



**NEIGHBOR  
2 NEIGHBOR**  
Great Neighborhoods Don't Happen By Accident

Neighbor 2 Neighbor  
P.O. Box 100941  
Nashville, TN 37224

Monday, February 4, 2018

Metropolitan Government of Nashville and Davidson County  
Department of Finance  
Talia Lomax-O'dneal, Director of Finance  
P.O. Box 196300  
Nashville, TN 37219-6300

Dear Ms. Lomax-O'dneal,

We are writing to request direct appropriations funding in the amount of \$95,000 for fiscal year 2020. This funding would increase the number of neighborhoods that we are able to serve and allow for the expansion of our services and programs to local residents and neighborhood organizations.

In response to the Mayor's call for proposals, we are submitting this proposal that has been prepared according to your guidelines.

Thank you for your time and consideration. I look forward to hearing from you.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J Hawk".

Jim Hawk  
Executive Director

cc: Dennise Meyers  
Vaughn Wilson

## **NEIGHBOR 2 NEIGHBOR**

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### **1. What services does your organization provide to the residents of Davidson County**

Since 1997, Neighbor 2 Neighbor (N2N) has equipped residents and neighborhood organizations with the tools they need to create safer and more vibrant neighborhoods. N2N has helped local residents successfully organize around issues such as crime reduction and public safety, urban blight, green spaces and places to play, diversity and inclusion, neighborhood identity and development, gentrification and displacement, and a wide range of other issues.

#### **A. Training and Mentoring**

We offer neighborhood leadership training and mentoring services to residents and neighborhood organizations at all levels of development. Our annual Conference for Neighborhoods (c4n Nashville) is a one-day training and networking opportunity for anybody who wants to make a difference in their neighborhood. The Neighborhood Leadership Certificate Program provides the next level of learning for individuals seeking to amplify their impact. These certificates are designed around key areas necessary for a neighborhood organization's success. The first certificate, launched in 2018, is Neighborhood Organizing Essentials. Additional certificates scheduled for release are Effective Resident Engagement, Neighborhood Strategic Planning, Governance, and Meeting Facilitation. We offer neighborhood organizations the option of N2N staff coming to their neighborhoods to provide customized Neighborhood-Based Training Events. Additionally, our Leadership Development Specialist and Executive Director meet regularly with individual neighborhood leaders to advise and train for more effective service.

#### **B. Networking**

We create interactive events for residents and neighborhood leaders to develop relationships with other neighborhood leaders, stakeholders, and potential partners. Our Quarterly Leadership Gatherings offer neighborhood leaders the opportunity to meet one another, discuss common neighborhood issues, and hear from key partners. The Business Partner Lunch and Learns provide a venue for our partners to explore what's happening in Nashville's neighborhoods and what can be done to help them flourish. Our annual Good Neighbor Day Festival, with over 3,500 participants, inspires residents from across the metropolitan area to be better neighbors and become more engaged in making their neighborhoods safer and more vibrant places to live.

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### **C. Consultation**

We are frequently contacted by local neighborhood leaders to work with residents on a wide range of neighborhood issues. We are currently working with local residents in five neighborhoods to formally establish neighborhood associations. This past spring, South Nashville residents contacted us to facilitate a community meeting over a contentious issue impacting multiple neighborhoods. Over the summer we facilitated the development of a strategic plan for one well-established neighborhood organization. In late summer, we began facilitating a think tank that includes 28 neighborhood and community leaders, from across the metropolitan area, working to help develop solutions for the metro planning and zoning process.

### **2. How many residents are you currently serving and how do they benefit?**

Neighbor 2 Neighbor works with over 55 neighborhood organizations operating across Davidson County, representing approximately 38,500 households (96,250 residents).

Residents and neighborhood organizations who utilize our services report the following community benefits:

1. More robust neighborhood organizations
2. Empowered capable leaders
3. Connected and engaged residents
4. Stronger sense of neighborhood identity and connectedness to the larger city
5. Safer and more vibrant neighborhoods

### **3. How much funding are you requesting from Metro?**

We are requesting \$95,000 from Metro Government.

### **4. If funding is awarded, how many additional residents will be served and how will they benefit?**

Metro funding will provide Neighbor 2 Neighbor with the capacity to serve 5-7 new neighborhoods.

This represents an increased impact on 3,500-4,900 additional households (8,750-12,250 residents).

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More importantly, in addition to serving more households, the breadth and depth of our services and programs will be greatly increased to include the following:

- A new certificate program that will help residents more effectively engage in the Metro planning and zoning process. This new course, developed in consultation with eight Metro departments and agencies, neighborhood and community leaders, and local developers will dramatically improve the decision-making processes that are happening across the metropolitan area relative to development.
- The Healthy Neighborhood Food Initiative will assist local neighborhoods existing within food deserts to develop neighborhood-based solutions to food insecurity and poor nutrition.
- Leadership development for volunteer leaders serving on Homeowners Association boards and committees.

### **5. In addition to serving more residents, are there other community benefits Metro funding would help you achieve?**

We are working to create a stronger partnership between the Mayor's Office of Neighborhoods & Community Engagement and other Metro departments for the purpose of giving residents a stronger and more informed say about how government serves their local neighborhood.

There are multiple ways that organizations can work with the Metro Government to ensure the resilience and success of our city. Our city directly benefits from the work we do in the following areas:

- Empowerment of a broad range of community stakeholders
- Effective leadership development at the grassroots level
- Promotion of cohesive and engaged communities

The results of our work include increased capacity and coordination, better decision-making and leadership, collaboration and empowerment, multi-stakeholder alignment, knowledge transfer, communication between government and public, social support and cohesion, local identity and culture, and community participation.

When Metro supports N2N, it helps make Nashville's neighborhoods better places to live, work, and play. It helps make Nashville stronger, better connected, and more vibrant.

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### **6. How would you use this funding to help create a more equitable Nashville, where all residents have an opportunity to participate in the city's success?**

*"We envision a city of connected communities where residents know their neighbors and work together to preserve and improve their neighborhoods."* ~ N2N Vision Statement

From the very beginning, N2N has worked to create a more equitable Nashville, where all of our neighborhoods are valued and have the opportunity to thrive. Working primarily in lower and middle-income neighborhoods throughout Davidson county, N2N has helped local residents successfully organize around issues such as crime reduction and public safety, urban blight, green spaces and safe places to play, diversity and inclusion, neighborhood identity and development, gentrification and displacement, and a wide range of other issues.

We will use Metro funding to assist in the formation of new neighborhood associations in lower-income areas where no such organization exists. Working with local residents, we will help empower a broad range of community stakeholders, provide effective leadership development at the grassroots level, and promote cohesive and engaged communities.