

# redeemer center for life

## INCLUSIVE DEVELOPMENT NORTH MINNEAPOLIS

### Reimagining Comes From Love

*RCFL 2021 Gala on Saturday, September 25*

The RCFL 2021 Virtual Gala culminated in a night of community, celebration, and investment in the future of our programming. Our theme, **Reimagining Comes From Love**, reflects the path forward as we hone in on our work towards transformational change. We unveiled a new mission statement, vision, and values, new programming through PACE and Empowering Adults, and heard from amazing program participants. Together we celebrated 23 years of inclusive development work in the Harrison neighborhood.

Thank you to our supportive community, partners, and donors for believing in our mission. Your support sustains and makes our work possible. **We raised over \$100,000!**



*Housing resident, Manny, speaking in the Gala program*

[Watch the Gala Program Here!](#)



Bex  
Thank you so much to our amazing donors!

Menzi  
The Coven, and Healing Touch items awaits your bid... Anyone with me?

Emma  
yes! Go black women in leadership 🙌

Cheryl  
So good to be here. Grateful for the important work being done on the Northside! Cheryl & Jonathan

David  
A long history of meaningful/relational/intentional engagement in the Harrison neighborhood. Developing leaders for today and for the future!



GIF



Type a message here...

*Chat box during the Gala Event*

# Venture North

## New hours + New Employees

In July and August, we welcomed four new staff members aboard our team. Kiesha is our Youth Development Coordinator. She will be helping Stacey with coordinating the PACE program and overall management of Venture North. Calvin and Alex are our fantastic bike mechanics. Lastly, Donte is both a barista and bike mechanic. We are thrilled to have them on the Venture North team. Stop by the shop to have a cup of coffee, get your bike repaired, and meet our wonderful staff!

Coffee Shop Hours: 8AM - 3PM Tues-Sat

Bike Shop Hours: 10AM - 3PM Tues-Sat

### Available Bike Services

- Tires
- Breaks
- Tune Ups
- Safety tunes
- Seat adjustment
- Handle Bar adjustment
- Rear wheel and chain adjustment
- Minor break and shift adjustment



*With the weather getting colder come enjoy a warm beverage, like this lavender latte*

[Coffee Menu Here!](#)

*"I look forward to learning and growing with the Harrison community and I hope that we can create new ways to serve North Minneapolis."*

- Kiesha  
Youth Development Coordinator

*New Venture North Staff: (Top to bottom)  
Kiesha, Calvin, Alex, Donte*







## PACE

### *Program to Launch in October!*

This October, our Chief Youth Development Officer, Stacey, will launch PACE: an 8+ week program designed for urban young adults who desire to develop the necessary skills to shift from seeking a job to building a career. Other programs focus on job training and placement, whereas the PACE program invests in building critical soft skills that support sustainable and satisfying careers.

*"The PACE Program is an important piece of how we strengthen communities through empowerment. We encourage our participants to become career-minded through dreaming big, setting goals, and building the skills to get there."*

- Stacey  
Chief Youth Development Officer

To learn more about PACE, visit our website and email Stacey for more information!  
[www.redeemercenter.org/pace](http://www.redeemercenter.org/pace)  
[stacey@redeemercenter.org](mailto:stacey@redeemercenter.org)

## SunPedal Ride

### *24 Mile Group Ride*

On Monday, September 27th, Venture North partnered with the Radisson Hotel Group in a community bike ride to rally behind Sushil Reddy, a sustainability advocate and founder of **The SunPedal Ride**. Riding on a solar-powered bike, Shushil is traveling 6,000-miles to educate communities on sustainability and renewable energy across the country.

Venture North was a part of a 24-mile community bike ride from Radisson Blu Hotel in Bloomington to Radisson's corporate headquarters in Minnetonka. We provided coffee, treats, and a bike-drive for those to donate bikes, which will go to people in our community.



*Sushil Reddy (far right), with his solar powered bike.*



*Donte (far left) and Stacey (far right) with General Manager for Country Inn & Suites Bloomington at MOA, Jodie Grannes*



# 16-Plex Apartment Building

## *Beautifying our Building*



*New window in 16-plex apartment*

Throughout the summer and fall, our housing program has focused on renovating our 16-unit apartment building, the 16-plex. Specifically, we have updated two apartments since July with a fresh coat of paint, new carpet and wood flooring, new door locks and windows. Work will begin on a third apartment in October.

Under the direction of Kevin, RCFL's catalyst, these renovations are improving the livability and safety for our tenants.

Our transformational housing makes long-lasting, positive change in the lives of our tenants. We aim to help them achieve a sustainable lifestyle, affordable rent, and the opportunity to thrive in a supportive environment.



*16-plex apartment building*



*New wood flooring in 16-plex apartment*



*New carpet and fresh paint in 16-plex apartment*



# Empowering Adults 2.0

## *Pilot Program Beginning in October*

We are thrilled to announce our Empowering Adults Program launches this October! Under the leadership of our Catalyst, Kevin, **five participants will undergo a 16-week program aimed at creating a sustainable and meaningful path forward out of crisis and into financial sustainability and the opportunity to achieve their career and personal goals.** Each participant is paired with two Life Advocates--a volunteer trained in coaching, cultural awareness, trauma awareness, and personal engagement--to help guide them through the three phases of the program.

**The first phase is self discovery,** where the two Life Advocates help find the participant's talents, gifts, and passions. This personal assessment provides a direction and basis for developing short-term goals.

**The second phase is creating short-term goals.** Taking the findings from phase one, participants create goals that can be completed in 6-18 months. These goals focus on developing the necessary skills to create to a sustainable and stable lifestyle.

**The third and final phase is execution.** This step brings the short-term goals to fruition. Participants leave the program with a plan in hand to change the trajectory of their life. Whether their goals are going back to school, changing careers or building a more sustainable life, our participants demonstrate a commitment and willingness to change their lives.

*"Everyone has a purpose. Your support helps our participants discover their plan, breakthrough doubt and obstacles, and bring it to life."*

-Kevin  
Catalyst



To learn more about Empowering Adults, become a Life Advocate, and support this program, you may contact RCFL's Catalyst, Kevin.  
Email: [kevin@redeemercenter.org](mailto:kevin@redeemercenter.org)  
Visit our website for more info!  
[www.redeemercenter.org/empoweringadults](http://www.redeemercenter.org/empoweringadults)

# Youth N' Power

This summer, our youth program, in partnership with Minnesota Interfaith Power and Light, Youth N' Power, was a three-month internship focused on Environmental Justice. Our interns learned about sustainability and global climate, while gaining skills for a successful future.

They hosted events including a water day, game day, and Environmental Fair at Gandhi Mahal where the interns showcased all they have learned this summer.



*Water Day at Redeemer's backyard*



*Youth Interns at Gandhi Mahal Environmental Justice Fair*



*Youth Interns in South Minneapolis*

## Meet our New Staff Members!

### *Gene and Claire*

In August, we welcomed two new staff members to the RCFL team! Gene joins us as the Chief Financial and Operations Officer. Gene was excited to join the talented staff at Redeemer Center for Life. He brings 30+ years of experience in finance, accounting, operations, fund raising, business development, consulting and more. Gene is currently the pastor of two congregations and is active in prison ministry work.

Claire joins us as the new Lutheran Volunteer Corps Volunteer. During her eleven months with RCFL, Claire will be assisting with donor development and helping out at Venture North as a Barista. Originally from St. Paul, MN, Claire recently earned a BA in Sociology and Spanish from Willamette University in Salem, Oregon.

She has worked for many environmental justice causes and cares deeply about grounding her non-profit and electoral work in anti-racism and anti-white supremacy values. She's excited to be back in the Twin Cities and is looking forward to spending more time in North Minneapolis in the year ahead with RCFL!



*RCFL's Chief Financial & Operations Officer, Gene*



*RCFL's LVCer, Claire*



# Health Commons

## *A Taste of African Heritage*

The Health Commons partnered with North Market and University of MN Extension Nutrition Services to host an online cooking class called A Taste of African Heritage, for 6 weeks on Tuesdays 4-5:30pm on Zoom in August - September. Eight community members participated in the class, facilitated by a nutrition educator from UMN Extension Nutrition Services. Health Commons collaborated with North Market to purchase groceries for the class participants. Participants received recipe ingredients and were able to cook along with the instructor online after a nutrition education lesson for each class. Participants enjoyed the class and are eager to continue more online cooking classes!

## Upcoming Events and More

### *Volunteer with Us!*

[Fill out this form](#) to volunteer with us for upcoming events and other ways to stay involved.

### *Garden Work Days*

Join us every Sunday (weather dependent) from 1-4 PM in Redeemer's community garden. We will be tending the garden until the first frost. After which, the garden will be put to bed.

### *Health Commons Happenings*

#### **Zumba**

Thursday 6-7PM with Rhonda on Zoom

**Contact the Health Commons  
on their Facebook page  
'[Health Commons at the Living  
Room](#)'**

### *Give to the Max*

Mark your calendars for Give to the Max Day happening **Thursday, November 18th!** Watch our social media for more info.

