



# Annual Report

## 2016-2018

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# VISIONARIES

## A Fundraiser & Awards Program

of the ANIKA  
Foundation

**Friday, April 26, 2019**

Women's Club of Minneapolis  
410 Oak Grove Street  
Minneapolis, MN 55403

- 4:00 pm **Lunch reception**
- 4:30 pm **Welcome**  
Robyne Robinson
- 4:35 pm **Program Overview**  
Anika Robbins, Founder &  
Executive Director
- 4:50 pm **Board Service Honors**  
Introducing 2019  
Board of Directors
- 5:00 pm **Welcome to the Future!**  
Lea Hargett, Board Chair
- Vision 2020 Plan Reveal**  
Anika Robbins
- Fundraiser Appeal**
- 5:30 pm **Visionaries Award  
Program**
- 6:00 pm **Fashion Show &  
Networking Cocktail**  
Featuring, The White  
Noise Collection & Simply  
Fabulous 1 Boutique  
Music by DJ Wicked

## A Note from Anika

### Bringing the VISION to Life!

What a rich adventure we've embarked on! We started out wanting to create solutions, and landed in a cool space where we get to co-create solutions with community ... and have fun in the process!

We know what the disparities are, what the statistics are...and what funders want. But we decided to center our work in PEOPLE. We realized what we've always known, when we connect people with their 'WHY', and provide tools, resources and reassurance, they begin to feel empowered to create their own solutions! The WHY is rooted in JOY! When we spark the joy of healthy living, the POWER of informed decision-making through civic engagement and savvy financial management, we energize individuals and families to create thriving communities! It's a great space to be in and we're here for it ... Join us!



## Our Mission

To holistically empower communities as  
a catalyst for the advancement of health  
equity, increased civic participation and  
economic empowerment.

## What Matters

### Families matter. People matter. Womanity matters.

Families are the heart of community. The stability of families, in any community, is an indicator of health, education and wealth outcomes. With 70% of households led by women, we believe it's important to equip women and girls with the tools and resources essential to successfully navigate life and its many responsibilities. In addition to offering technical skills, our programs promote self-advocacy, financial independence, leadership

and legacy development that empower women and families for generations to come.

As an emerging organization, we learned a lot about our constituents over the past 5 years and the issues that matter to them and their families. We value and appreciate the mutual exchange of wisdom and resources shared by our constituents, funders, volunteers and staff ... fulfilling our mission to serve as a connector in a more meaningful way!



# CIVIC ENGAGEMENT



## Black Votes Matter MN

Black Votes Matter MN (BVM) emerged in the wake of the murder of Jamar Clark by Minneapolis Police in 2015. Our non-partisan initiative plays a critical role with increasing voter turnout and changing the face of leadership tables-within and beyond-historically underrepresented communities.



To date, BVM has registered and pledged over 4,000 voters-with 45% representing new Americans and young voters between the ages of 18-24. In addition to building a coalition of over 25 businesses and community organizations — including **ACLU**, **AALF**, the **League of Women Voters** and the **Minneapolis Urban League**, we were invited to partner with the **Council of Minnesotans of African Heritage (CMAH)** to facilitate its statewide civic engagement agenda; engaging African Heritage communities in Duluth, Rochester and the greater Twin Cities. Our multi-faceted approach to voter engagement — including signature debates and historic radio forums moderated by former Minneapolis Mayor Sharon Sayles Belton — BVM has been influential in re-igniting voters, helping them make informed decisions at the polls. In 2018, Minnesota had the highest voter turnout in the nation —with the highest turnout our state has seen in over 20 years.



## Cultivating Global Citizens

In April 2018, we took our first co-hort of BVM Jr. Ambassadors on a College & Civics tour of Washington, D.C. Scholars visited the National Museum of African American History & Culture, the African Arts Museum, Howard University, the National Monument and the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. memorial ... with dinner at the famous *Busboys & Poets* restaurant and bookstore!



Black Votes Matter MN launched its Jr. Ambassador program at Patrick Henry High School along with a weekly civics class, “Power in Participation”, taught to 10th-12th graders. Several of the scholars participated in our voter outreach efforts, even out pacing the adults in volunteer hours and voter registrations!



# HEALTH EQUITY



## Cultivating Healthy Communities ... One Person at A Time

### Quality Life MN

Thanks to our partnership with the University of Minnesota's Program in Health Disparities Research and the Center for Spirituality & Healing, we've fostered increased awareness and adoption of healthy living choices in food, exercise and stress management in North Minneapolis and beyond! We designed and implemented 2 research studies. *From the Heart: A Total Wellness Mindful Intervention Model for the African American Community*. This program introduced Mindfulness-Based Stress Reduction (MBSR) strategies to African American women as a means of reducing high rates of cardiovascular diseases. The second program, *Quality Life MN*, is designed to promote self-governing healthy living practices. We engaged community through cooking demos, blood pressure checks, along with free yoga and meditation workshops. It also includes a multi-media platform with radio, website and social media pages that share ongoing news and healthy living tips. Our annual signature events, *The Pinked Out Party* — an annual breast cancer awareness event, and the *Super Bowl Men's Health* event, continue to engage community authentically, making healthy living fun!





# ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT



## Redefining Our Relationship with Money, Success ... and the Future!

### WE! Women Empowered

The Women Empowered WE! Program launched as an avenue to empower women to take hold of their finances and chart a solid course for themselves and their families. To date, we have served over 800 households, with over 16 families and individuals going on to close on homes and launch businesses!

We partnered with **Umoja Community Development Corporation** to host a series of Homestretch workshops. We also launched our Business Planning 101 series! All thanks to support from **Nexus Community Partners** and the **Wells Fargo Housing Foundation**!

### TEXTURE

TEXTURE social enterprise program has grown to include weekly sewing and design workshops — for youth and adults. We've also established school and community partnerships with **FAIR School Downtown**, **Patrick Henry High School** and **Sabathani Community Center**. Participants have learned to operate a sewing machine, construct garments and accessories, with several going on to establish their own social enterprise as a result! Our accelerated 8-week programs get participants closer to their design projects and career goals.

TEXTURE is growing! Thanks to support from the **Best Buy Foundation**, and the **Women's Foundation of Minnesota**, and the **Graves Foundation**, we are inching closer to opening our full-fledged vocational academy including arts and technology programs! To learn more about this project and how you can get involved, visit: [www.theanikafoundation.org](http://www.theanikafoundation.org).



*“Since attending the Women Empowered workshops, not only did I purchase my first home, I purchased a duplex. My monthly expenses are now just \$72!” — D. Black*



# ANIKA Foundation Program Outcomes 2013-2018

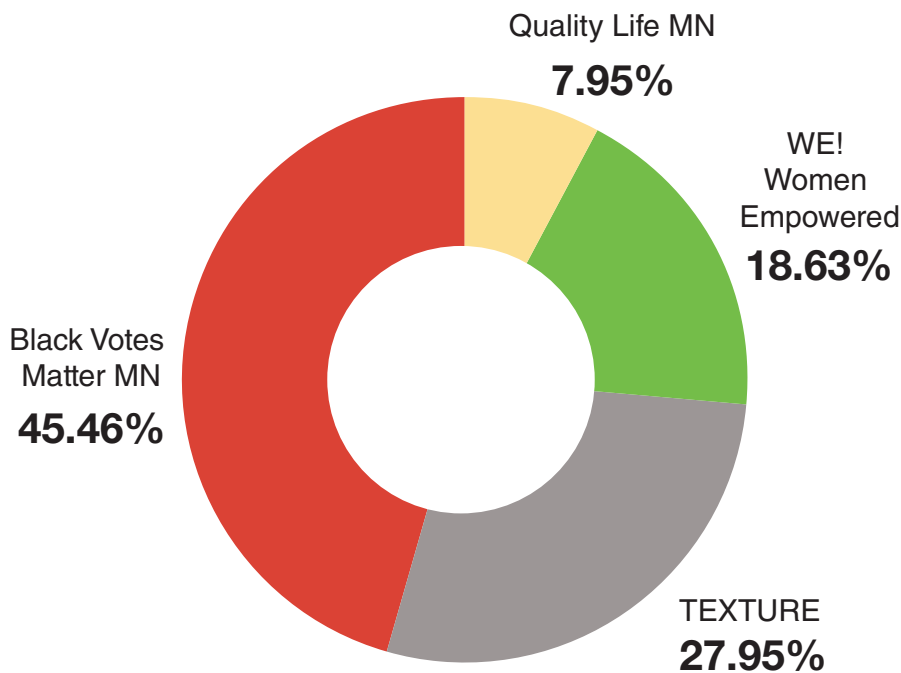
Program	Served	Audience	Goals	Outcomes	Year Launched
<b>CIVIC ENGAGEMENT</b>					
Black Votes Matter MN	22,141	Voters 18-75	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ Register 650 voters</li> <li>▶ Pledge 1,000 voters</li> <li>▶ Recruit 3 Election Judges</li> <li>▶ Recruit 30 Volunteers</li> <li>▶ Host 2 debates</li> <li>▶ Engage scholars</li> <li>▶ Issue advocacy</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ Registered 2,047 Voters</li> <li>▶ Pledged 4,094 Voters</li> <li>▶ Recruited 14 Election Judges</li> <li>▶ Recruited 141 volunteers</li> <li>▶ Published and distributed 15,000 voter guides</li> <li>▶ Reached 10 million via radio &amp; social media</li> <li>▶ Hosted 15 debates, 25 voter education workshops</li> <li>▶ Built 25 member coalition; contracted 25 POC businesses</li> <li>▶ College &amp; Civics tour of Washington D.C. for Jr. Ambassadors</li> <li>▶ Co-Creator, Census Mobilization Plan</li> </ul>	2015
<b>HEALTH EQUITY</b>					
Quality Life MN	8,780	Communities of Color	Disseminate healthy living resources to families and individuals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ Designed and partnered on 2 published research studies on health disparities. Published and distributed 33,000 health guides</li> <li>▶ Hosted 12 health-focused community dialogues on fibroids, yoga, mental health, hair health, breast and colorectal cancers</li> </ul>	2014
<b>ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT</b>					
WE! Women Empowered	800	Women, communities of Color, underbanked, Low to moderate income individuals and families	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ Host new homebuyer workshops.</li> <li>▶ Business Planning</li> <li>▶ Introduction to Investing</li> </ul>	Hosted series of 20 workshops on credit, home buying, goal-setting, investing 10 closed on new homes 4 started businesses 2 purchased income properties	2015
TEXTURE	1,200	Youth 14-21	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ Career exploration in beauty, technology and production</li> <li>▶ Business. Life skills, business development and health resources</li> </ul>	1,200 youth completed workshops in beauty, marketing, business planning, life skills and jewelry-making. Fashion & event production; video, photography and editing. Provided free meals, transportation, clothing, personal care items and portfolios. Launched adult and parent-child sewing workshops in 2018.	2013

# The Anika Foundation Statement of Financial Position

As of December 31, 2018

	Dec. 31, 2018	Dec. 31, 2017	\$ Change	% Change
<b>ASSETS</b>				
Current Assets				
Checking/Savings				
US Bank Checking	54,050.66	36,588.78	17,461.88	47.7%
Total Checking/Savings	54,050.66	36,588.78	17,461.88	47.7%
Other Current Assets				
Grant receivable	301.40	301.40	0.00	0.0%
Total Other Current Assets	301.40	301.40	0.00	0.0%
Total Current Assets	54,352.06	36,890.18	17,461.88	47.3%
Fixed Assets				
Computer equipment	5,398.77	5,398.77	0.00	0.0%
Total Fixed Assets	5,398.77	5,398.77	0.00	0.0%
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>59,750.83</b>	<b>42,288.95</b>	<b>17,461.88</b>	<b>41.3%</b>
<b>LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>				
Equity				
Fund Balance	42,288.95	37,469.16	4,819.79	12.9%
Net Income	17,461.88	4,819.79	12,642.09	262.3%
Total Equity	59,750.83	42,288.95	17,461.88	41.3%
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>	<b>59,750.83</b>	<b>42,288.95</b>	<b>17,461.88</b>	<b>41.3%</b>

## Program Funding



# How Can You Help?

## Time, Talent & Treasure

Our work is supported by people like you! Our goal is to provide all of our programs free, or for a nominal fee. Our youth programs are completely FREE! You can donate to support any of our programs a la carte, or in whole. Ask about our endowment fund. Call **612.670.6355** to learn more.

## 2018 Board of Directors

Mary Merrill, **Board Chair**  
Terrence Roberts, **Treasurer**  
Eileen Banks, **Secretary**  
Monique Stevenson, **Board Member**

**Thank you for your service!**

## 2019 Board of Directors

Lea Hargett, **Board Chair**  
Shaneen Moore, **Secretary**  
Nicole Wright, **Treasurer**  
Bill English, **Board Member**  
Terrence Roberts, **Board Member**

## Corporations & Foundations

African American Leadership Forum	The Depot Tavern
ANIKA & Friends	Grassroots Solutions
ANIKA International Cosmetics	Luster Products
Best Buy Foundation	Masonic Cancer Center
Blazing Star Fund	Mastery School
Bloomington Schools	Medica
Boston Scientific	Minneapolis Foundation
Center for Spirituality & Healing	Minneapolis Health Department
	Minneapolis Public Schools

## Volunteer!

We host a number of events throughout the year, from voter engagement forums to community education programs. We could always use an extra pair of hands! Sign up at: **[volunteer@theanikafoundation.org](mailto:volunteer@theanikafoundation.org)**.

## Staff

Anika Robbins, **Executive Director**  
Angela Williams, **Program Director**,  
Black Votes Matter MN  
Mariyam Lease, **Programs Coordinator**  
Rica Rivera, **Program Coordinator**,  
**Power In Participation**  
Talaya Lawson, **Program Coordinator**,  
**Power In Participation**  
Denise Togba, **Program Coordinator**, **TEXTURE**  
Ndidi Marie, **Marketing & Web Consultant**

Minnesota Council of Nonprofits	Community Center
Minnesota Voice	Stairstep Foundation
Movement Voter Project	Women's Foundation
Nexus Community Partners	Women's March
Program in Health Disparities Research	Wells Fargo
Prokop Insurance	Housing Foundation
Robbins Urban Wellness Retreat	Wells Fargo
Sabathani	Leadership Council
	Thor Construction
	Treasure Island Casino

## Individual Donors

Barb Johnson	Bill Rollin	Henry Crosby	Stella Whitney-West
Beverly Propes	Doris Baylor	Jean Fountain	Antonia-Apolinaro-Wilcoxon
Bill English	Harry Colbert	Opal Robinson	

