



# West Side Community Organization

*Celebrating 50 years of community power*



Dear Julia,

At WSCO, we know that building community power is work that spans generations, and that to sustain this important work, we must also take time to invest in our wellbeing. We are proud to share that after many years of tireless organizing, our Executive Director Monica Bravo is embarking on a well-deserved sabbatical through the end of September of this year.

Community members Joy Sorensen Navarre and Ned Moore are stepping up as interim co-Executive Directors for the summer, with additional support from Malik Holt-Shabazz.

“Monica’s leadership of WSCO has been steadfast, transformative and powerful. It is so important for leaders to take the time to reflect, recharge and renew in order to come back with a fresh perspective. I’m grateful to Monica for setting this example for other movement leaders, and grateful to WSCO for being supportive of this sabbatical time for her.” – Ned Moore, Interim Co-Executive Director at WSCO

[Click here](#) to read more from Joy and Ned about this exciting time for the organization and the community!

Our staff and board will continue with all activities as planned. Stay up to date by checking out our [events calendar](#) and [blog](#), and follow @wscnonow on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#); [click here](#) if you’d like to connect directly with our team members.

In community,

The Team at WSCO

*Pictured above: Monica Bravo, Executive Director (second from right) celebrates Juneteenth with WSCO staff Linda Vang and Mayra Avila and board member Dell Paulsen*



## Colibri Arts & Culture Market

We're co-hosting an art market in Saint Paul's Union Depot on September 24th from 1:00 - 5:00 p.m. [RSVP](#)

[Click here](#) if you'd like to sell your artwork!

## Festival of Rights

Our neighborhood's Beautiful Laundrette is hosting a West Side Festival of Rights on August 20th! WSCO is proud to support this event and we hope to see you there.

[RSVP](#)

## West Side Voices Forum

The next Voices Forum will be held on Tuesday, September 12th, at 6:00 p.m. West Side location and meeting agenda to be announced soon.

[RSVP](#)

## West Side Tenant Union

Calling all West Side renters! Join us for our monthly West Side Tenant Union meeting on August 23. If you rent in 55107, you're invited to connect with neighbors, build power, learn about your rights, and work together for housing justice.

[RSVP](#)

## Land Use Action Circle

Block by block, building by building, decisions are made everyday about our neighborhood. The Land Use Action Circle meets on the fourth Wednesday of every month to plan and solve problems related to the built environment of our community.

[RSVP](#)

[Check out all WSCO events](#)



## Thank you, neighbors!

Thanks to all who joined us at our Southport Block Party and at National Night Out! We know that a connected community is a safe community, and we love building relationships with our neighbors. Are you interested in organizing with us? Contact our Programs and Organizing Manager, Katrina Mendoza, at [katrinam@wSCO.org](mailto:katrinam@wSCO.org)!

*Pictured above, back row, from left: WSCO staff Mayra Avila, Kai Andersen, Joshua Toor, Ellie Leonardsmith, and intern Khalil Williams; front row: GAP interns Izzy and Alex; West Side Tenant Union members Jess and Lucid; Interim Co-Executive Director Ned Moore and Programs and Organizing Manager Katrina Mendoza.*



## Community Announcements

**Run for WSCO's board:** Have you been waiting for the chance to step up for the West Side? This is your sign! [Apply today](#) to run for our board of directors. You'll be joining a talented team of neighborhood leaders who help guide our organization as we continue to build power within the community.

**Volunteers needed** for WSCO's annual meeting! Interested in learning more? Contact us at [info@wSCO.org](mailto:info@wSCO.org).

**Call for Artists**– Sell your work at Colibri Arts and Culture Market <https://www.wSCO.org/colibriartscall>

**Public art opportunity on the West Side:** interested in creating a permanent public art piece at Robert and Plato Street? Reach out by August 20th! [Learn more](#)

**Free Farm Stand:** At Parque Castillo every Sunday from 4:00 - 6:00 p.m., and Beautiful Laundrette Wednesdays from 4:00 - 6:00 p.m

[Check out our blog](#)



## Let's celebrate!

This year, we are celebrating an incredible milestone here on the West Side: 50 years of building collective power and advancing justice and racial equity in our neighborhood.

Join us Sunday, November 5th, 2023, at 1:00 p.m. at Humboldt High School for our Anniversary Celebration! [RSVP here](#).

## Connect with us!

