

# Project Narrative – anc1D 2008 Small Grants mount pleasant, dc

**Title:** In 15 words or less, give a title that describes the project's main beneficial result.

AMP Workshops To Assist Groups Articulate Ideas and Leverage Further Grants

**Narrative:** 500 words or less, all on this page. Label paragraphs - A: Group. B: Project. C: Benefits. D: Leverage.

A: Group.

AMP Workshops

AMP = All-Ways Mount Pleasant Neighbors Association

B: Project.

Workshops To Assist Groups Articulate Ideas and Leverage Further Grants

During the past 2-3 weeks, AMP has held a half dozen workshops to help people form their ideas in informal and collaborative sessions. For decades, we have been holding meetings and using the methods and technology of capturing and assembling materials (recording both in audio and by contemporaneous notes), and producing lots of small tracts of ideas, as well as sometimes projecting real time notes. We found the workshop mode to be a productive addition to assembly meetings, board meetings, and brainstorming sessions of our officers. This was more of a chance to focus on a specific topic and capture the creativity and expertise of others who are now, after years of encouragement, are ready to take on substantial mostly volunteer projects. Our participants have said it is very satisfying to be able to focus in depth since usual community meetings naturally involve a lot of time sharing on a broad range of topics.

Developing ideas requires lots of documentation (printing costs), computer, presentation, and recording equipment. We would also incur costs in buying materials and researching foundations, best practices, current innovations.

C: Benefits.

Providing workshops, especially for first time and fledging groups, could give them a reach goal, and help ensure that their use of ANC funds has tangible results. The extra motivation to rally and squeeze out a success could be created by workshops that focus on what has been done, and how it could be leveraged to attract more funding. The presence of a group of people who plan to help them gain more support we hope would bring out more of a determined energy than a defensive one, like a sports team moving from local to regional to state competitions. Of course, for many groups, the benefit would simply be that they mobilize more, and they have a sense that the effort they put in is making a difference, and the venture grows having experienced satisfactions. AMP already has impacted lives of 10,000 people in apartment buildings, mostly in but some around Mount Pleasant. These new methods could double or triple our impact on this already large population.

D: Leverage.

Our expertise is in helping people articulate their ideas through grass roots engagement. AMP could collaborate with ANC1D grants program, DC grants programs, and other resources, to fulfill the tremendous talent, creativity, education, and diversity in Mount Pleasant. With several billion dollars of grant money available in the DC area, some good local projects may grow to be substantial creative contributions.