

Getting Connected:

How to Find Out About Groups and Organizations in Your Neighborhood

Center for Urban Affairs and Policy Research
Northwestern University
and
Department of Rehabilitation Services
State of Illinois

ABOUT THIS BOOK

This book is a guide to finding out about the organizations and groups people belong to in a city neighborhood. We produced it as part of the Community Life Project, which attempts to bring disabled people — often isolated in a world of social services and institutions — into the everyday life of their communities. While we experimented in a city neighborhood, the methods described here are simple and cheap enough to be used by anyone interested in getting a sense of the rich organizational life beneath the surface of a city neighborhood, small town, or suburb.

The basic information for this book was gathered by Kathy Nakagawa, a Research Fellow with the Center for Urban Affairs and Policy Research. The guide was written by Mary O'Connell, Research Writer for the Community Life Project. John L. McKnight is the project's Principal Investigator. Rosita De La Rosa is the Project Coordinator.

For more information about the Community Life Project, contact:

The Community Life Project
Center for Urban Affairs and Policy Research
Northwestern University
2040 Sheridan Road
Evanston, IL 60208
708-491-3395

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Department of Rehabilitation Services
State of Illinois
623 E. Adams Street
Springfield, IL 62705
217-785-0218

FINDING OUT ABOUT NEIGHBORHOOD GROUPS

A neighborhood is more than just streets and buildings and the people who live there. Underneath the surface is a complex network of connections, of people relating to each other in different ways that make up the "stuff" of community life.

Some residents belong to the same extended family; others work together. Some go to the same church on Sunday mornings; others play softball in the park on Saturday afternoons or bowl on Tuesday nights. Young families organize childcare co-ops; other people form book clubs or bridge groups. There may be local school councils, block clubs, historical societies, theater groups, gardening clubs, Alcoholics Anonymous meetings, and a thousand other groups. Formality ranges from three neighbors meeting over coffee to plan a block party, to a full-fledged community meeting with gavels and microphones and *Robert's Rules of Order*.

How can you find out what groups and associations exist in your neighborhood? That's the purpose of this book.

We set out to identify as many groups as possible that people belong to within one Chicago neighborhood.* We wanted a way that was simple, inexpensive, quick, and productive.

This book outlines how we proceeded and what we learned. We found three ways that worked:

- ☐ using newspapers, directories, and other printed sources;
- ☐ talking to people at local institutions — such as parks and churches; and
- ☐ conducting a telephone survey of a sample of local residents.

In Appendix 1, we list all the different groups we identified in one neighborhood after using these three methods.

* We worked in an older Chicago neighborhood, measuring approximately 24 square blocks and housing 85,000 people; a neighborhood rich in diverse ethnic and socioeconomic groups.

GETTING STARTED: USING PRINTED SOURCES

NEWSPAPERS AND MAGAZINES

If you came to an area and knew nothing about it, a simple way to find out something fast is to look through the local newspaper. Community newspapers vary in size from mimeographed monthlies to sophisticated full-size papers published once or twice a week. Almost all cater to local readers by publishing community calendars, announcements, and news about local organizations.

We reviewed four consecutive issues of the weekly community newspaper published for the neighborhood we were studying. We circled any mention of events, clubs, meetings, sports, and recreational groups, and anything else people could join. This effort yielded 25 groups; time expended was relatively small (1/2 hour per issue).

We also reviewed the Sunday arts section of a citywide paper, the *Chicago Tribune*, which included information on events and cultural groups around the city. While not targeted to the neighborhood, this listing did give some additional groups in which local people might be involved.

Another useful resource was the citywide monthly magazine, *Chicago*. The magazine publishes a quarterly "Involvement" section listing volunteer and self-help programs in various areas around the city.

Special-purpose newspapers — published by a local political party, community organization, environmental group, or church group — can also be helpful.

DIRECTORIES

Often someone has already published a listing of the community's organizations, and you can shorten your work by using it. Such directories may be published by the community newspaper; the alderperson's office (or other local political leaders); the public library; United Way (we used a citywide directory, but it identified local groups); churches; and community organizations.

Other information is available in more general directories:

THE PHONE BOOK. In the yellow pages, check the listings under Associations and Organizations, Fraternities. In the white pages, look under the name of the neighborhood (e.g., Rogers Park Historical Society, Chatham Businessmen's Association); or, if you know what ethnic groups predominate in the neighborhood, you can look under that name (e.g., Polish-American Congress) to see if there's a local branch.

ENCYCLOPEDIA OF ASSOCIATIONS (published by the Gale Research Company, Book Tower, Detroit MI 48226) is usually available in public libraries. The newly published Regional Editions, which list regional, state, and local organizations, can be most helpful.

SELF-HELP DIRECTORIES. Hospitals often publish lists of self-help groups (for new mothers, widows or widowers, people who've had various operations or chronic diseases, families of Alzheimer's victims, etc.). *Directory of Self-Help Mutual Aid Groups in Illinois* (published by The Self-Help Center, Evanston, IL) lists a broad range of self-help groups operating in Illinois, including art and poetry groups, women's groups, and the like.

CONTACTING LOCAL INSTITUTIONS

LIBRARIES

A good way to track down local groups is to go to the places where they meet. From our newspaper search, for example, we discovered that many groups met at the local library. We contacted the librarian and obtained information about groups meeting there as well as the library's self-published directory of local organizations.

PARKS AND RECREATIONAL FACILITIES

Another popular meeting place is the local park. Not only recreational groups, but other general purpose groups — community organizations and local school councils — often use park facilities for meetings. Calls to local park directors yielded information on groups that met there; some park directors sent along detailed listings.

Other recreational sites might also provide information; for example, a call or visit to local bowling alleys should produce information about leagues or other groups that use the lanes.

CHURCHES

By far the most important meeting places in many neighborhoods are local religious institutions. Churches, mosques, and synagogues not only provide meeting space for outside groups like Alcoholics Anonymous, but they also organize their own membership in a variety of ways (women's groups, youth groups, etc.). For a good many people, their only formal membership is in or through their church.

For this reason, we decided to make a special effort to identify church-related organizations by obtaining a list of neighborhood churches from a local community organization; similar lists can also be obtained from local hotels or hospitals.

We began with a letter to the local churches (see sample in Appendix 2) explaining what we were trying to find out and why we thought it would be useful. Along with the letter we included a list (see Associational Map in Appendix 3) of different types of organizations.

We followed this up with phone calls to the pastor or other staff member. Sometimes, the pastor simply went through the list; others had forgotten (or not received) the list, but willingly provided information anyway.

We asked:

1. What groups does the church sponsor? (If necessary, we added a prompting question, e.g.: What about Bible study?) Is the purpose of this group social, spiritual, or recreational? How often does it meet? Is it open to anyone in the community, or only church members?
2. What [other neighborhood] groups use the church as a meeting place? (We often added a prompt, e.g.: What about block clubs?)
3. How else is the church used by the community? (We usually added a prompt, e.g.: How about informal classes in aerobics or photography?)

We received cooperation from the pastors we spoke to, but there were also many whom we were never able to reach by phone. We sent those pastors a follow-up letter with a list of organizations (Appendix 4, Part 1 and Part 2) and a form (Appendix 5) to fill out identifying groups sponsored by or meeting at the church, with information about each. Several additional pastors provided information in this way.

Many pastors were interested in what we were doing and asked for a copy of the finished product, which we promised to provide. We sent every pastor a second follow-up letter giving them an opportunity to review the information about their church before we published it (see Appendix 6).

Church contacts were extremely helpful. From them, we obtained the names of 340 church-sponsored groups and an additional 110 groups using churches as a meeting place, for a total of 450 groups from the 43 responding churches. Appendix 7 indicates the kind of information we received from individual churches. Appendix 1 identifies which groups in our total neighborhood list were provided through church contacts.

CONTACTING INDIVIDUALS

The most obvious way to find out which groups people belong to is to ask them. But this is harder than reading newspapers or asking the local clergyman or librarian. You have to identify which people to survey, find an efficient way to contact them, and ask the right questions so that people will cooperate without feeling their privacy is being compromised.

We asked the local neighborhood organization to identify residential blocks they considered "typical" of the neighborhood: where different ethnic groups and income levels were represented. From these, we chose three streets — six blocks in all — that had a mix of housing types.

We consulted the Chicago-area *Criss-Cross Directory* (published by Haines, Schaumburg, IL). This directory provides names and phone numbers corresponding to street addresses. Thus, if you have addresses for the buildings on a given block, you can find the names and phone numbers of the people who live there. If you need to find the publisher of a criss-cross directory for your area, you may contact Haines and Company, 8050 Freedom Avenue, N.W., North Canton, Ohio, 44720, telephone (216) 494-9111.

We sent letters (Appendix 8) to each resident of the chosen blocks. We explained the project and enclosed The Associational Map (Appendix 3) suggesting different kinds of associations they might know about.

Within a week, we followed up the letters with phone calls. Aware that some people might be suspicious of being asked what groups they belong to, we stated immediately that we were working under the auspices of a university-sponsored project. You may want to identify your research with some respected local institution or organization.

We began each phone call by saying:

Hi, my name is _____ and I'm with the Center for Urban Affairs and Policy Research at Northwestern University. Did you receive our letter? I'm interested in any clubs and organizations you've heard of, participated in, or are a member of.

We also called some people "cold" (without sending the letter first), saying:

Hi, my name is _____ and I'm with the Center for Urban Affairs and Policy Research at Northwestern University. We're conducting a very brief survey on clubs and organizations in your neighborhood. We don't need your name, we're only interested in the names of clubs and groups you know. Would you be able to answer the questions now?

We quickly learned it was too tedious to go through our list asking about each kind of organization individually. Instead, we learned to ask a few open-ended questions:

1. Can you name any groups you've heard of or participated in? Does it meet in your neighborhood?
2. Is there a local neighborhood organization in your area? What about a block club?
3. Is there any church or religious organization you're involved with? If yes, within the church, are there any other groups or clubs that you're a part of?
4. Are there any other special interest groups that you or people in your family are in — such as women's or men's groups, veterans organizations, artistic clubs, or other clubs?
5. Are there any things you do for relaxation or recreation in the area?
6. What about informal groups? Do you get together or associate with your neighbors?
7. How else do you feel a part of the community? How else do you get involved in your neighborhood?

Not everyone is willing to answer such questions (we found that it didn't make much difference whether people had received the letter first or not). Some people didn't speak English; some we were never able to reach; and others

were willing to talk but said they were not members of any organizations. Those who were cooperative and said they did belong to different groups provided us with the names of 100 different organizations (as well as 49 repeats). This worked out to an average of 10 organizations per hour spent making phone calls. The information is summarized in the table in Appendix 9.

Of course, some of this information overlapped. Many people, for example, mentioned church groups of which we were already aware. But the calls gave us a good general idea of the neighborhood and how involved its residents were. We also found two or three people on each block who were exceptionally well-connected to local groups and organizations, and who could clearly serve as an informal guide to their neighborhood.

Appendix 1 lists organizations we identified by this method with the word *phone* after the group's name.

CONCLUSION

Using the methods we've described here, we were able to identify 575 groups organized in the neighborhood or that neighborhood residents belonged to.

In the course of the research, we also identified 121 groups in the wider Chicago area. They are listed in Appendix 10, along with a key showing which method resulted in our identifying each group. These groups outside the neighborhood provide potentially useful contacts for people with special interests that are not geographically limited.

The most productive method for us was contacting local leaders, like church pastors or librarians. These people were generally cooperative and were able to provide a good deal of very useful information about neighborhood groups.

The other two methods also provided useful (though more general) information for a relatively small expenditure of time.

We were studying a city neighborhood, and our conclusions are drawn from that urban area. In a different type of community — a small town or suburb, for example — the conclusions might be different; churches might be a less important source of information than, say, the local newspaper.

Not reflected in the tables was the *wealth* of information we learned, especially from personal calls and conversations with pastors. For example, several church leaders spoke of strong church membership in earlier years, which had dwindled when new ethnic groups moved into the neighborhood. Other people mentioned that because most parents are employed, there is less time available for community involvement. We also came across some people who are clearly very involved in the neighborhood and who would be excellent contacts for getting acquainted with other local residents.

APPENDIX 1

LOGAN SQUARE NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATIONS (IDENTIFIED FROM LOCAL RESOURCES)

KEY:

book = phone book
church = church responses
word = discussions with neighborhood leaders
sulzer = Sulzer Library Directory of Associations
paper = *Logan Square Times* newspaper
local = local community newspapers
phone = phone calls to neighborhoods

32ND WARD ADVISORY COUNCIL (sulzer)
32ND WARD CRIME COMMITTEE (sulzer)
32ND WARD DEMOCRATIC PARTY (sulzer)
32ND WARD REPUBLICAN PARTY (sulzer)
33RD WARD DEMOCRATIC PARTY (sulzer)
40TH WARD REPUBLICAN COMMITTEE (sulzer)
3600 W. DICKENS BLOCK CLUB (word)
ACT NOW: neighborhood group (church)
ACTION CLUB: neighborhood food to senior citizens (church)
AIRCRAFT OWNERS AND PILOTS ASSOCIATION (phone)
AL-ANON (church)
ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS (phone)
ALL PEOPLE'S CONGRESS (book)
ALTAR AND ROSARY SOCIETY (church)
AMERICAN LEGION FDR POST #923 (book)
AMERICAN LEGION LAFAYETTE POST #159 (book)
AMERICAN LEGION (SKOKIE POST) (phone)
AMERICAN SOCIETY OF CIVIL ENGINEERS (phone)
AMISTAD SPANISH-SPEAKING YOUTH (church)
ANGLERS (word)
ANIN ART PUPPET THEATER (local)
ANTIOCH PROJECT: coalition to improve the neighborhood (church)
ART THERAPY GROUP (phone)
ARTISTS COALITION (phone)
ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION (church)
AUTOHARP LESSONS (church)
AVONDALE COMMUNITY CENTER (local)
AVONDALE COMMUNITY TOGETHER IN OUR NEIGHBORHOOD (word)
BASEBALL: through work (phone)
BLOCK CLUB (phone)
BOY SCOUTS (CUB SCOUTS) OF AMERICA (phone)
BOY'S CLUB (phone)
BROTHERHOOD (church)

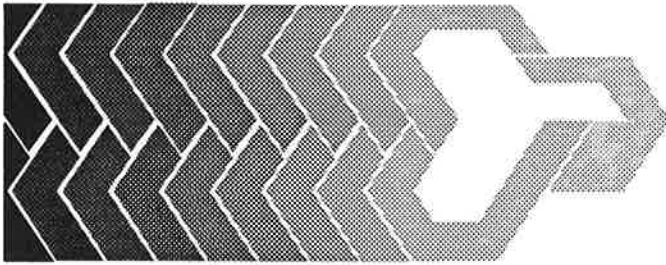
CBS SENIOR CITIZENS GROUP (church)
CADETS (church)
CAMERA CLUB (church)
CAMPBELL BLOCK CLUB (phone)
CAMPING/FISHING CLUB (church)
CASA CENTRAL (book)
CATHOLIC CHARITIES: mother/child program (church)
CENTER FOR COMMUNITY AND LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT (word)
CENTRO PARA DES ARROLLO (church)
CENTRO UNIDAD LATINA (sulzer)
CHARISMATIC PRAYER GROUP (church)
CHICAGO COMMONS ASSOCIATION (word)
CHICAGO CULTURAL COLLABORATIVE (phone)
CHICAGO NORTH NEIGHBORHOOD ARTISTS (phone)
CHICAGO PUBLICITY GROUP (phone)
CHINA/BURMA/INDIA ORGANIZATION (phone)
CHRISTIAN THEATER COMPANY (paper)
CHRISTIANS IN ACTION: Spanish social group (church)
CHURCH OF LATTER DAY SAINTS (phone)
COCAINE ANONYMOUS (church)
COMMUNITY SERVICE THRIFT SHOP (church)
COMMUNITY IN SOLIDARITY WITH PEOPLE OF EL SALVADOR (CISPES) (word)
COMPUTER CLUB: also called the MS-DOS GROUP (church)
COPERNICUS CENTER (phone)
CRETAN FRATERNITY OF CHICAGO (book)
CRIME PREVENTION (phone)
CS&A (phone)
DAISYS: kids group (church)
DAMEN AVENUE REVITALIZATION EFFORT (DARE) (word)
DANISH ROSARY GROUP (church)
DARTBALL: baseball on dartboard (church)
DAUGHTERS OF MERCY (church)
DAUGHTERS OF MARY (church)
DEMOCRAT CLUB (phone)
DISTRICT COUNCIL (phone)
DULCINEA (word)
EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTER (church)
EMOTIONS ANONYMOUS: self-help group (church)
ENOW TUTORING (phone)
EQUAL RIGHTS CONGRESS (book)
FAMILIAS HISPANAS: family group (church)
FAMILY CAMPING GROUP (church)
FIRESIDE BOWLING (book)
FRIENDSHIP CLUB: senior citizens club (church)
FULLERTON AVENUE MERCHANTS ASSOCIATION (church)
FUTURE AVIATION PILOTS OF AMERICA (phone)
GABRIEL RICHARDS: Hispanic public speaking group (church)
GIRL SCOUTS (BROWNIES) OF AMERICA (church)
GOLDEN AMERICANS (local)

GOLDEN AGERS (church)
GOLDEN DINERS CLUB (church)
GREATER NORTH PULASKI DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION (book)
GUADALUPANA SOCIETY (church)
GUADALUPARES (church)
GUARDIAN ANGELS (church)
HABITAT FOR HUMANITY (church)
HEAD START (church)
HEALTH AND FITNESS GROUP FOR FILIPINOS (phone)
HEALTH CLUB (phone)
HERMANAS (church)
HERMANOS (church)
HERMOSA COMMUNITY ORGANIZATION (church)
HERMOSA CRIME PREVENTION ORGANIZATION (church)
HOLY NAME SOCIETY (church)
HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION OF PALMER SQUARE (word)
HUMBOLDT BOULEVARD HOMEOWNERS (church)
INDEPENDENT POLITICAL ORGANIZATION (phone)
INNER CITY IMPACT (church)
INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF POLICE (book)
IRISH THEATER GUILD (paper)
JEFFERSON PARK LIONESS CLUB (word)
JEHOVAH EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH (phone)
JUNIORS (church)
KOSCIUSZKO PARK SENIOR CITIZENS CLUB (phone)
LADIES OF FATIMA (church)
LADIES OF CHARITY (church)
LADY JOSÉ DIEGO PTA (church)
LALECHE LEAGUE (church)
LATIN DRAMA CLUB: Northwest Community Drama Club (local)
LATIN AMERICAN STUDY GROUP (church)
LEAGUE OF AMERICANS OF UKRANIAN DESCENT (book)
LEGION OF MARY (church)
LIFELINE PILOTS (phone)
LOCAL 25 SERVICE EMPLOYEES UNION (phone)
LOCAL 102808 AMERICAN FEDERATION OF MUSICIANS (phone)
LOGAN BOULEVARD ASSOCIATION (local)
LOGAN SQUARE BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB (local)
LOGAN SQUARE LIBRARY (paper)
LOGAN SQUARE LION'S CLUB (word)
LOGAN SQUARE MINISTERIAL ASSOCIATION (church)
LOGAN SQUARE NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION (phone)
LOGAN SQUARE PRESERVATION SOCIETY (church)
LOGAN SQUARE SUMMER OLYMPICS (church)
LOGAN SQUARE YOUTH DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM (church)
LOYOLA ALUMNI CLUB (phone)
LUNCH (church)
LUTHER LEAGUE: youth group (church)
M&M CLUB: for little kids (church)

MAPLE LANES BOWLING (book)
MAPLE AVENUE BLOCK CLUB (church)
MEDIEVAL PLAYERS: performing Medieval plays (church)
MEDILL AVENUE BLOCK CLUB (church)
MILWAUKEE-DIVISION MERCHANTS ASSOCIATION (word)
MISSION COUNCIL #4 OF UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST (church)
MONIUSKO CHOIR (church)
MOODY MEMORIAL (phone)
MOTHER AND CHILD NUTRITION CLASSES (church)
MOTHERS CLUB (church)
MOTHERS JUVENILE PROTECTION ASSOCIATION (church)
NEAR NORTHWEST NEIGHBORHOOD NETWORK (sulzer)
NEIGHBOR TO NEIGHBOR (church)
NEIGHBOR INTER-CITY IMPACT (church)
NEIGHBORHOOD VOLUNTEER GROUP "W3" (church)
NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH (phone)
NETWORK FOR YOUTH SERVICES (book)
NORWEGIAN WOMEN'S GROUP (church)
NORTH PARK COLLEGE EXTENSION (church)
NORTHWEST NEIGHBORHOOD FEDERATION (paper)
NORTHWEST COMMUNITY ORGANIZATION (church)
NORTHWEST COUNCIL OF SENIOR CITIZENS (paper)
NORTHWEST GAY AND LESBIAN ASSOCIATION (church)
ODD FELLOWS IOOF NORTHWEST (book)
OUR LADY OF GRACE (phone)
OUR LADY OF GRACE BASKETBALL TEAMS (church)
P.R.C.O. OF S. DANCERS (church)
PAINTER'S LOCAL #147 (phone)
PALMER SQUARE ARTS FAIR (phone)
PALMER SQUARE HOMEOWNERS (church)
PARENTS AGAINST STREET VIOLENCE (church)
PARKS, ZOOS, MUSEUMS (phone)
PHILIPPINE NATIONAL BASKETBALL ORGANIZATION (phone)
PIKA WOMEN'S MISSION GUILD (church)
PIONEERS (phone)
POLICE SOCIETY #911 OF POLISH NATIONAL ALLIANCE (paper)
POLISH MUSEUM OF AMERICA LIBRARY (sulzer)
POLISH MUSEUM OF AMERICA (sulzer)
POLISH-AMERICAN POLICE ASSOCIATION (book)
PORTIS PARK CHURCH (phone)
PRINCE OF PEACE LUTHERAN SCHOOL (church)
PSYCHIC DEVELOPMENT CLASSES (church)
PUERTO RICAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY OF CHICAGO (sulzer)
PURCHASING ASSOCIATION (phone)
QUEEN/KING CLUB (church)
REPUBLICAN NATIONAL COMMITTEE (phone)
RETIRED CITIZENS GROUP (phone)
ROCKWELL AVENUE BLOCK CLUB (church)
RUIZ BELVIS CENTER (book)

SELSA: block club (church)
SCOUT MOTHERS' ASSOCIATION (church)
SEA SCOUTS (church)
SENIOR CITIZENS GOLDEN DINERS CLUB (local)
SENIOR CITIZENS DINERS CLUB (church)
SHAMROCK CLUB (phone)
SID SAKOWITZ FAN CLUB (phone)
SISTERHOOD (church)
SOFTBALL: through park district (phone)
SPAULDING-WRIGHTWOOD BLOCK CLUB (CLARA LYLE) (word)
ST. LOUIS BLOCK CLUB (church)
ST. LUKE'S SENIOR CITIZENS NUTRITION GROUP (phone)
ST. ANNE'S CITADEL (phone)
ST. VINCENT DE PAUL (church)
ST. HYACINTH'S (phone)
ST. FRANCIS (phone)
ST. JOHN BERCHMAN'S (phone)
SUMMER TENT CAMPING GROUP (church)
TAILWAGGERS: dog training class (church)
TASK FORCE AGAINST GANGS (church)
TED KNUSSMAN VFW (phone)
THE ORGANIZATION OF PALMER SQUARE (TOPS) (word)
THE ESTONIAN LUTHERAN CHURCH (church)
THEATRICAL HISTORICAL SOCIETY (book)
TOASTMASTERS (phone)
UKRAINIAN YOUTH GROUP (church)
UNA NUEVA ESPERANZA (book)
UNION OF MACHINE OPERATORS (phone)
UNITED NEIGHBORS INVOLVED TEAM EFFORT (local)
UNITED NEIGHBORS IN ACTION (sulzer)
UNITED METHODIST WOMEN'S GROUP (church)
USHERS CLUB (church)
VFW CHICAGO BLACKHAWK POST #7975 (book)
VFW #300 (phone)
VIETNAM VETERAN'S MUSEUM (paper)
WEST TOWN SHELTER (church)
WEST TOWN WILDCATS: youth group (church)
WICKER PARK NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL (church)
WICKER PARK ARTISTS GROUP (church)
WILSON AVENUE CIVIC ORGANIZATION (paper)
WOMEN'S MOOSE CLUB (phone)
YMCA (phone)
YMCA SENIOR CITIZENS CLUB (phone)
YOUNG/OLDTIMERS CLUB (church)
YOUNG PEOPLE'S DRAMA GROUP (church)

APPENDIX 2



Center for Urban Affairs and Policy Research

Northwestern University

2040 Sheridan Road / Evanston, Illinois 60208
(312) 491-3395

February 16, 1988

St. Matthew's Episcopal Church
3333 Bayside
Chicago, IL 60000

Dear Reverend:

The Northwestern University Center for Urban Affairs and Policy Research is working on a project involving local communities. We believe that clubs and organizations are vital parts of communities, and as such we are trying to gather information and compile a list of local community clubs and organizations.

We see the church as a primary focal point of community activity, both through the groups that are sponsored by the church, and through groups that utilize the church as a meeting place. As part of our project, we would like to document the various groups that are connected, in any way, to your church. During the week of February 22-29, I will be calling to ask you a few questions about the clubs and organizations your church sponsors and about any other groups that simply meet at your church. It will only take five to ten minutes of your time.

Before our call, we would appreciate your looking over the enclosed list of different types of groups. Could you please note the groups that are connected with your church? Then, when we call, we will simply go over the list with you.

We greatly appreciate your time and cooperation. If you should have any questions, please feel free to give me a call.

Sincerely,

Kathy Nakagawa
Research Assistant

encl.

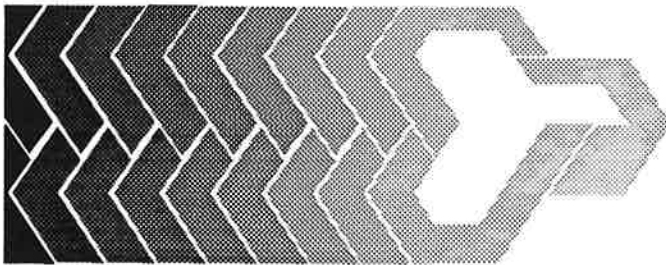
APPENDIX 3

AN ASSOCIATIONAL MAP

Prepared by John McKnight
Northwestern University
Center for Urban Affairs and Policy Research
2040 Sheridan Road
Evanston, Illinois 60208

ARTISTIC ORGANIZATIONS:	choral, theatrical, writing
BUSINESS ORGANIZATIONS:	Chamber of Commerce, neighborhood business associations, trade groups
CHARITABLE GROUPS & DRIVES:	Red Cross, Cancer Society, United Way
CHURCH GROUPS:	service, prayer, maintenance, stewardship, acolytes, men's, women's, youth, seniors
CIVIC EVENTS:	July 4th, art fair, Halloween
COLLECTORS GROUPS:	stamp collectors, flower dryers, antiques
COMMUNITY SUPPORT GROUPS:	"friends" of the library, nursing home, hospital
ELDERLY GROUPS:	Senior Citizens
ETHNIC ASSOCIATIONS:	Sons of Norway, Black Heritage Club, Hibernians
HEALTH & FITNESS GROUPS:	bicycling, jogging, exercise
INTEREST CLUBS:	poodle owners, antique car owners
LOCAL GOVERNMENT:	town, township, electoral units, fire department, emergency units
LOCAL MEDIA:	radio, newspaper, local access cable TV
MEN'S GROUPS:	cultural, political, social, educational, vocational
MUTUAL SUPPORT (SELF-HELP) GROUPS:	Alcoholics Anonymous, Epilepsy Self-Help, La Leche League
NEIGHBORHOOD & BLOCK CLUBS:	crime watch, beautification, Christmas decorations
OUTDOOR GROUPS:	garden clubs, Audubon Society, conservation clubs
POLITICAL ORGANIZATIONS:	Democrats, Republicans, caucuses
SCHOOL GROUPS:	printing club, PTA, child care
SERVICE CLUBS:	Zonta, Kiwanis, Rotary, American Association of University Women
SOCIAL CAUSE GROUPS:	peace, rights, advocacy, service
SPORTS LEAGUES:	bowling, swimming, baseball, fishing, volleyball
STUDY GROUPS:	literary clubs, bible study groups
VETERANS GROUPS:	American Legion, Amvets, Veterans of Foreign Wars & Auxiliaries
WOMEN'S GROUPS:	cultural, political, social, educational, vocational
YOUTH GROUPS:	4H, Future Farmers, Scouts, YWCA

APPENDIX 4
PART 1



**Center for Urban Affairs
and Policy Research**

Northwestern University

2040 Sheridan Road / Evanston, Illinois 60208
(312) 491-3395

April 19, 1988

All Saints Church
31 W. Reston Street
Chicago, IL 60000

Dear Reverend:

We are planning to produce a booklet on information about groups and clubs associated with neighborhood churches. We feel this booklet would be very useful to persons in the community as a way of knowing what's happening in neighborhoods and how they may get involved. The document will be made available to any interested community organizations, individuals, and churches.

In our previous phone calls, we were unable to gather information from your church. We still hope to include your church in our document, and if you would like to be included, please fill out the enclosed questionnaire and return it to us by Friday, May 6, 1988. We are interested in both groups sponsored by your church (e.g., Bible study, choirs, or prayer groups) and groups which just use your church as a meeting place (e.g., neighborhood block clubs, recreation classes). Please also include any annual events you may sponsor (like rummage sales, bazaars, or carnivals) and any other information on the way you feel the church is utilized in your community.

If you should have any questions, please contact me at 491-7767. Thank you very much for your time and help.

Sincerely,

Kathy Nakagawa
Research Assistant

encl.

APPENDIX 4
PART 2

FOLLOW-UP LIST

Listed below are different types of associations and examples of each. Please note the names of any groups you have heard of or participated in.

ARTISTIC/CULTURAL:	neighborhood artists, Theatrical Historical Society
CIVIC/COMMUNITY\SUPPORT:	PTA, Chamber of Commerce, Merchants Association, Friends of the Library
CHURCH:	Bible study, choir, St. Anne's Citadel, prayer group
ELDERLY:	Golden Diners Club, senior citizens' club
ETHNIC:	Polish-American Congress, Black Heritage Club
HEALTH & FITNESS:	Baseball league, aerobics class, YMCA
MEN'S :	Fraternal Order of Police
MUTUAL SUPPORT (SELF-HELP):	La Leche League, marriage encounter
NEIGHBORHOOD/BLOCK CLUBS:	Northside Neighbors, Crime Watch
POLITICAL:	Republican Committee, Ward Office, local fire department
RECREATION:	ceramics classes, dog training classes
SOCIAL CAUSE/SERVICE:	Zonta, Kiwanis, Sierra Club
SPECIAL INTEREST:	stamp collectors, dog owners, car club
VETERAN GROUPS:	American Legion, Amvets, VFW
WOMEN'S GROUPS:	Women in Government
YOUTH/CHILDREN:	4H, Future Farmers, Boy and Girl Scouts, YWCA

APPENDIX 5

Please list the names of groups and provide information on when they meet (e.g., Wed. evenings 1/week, 1/month) and who may join (anyone in the community or just parish members). Please see enclosed list for ideas and examples of groups.

	When does it meet?	Who may join?
I. GROUPS SPONSORED BY THE CHURCH.		
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

II. GROUPS THAT USE CHURCH AS A MEETING PLACE.

_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

III. OTHER INFORMATION, COMMENTS, SUGGESTIONS?

APPENDIX 6



Center for Urban Affairs and Policy Research

Northwestern University

2040 Sheridan Road / Evanston, Illinois 60208
(312) 491-3395

April 19, 1988

Reverend Richard Barnes
St. Peter's Lutheran Church
1000 W. Kensington
Chicago, IL 60000

Dear Reverend Barnes:

Thank you very much for taking the time to answer our questions about the groups and clubs associated with your church. We are planning to put together a booklet of this information and would like to include the information from your church. We feel such a document would be very useful to persons in the community as a way of knowing what's happening in neighborhoods and how they may get involved. It would be made available to any interested community organizations, individuals, and churches.

Enclosed please find the listing we have for your church. If you wish information to be changed or added, or if you do not want to be included in our booklet, please contact me at 491-7767 by Friday, May 6, 1988. If we do not hear from you, we will assume the information is correct and that you approve of your inclusion in our document.

Again, thank you for your time and help. If you should have any other comments or questions, please contact me.

Sincerely,

Kathy Nakagawa
Research Assistant

encl.

APPENDIX 7

LUTHERAN CHURCH (Rev. S)

I. NON-CHURCH GROUPS

- ~ Hosts Logan Square Ministerial Association
- ~ Part of Lutheran United National Chicago (LUNCH)
- ~ Sponsors health fairs for kids (offer vaccinations, etc.)
- ~ The Estonian Lutheran Church (very old group) uses facilities once a month
- ~ Tailwaggers (dog training class) meets once a week and has been around for about 10 years. An outside club sponsors classes and the church receives pay for use of its facilities.
- ~ Voter registration
- ~ Precinct groups: alderman has meetings at church, an independent precinct organization meets
- ~ Neighborhood meetings: occasionally meetings about issues like crime
- ~ Narcotics Anonymous-type groups: one at midnight Saturday, one Saturday afternoon or evening, and one specialized group for people who have tested HIV-positive
- ~ LaLeche League
- ~ Lends support to LSNA: block clubs occasionally use facilities
- ~ One year, PTA leaders meeting was held at church
- ~ Every possible scout group
- ~ Computer group: for adults who use Commodore computers, meets once a month

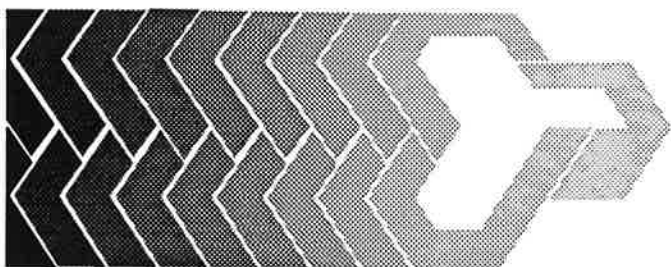
II. CHURCH-SPONSORED GROUPS

- ~ Specialize in Senior Citizens groups: Golden Diners Club, exercise club, also groups for social and recreational activities, about 80 members in all
- ~ Two youth groups: offer support in dealing with gangs
- ~ A number of Acolytes groups
- ~ Meditation group with prayer
- ~ Food pantry
- ~ Church school for disabled
- ~ Counseling service: Pastoral Psychotherapy School located in church
- ~ Neighborhood festivals: usually in the summer
- ~ Bible study: for children and adults

III. OTHER INFORMATION

- ~ The church used to have a wellness program that gave out information on health and exercise. The church has done advocacy work. It also has an outreach committee that looks into issues such as hunger and the homeless. In 1990, the church will be 90 years old; in the 1960s the church decided to "open its doors to the community" in response to the political climate of the time.

APPENDIX 8



Center for Urban Affairs and Policy Research

Northwestern University

2040 Sheridan Road / Evanston, Illinois 60208
(312) 491-3395

December 30, 1987

Mr. James Brown
3000 W. Barnack Street
Chicago, IL 60000

Dear Mr. Brown:

I am writing to ask for your help in a project being conducted by our Center for Urban Affairs and Policy Research.

We believe that local clubs and organizations are important parts of local communities. Therefore, we are trying to compile a list of the kinds of clubs and organizations in which people in Chicago's neighborhoods participate.

As part of this project, we have chosen your name at random and would like to ask you about the various groups and clubs with which you are involved. Therefore, during the week of January 6 through January 13, one of my research associates will telephone and ask you a few questions for our survey. It will only take ten or fifteen minutes of your time.

Before our call, we would appreciate your looking over the enclosed list of many kinds of clubs and organizations. Could you note the groups you are involved with? Then, when we call, we will simply go over the list with you.

I appreciate your cooperation. If you should have any questions, feel free to give me a call.

Sincerely,

John L. McKnight

encl.

APPENDIX 9

BREAKDOWN OF PHONE CALLS

	No English	Not Cooperative	Not Involved	Involved
WITH LETTER (99 calls)	20.2%	14.1%	36.4%	29.3%
WITHOUT LETTER (25 calls)	16%	12%	40%	32%

TIME SPENT ON CALLS

	Calls Placed	Calls Reached	Average Time Per Call Reached	Total Time
WITH LETTER	157	99	4.8 minutes	8.0 hours
WITHOUT LETTER	36	25	4.0 minutes	1.6 hours

TYPES OF ASSOCIATIONS NAMED

	With Letter	Without Letter
ARTISTIC	6	
CHURCH-RELATED	29	10
ETHNIC	1	
NEIGHBORHOOD	6	2
POLITICAL	6	
RECREATION	11	2
SCHOOL	2	
SELF-HELP	1	
SENIOR CITIZENS	5	
SPECIAL INTEREST	2	
VETERANS	4	
WOMEN'S	1	
WORK-RELATED	8	2
YOUTH	3	
TOTAL	84	16

APPENDIX 10

CHICAGO-AREA COMMUNITY CLUBS AND ORGANIZATIONS (IDENTIFIED FROM GENERAL RESOURCES)

KEY:

Chicago	=	<i>Chicago</i> magazine ("Involvement" section)
encyc	=	<i>Encyclopedia of Associations: Regional State and Local Edition</i> (Great Lakes)
green	=	"Green Things" directory (ecology, peace, justice issues)
pamphlet	=	Lerner Newspaper pamphlet on community organizations
paper	=	Edgewater community paper (four papers)
self-help	=	<i>Directory of Self-Help Mutual Aid Groups</i>
trib	=	<i>Chicago Tribune</i> (one Sunday edition)
united	=	<i>United Way 1986 Annual Report</i>

THE 4:30 POETS (self-help)

ACORN (ASSOCIATION OF COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS FOR REFORM NOW) (green)

ADLER PLANETARIUM (Chicago)

ALLIANCE FRANCAISE: teaches French classes (Chicago)

ALTERNATIVE SCHOOLS NETWORK (green)

AMERICAN FRIENDS SERVICE COMMITTEE (green)

ANTI-APARTHEID SOLIDARITY COMMITTEE (green)

BOB THEATER COMPANY (paper)

BALLET STREET THEATER (paper)

BERGER PARK DANCERS (paper)

BERNARD HORWICH/MAYER KAPLAN JEWISH COMMUNITY CENTER (paper)

BIG MOUNTAIN SUPPORT GROUP (green)

BROADCASTING COMMISSION OF THE CHICAGO BOARD OF RABBIS (Chicago)

CAMP FIRE, METROPOLITAN CHICAGO COUNCIL (united)

CANADIAN CLUB OF CHICAGO (Chicago)

CASA NICARAGUA (green)

CENTER FOR THE GREAT LAKES (green)

CENTER FOR NEIGHBORHOOD TECHNOLOGY (green)

CHICAGO ACADEMY OF SCIENCES (pamphlet)

CHICAGO ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY (paper)

CHICAGO BOARD OF REALTORS (paper)

CHICAGO BOYS AND GIRLS CLUBS (united)

CHICAGO CATHOLIC WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION (self-help)

CHICAGO CHARGERS YOUTH FOOTBALL CLUB (paper)

CHICAGO CENTER FOR US/USSR RELATIONS AND EXCHANGES (Chicago)

CHICAGO HISTORICAL SOCIETY (pamphlet)

CHICAGO IVREYOTH (paper)

CHICAGO MARITIME SOCIETY (encyc)
CHICAGO POETRY ENSEMBLE (trib)
CHICAGO PUBLIC LIBRARY CULTURAL CENTER THEATER (trib)
CHICAGO REGION PTA (pamphlet)
CHICAGO RELIGIOUS TASK FORCE ON CENTRAL AMERICA (green)
CHICAGO SPACE FRONTIER L-5 (Chicago)
CHICAGO TABLE TENNIS CLUB (encyc)
CHICAGO WOMEN IN GOVERNMENT RELATIONS (trib)
CHICAGO URBAN LEAGUE (united)
CHILDREN'S BOOKSTORE (trib)
CITIZENS AGAINST NUCLEAR POWER & WEAPONS (green)
CITIZENS FOR A BETTER ENVIRONMENT (green)
CITIZENS UTILITY BOARD (CUB) (green)
CLERGY & LAITY CONCERNED (green)
COMMUNITY RENEWAL SOCIETY (united)
COMMUNITY TELEVISION NETWORK (united)
EARTH FIRST! (green)
THE EARTH STUDIO (green)
THE FIELD MUSEUM (Chicago)
FORAGING FRIENDS (green)
FRIENDS OF THE CHICAGO PUBLIC LIBRARY (paper)
FRIENDS OF DOWNTOWN (Chicago)
FRIENDS OF THE PARKS (Chicago)
GIRL SCOUTS OF CHICAGO (united)
GOETHE INSTITUTE CHICAGO: language and cultural classes (Chicago)
GREENPEACE/GREAT LAKES (green)
H. I. A. S. BUSINESS WOMEN'S AUXILIARY (paper)
HAROLD WASHINGTON COLLEGE: language courses (Chicago)
HILLEL-CAYS: sponsored softball organization (paper)
IGLOO THEATER (paper)
ILLINOIS CHESS ASSOCIATION (encyc)
ILLINOIS HUMANITIES COUNCIL (pamphlet)
ILLINOIS PUBLIC ACTION COUNCIL (green)
ILLINOIS SOLAR ENERGY ASSOCIATION (green)
INDEPENDENT SCHOLARS OF CHICAGO (trib)
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY RESOURCE CENTER (Chicago)
INNER CITY OUTINGS (green)
INSTITUTE OF INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION (Chicago)
JANE AUSTEN SOCIETY OF NORTH AMERICA (trib)
JEWISH COUNCIL ON URBAN AFFAIRS (Chicago)
LAKE MICHIGAN FEDERATION (green)
LAMP POST THEATER COMPANY (paper)
LATVIAN COMMUNITY CENTER (Chicago)
LINCOLN PARK ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY (pamphlet)
MAXWORKS CO-OP (green)
MCFETRIDGE PARK (paper)
METROPOLITAN CHICAGO COUNCIL OF AMERICAN YOUTH HOSTELS (encyc)
MEXI-MAYAN TOURS (Chicago)
MIDWEST BOXER CLUB (encyc)

MINIATURE BOOK SOCIETY (trib)
MISTY RIVER MUSIC MAKERS (trib)
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE COTTAGE INDUSTRY (Chicago)
NATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR WOMEN (self-help)
THE NATURE CONSERVANCY (green)
NEIGHBORHOOD BOYS CLUB (pamphlet)
NEW WORLD RESOURCE CENTER (green)
NEWBERRY LIBRARY (Chicago)
NICARAGUA SOLIDARITY COMMITTEE (green)
NORTH PARK VILLAGE NATURE CENTER (paper)
OASIS CENTER (Chicago)
OLD TOWN SCHOOL OF FOLK MUSIC (paper)
OPEN LANDS PROJECT (Chicago)
PALESTINE HUMAN RIGHTS CAMPAIGN (green)
PEGASUS PLAYERS (paper)
PLAYWRIGHTS' CENTER (paper)
PLEDGE OF RESISTANCE (green)
PRIMITIVE ART SOCIETY OF CHICAGO (encyc)
RAVENSWOOD CMHC/ WOMEN'S RAP GROUP (self-help)
RAVENSWOOD CONSERVATION COMMISSION (pamphlet)
THE RESOURCE CENTER (green)
SCHOOL OF THE ART INSTITUTE: classes (Chicago)
SERVICE CORPS OF RETIRED EXECUTIVES (SCORE) (paper)
SHEDD AQUARIUM (Chicago)
SIERRA CLUB (green)
SPANISH STUDIO (Chicago)
SPERTUS COLLEGE OF JUDAICA (Chicago)
SULZER REGIONAL LIBRARY: Knitting Guild, Photography Club (paper)
SYNAPSES (green)
TREE HOUSE ANIMAL FOUNDATION (Chicago)
U.S.-CHINA PEOPLE'S FRIENDSHIP ASSOCIATION (Chicago)
UNIVERSITY WOMEN'S BOOK CLUB (trib)
VETERANS FOR PEACE (green)
VICTORY CHAPTER, WOMEN'S AMERICAN ORT (paper)
WILD ONION CHAPTER OF U.S. PSYCHOTRONICS ASSOCIATION (encyc)
WINDY CITY MATCHCOVER CLUB (encyc)
WISCONSIN-ILLINOIS LILY SOCIETY (encyc)
WOMEN'S AGLOW FELLOWSHIP INTERNATIONAL (trib)
WOMEN FOR PEACE (green)
THE WRITER'S GROUP OF TINLEY PARK (trib)
YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION OF METROPOLITAN CHICAGO (united)
YOUNG MEN'S JEWISH COUNCIL (united)
YOUNG WOMEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION OF METROPOLITAN CHICAGO (united)
ZEBRA CROSSING THEATER (paper)