



Jerry Zhao, Humphrey School of Public Affairs; Ellen Trader, Carlson School of Management; Carla Stueve, Director of Hennepin County Transportation Project Delivery

## 2019 FALL MIXER: EQUITABLE ACCESS TO MOBILITY

On October 30, HUP hosted the 2019 Fall Mixer in partnership with Hennepin County, the University of Minnesota, and MnDOT, on the theme of "Equitable Access to Mobility." The event was held in the Research Collaboration Studio at the University of Minnesota's Wilson Library. 46 participants from Hennepin County, the University of Minnesota, and other agencies gathered to share perspectives and explore potential partnerships around increasing equitable access to mobility.

Opening remarks were given by **Jennifer DeCubellis**, Deputy County Administrator for Health and Human Services; **Carla Stueve**, Director of Hennepin County Transportation Project Delivery; **Katie Walker**, Director of Research and Innovation at MnDOT; and **Susan Jepson**, co-founder of Upstream Innovations and Hitch Health. Professor **Andrew Owen**, Director of the UMN Accessibility Observatory, offered closing remarks.

Want to learn more about this Mixer and the 2019 Spring Mixer on Health Equity? Visit [z.umn.edu/MixerReports](http://z.umn.edu/MixerReports)

## 2019 HENNEPIN-UNIVERSITY COLLABORATION GRANT RECIPIENTS

Each HUP Mixer is followed by an opportunity for attendees to apply for the Hennepin-University Collaboration Grant (HUCG), an award ranging from \$30,000 to \$50,000. The HUCG provides an opportunity to follow up on potential collaborative research brainstormed at the Mixer.

To learn more about these HUCG projects and others, visit [z.umn.edu/HUCG](http://z.umn.edu/HUCG)

### Spring HUCG

The recipient of the Spring 2019 HUCG was "Meeting the Complex Needs of Parents in Hennepin County's Child Protection Defense Unit." This proposal was developed by **Susan Mason** of the School of Public Health, **Ross Velure Roholt** of the School of Social Work, and **Kelly Holland** and **Bernadette Casey** of the Hennepin County Adult Representation Services Child Protection Defense Unit. Investigators are meeting regularly, and the project is expected to be completed in summer of 2020.

### Fall HUCG

The Fall HUCG was awarded to "Equitable Access to Healthcare Through Improved Access to Transportation," a proposal by **Saif Benjaafar** of the College of Science & Engineering and the Initiative on the Sharing Economy, **Jason Chan** of Carlson School of Management, **Erik Erickson** of Hennepin County Information Technology, and **Susan Jepson** of Hennepin Healthcare and Hitch Health. The project will take place over the course of 2020.

## HUP LEADERSHIP TEAM

### HENNEPIN COUNTY

#### Jan Callison

Hennepin County Board of Commissioners

#### David Hough

County Administrator

#### Jennifer DeCubellis

Deputy County Administrator, Health and Human Services

#### Chester Cooper

Assistant County Administrator, Disparity Reduction

#### Michael Rossman

Chief Human Resources Officer

#### Alisa Salewski

Chief Innovation Officer, Center of Innovation and Excellence

### UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

#### Tom Fisher

Director, Metropolitan Design Center

#### Andrew Furco

Associate Vice President, Office for Public Engagement

#### Ed Goetz

Director, Center for Urban and Regional Affairs

#### Mos Kaveh

Dean, College of Science and Engineering

#### Robert McMaster

Vice Provost and Dean of Undergraduate Education

#### Carissa Slotterback

Associate Dean, Humphrey School of Public Affairs



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## SUMMER LEADERSHIP EVENT

On August 1, more than 50 leaders from the University of Minnesota and Hennepin County convened to explore opportunities to address community challenges together. Hennepin County Commissioner **Jan Callison** and Vice Provost and Dean of Undergraduate Studies **Robert McMaster** offered opening remarks, followed by seven recent HUP project teams presenting their work. These projects spanned multiple lines of business and academic concentrations, from aquatic invasive species to Youth Participatory Action Research. Attendees discussed the projects in small groups to foster future collaboration. **David Hough**, Hennepin County Administrator, spoke about the County's disparity reduction efforts, and three HUP Cohort members, **Erik Erickson**, **Patrick Chelmo**, and **Alison Bong**, shared several issues that would benefit from future collaboration. Executive Vice President and Provost **Karen Hanson** concluded the event by congratulating the flourishing partnership and urging ongoing support for this unique connection between academia and county government.



Hennepin County and University of Minnesota leaders share their ideas.



Professor Yingling Fan presenting to Hennepin County Staff in April.



Professor Marco Yzer presenting in February.

## BROWN BAG SERIES ON HEALTH EQUITY

HUP hosts Brown Bag presentations at the Hennepin County Government Center as opportunities for Hennepin County employees to hear from key University researchers. In Spring 2019, the Brown Bag presentations focused on the theme of "Health Equity." The series was very well received and offered opportunities for County employees to consider the impact of health disparities on their work.

Four presenters spoke on a range of issues within this theme:

### January 2019: Health Equity in American Indian Communities

Professor Linda Frizzell of the UMN School of Public Health

### February 2019: Health Communication and the Psychology of Health Behavior

Professor Marco Yzer of the UMN Hubbard School of Journalism and Mass Communication

### March 2019: Health Equity in the Criminal Justice System

Dr. Tyler Winkelman of Hennepin Healthcare

### April 2019: Place-Based Disparities in Urban Spaces

Yingling Fan of the UMN Humphrey School of Public Affairs

*"Great work—nice to hear about the collaboration between the county and the U."*

*— Attendee at Dr. Tyler Winkelman's March, 2019 Brown Bag Presentation*

### Did you know?

The Brown Bag presentations are recorded and viewable at [youtube.com/universityhennepin](https://youtube.com/universityhennepin)





# COLLABORATION PROJECT SPOTLIGHT


## DETERMINING ALIGNMENT OF PROBATION CONDITIONS


This study, a previous recipient of Mixer grant funds, was a collaboration between **Kelly Mitchell** of the Robina Institute of Criminal Law and Criminal Justice and **Danette Buskovich** of the Department of Community Corrections and Rehabilitation. They explored the relationship between pre-sentence risk assessments and the conditions of probation to determine how well the risk and needs of offenders align with probation conditions, whether the timing of assessment impacts this alignment, and if outcomes improved when conditions are aligned with risk and needs.


Based on their findings, the team provided recommendations for how to set probation conditions that are aligned with reduced recidivism, like refining the content of pre-sentence investigation reports and collaborating with the court to identify other ways to address the needs of people on probation.




## MORE PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS


 **Early Screening & Intervention**  
Hennepin County's Health and Human Services partnered with the College of Education and Human Development to work with families on increasing screening and referral rates for young children.


 **Child Protection Services**  
UMN's Center for Advanced Studies in Child Welfare worked with Hennepin County's Child Well-Being Unit to identify factors associated with maltreatment recurrence and foster care re-entry and to tailor services in order to reduce rates.

 **Website Usability**  
Students in the Department of Writing Studies conducted usability tests on the Hennepin County Attorney's Office website and recommended changes to improve its ease of use.

 **Intermodal Transportation**  
As part of the Transitways Impacts Research Program, managed through the UMN Center for Transportation Studies, Professor Yingling Fan researched

how riders plan their paths through the transit system and recommended ways for Hennepin County to increase ridership through improved pedestrian and bicycle systems.

 **Recycling and Composting**  
Hennepin County Public Works and UMN Facilities Management's Recycling Program collaborated on a range of projects focused on increasing the rates of recycling and composting on the Twin Cities campus.

 **Data-Sharing & Predictive Analytics**  
The Minnesota Design Center partnered with Hennepin County to better integrate data across departments, resulting in prototypes that visualized housing disparities, evaluated assistance systems for the homeless, and promoted a culture of data sharing.

More HUP projects are spotlighted at [z.umn.edu/HUPprojects](https://z.umn.edu/HUPprojects)

## LEADERSHIP TEAM AND COHORT UPDATES

**THE HUP LEADERSHIP TEAM** provides oversight and guidance to the HUP program. This team is made up of six leaders from Hennepin County and six leaders from the University of Minnesota. Leadership Team members review proposals and select recipients of the Hennepin-University Collaboration Grant, as well as discuss and plan how to better cultivate collaborations between the University and Hennepin County.

In early 2020, **Lisa Cerney**, Assistant County Administrator for Public Works, joined this group.

**THE HENNEPIN COUNTY COHORT** was created in 2011 to increase County line staff awareness of opportunities to partner with University of Minnesota faculty and staff. Members of the Cohort are liaisons within their departments and work to catalyze greater levels of connection in areas that benefit both Hennepin County and the University.

At the 2019 Cohort meetings, the following UMN faculty presented tools and resources of interest to County staff: **Eva Keiser**, Hubbard School of Journalism and Mass Communication, on strategic communications; **Joseph Konstan**, **Raechelle Drakeford**, College of Science & Engineering (CSE), on research opportunities with CSE; **David Van Riper**, Institute for Social Research & Data Innovation, on leveraging social statistics; **Richmond Kinney**, UMN Libraries, on using library resources.

## LOOKING TO THE FUTURE OF THE HUP

In 2019, the Hennepin-University Partnership focused on supporting Hennepin County's efforts to reduce disparities, particularly around health and mobility domains. This meant tailoring our semi-annual Mixers and monthly brown bag events to bring together UMN faculty and students with Hennepin County staff working on public health and transportation issues. We were excited to have strong support from leaders from both partners who were actively engaged in setting the direction for these catalytic events, and in selecting and funding substantial research projects that are expected to shed light on ways to address disparities.

Looking ahead, we are working to find new opportunities to engage University researchers, students, and staff in collaborative work with County staff. Our new membership in the MetroLab Network, an international network of government-university partnerships focused on civic research and innovation, has connected us with peers engaged in similar work. We appreciate the support from both the UMN and County Administration that has made this new connection possible. As we share learnings and showcase our unique model, HUP is poised to further catalyze connections of value to the County and the University.



Kathie Doty, Director,  
Hennepin-University Partnership

## WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVE

Hennepin County Human Resources' workforce development initiative provides UMN students with opportunities to explore careers at Hennepin County. In 2019, HUP coordinated with **Scott Vargo** (Hennepin County HR) as he developed communication channels and long-term programs to expand student engagement.

### HIGHLIGHTS

- Hennepin County received a Civitas Award from the College of Liberal Arts (CLA) recognizing the work Hennepin County has done to grow a strong partnership with CLA Career Services through innovative workforce development programming that retains a student-focused approach
- The continued growth of the Graduate Fellowship Program, an entry-point into public service for graduate students
- Compelling and relevant new messaging about public service, which 80+% of undergrads say is very effective



Scott Vargo accepts the Civitas Award from John Coleman, Dean of the College of Liberal Arts

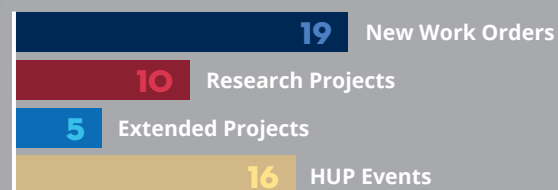
- 8 site visits and networking events, offering impactful introductions to local government and opportunities for over 250 students to network with county staff

2020 will see continued focus on maintaining successful strategies, and developing new connections including an agreement to employ UMN students by leveraging work-study funding.

### 2019 IN NUMBERS

**\$471,089**  
Total value of work orders started in 2019

### TYPES OF PROJECTS



Stay tuned for HUP's summer newsletter with more details on these and other HUP projects!

**\$3.9 MILLION** Total value of work orders over the last five years (2015-2019)

## CONNECTING WHERE IT COUNTS

### DEPARTMENTS ENGAGED

**University of Minnesota** – Accessibility Observatory, Center for Advanced Studies in Child Welfare, Center for Transportation Studies, Center for Urban and Regional Affairs, College of Education and Human Development, Communication Studies Association, Department of Writing Studies, Epidemiology and Community Health, Extension Center for Youth Development, Horticultural Science, Minnesota Center for Reading Research, Minnesota Design Center, School of Public Health, School of Social Work, UMN Twin Cities Recycling Program, University of Minnesota Police Department.

**Hennepin County** – Center of Innovation and Excellence, Communications, Community Corrections and Rehabilitation, County Attorney, Health and Human Services (Child Protection Defense, Housing Stability, Maternal and Child Health), Human Services and Public Health, Information Technology, Library, Public Works (Community Works, Environment and Energy, Transportation), Sheriff's Office.

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