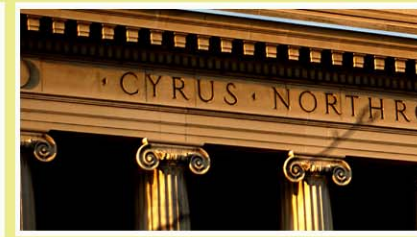


The Hennepin-University Partnership

"Connecting where it counts."

www.umn.edu/hup



What is the Purpose of the Hennepin-University Partnership?

- Bring people from the U of M and Hennepin County together around topics related to both organizations
- Organize events around collaborative issues, such as homelessness and transit
- Help both organizations to use each other as a resource
- Break down barriers between the two organizations in order to collaborate
- Promote maximal use of students-- future policy leaders and practitioners
- Showcase the work of both Hennepin County and the U of M
- Promote the use of research in practice
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Adopted from CYFC's Program Review

In late 2004, Hennepin County and the University of Minnesota launched a broad initiative to capture value for both organizations through a more strategic collaboration-- connecting the two organizations where mutual benefit can be found. This includes collaboration on community-based research, sharing of academic and practitioner expertise, and providing students with valuable real-world experience.

Examples of recent collaborations include:

- * A multi-year **transportation research program** has been launched to study and learn more about how the introduction of major transitways -- such as the Hiawatha light rail line -- impacts the surrounding community.
- * The University's College of Design has been instrumental in rallying various University schools to work with the County on a project to **end homelessness** -- providing expertise and student involvement on Project Homeless Connect, and coordinating the University's role in helping to achieve the goal of ending homelessness.
- * Evaluative research was conducted in 2006 and will be repeated in 2007 by the College of Education and Human Development in conjunction with Hennepin County Libraries to **determine the effectiveness of an innovative reading program for boys**, and to recommend ways to increase interest in reading with this population.
- * The County Public Health division recently completed a survey effort to **measure the health of the community** (SHAPE survey). County staff will be working with University researchers on joint analysis of this unique, high quality data.