



Office of Citizen Involvement  
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Contact us for more news and information about how to have a voice in county government. Check us out at [www.citizenweb.org](http://www.citizenweb.org), and on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#)!



*"I know of no safe depository of the ultimate powers of society but the people themselves."*

*—Thomas Jefferson, 1821*

#### Citizen Involvement in the Multnomah County Home Rule Charter

##### 3.75. Citizen Involvement.

- (1) The office of citizen involvement is hereby established. The office of citizen involvement shall develop and maintain citizen involvement programs and procedures designed for the purpose of facilitating direct communication between the citizens and the board of county commissioners.
- (2) A citizens' committee and the structure of the citizen involvement process shall be established by ordinance.
- (3) The board of county commissioners shall appropriate sufficient funds for the operation of the office and the committee.
- (4) The citizens' committee shall have the authority to hire and fire its staff.

[Amendment proposed by Ord. 427 §2 (1984) (ballot measure 25), adopted by people Nov. 6, 1984]



## Multnomah County Office of Citizen Involvement (OCI)

# Annual Report (FY 2012-13)

"I would **encourage** anyone with an interest in **strengthening** mental **health** services, public **safety**, bridges and transportation, **sustainability** initiatives and many other critical efforts, to **contact the Office of Citizen Involvement** to discover more about the **many opportunities** that are available for **citizens** to have a **voice in county government.**"

—Steven Joiner, CIC

- ✓ Received 2013 Achievement Award from the National Association of Counties for the Education & Recruitment Campaign.
- ✓ Provided support to 78 citizens who volunteer for the Citizen Involvement Committee (CIC) and Citizen Budget Advisory Committees (CBACs).
- ✓ CBACs presented their recommendations to the Board of Commissioners for the FY 2013-14 budget.
- ✓ Hosted a topical forum to educate the public and gather input about proposed changes to the county's role in healthcare and early childhood programs due to new state initiatives.
- ✓ Conducted a live education & recruitment campaign at nine events throughout Multnomah County to educate the public about the county recruit new volunteers.
- ✓ Organized and hosted two Diversity Outreach Workshops about forming partnerships, including one at the Northwest Public Employees Diversity Conference.
- ✓ Completed the Human Services Departmental Review.
- ✓ Transferred OCI's volunteer database to a new company, resulting in much higher proficiency and significant cost savings.
- ✓ Initiated new program to support county committee staff. Three trainings were conducted to enhance committee performance and an intranet site was created with a variety of resources accessible on a daily basis.
- ✓ Consistently posted new material to OCI's websites, and Facebook and Twitter accounts. Maintained online database listing county volunteer opportunities and the profiles of volunteers.
- ✓ Coordinated 2013 Volunteer Awards Ceremony where 61 volunteers were honored, including Phillip Margolin, who received the Gladys McCoy Award for his lifetime of work teaching chess to at risk students in order to promote critical thinking and self-confidence.
- ✓ Honored Multnomah County employee Lila Wickham with the 6th annual Sy Award at the CIC Annual Dinner for her work ensuring public health practices are guided by equity and environmental justice.
- ✓ Contributed OCI staff time supporting efforts of employee resource groups and committees (e.g., Vital Aging Network, Public Safety Committee, Webbuilders) as well as Portland's Community Involvement Policy Expert Group.



- ☐ Continue to increase public access to information about volunteer policy advisory roles in relation to county services.
- ☐ Continue strengthening partnerships with other county entities through joint programming and dialogue.
- ☐ Host budget or topical forums to generate input for county decision-making.
- ☐ Conduct live education and recruitment campaign to educate the public about the county and recruit new volunteers.
- ☐ Continue program to support county committee staff, including new trainings, maintenance of the intranet site, and one-on-one consultations upon request.
- ☐ Initiate two Department Reviews of county departments or programs in order to enhance citizen involvement efforts.
- ☐ Host 2-3 Diversity Outreach Workshops, including a session at the annual Northwest Public Employees Diversity Conference.
- ☐ Continue support for the county's CBACs.
- ☐ Host the Multnomah County Volunteer Awards Ceremony, and present the 2014 Gladys McCoy Award winner.
- ☐ Present the 7th annual Sy Award at the 2014 CIC Annual Thank You Dinner.
- ☐ Maintain OCI websites, social media accounts, and online database listing county volunteer opportunities and the profiles of volunteers.