINT YOUR NAME, ADDRESS, AND EMAIL.

NAME (print)

ADDRESS AND ZIP CODE

Email

✓ Rey España	NAYA	reye@naya.pdx.org
✓ David McKenzie	PCC VLT	david.t.mckenzie@gmail.com
✓ Nathan Teske	Hacienda CDC	nteske@haciendacdc.org
✓ Laura Young	Cully Assoc. Neighbors	laura.young41@hotmail.com
✓ EVANS MARTIN	Cully Association of Neighbors	evans7martin@gmail.com
ANNE ROTHERT ANNE ROTHERT	Concordia NA Childcare Improvement Concordia CCIP project	arothert@gmail.com
✓ GARY WITHERS	Concordia University	gwithers@ecu-portland.edu
✓ Anya Holcomb	Mosaic Church	aholcomb@mosaicportland.org
✓ Kristie Cunin	Rigler School	kcunin@pps.net
✓ TONY DEFALCO	VERDE	TONYDEFALCO@yahoo.com
✓ Warren Fish	Mult County-Chair Cogen's Office	

December 15, 2011

To the Members of the Portland City Council:

My name is Anya Holcomb and I am a resident of the Cully neighborhood as well as a pastor at Mosaic Church in NE Portland. One goal of the Cully-Concordia Action Plan (4.C) is to build connections with faith communities and explore partnerships between churches and schools. Over the past few years, I have witnessed the immense value of faith communities working alongside other organizations through partnerships Mosaic Church has developed with schools, churches, and non-profit organizations in the Cully neighborhood.

Examples of two such partnerships include Mosaic's relationship with Harvey Scott School and the Northeast Emergency Food Program. Recent outcomes of the Mosaic/Harvey Scott partnership include:

- Mosaic care for Harvey Scott staff through a complete remodel of the staff lounge, and monthly staff appreciation gifts.
- Mosaic support for students through classroom volunteers, and a "Kindness Revolution" program designed to teach kindness, respect and positive leadership skills.
- Ongoing schoolyard maintenance and beautification.
- An annual Holiday Craft fair for Harvey Scott families.

Mosaic partners with the Northeast Emergency Food Program (NEFP), located in the heart of Cully, by contributing food and volunteer hours. Mosaic is also collaborating with NEFP to develop a program called Land Into Food & Employment. The goal of this program is to use undeveloped land in Cully to offer sustainable, organic food options while providing jobs within the neighborhood.

Last week, Mosaic and NEFP facilitated the provision of 30 food boxes to Harvey Scott for families in need this holiday season.

Moving forward, Mosaic plans to continue our role of forming partnerships that address community needs in Cully. We envision:

- A mentoring program that provides Cully children with access to trustworthy, caring mentors.
- Being a resource to other faith communities who desire to establish partnerships with Cully schools.
- Supporting the Neighborhood Prosperity Initiative's Cully Blvd. main street development. We are thrilled that Cully was chosen! Thank you to everyone from the City who played a role in this.
- Partnering with Cully neighbors to support the replacement of the Town Plaza and its sex-industry establishments (located at NE Cully and Killingsworth) with establishments that will promote neighborhood health and livability. The owners of the Town Plaza are currently under federal investigation for money laundering and widespread prostitution operations. A 50-page affidavit documents interviews and eye-witness accounts of illegal acts that regularly occur within these establishments. The Harvey Scott principal stated that middle school girls have been propositioned as they wait at the school bus stop directly across the street. Multiple sources, including neighbors, non-profit organizations, law enforcement and schools, have expressed a desire to see this business replaced by an establishment that will bring a positive presence to Cully.

In closing, our hope is that Mosaic's example of community partnership and collaboration can serve as a model for faith-based work in the Cully neighborhood as we continue to carry out the Cully-Concordia Action plan for the good of our neighborhoods and our city.

Sincerely,

Anya Holcomb
Associate Pastor, Mosaic Church
aholcomb@mosaicportland.org



Early Childhood Council

421 SW Oak, Suite 200

Portland, OR 97204

503.988.4502/fax: 503.988.3982

www.ourcommission.org/ecc

December 7, 2011

Portland City Council
1221 SW 4th Avenue
Portland, OR 97204

Dear Council Members:

We are writing you on behalf to the Early Care & Education Committee of the Early Childhood Council of Multnomah County regarding the Cully Concordia Early Childhood Needs Assessment conducted by the Bureau of Planning and Sustainability in partnership with many members of the Cully and Concordia neighborhoods.

The Early Childhood Council commends the City for supporting the development of this report. We believe that this is a hallmark document that should be replicated in neighborhoods throughout the City. Planning for the future of Portland must include identifying those opportunities for investment in our youngest citizens and their families.

One of the recommendations of this report is that the Early Childhood Council uses its committee structure to help to expand availability, eligibility, capacity and affordability of preschool and child care programs in the area and to identify and create indicators to evaluate future progress.

The Early Care & Education Committee of the Early Childhood Council has taken on this charge and begun to identify areas that they might be able to catalyze implementation of the recommendations that have come forth from this community.

We look forward to future opportunities to support the City's efforts in identifying and addressing the needs of its youngest citizens.

Thank you very much,

Debbie Buta,
Co-chair
Early Care & Education Committee

Rachel Altmann
Co-chair
Early Care & Education Committee