



# RICE & LARPELLEUR ALLIANCE

3 Cities. 1 Neighborhood.

# 2021 Annual Report





# OUR SHARED VISION

The Rice & Larpenteur Area is a safe, engaging, and inviting neighborhood center that includes common spaces, a high-quality pedestrian environment, and robust reinvestment for the diverse people of the surrounding communities to live, conduct business, and play together.

## Dear Rice & Larpenteur Community,

Thank you for your continued support, energy, and resilience. 2021 marked six years since the elected leaders of St Paul, Roseville, and Maplewood first met at Friends Cafe to discuss how to work together to invest in an area they share. Their unwavering commitment and collaboration, year over year, has been the lifeblood of the Rice & Larpenteur Alliance. Over the past three years, residents and area businesses have taken the baton and shaped the Alliance into what it is today. It is these community leaders who will continue to push forward to realize our shared vision that the Rice & Larpenteur area is a safe, engaging and inviting neighborhood center for all.

Despite continual challenges around COVID-19 for our community, the last year has seen great progress and positive momentum in Rice & Larpenteur. Thanks to our growing group of supporters and volunteers, our organization's capacity has grown exponentially. Families look forward to Rice & Larpenteur annual community celebrations like the Summer Block Party and Winter Warm-Up. Businesses are investing in the area. We are beginning to see visible changes to our environment like the parking lot renovation at the MyThrift Store mall and addition of our community parklet—a welcoming gateway to our neighborhood.

The future looks bright with investments coming our way from Ramsey County to rebuild Rice Street and from Metro Transit who has determined that Rice Street will become the G-Line, Bus Rapid Transit Route. The Alliance and partners have laid the groundwork for the development of new affordable housing in the area, and the retention of existing affordable homes that families rely on.

Like the new Community In Bloom mosaic at the Lake McCarrons Park Building we are building the Rice & Larpenteur area with the help of many, one piece at a time, with patience, commitment, and love. I am honored to be in service to this community with you and excited to see all that we can create when we work together.



Sincerely,

*Kim O'Brien*

Executive Director, Rice and Larpenteur Alliance  
St Paul Area Chamber

## OUR VALUE STATEMENTS

### Diversity and Representation

The neighborhood's cultural diversity is its greatest strength. The Alliance will be an organization of leaders representative of our diverse community.

### Non-Displacement

The Alliance's efforts will be aimed at improving conditions for existing residents and businesses, and must not result in loss of affordability and gentrification.

### Strengths-Based Approach

Rice & Larpenteur has many positive qualities and assets. All efforts by the Alliance will build upon and celebrate neighborhood strengths.

## OUR PARTNERS



# RICE & LARPENTEUR VISION PLAN TIMELINE

## COMMUNITY-BASED ADVISORY BOARD

2016



City and community leaders from Saint Paul, Roseville, and Maplewood begin collaboration.

2018



Cities adopt Rice and Larpenteur Gateway Area Vision Plan.

2020



Community-Based Rice & Larpenteur Alliance is launched.

2021



Vision plan coming to life on the Rice & Larpenteur corridor.

Council President Amy Brendmoen, City of Saint Paul  
 Andrea Caldwell, Roseville Resident  
 Angela Riffe, City of Saint Paul  
 Officer Ashley Bergeron, Maplewood Police Department  
 Barbara Garn, Roseville Resident  
 Becky Wegscheid, Saint Paul Area Association of Realtors  
 Cale Bergschneider, Roseville Resident  
 Corey Wethern, Saint Paul Resident  
 Dan Edgerton, Saint Paul Resident  
 Mayor Dan Roe, City of Roseville  
 Dana Ferguson, Rice Street Gardens & Saint Paul Resident  
 Darrell Baggenstoss, Roseville Resident  
 Dave Higgins, McGough  
 Chief David Brosnahan, Roseville Fire  
 David May, Roseville Church of Christ  
 Dayna Taylor, Hand In Hand Christian Montessori  
 Francisco Ramirez, M Health Fairview  
 Gregory Simbeck, Roseville Resident  
 Hsakeshee Zan, Saint Paul Resident  
 Jamie Rattanapamonsook, Thai Street Market  
 Jane Forliti, Roseville Resident  
 Janice Gundlach, City of Roseville  
 Councilmember Jason Etten, City of Roseville  
 Jeff Thomson, City of Maplewood  
 Johnny Opara, JO Companies  
 Joan Phillips, Maplewood Resident  
 Joseph Wiggins, Hearthside Pizza  
 Kaziah Josiah, Saint Paul Police Department  
 Kazoua Kong Thao, Community School of Excellence  
 Leslie Duling McCollam, Ramsey Washington Recycling and Energy  
 Malia Lee, Saint Paul Resident and Fresh Vibes  
 Mariah Quick, Ramsey County Public Health  
 Commissioner Mary Jo McGuire, Ramsey County  
 Mayor Marylee Abrams, City of Maplewood  
 Max Musicant, The Musicant Group  
 Mike Leonard, Hamernick's Interior Solutions  
 Nidhi Joshi, Britany Marion Apartments  
 Noah Her, Open to Business/MCCD  
 Patrick Trudgeon, City of Roseville  
 Rayauna Benson, McCarrons Village Apartments  
 Rick Howden, Ramsey County  
 Ronna Woolery, Lamplighter Village Apartments & Saint Paul Resident  
 Scott Thompson, Metro Transit  
 Shann Finwall, City of Maplewood  
 Shawn Wiski, Kraus Anderson  
 Tilak Pokwal, Groceries & Nepali Kitchen  
 Commissioner Trista MatasCastillo, Ramsey County  
 Commissioner Victoria Reinhardt, Ramsey County

## 2021 HIGHLIGHTS



- Completed MyThrift Store Parking Area and Parklet construction, including benches, landscaping, new sidewalk, lighting, and additional pedestrian enhancements.
- Hosted a tour of small businesses and conversations with business owners in the Rice & Larpenteur area with the Minnesota District - US Small Business Administration.
- Engaged community in conversations around The Enclave at Lake McCarrons; a new development of 20 single family homes and added pedestrian connection through development from Larpenteur Ave. to Lake McCarrons County Park.
- Initiated community and developer conversations around the future addition of affordable housing units at the Rice Street Gardens site at Rice and Roselawn.
- Adopted the Neighborhood Signage and Wayfinding Plan and raised funds towards the construction and installation of community signs.
- Created the Shop Local Guide to encourage support of local businesses.
- Supported the retention of naturally occurring affordable housing through engagement of area apartment managers and building owners; while working with city partners for safety and livability.
- Advocated with the Metropolitan Council and Metro Transit for Rice Street to become a future Bus Rapid Transit route—which will be a transformational infrastructure investment in the region.
- Worked closely with Ramsey County on the ReVision Rice Street community engagement project to determine the future road design for Rice Street from Pennsylvania to Wheelock Pkwy.
- Advocated for state bonding funds to begin planning for reconstruction of Rice Street from Wheelock Parkway to CR-B.



(2021 Highlights continued on next page)

“ Thank you for getting the three cities together into one neighborhood. It is so important for our common good, building peace, creating positive history and new good memories. ”  
THANK YOU!!

- Rice & Larpenteur Community Member





## IN THE NEWS

TwinCities.com  
PIONEER PRESS

MINN  
POST

StarTribune



August 13, 2021

3rd annual Rice & Larpenteur summer block party in St. Paul to kickoff Saturday



November 11, 2021

How residents, business owners and elected officials are reimagining the corner of Rice and Larpenteur



November 27, 2021

Three east metro cities join forces to renew the intersection where they meet

## 2021 HIGHLIGHTS (CONT.)

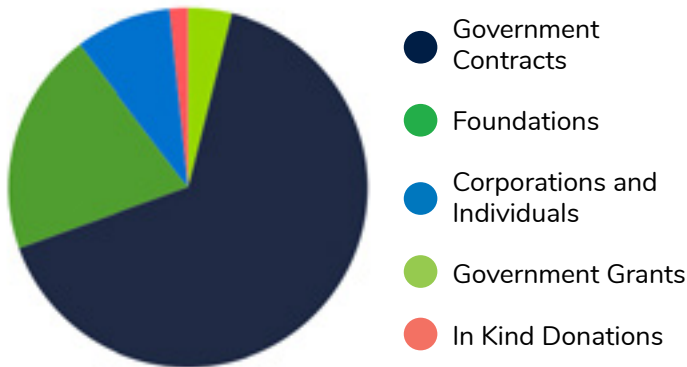
- Worked with artist Shakun Maheshwari, Arts Roseville, and Ramsey County to create a community-built mosaic mural at Lake McCarrons park titled, Community In Bloom.
- Celebrated Spring with the Community In Bloom event celebrating art and natural resources of Rice and Larpenteur.
- Executed the 3rd Annual Summer Block Party event, featuring local businesses, community resources, live music, and family fun in all three cities.
- Beat the cold with the Winter Warm-Up, an outdoor community building event with bonfires, giveaways, and hot cocoa.
- Supported Peace March with Mother's Against Community Gun Violence to honor the life of Nia Black, implore the community to end senseless acts of violence, and call for accountability for The Lamplighter Lounge for unsafe conditions.
- Worked with business owners to continue maintenance of public garbage and recycling bins.
- Conducted a school supply giveaway as part of our Summer Block Party.
- Hosted a free mobile COVID-19 Vaccine Clinic near the parklet at the intersection.
- Launched the Connecting Community to Lake McCarrons Through Public Art program - solicited community ideas and designs and contracted with three public artists to create utility box designs highlighting our natural resources and watershed.



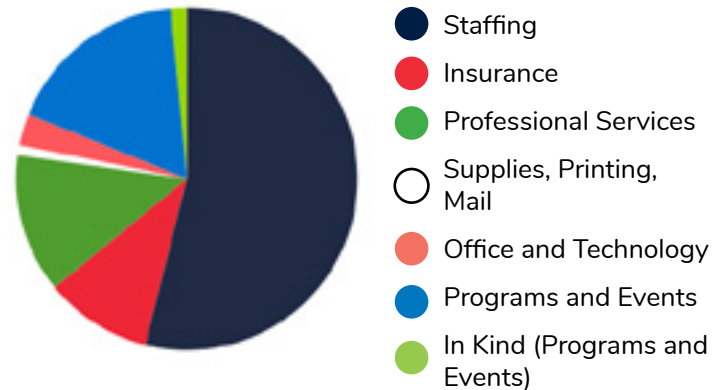
## 2021 FINANCIALS

The Rice & Larpenteur Alliance is funded primarily through a contract with the Cities of Maplewood, Roseville, and Saint Paul. In 2021, the Alliance also successfully secured an operating grant from the Saint Paul and Minnesota Foundation, and earned cash and in-kind donations from individuals and a growing list of local businesses. The operating budget for the year (March 2021-February 2022) was about \$200,000. This year, the Alliance made a significant investment in creating a community parklet as part of the MyThrift Store Parking Area renovation, spending down some of the organization's cash reserves. The largest expense continues to be professional services by the St Paul Area Chamber followed by programs, grants, events, and marketing.

### RICE & LARPEUR REVENUE (MAR 2021 - FEB 2022)



### RICE & LARPEUR EXPENSES (MAR 2021 - FEB 2022)



## DONORS

The Rice & Larpenteur Alliance would like to thank our donors.

### Government Contributors

City of Maplewood  
City of Roseville  
City of Saint Paul  
Ramsey County

### Foundations

Saint Paul and Minnesota Foundation

### Annual Corporate Partners

American National Bank  
Bix Produce  
Hamernick's Interior Solutions  
HBG  
JO Companies  
PAK Properties  
Xcel Energy

### Corporations

Galilee Lutheran Church  
Hilivate Consulting  
Kraus Anderson  
Labor Solutions  
McCarron Lake Chiropractic  
McDonald's  
North End Laundry  
Saint Paul Area Association of REALTORS  
TSE, Inc.

### Individual Donors

Andrea Caldwell  
Barbara Garn  
David May  
Greg Simbeck  
Kim O'Brien  
Jason Etten  
Marylee Abrams  
Peggy Matthees  
William Howell

### In Kind Donors

AE Sign Systems  
Asia Fusion Kitchen  
Book Buggy  
Capitol Region Watershed District  
Caribou Coffee  
Community School of Excellence  
Cub Foods Maplewood West  
Do Good Roseville  
Hamernick's Interior Solutions  
Hearthside Pizza  
Keystone Community Food Shelf  
Kids In Need Foundation  
Long's Auto  
Maplewood Public Safety  
McDonalds  
Metro Transit  
Mother's Against Community Gun Violence  
Nepali Kitchen  
North End Laundry

North End Neighborhood Organization  
Ramsey County Environmental Health  
Ramsey County ReVision Rice Street  
Ramsey County Social Services  
Roseville Church of Christ  
Roseville Human Rights, Inclusion, and Engagement Committee  
Roseville Police Department  
Setzer's Pharmacy  
St Paul Area Chamber  
St Paul Library Bookmobile  
St Paul Parks and Rec  
St Paul Police Department  
St Paul Regional Water Services  
Thai Street Market  
Wilebski's Blues Saloon

**Get involved!** The future of the Rice & Larpenteur Alliance will depend on participation from individuals and organizations who care. Volunteer and sponsorship opportunities are available!

Visit [www.riceandlarpenteur.com](http://www.riceandlarpenteur.com) or Contact [Kim@stpaulchamber.com](mailto:Kim@stpaulchamber.com) for more information.

## WHAT WE DO



Placemaking



Community  
Engagement



Economic  
Development



Community Safety  
& Livability

## OUR COMMUNITY

Rice and Larpenteur is a neighborhood at the intersection of three cities, bisected by two county roads. We are...

- Growing (~18K people)
- Diverse (>35% people of color)
- Global (~15% non-English speaking)
- Young (30% increase in children under 5)

\*Based on census data from 2015 for tracts 416.02, 422.01, 304, 305.



“ It’s so awesome to see an organization put so much effort into a community in need. I believe the area is making great strides in just the short time we have been a part of it. ”

- Brian Welke, Owner of North End Laundry

## STAY IN TOUCH

Sign-up for newsletters at  
[www.riceandlarpenteur.com](http://www.riceandlarpenteur.com)



Join the “Let’s Revitalize Rice  
& Larpenteur” Facebook Group



Follow us on Twitter and  
Instagram @AllianceRice





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LARPENTEUR  
ALLIANCE

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## OUR SHARED VISION

The **Rice & Larpenteur Area** is a safe, engaging, and inviting **neighborhood center** that includes common spaces, a high-quality pedestrian environment, and robust reinvestment for the **diverse people** of the surrounding communities to live, conduct business, and play together.